

WYCK RISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Proper Officer - Hazel McKinna c/o Mulberry Barn, Shipton Oliffe, GL54 4HZ

Tel: 07813 313944 Email: wyckrissingtonclerk@gmail.com

Website: www.wyckrissingtonpc.org.uk

Minutes of General Meeting

Held in the Village Hall on Monday 6th December 2021, 18:00.

Councillors present: Cllrs Simon (Chair), Fifield, Finnimore, Ponti and Trinder.

In attendance: 6 members of the public plus District Councillor Andrew Maclean (part)

- 211206/1 **Chairman's Opening Remarks:** Tim Simon welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 211206/2 **Apologies:** Received from Robert Montague and GCC Councillor Mark MacKenzie- Charrington.
- 211206/3 **Declarations of Interest:** None
- 211206/4 **Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 6th September 2021:** These minutes were approved by all and signed by Chair, Tim Simon. Electronic signatures will be used from now on.
- 211206/5 **Matters Arising:**
5.1 2nd Dog Bin: A second dog bin in the Village is no longer an option. CDC are not installing or servicing new bins in the District. Cllr Maclean indicated that he would check CDC's policy and regulations.
5.2 Defibrillator Demonstration: The refresher defibrillator demonstration scheduled in October was cancelled due to a technical hitch. Louise Fifield will follow this up and re-arrange.
5.3 Deed of Appointment and Retirement of Trustees for WRVH Charitable Trust: Tim Simon confirmed for the record that this had taken place.
5.4 Wyck Cottage: Although not an agenda item, Tim Simon advised that the potential purchasers of Wyck Cottage were requesting a Deed of Grant of Easement across the Green. After some discussion, Council agreed to allow this easement in the format previously agreed with rights of access for residential purposes only, with all associated PC legal costs being covered by the sellers.
- 211206/6 **Management of the Green and Roads**
Tim Simon, advised Council of the following:
6.1 The Green: Due to the first cut being executed later in August, a second cut in the Autumn has not been required. This has resulted in a £300 saving.
6.2 Red Chestnut tree outside Wyck Cottage: Bartletts have undertaken a specialist review and it has been decided to leave remedial work until 2022. Felling and a replacement tree has been estimated at £550.
6.3 Roads: With disappointment, Tim Simon advised that he has been chasing progress on four items without success (responses arrived post meeting). Residents were urged to report highways issues directly to GCC using the following link www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/highways/roads/your-highways-report-it/
6.4 Horse and Rider sign: Despite lots of chasing, this second sign has still not materialised. Hilary Ponti to liaise with the Parish Clerk to get this installed.
6.5 Blocked Gullies: Despite requests for clearance by GCC, the one at the junction of Wyck Beacon Road and the A424 remains blocked. Concern was expressed about the blocked gullies creating flooding which often ices over during the Winter. WRPC to continue to liaise with GCC Cllr Mark MacKenzie-Charrington on this matter.
6.6 Speeding in Wyck Beacon: Residents in Wyck Beacon are requesting support for a reduction in the

National speed limit in this locality. Disappointingly, despite sympathy from Cllr Nigel Moor (now retired) GCC Highways have confirmed that there is little to suggest that the current speed limit isn't appropriate. WR Councillors all supported a speed reduction. Cllr McLean advised that he too had been contacted by residents to see if a footpath could be installed and he suggested that WRPC liaise with Upper Rissington in the first instance to see if a co-ordinated approach could be used.

6.7 Queen's Green Canopy – gift of two trees by Honourable Company of Gloucestershire to coincide with Platinum Jubilee 2022: Tim Simon confirmed that the trees would be delivered in the next two months and required planting no later than March 2022. A suggested location map had been circulated in advance to Council and it was agreed that Cllrs would conduct a recce nearer the time. It was also agreed that protection would be used at the base of the trunks.

- 211206/7 Drainage Survey Update:** Brian Finnimore reported on the surveys that had been carried out with a view of increasing the capacity of the land drains that run partly under the Green so as to avoid a repeat of the flooding last December. These investigations included work carried out by Gloucestershire County Council which revealed partial blockage of the drains as a result of root growth which they are now planning to remove. This was initially delayed by the discovery of a newt in the drains, but it is hoped that the work can now go ahead.
- 211206/8 Management of the Ponds:** Prior to the Meeting, Robert Montague had confirmed that Jimmy Little was now the contractor selected for Pond maintenance. Work will start in April, for 1 hour per month at £15 per hour. The Bull Rushes may require further work and investment. Tim Simon confirmed the invoice for dealing with the water primrose (£150) had been approved by the EA for payment via PayPal. Andrew Fifield offered to administer this matter.
- 211206/9 County Council News from Cllr Mark MacKenzie-Charrington:** See Appendix.
- 211206/10 District Council Update from Cllr Andrew Maclean:** Update received. WRPC to consider being part of the Cotswold Flood Warden Scheme set up by CDC. Parish Clerk to circulate correspondence. See Appendix.
- 211206/11 Planning Applications Update:**
11.1 Pear Tree Cottage listed building consent for internal works to sitting room and study. Awaiting decision by CDC.
11.2 Olive Hill, demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling. Permission has been granted and work is due to start in the Spring.
- 211206/12 Risk Plan – Reserves Policy Update:** Further to agreement at the PC meeting held on 6th September 2021, WRPC confirmed that the reserves held by the PC would be 100% of the average annual expenditure over the last five years. Tim Simon acknowledged a resident's concern about this level of reserves, but reiterated that this new policy was now in place and Brian Finnimore had updated the PC's financial policy to reflect this
- 211206/13 Finance:** Finance documents were circulated in advance of the meeting for consideration by WRPC. These included the proposed increase in precept from £4000 to £4700 and the budget for 2022/23. A resident did raise further concern regarding the increase in the Budget, however Tim Simon repeated that the Budget did and must follow best practice guidelines. Council formally agreed the Budget and increase in precept. See Appendix.
- ~
- 211206/14 Correspondence received by the Clerk:** To review relevant correspondence received since the last meeting and reflect on actions/responses.
14.1 A resident feels that a bonfire held on Saturday 13.11.21 was inappropriate considering discussions at COP26. No action required by the PC, but residents please be aware.
14.2 Speeding in Wyck Beacon. Covered in items 6.6.
14.3 Continued closure of the bridleway HRL3, Church Barn development. Tim Simon waiting for a

response from GCC regarding the temporary closure this bridleway (post meeting it is understood that this has been extended for six months).

14.4 20 is Plenty initiative throughout CDC. Do WRPC support this? Council agreed to support this initiative (majority vote) and requested that the Parish Clerk obtain appropriate signage from GCC Highways.

211206/15

AOB

15.1 Wedding Party on 3rd June 2022: For advice only

NB: Jubilee celebrations in the Village are under review

15.2 Annual Garden Token as thanks for Fountain flowers: Approved at £40.00.

15.3 Changes to the Village Mailing List and proposed WhatsApp group. This is kindly being managed by Louise Fifield. Residents wanting to be included, must send in their consent form or telephone number. The latter, by default also acts as consent.

211206/16

Date Meetings 2022: 7th March, 30th May, 5th September, 5th December.

Meeting ended: 19.26

Signed: *Tim Simon (Chair)*

Date: 7th March 2022

APPENDICES – GCC and CDC Reports plus Finances

Councillor Andrew Maclean CDC

CDC have launched a flood warden scheme for Town and Parish councils, which they are running with the GRCC. The scheme aims to train volunteers as eyes and ears of their community, increasing awareness of flood risks, and working with relevant authorities to help enact mitigation measures. They held two events, one in Moreton and one in Cirencester, both of which also involved a very helpful presentation from Bledington Parish Council on how they worked to improve Bledington's flood resilience after the floods last Christmas. This programme will enable Towns and Parishes to share approaches with one another and learn from each other's experiences.

If you were unable to attend this event and would like the slides from the evening or more information, please contact Helen Richards at helenr@grcc.org.uk.

Cotswold District Council has approved over 100 affordable homes on brownfield sites in Cirencester and Kempsford through a range of regeneration schemes in partnership with Bromford Housing.

The agenda for the 6th of December Cabinet meeting includes a proposal to start charging parish councils for running contested parish elections rather than covering them from their own budget. For smaller parishes (I think probably all the Rissingtons except Upper) this would cost £2000 at the proposed rates. The cabinet agenda can be viewed on the CDC website under [council meetings and minutes](#).

CDC are working to put together a schedule of engagement events for parish councils for next year. If you have any ideas for presentations from us, or if your Town and Parish Council is doing work that you would like to share with CDC and other Towns and Parishes at a future forum, please email ana.prelici@cotswold.gov.uk

I will be attending a couple of council meetings in the next two weeks:

Wednesday 8th Dec – Planning and Licensing Committee

Wednesday 15th Dec – Full Council meeting

If there are any issues you would like me to raise, please let me know.

Councillor Mark MacKenzie – Charrington GCC

- I continue to liaise with the planning officers over the various quarry applications within the North Cotswold Cluster. In particular the Oat Hill Quarry which was visited by a number of PC Councillors on 20th October where the owners want to double extraction.
- The government is allocating a further £4.8m to assist the care sector to prevent Covid spread over this winter. It is aimed at providing rapid testing both staff, residents, and visitors
- The County Council announces the appointment of a new Director of Transport and Highways to drive forward the ambitious transport delivery program. Chartered Civil Engineer, Jason Humm is coming from the West of England Combined Authority where he is Head of Transport. He formerly held a similar position at Swindon Borough Council.

- The Environment Agency is seeking consultation on the 2nd draft of Flood Risk Management Plans for the period 2021 – 2027. It is for a 3-month period from 22nd October 2021 to 21st January 2022. Gloucestershire County Council is a lead member on the consultation.
- The County Council is looking for land across the county where up to 1 million trees can be planted by 2030. Working with the Woodland Trust they want to plant 360,000 trees over the next 3 years as part of our desire to reduce global warming and are seeking landowners who are happy for trees to be planted and maintained on their land.
- To date 5,000 ash trees with die-back have been felled and are being replaced on a 2 for 1 native specimen basis. Latest figures show 10,400 have been planted. Current targets are for 28,300 new trees to be planted by March 2022. In some cases, quite tall stumps will have been retained as suitable sites for the very rare violet click beetle which lives only in ash or beech trees in the UK.
- Reduce the impact of flooding by sweeping leaves from drains & gullies outside your home. Put the leaves in your green bin or your compost.
- The government's Levelling Up Fund has awarded Gloucestershire £12.8m to go towards connecting Cheltenham & Gloucester with a walking/ cycling link that ultimately would join up with Stroud to Bishops Cleeve. This is a follow up on improvements to the Sharpness Canal Towpath.
- A reminder that £385,000 of the Build Back Better - Market Towns fund of £500,000 has been allocated to 45 bidders with the aim of boosting the county's market towns and high streets. A further round of bids is now open, closing 17th December, to place the final £115,000 of funds.
- Fosse Cross recycling centre is now open again following essential drainage repairs and general resurfacing, at a cost of £165,000. Please note however online booking is required. Additionally for the time being asbestos, rubble, plasterboard, large appliances, fridges, freezers and tyres will need to be taken to the other 4 Gloucestershire centres.
- Don't forget my 'Build Back Better' Fund where Councillors have access to £40,000 over the next 4 years to support projects, such as:

Nature and Environment

Physical and Mental Wellbeing

Digital Inclusion

Building Connections and Improving Neighbourhoods

- The funds will be open to community and voluntary organisations, charities, sporting groups and other non-for-profit groups, town and parish councils. An award of £5,000 has been made to Cotswold Friends, based in Moreton.

Wyck Rissington Parish Council Finance Report
December 2021 (current at 30 Nov)

			In (£)	Out (£)	Notes
Up to last meeting (September)			3,420.02	- 1,527.45	
Since last meeting					
02-Sep	L Fifield	honorary		- 60.00	
09-Sep		interest	0.06		
23-Sep	CDC	precept	1,000.00		
11-Oct		interest	0.07		
08-Nov	Brian Brazington	green cut		- 912.00	
08-Nov	JS Fisheries	pond maintenance		- 490.00	
08-Nov	JS Fisheries	pond clearance		- 150.00	
08-Nov	Pyments	kerb repair balance		- 1,074.00	
09-Nov		interest	0.06		
Anticipated over remainder of financial year					
income					
	interest		0.18		
	HMRC VAT reclaim		500.00		
	village hall ground rent (21/22)		50.00		
expenditure					
	Clerk honorary/salary			- 860.00	£800 unbudgetted - new Clerk salary
	hire of village hall			- 100.00	
	trees			-	held over until next fy
	clear leaves			- 50.00	unbudgetted
	PATA PAYE service			- 50.00	unbudgetted
Totals			4,970.39	- 5,273.45	
Reserves					
	opening position			5,763.80	
	anticipated closing position			5,460.74	
	movement			- 303.06	
Budget					
	without risk			- 1,180.00	
	with risk			- 1,680.00	£500 risk allowance
Bank balance				5,970.56	

Wyck Rissington Parish Council: Budget for 2022/2023 financial year

Historic expenditure	£		
20/21	6,673		
19/20	3,103		
18/19	5,712		
17/18	6,080		
16/17	3,559		
average	5,025		
		fy 21/22	fy 22/23
Income		£	£
precept		4,000	4,712
Village Hall ground rent		50	50
wayleaves		350	385
VAT reclaim		500	500
total income		4,900	5,647
Expenditure			
Clerk's honorarium/salary		240	2,000
hire of village hall		100	100
insurance		375	413
GAPTC		40	44
cut		1,425	1,300
pond maintenance (inc' small pond)		825	500
pond clearance		900	-
trees		1,000	750
other green repairs (kerb repair)		1,000	
web related (ICO/hosting)		175	193
annual audit fees			200
payroll service			84
contingency			500
total expenditure		6,080	6,083
balance		- 1,180	- 436
Anticipated reserves @ fy commencement		4,105	5,461
Planned reserves @ fy conclusion			5,025