

BAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Bayton Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 11th May 2021 at 7.30pm in Bayton Church

The meeting was held following covid guidance, a full risk assessment was carried out by Clerk and Bayton Church Warden.

Present – Cllr Adams (Chairman), Cllr Kemp, Cllr Miles, Cllr Wakeford, Cllr Tonks, Cllr Lawrence
Clerk to Bayton Parish Council, Three Members of the Public, County Cllr David Chambers.

- 1. Apologies** – District Cllr Douglas Godwin
- 2. Minutes** - Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 14th May 2019 were circulated and all agreed for them to be signed by Chairman. Clerk and one resident who were present in 2019 felt they were a true record of the meeting.
- 3. County Cllr** – County Cllr David Chambers introduced himself being newly elected to the position. He had been a Dist Cllr at Malvern Hills for six years which included being Leader for two years. He looked forward to coming to meetings and working with the Parish. David was welcomed and stayed for the meeting.
- 4. District Cllr** – Apologies given.
- 5. Police Report** – Report to be circulated by email and added to end of minutes.
- 6. Bayton School Report** – Report from Head circulated and is attached to these minutes.
- 7. Bayton Village Hall Report** – Newsletter from Chairman circulated and is attached to these minutes.
- 8. Clows Top Victory Hall Report** – Chairman's Report circulated and is attached to these minutes.
- 9. Chairman's Report** – Report circulated and is attached to these minutes.
- 10. Memorial for Parish** – The PC are looking into siting an outdoor War Memorial in Bayton, site to be agreed. This will only happen after public consultation. The costs, design and siting to be agreed if local support is given. Suggested sites Bayton Church Yard, Bayton Recreation Ground or Coronation Corner. All landowners are supportive of siting the memorial. A vote of those present showed full support for the project.
- 11. Ideas for improvements to Parish** – no matters raised by those present.
- 12. Issues raised by residents: - None.**
- 13.** The Chairman thanked the Church Warden for opening the Church for the meeting tonight. The Chairman also thanked everyone for coming and the meeting closed at 7.37 pm.

Chairman

Date

May 2022

CHAIRMANS REPORT 2019 TO 2021

Firstly I would like to thank those Cllrs who retired during the last year, we thank them for their work and wish them well for the future. It was unfortunate the PC could not meet as planned in July and September 2020 due to not being quorate but we now have Cllrs whose aim is to improve the Parish for everyone. **This report covers some matters from 2019 to 2021.**

Vacancies for Cllrs - there are two vacancies, if you are interested in helping to improve your Parish please contact the Clerk, details at end of this report.

I would like to thank the Clerk for dealing with urgent matters that arose during the time the PC were not quorate and also for her support to those residents who were in need during the initial stages of the pandemic.

The PC thank everyone in the Parish who supported their neighbours during the pandemic, we are lucky to live in such a caring community.

PC Meetings – During the pandemic meetings were held by video but the Government have stated from 6th May 2021

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meetings must return to face to face. All future meetings will need to be held under Covid regulations, the venue to be confirmed as meetings are held.

Complaint to the Parish Council in 2020 – The PC have been advised not to discuss this matter in open meetings, investigations are ongoing.

Memorial – It has been suggest a Memorial sited outside should be funded for the Parish. Cllrs have looked at sites for the Memorial and the response from Bayton Church and Bayton Village Hall Committee is positive. Some funds can be provided by BPC but nothing will be decided until residents are consulted and support to the project if given.

The matter is an agenda item for the meetings on 11th May, if you wish to comments please email the Clerk.

Matters for 2021 that have been agreed are the purchase of aluminium noticeboards, wooden seats and flower boxes. Further details will be sent out in the PC email.

Planning – Most planning applications have been for small extensions etc. The application at Highbrae, Mamble Road, Clows Top was refused due to Highway safety issues and MHDC felt the number of houses on the site should be increased.

Local Library: This is in Bayton Church, once the Church are happy to be open again you will be able to access the books. The bookcases were provided by the PC, books are lent by WCC Library Services.

Library Van – This is running again, details on BPC website.

VE Day Celebrations – May 2020 – Clows Top Village Hall and the Royal British Legion approached the BPC about this event. Funds were agreed and are being held by BPC if an event is arranged in the future.

Finances – The Precept for 2020-2021 was £8450.00, the Precept for 2021-2022 is £8550.00, this is the money residents pay in their Council Tax to MHDC who then pay it back to BPC. The Accounts have been audited by an Internal Auditor who is independent of the PC. A balance of £24703.91 is being carried forward to 1st April 2021. BPC will sign the accounts at the meeting on 11th May.

The full Accounts for 2020-2021 will be published on the website during June, this is a legal requirement and will include the Auditors report.

Purchased in 2019-2020

Two Waste/Recycling bins - Sited on layby at Beach Hay and by Defib Box at Bayton Common.

Village Gates – Purchased by the PC, installed by WCC on the B4202 Cleobury side of Clows Top.

Table Bench Coronation Corner – The PC agreed to support a local business so the bench was purchased from Poppies Benches, Clows Top.

Road issues –

Verge flowers – A Cllr has been planting wildflowers in verges, again many positive comments have been made. It is hoped we can continue to plant this year.

Branches left on Clows Top Road, Bayton – This was caused by a caravan being moved through the village. The Clerk did contact the site owner who said he would clear the debris. The matter was reported to WCC and MHDC who failed to take any action. If the site owner would like to tidy the verges it would be appreciated.

Drainage issues B4202 - WCC and a landowner have worked to resolve this issue below Carton Farm.

Church Lane – After many emails to WCC the area has now been resurfaced.

Holly Tree by Bayton Noticeboard – this is the responsibility of the Housing Association, again after many emails this has now been cut back.

Lengthsman (LM) – This scheme is funded by WCC. To ensure transparency the PC advertised the LM Contract and it was agreed by Cllrs to offer the new contract to David Nunn. We thank Ian Mapp for his work as LM over many years.

Maintenance Contractor – It was agreed last year to contract some one to do small jobs for BPC. Following interviews Chris Bunn was offered the contract. Chris has been tidying Coronation Corner, cleaning/oiling seats that are the responsibility of the PC. He installed the new bins, has put a post wastebin at the top of Yew Tree Lane and has been keeping the Defib Boxes/bins clean.

Severne Green – The PC are responsible for the mowing of Severne Green, the PC have entered into a two year contract with Forest & Garden Machinery.

Cleobury Minibus -Passenger numbers have been dropping for a number of years. It was by mutual agreement with the Service Operator (Hollands Coaches) and Bayton and Mamble PC to stop the service last year. The PC are looking into other bus services to come into the area in due course. We thank Hollands Coaches for their reliable service over at least 40 years

Bayton Village Hall and Recreation Ground (BVH) – The Church Car Park was originally part of the Recreation Ground gifted to Bayton Village in 1947 by Mrs Gurney who lived at Shakenhurst Hall. BVH manage all the land and are looking to improve the Car Park surface for the winter. The PC have offered to help with leaf clearing in the autumn, some residents have also offered to help with a clean-up.

WiFi at BVH – the PC worked with BVH in 2017 to obtain a grant from WCC for the installation of WiFi and two years rental. This funding ceased in January 2020 and BVH have taken on the WiFi contract.

Going forward in 2021 - BPC will be meeting BVH to discuss working together to improve facilities within the Parish.

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Any groups that that may like to discuss improvements to the Parish please contact the Clerk.

Richard Adams

Your Parish Council

Chairman – Richard Adams - Vice Chairman – Bob Lawrence
Cllrs Lester Miles, Jane Kemp, Richard Wakeford, Paul Tonks

CLERK - Sue Burrows, 5 Summit Road, Clows Top DY14 9HN – T 01299 832722

E - bayton_pc08@btinternet.com – website - <http://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/myparish>

The point of contact for the PC is the Clerks email on this report.

Malvern Hills District Councillor: Douglas Godwin – Cllr Godwin gave £100.00 from his Ward Budget to the PC to buy plants for the verges, he gave the same amount last year.

Worcestershire County Councillor David Chambers -

Ken Pollock did not stand for re-election we would like to thank Ken for all his support over the years he has been out County Cllr and wish him well in his retirement. Cllr Pollock gave £700.00 to the PC for purchase of flower boxes and seats for the Parish, the PC are in the process of purchasing these ready for the summer.

Police Report 2021

It has been without doubt the strangest time for everyone in 2020 to 2021, including Policing.

We have seen many people ill with Covid symptoms, and thankfully recover, and sadly those who have passed from this dreadful disease. We have survived lockdowns, and tiers and are now free to begin to start returning to some sort of normality.

As far as Safer Neighbourhood Policing goes it has had its peaks and troughs of work flow last year and this, with a different type of work to actually police that being Covid concerns and enforcement. Many times it has been a case of explaining the Government Guidelines, sometimes sterner words of advice have been issued to those who have breached guidelines, and last case resort to issue fines.

We have worked with our community partners to provide reassurance and signpost people to services such as food banks, or food deliveries; dropping in on those who are isolated, and need more robust support.

As a result of the first lockdown, many of our highways were virtually empty, and Parishes eerily quiet. The criminal fraternity were scarce, never venturing out it seemed. When life resumed we did see a take up of crime, with criminal damage, and thefts. Also criminal types who tried to scam the elderly into paying for Covid tests.

Due to the lockdown and time spent at home many people have bought puppies/ dogs /cats / kittens into their homes. The cost of purchasing dogs has rocketed. As a result of the uptake, the criminal fraternity, never one to miss an opportunity, have taken to stealing dogs. This may be from gardens, outside shops, or actually snatching the dog leads from the owner. This is a very distressing type of Crime. People have reported wire wrapped around bars or iron work on their gates, or marks left to identify their address. We all need to be vigilant, and remove these items. Let your community know what is going on and tell the Police, otherwise we are unaware.

Crime in general has been low in our area, but we have seen a surge in catalytic convertor thefts recently. This is due to the Palladium metals inside the convertor. There is information on West Mercia Police Website on best practice on how to keep your vehicles safer from this type of theft.

There are also many more items of interest on the site in connection with security, internet safety, and lots more.

In Bayton there have been sheep attacked by dogs, which is something that we have seen increase across my area. A theft of garden furniture and a shed break in. Bayton has also experienced Nottingham Knockers selling their wares.

Unless they hold a pedlars licence from their **home town** police Force then they are not allowed to sell anything. If they are out and about give us a call.

Lastly the team here is PC Jack Sykes & PCSO Ness Snape. We cover approx. 200plus square miles, and more than 27 Parish's. With that in mind if you need to contact us, many calls can now be made by online reporting on the West Mercia Website. If you want to contact us directly, you can call, text, email, the details are below.

If you do need an officer to attend however you do need to call 101.

mt.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Ness Snape 07814040307

Lastly here is a list of the scam calls, emails, cards etc. going around at the moment:

There have been many online telephone and email scams, all of which have looked very authentic doing the rounds too:-

1. Hermes email scam - Email stating that you have a missed delivery and in order for Hermes to deliver again, you are asked to provide bank details to pay for the £1.45 fees.

2. Royal Mail email scam - Email stating that Royal Mail has tried to deliver 3 times and ask you to pay £2.50 to arrange another delivery.

3. D P D Couriers email scam - Email stating that you have missed 2 attempted deliveries and you must pay £2.75 to

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arrange another delivery.

None of the delivery services would ask you to pay for arranging a delivery under normal circumstances. In the case where excess postage is required, the official Post Office Staff in his/her uniforms with identifications would advise you what to do. If in doubt, please check with the company yourself before handing over any cash or personal and financial information.

4. National Insurance Telephone Scam - An automated voice states that your National Insurance number has been compromised to carry out criminal activities. You are asked to provide personal details to avoid arrests and prosecution.

5. HMRC Telephone Scam - An automated voice states that you have underpaid generally quite a large amount of tax like £2,000 and that you will be prosecuted if you do not pay the outstanding amount immediately.

6. Amazon Telephone Scam - An automated voice states that your Amazon account has been debited £349.95 incorrectly and if you provide the bank details, they will refund it to your account.

7. BT Telephone Scam - An automated voice says that if you do not provide the personal details, your line will be cut off.

All government agencies do not use automated voice services to inform you of a problem. They generally would write to you. If a person actually calls you in an unlikely event, you should always check carefully before divulging any personal information. These scam calls are usually from a mobile number.

Scammers are getting more sophisticated and professional looking and sounding. Please be very careful when providing any information to anyone you are not sure of.

Bayton Church of England Primary School

This year has been a strange one with most of it being spent in a state of lockdown. School has remained open throughout, initially to just a handful of critical key worker children. Over the course of the latest lockdown, school again, was opened for critical key worker children but as with many other schools, we saw a significant rise in these numbers.

We have received much praise from parents with regards the remote learning we provided. Children 'dialed' in to lessons every day and had daily contact with the school team.

Since returning to school, we continue to work in our 'bubbles' but the children as always have been superb, taking everything in their stride. They continue to do us proud. They can't wait until we no longer need to stay in bubbles as they miss seeing their friends in other classes but we 'get together' virtually each week for assemblies via zoom too. It's a very different world but one in which we continue to get used to day by day.

Ms Jolanda Simmonds – Headteacher

Bayton Village Hall & Recreation Ground Committee **Report & Spring Newsletter 2021**

First, welcome to our Spring Report & Newsletter and as usual may I introduce the committee/representatives elected at the AGM in October 2020.

Chris Christie – Chairman

Liz Osborn – Vice Chairman

Dr David Ogden – Secretary

Keith Weller – Treasurer

Roger Jones – Deputy Treasurer/Governance

Matthew Boazman – School Representative

Link - Church Member

The last 18 months have been a difficult time for us all, I would like to thank all those who volunteered/gave help to fellow villagers. We have continued the Covid help programme but fortunately the need is getting less by the day and hopefully we will get back to normal very soon.

Social activities have been severely affected, and our revenue has been drastically reduced. Unfortunately, this trend looks to continue for a little while longer. We hope to reinstate the Coffee Mornings as soon as advisable.

It is difficult to plan too far ahead, but we will continue our plans of refurbishment, so the hall is ready when all restrictions end. We are in the process of ordering new curtains for the Sports Hall and repairing windows and doors.

Pilates – is due to re-start on Tuesday 18th May at 10.30, please contact Liz Osborn for more details if you are interested in attending. Liz can be contacted on the Village Hall Email address.

Cardiac (General) Fitness Classes – These classes are due to restart on Mondays from the 17th of May at 12.00 – 13.00 and again on Thursdays from 10.30 – 11.30. Please contact Jenny on 07886 726102 or jennydavisfitness@gmail.com. for more details.

Both Pilates and Fitness Training will be conducted under Covid restrictions. Our bookings coordinator can be contacted on the village hall direct line 07904 937356 or baytonvillagehall@gmail.com

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Please note no bookings are currently being taken in line with COVID 19 restrictions. We will revisit this decision at the end of May.

Recreation Ground and Church Car Park - This year we have plans to refurbish the Recreation Ground and Church Car Park. This will include grading and re-surfacing the parking area, replacing the gate and post, resurfacing the pathway through the recreation ground, and continuing to the area by the school gate near the village hall. We are planning to complete this during the school summer holidays. We are in the process of purchasing two picnic style benches and investigating the possibility of erecting some child friendly play apparatus.

Digital Safe Space - Bayton Village Hall was selected as part of a pilot study to provide Digital Safe Space for this area of Worcestershire. This is a Community First initiative to give free access to the internet for those needing private/confidential use of the web. Currently this service is available in the hall porch, but we hope to extend its use to a hall computer in the hall once Covid restrictions allow. For further information contact the hall on baytonvillagehall@gmail.com or to use the service by emailing helpatbv@gmail.com and following the instructions.

Looking Ahead - Village Summer BBQ to celebrate the end of COVID-19 – this is planned for August 20 or 21 more details nearer the time but please save the day.

Bayton Walks – along with Sue Sharp our footpaths' warden we hope to start local walks starting at the Village Hall and perhaps ending at the hall with a sandwich and drink. For details of local walks contact Sue on susanjsharp44@gmail.com

May I finish by thanking you once again for your help and continued support through these difficult times.
Take Care & Keep Safe

Christine Christie – Chairman Bayton Village Hall & Recreation Ground Committee - May 2021
