

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17 MAY 2022

Councillors	Mark Grimes (Chairman), Paul Drake, (Vice Chairman), Wendy Taylor, John Kinmont, Charlotte Hudson, Eustace Santa Barbara
Clerk:	S Hare. Ward Councillor: Tony Berry; Members of Public x 4

ACTION

1	APOLOGIES -- County Councillor	
2	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS – The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed by Councillors and signed by the chairman as being a true representation.	
3	<p>MATTERS ARISING – Mr Drake had not be able to get any soil and hardcore from Highways and was looking elsewhere in order to repair the Triangle of grass near the Tarlton water tower. Regarding payments towards the Watershed expenditure – Mr Grimes had contacted Mr Simon Biddulph to explain the council resolve that the contribution towards the cost of producing the Watershed magazine should be more than offset against the cost of grass cutting of St Peter’s churchyard. Traditionally the parish council has paid for this grass cutting (and any undergrowth tidy up) covering any increases in price but had only ever charged the church for circa the last two decades £200 per season, however over the last year or two councillors had discussed seeking contributions from the PCC at the contemporary rate, (currently standing at circa £235 + VAT per month). After contemplating things it was resolved that the parish council would continue to pay for the grass cutting but would not invoice the Parochial Church Council, thus saving on administration between the two entities and protecting the PCC against rising costs. The PCC should then allocate internally their church yard grass cutting amount at whatever rate they chose to the Watershed, which would alleviate them of requesting a contribution from the parish council and have more control over their own money with less administration. Regarding the siting of a replacement noticeboard Rodmarton the owner of the bus shelter, Mr Jasper Biddulph had remained reluctant to site a new noticeboard inside the shelter (as was the one at Tarlton) and Mr Grimes had asked for a site meeting with him, but none had yet taken place. Mrs Taylor had contacted Haileywood Sawmills and Cherington Forge but neither had been able to give her a quote for a new noticeboard, but latterly a local carpenter had quoted £750. Mr Grimes said he had in the interim managed to commission a noticeboard from a contact of Mr Drake’s to be made in oak, similar to the existing one but without posts in the for £1,500 + VAT in the hope that it could be affixed in the bus shelter. A member of the public said that he too had had no replies to his emails to Jasper Biddulph.</p> <p>Regarding Manor Farm Barns (i) two units into one - no objection by the parish council to the planning had been lodged with the Cotswold District Council. (ii) No. 5 - the planning application of 2021 was still ‘pending’ on the CDC website, but yet a flat roofed Scandinavian style summerhouse has already been erected and lighting installed in the grounds of a Grade II listed building. Neighbours find the building and associated lighting annoying and intrusive. It is also clearly visible from the public right of way, the Monarch Way. They were also flummoxed why it seemed that the CDC planning department was ‘turning a blind eye’. Mr Berry said he had visited the site and thought there was not a problem. Mr Grimes really took the District Councillor to task and pointed out that the planning had not been approved, therefore the applicant had erected the building and installations illegally and that parishioners were very unhappy that rules were being flouted. Mr Drake said that the pre-existing collection of timber, loosely described as a pergola, on the site was not a cogent reason for the building of the newly erected building. Mr Berry was adamant that he found no problem with the building. Councillors were very dismayed at the situation which flies in the face of the CDC’s own planning design.</p> <p>(iii) 33 Rodmarton – double glazing in a Grade II building. It was suggested that the owner, Mr Jasper Biddulph should speak with Tony Berry.</p>	<p>PD</p> <p>MG/ TB</p>

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	<p>Regarding the Development on Kemble Avenue. Two topics have been the subject of much discussion and communication with the developers and the Cotswold District Council (CDC), including Mr Berry the District (or Ward) Councillor: a) the naming of the Development and b) the name of the road, viz the well known Kemble Avenue. The developers had wished for the site to be known as Hullasey, but the parish council had pointed out there were three other places within Tarlton with the name Hullasey in the title, therefore yet another would add to confusion in perhaps life threatening situations. The parish council had suggested using one of the adjacent field names. This solution seemed unacceptable to the developers and ultimately the name of Hullasey Grove Lane has been decided on, backed by Tony Berry, despite Mr Drake pointing out that Hullasey Grove is the woodland at the site of the old plague village. The Chairman expressed the council's dissatisfaction. b) the naming of the road between Tarlton and the main A433 Cirencester to Tetbury road, well known as Kemble Avenue. The CDC failed to recognise this name despite having been given all the local names, if any, of roads in the parish in 2017. The Chairman had asked the CDC for their guidelines in determining street names and has had no response, save for the intelligence that if the council wished this road to be named Kemble Avenue then it must be 'gazetted' and the council pay a fee and then be subjected to a Street Name Sign (when no other named street in the area has such a sign, and none was wished for).</p> <p>Regarding the kerb setts stones by Ox Pens: Mr Kinmont said the situation was in hand but ongoing.</p> <p>Regarding the Weight Restriction sign on Sandpool Lane by the Water Tower Mr Grimes has been assured by Gill Portlock on 14th February that she had 'raised a ticket' to get the sign re-erected. He noted that in times gone by if one reported a problem on the web site it used to get done fairly quickly but now there seems to be a huge time lag. Mr Berry said that he had no say in the workings of Highways.</p>	JK
4	<p>PUBLIC FORUM – A Member of the Public asked if there were a parish council website. There was currently none; the previous one having been only hit by a very few, all of which were foreign. Most parish council web sites are out of date anyway, Anyone who wishes a copy of the approved Minutes should e-mail the clerk at: rodmartonclerk@outlook.com. A Rodmarton parishioner asked on behalf of his neighbour whether the grass contractor could collect the grass clippings, especially on the green in front of the church as her dog rolled in them and then distributed these clippings around her house. The person involved had apparently said she would even be willing to dispose of the grass clippings if they were put heaped up by her house. Mr Drake said that to cut the cost to the parish it had been agreed with the contractor, K P Gardens, not to collect grass as there had been no permanent accessible place to dump them and he would charge to dump them off site. Mr Drake said that he would have a word with the contractor to see what arrangements could be made.</p>	PD
5	<p>COUNTY COUNCILLOR/WARD COUNCILLOR/POLICE COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER Mr Hirst, the County Councillor had been unable to attend. Mr Grimes introduced Mr Berry, the Ward Councillor, who said he tried to be a-political and upbeat in his reports but this year he just could not agree with the Liberal-Democrats leadership at the Cotswold District Council – see attached report. He also said that there may well be legislation coming for people to be licensed to operate Air B&B or 'party houses', this brought on especially because of noise and rubbish. Regarding rubbish they had tried to get cameras erected but due to personal Data Protection this had not been done. Regarding the budget there is a lot that he, as a conservative, could not condone and he thought that the LibDems seemed to spending on their pet theories rather than what was truly needed. Other items included climate change, water, staff leaving: a lot of turn over, Boundary Commission changes: North Cotswolds / Cotswold and Wiltshire reshuffle.</p>	

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	<p>Mr Kinmont asked about rubbish/ recycling centre. Mr Berry said that they were open again but by appointment only. Regarding litter Mr Grimes said that the most effective way of clearing up was by people patrolling well known venues with a plastic bag and a litter pick. Mr Drake said that there must be a behaviour change, pupils taught at school that people should be responsible for themselves and the environment. Mr Berry said that instead of a Speed Watch the Police commission has said one could have a speed camera. The speed limit on most country roads is 60mph (and therefore no signage, whereas lower speed designations would incur roads being "littered" with mile-an-hour limitation, re-peater and delimitation signs; all of which drivers ignore anyway. People do drive inappropriately for the locations and thus, if caught on camera, could be 'done' for dangerous driving. Mr Berry said that a permanent camera helped reduce speeds. Mr Kinmont asked about the parking in Kemble village due to the arrangements at Kemble railway station. Mr Grimes thought that the new car park for the station was agreed only if the land owner provided restrictions of parking in Kemble village; they were meant to pay for regulatory parking. The Kemble parish council wanted regulation on parking and yellow lines. Mr Berry said that the parishioners of Kemble were at odds regarding the yellow lines. Mr Grimes thought it was not the cost of the car parking it was the distance from the station that caused the problem. Mr Grimes then asked about the cost of research for the light railway. Mr Berry said £50,000 for the initial review and then another £120,000 on top. Mr Grimes said that £170,000 was a lot to pay consultants for a feasibility study.</p> <p>Mr Grimes then said that it sounded as though the CDC thought Air B&B and Holiday Lets were a bad thing on the one hand, but promoted visiting the Cotswolds on the other. Mr Berry said that houses for people to live in here were restricted because of lets and second houses. There needs to be a balance, with no discouragement. Mr Grimes remained sceptical re the CDC issuing licenses for second homes or tourist places.</p> <p>Mr Grimes said regarding the Speed Camera, that previously the parish had been advised having a camera set up, even on private land would be contrary to Data Protection laws. The parish had been keen to have cameras for instance to see who was fly tipping, especially at the bottom of Kemble Avenue. So there seems to be an anomaly there.</p> <p>The Police Community Liaison Officer could not attend.</p>	TB
6.	PLANNING: As dealt with in Matters Arising Item 3.	
7	<p>TELEPHONE BOXES: Mr Kinmont reported that work on Tarlton telephone box was to start on 14th June. A Parishioner, Mr Balding, had kindly been liaising with British Telecom on behalf of the parish council regarding the correct paint to use when the time came. He had paid for the goods and needed reimbursing the £231,12 expended. Proposed by J Kinmont, seconded by W Taylor. (done). If this Tarlton box restoration were deemed to be a success then attention would be given to the poor state of the one at Rodmarton and whether indeed anyone wanted a box there or else where in the village anyway.</p>	ALL
8	RODMARTON PARISH NOTICE BOARD -- see under Matters Arising, Item 3.	
9	<p>FINANCIAL AT BANK AS AT 21 April 2022 Treasurers a/c 0238463 £3,098.14 Savings a/c 7156322 £18,284.48 (inc 1st tranche of precept: £4,875 same as last year) . Mr Grimes explained that the savings amount was a 'war chest' amount in case one had to fight, say, planning decisions for example the party venue at Kemble, The Tunnel House</p>	

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	glamping pods, etc. And some costs for renovations of telephone boxes and the like. Paid: Clerk: £350, K P Gardens 2 x invoices £510.69 + VAT £102.13 = £612.82, BHIB £262.65 (insurance renewal 1 st June 2022). P Balding: reimbursement of outlay on behalf of the parish to BT regarding paint £231.12.	
10	GENERAL/IN CIRCULATION: as per e-mails – no comments.	
11	COUNCILLORS' AND CLERK'S REPORTS: <u>Planning – Mark Grimes:</u> as reported elsewhere. <u>Highways– John Kinmont:</u> as reported elsewhere. <u>Church –</u> nothing to report. <u>School – Mark Grimes</u> said that sadly the Headmistress would be leaving at the end of the summer term: a new Head had been appointed by the School Governors. – <u>Grass Cutting – Paul Drake</u> – As usual a good result as can easily be seen, and he was to contact KP Gardens re Rodmarton church green area. <u>Kemble Airfield / Cotswold Airport –</u> Aircraft arriving at low height. Kemble airfield has denied low level flying takes place, but after complaints the low level flying incidents seemed fewer. There is also a helicopter that does an annoying repetitive flight pattern, especially on sunny days. Mr Grimes thought the people on the flight were merely joy riding and wasting fuel, while causing a nuisance to inhabitants of Rodmarton and other local parishes. To report this antisocial behaviour and to badger the control tower telephone: 01285 771177 . <u>Police Liaison – Paul Drake</u> – unfortunately the Rural Beat officers had been redeployed into towns. Mr Berry said that all police departments were understaffed. <u>Celebrations:</u> There was no appetite to formally run any celebrations but Wendy Taylor said Rodmarton was lighting a beacon to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's platinum jubilee. Meeting finished at 9.05pm	PD
12	ANY OTHER BUSINESS – None.	
13	NOTICE OF NEXT MEETINGS - DATE & TIME: 26 July, 22 November. All at 7.00pm. Contact email addresses: Chairman: mark.rodmartonpc@gmail.com ; Clerk: rodmartonclerk@outlook.com .	

Signed: 

Date: 26 July 2022

RODMARTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17 MAY 2022 AT 7.00 PM

Councillors:	Mark Grimes, Paul Drake, John Kinmont, Wendy Taylor. Plus Co-optees Charlotte Hudson, Eustace Santa Barbara
Clerk: +	S Hare. Councillor: Tony Berry. Members of the of Public x 4

		ACTION
1	APOLOGIES – S Hirst, County Councillor	
2	CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS – Mrs Charlotte Hudson was proposed to be a councillor by Wendy Taylor and seconded by Paul Drake. Mr Eustace Santa Barbara was proposed by Wendy Taylor and seconded by John Kinmont. All current councillors were in favour of the co-option and the candidates each to take on the role of councillor. Mr Grimes explained that Mrs Sarah Biddulph had expressed a desire to be co-opted but had not been able to attend the meeting. Wendy Taylor proposed that she was to be co-opted but there was no seconder.	
3	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – had been dealt with at the previous meeting.	
4	MATTERS ARISING – None.	
5	REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR – None	
6	WARD COUNCILLOR – Mr Tony Berry referred to his written report, attached, and would embellish it at the Ordinary Meeting to follow.	
7	POLICE REPORT – No one was able to attend and can be contacted in a number of ways including the website www.gloucestershire.police.uk/neighbourhood.policing , or 01452 907200. It was reiterated that information however small should be reported to the police either via telephoning 101 or via e-mail: sue.fellows@gloucestershire.police.uk or if it were an emergency or a crime was being committed then Dial 999. Website (www.gloucestershire.police.uk).	
8	REPORT FROM CHAIRMAN – Mr Grimes said that it was gratifying that following the Covid Pandemic the council could meet once again in person in order to thrash out any topics instead of via e-mail or telephone. He was very pleased to welcome Eustace Santa Barbara and Charlotte..... The Council as in previous years, maintained a bank balance in order to cope with these ad hoc, unforeseen issues. He thanked his fellow councillors and the clerk for their input and help throughout the year.	
9	FINANCIAL: balances at bank at year end: 31 March 2022 Treasurers a/c 0238463 £3,448.14; savings a/c 7156322, was £13,409.36. The signed off and audited accounts for 2020/21 were available for councillors and public alike as were the unaudited accounts for 2021/22. There were no questions from councillors about the accounts and following last year’s resolution the council opted out of formal yearly auditing. The accounts were agreed by the councillors and signed by Mr Grimes the Chairman. The Clerk drew councillors’ attention to the Annual Governance Statement for the year and this was agreed and signed off too. She also reminded all parishioners that by prior agreement they may at any mutually acceptable time inspect the accounts, even though there was technically only open for a small window of time. The Annual Governance, Certificate of Exemption and associated information was to be sent to the auditors..... (done)	PS PSH
10	ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN - The clerk asked for proposals for the position of Chairman and Vice Chairman: John Kinmont proposed that Mark Grimes be Chairman; this was seconded Paul Drake – no other nominations were made, and councillors agreed the nomination; Mr Grimes accepted the position. For the position of Vice Chairman Wendy Taylor proposed Paul Drake, seconded by John Kinmont. There were no other nominations and councillors agreed the nomination; Mr Drake accepted the position.	
11	ANY OTHER BUSINESS - None	
12	QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – None.	
13	NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 16th May 2023.	

Signed: 

Date: 26 July 2022

KEMBLE WARD: DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2

It's been a very busy year, not least because of Covid, which continued to have a big impact on everyone until the very successful vaccination project enabled us to work our way out of lockdown and into a freer society, but one that is still not 'normal' with people talking about a 'new normal' – watch this space!

I continue to attend your Parish Council meetings to help where possible or answer any queries on CDC issues and have been involved in various activities outside my normal role on your behalf. These include my continuing involvement in the Light Railway Project, assessing the viability of getting Government funding to re-open a line linking the main line station at Kemble to the centre of Cirencester, and chairing a council team looking into the issue of short term lettings and more specifically so called 'Party Houses'. I am also Deputy Chairman of the 'Friends of the Corinium Museum'.

District Council

I have been involved in a number of motions to Council in relation to:-

- Catching fly tippers (this activity has increased by 25% over the last couple of years) - voted down.
- Funding for the Queen's Jubilee – voted down.
- Increasing the dog bins service in response to increased dog ownership – voted down.
- A motion to alter the reasons for referring an application to the planning Committee – voted down

Major issues through the year:-

PLANNING

Debate and concerns (raised by more than 60 town and parish councils) over the Planning Committee Protocol and Scheme of Delegation introduced in November 2020 continues. Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown recently met with the CDC CEO, Rob Weaver, planning officers, the CDC legal advisor and representative Parish Council members. It is hoped this will lead to the introduction of improved democratic processes and some proposals being put forward to make the process clearer and more inclusive for the Parish Councils.

BUDGET

I was yet again not able to support this year's budget, mostly owing to lack of detail on the proposed borrowing and high level of proposed spending. I have concerns as other Councils around the country have been seriously financially damaged by the strategy of borrowing to invest. District Councils have little or no experience in such activities and in my opinion shouldn't get involved. I also have concerns on this Council's continuing high spending on Consultants, new staff and unnecessary projects (such as putting the Council's crest on road signs). Most households reduce their spending when faced with higher costs – not this administration.

Of concern are the increased costs to residents: The maximum Council Tax increase (2% or £5 - whichever is the higher) was imposed - a Council Tax increase of £5 for a Band D property.

Green Bin licences increased to £47 each. An additional income of £264,000 will be generated from charges on a full cost recovery basis.

On top of last year's 30% increase, a further 5% increase in car park fees and charges, including scrapping 'Free after Three'.

PLANNED SPENDING:

£350,000 to fund the Investment Strategy.

£400,000 for investment in feasibility studies and other work to support the provision of social housing built to carbon zero.

Over £900,000 has been spent on consultations so far, another £629,000 is planned for this year.

Contrary to regular announcements suggesting otherwise, the forecast of Government funding has improved by £913,000.

REFRESH OF INVESTMENT STRATEGY:

On 4 April 2022 the CDC Cabinet voted to adopt the Capital Programme Investment Strategy, to borrow £75 million for investments to deliver green infrastructure that will have a positive impact on the climate emergency declaration. No additional money was to be spent on social housing which we

had been led to believe was one of the main reasons for this enormous amount of borrowing

Given that the risk of Government underfunding the Council is the same as it was previously this represents an unexplained increase of £10 million borrowing.

Since none of this borrowing was in the 'budget consultation', we believe that because of the size of the proposed debt the Council should hold a referendum on this before making any commitments. Especially because there are warnings littered throughout the Cabinet papers about the risks involved.

CLIMATE CHANGE

I voted for the climate emergency and I voted to support the Climate Change report which was commissioned last year, and which gave a national overview rather than specific Cotswold policies. A more "bottom up" approach, encouraging and supporting individuals and communities to take a large number of small actions would, in my view, be achievable, affordable and practical, rather than competing with the Government and GCC on their "top down" approach. I will however continue to support (and widen) the objectives of this project.

PARKING

As already mentioned, car parking charges have been raised by a further 5% (over and above the 30% increase last year). In addition the popular 'Free after Three' scheme has been binned and cash will no longer be an acceptable method of payment (this not yet fully introduced with no explanation). Not a good year for either shoppers or shopkeepers.

OTHER MATTERS

Staff turnover at the Council has continued apace. In all, 63 people have resigned. The whole Democratic Services team left in the same month which has caused problems with Council meetings and communications as there was no proper hand over.

CDC Leisure Centre is closed for refurbishment. The Leisure Centre was also closed for much of last year's lockdown.

The Planning Department continues to suffer from a lack of staffing and heavy workloads. A recruitment drive is being implemented, however service remains slow.

There has been a considerable amount of talk and consultation about various changes to the structure and management of the Cotswold District including:-

- Possible change to a unitary authority.
- The 'Levelling up Plan'.
- The possible change from an AONB to a National Park.
- Boundary changes to Parliamentary constituencies.

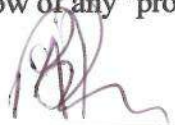
Parish specific issues I've been involved with:-

- Planning applications.
- Street naming
- Licensing applications

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Councillors	Paul Drake, (Chairman), Wendy Taylor, John Kinmont, Charlotte Hudson, Eustace Santa Barbara
Clerk:	S Hare. Ward Councillor: Tony Berry; Members of Public x 3

ACTION

1	APOLOGIES – Mark Grimes, County Councillor	
2	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS – The minutes of the AGM of 17 May 2022 were agreed, proposed by John Kinmont and seconded by Wendy Taylor. There were no Matters Arising. The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of 17 May 2022 were proposed by Wendy Taylor and seconded by John Kinmont. Both sets of minutes were agreed by Councillors and signed by the chairman of the meeting Paul Drake, as being a true representation.	
3	MATTERS ARISING – Mr Drake said that hardcore had been provided by Mr Whittaker, a parishioner, and had been used to repair the triangle of grass near the Tarlton Water tower. Re the sett stones by Ox Pens Mr John Kinmont said things were ‘ongoing’ as Richard Gray of Highways had been ill. Mr Drake had spoken to K P Gardens re collecting the grass clippings on Rodmarton Green. There is now a collaboration in place between the contractor and the resident. Pete Kirkpatrick of K P Gardens is very helpful and if there were to be any issue the involved people should let him know.	
4	PUBLIC FORUM – A Member of the Public wanted to talk about the old topic of people speeding in their vehicles as they pass through the villages. This oft raised and debated topic usually came up every few years either by people new to the area or after a scary moment. Mr Drake said he would deal with this in Any Other Business.	
5	COUNTY COUNCILLOR/WARD COUNCILLOR/POLICE COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER Mr Hirst, the County Councillor had been unable to attend. Mr Berry reiterated what he reported at the previous meeting about the new police commissioners idea of setting up cameras to photograph people who speed. However, it was pointed out that as the speed limit on rural roads is 60mph (and often such a speed is not actually achievable), no-one would be legally speeding, they are just driving inappropriately. Mr Berry also reported that the Cotswold District Council (CDC) had agreed to renew all gym equipment; there was a corporate Plan update. Another person had left the Finance department, but there is supposedly someone being engaged to replace her. Social Media guidance is coming out soon. The CDC has declared that we are living in a Cost of Living Crisis. Mr Berry also said that the notion of a license to enable anyone to let a house or own a second house is being discussed; this is ostensibly regarding safety in letting and it could possibly set limits in planning. Regarding the Tunnel House glamping pods Mr Drake asked whether the planning had been modified and when would it be ratified. Mr Berry said the design of the pods had been changed, but even though contentious this application will not be seen by the Planning committee. Mr Grimes, as chairman of the Parish Council had already put in an Objection and the council wished to know the progress by the CDC. Mr Drake said there would be no issue if the glamping pods were within the curtilage of the premises, but currently the pods were not. They could be seen from afar dominating the edge of a wood and a public right of way. Mr Berry said there was no planning meeting in July and he would let the parish council know of any ‘progress’.	TB 

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	<p>There were no other topics for Mr Berry save from a Member of the Public who asked about the 747 at Kemble Airport which might be used for 'parties'. Apparently it is rentable for £1,000/hour. Mr Berry said it had only been used for meetings, not 'parties', but if there was any noise nuisance then the parishioner should let him know. Mr Drake posed the thought about how much noise should be tolerated, the airfield used to home to the Red Arrows which when flying they were noisy and now it was much quieter regarding noise from the sky. A Member of the Public said that an aircraft's fuselage is well insulated and therefore not much noise would escape from its interior. There was no attendance from the Police Community Liaison Officer.</p>	
6.	<p>PLANNING: As discussed under Item 5</p>	
7	<p>TELEPHONE BOXES: The two telephone boxes in the parish were bought by the Rodmarton parish council from British Telecom for £1 each. As they no longer fulfilled their telecommunication function the Talton Defibrillation Group has been given permission to use the box in Tarlton for its Defibrillation unit, the installation of which is to happen once this box was refurbished, as had previously been agreed. The works of shot blasting, paint stripping and repainting has been done and the box is awaiting a few new glass panels and a final paint. Regarding the very dilapidated telephone box at Rodmarton there is a feeling that it is not in the best location to have any use. Mr Kinmont said that it would have to be moved anyway to renovate it due to its being sited close up to the wall behind it which was falling down. Mr Drake said it is a historic phone box, but it is not in the centre of the village and he asked what people thought to moving it to say the main green in Rodmarton (which the parish council owns), perhaps next to the bus shelter, or some other place or whether it should be scrapped. Four councillors would like 'something' to be done. They agreed to have a site meeting to ascertain a good spot to place the box which should be renovated to the same standard as the one at Tarlton. It was suggested that views of parishioners could be sought perhaps via a note in the Watershed.</p>	<p>ALL PD/ MG</p>
8	<p>VERGE MAINTENANCE AT NO THROUGH ROAD, TARLTON – VOLUNTEERS Mr Drake reminded the councillors of the decision last year to let the verge grass and other vegetation grow and the grass-cutting contractor was advised not to cut it. A volunteer work party was to cut this verge once or twice a year. 'No Mow May' has passed so he urged local inhabitants to come forward to trim or mow the area as appropriate. The parish owned strimmer is not suitable for the job which needs a heavier piece of machinery, ie a brush-cutter. Mr Drake offered to use his machinery and to cut back undergrowth in the area from 59 Tarlton under the yew tree up to 62/63 Tarlton. A member of the public offered to help Mr Drake; they were to liaise on timing of the work.</p>	<p>PD</p>
9.	<p>RODMARTON NOTICEBOARD – A noticeboard has been made and is awaiting installation in the desired location within the bus shelter which is situated on the council owned green. Being inside would shield the board from the elements and therefore it would last longer than those that have been erected outside. However the owner of the bus shelter, Jasper Biddulph, was not keen the board should be located in his building. He thought the noticeboard would be much better outside where it could be seen and opined that people did not know that the noticeboard housed within the bus shelter at Tarlton was there at all. When asked directly by a Member of the Public what his reasons were for not allowing the noticeboard to be housed in his bus shelter Mr Biddulph said he thought it would be better outside as others had been for the last 30 years. Mr Drake suggested that sunlight and damp made the notices fade and become useless. Mr Biddulph was still not to be shifted in his opinion. To move on from this impasse, Mr Drake said he would get quotes for posts on which to locate the noticeboard outside.</p>	<p>PD</p>

10	CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCIL COUNCILLOR – There had been an application by Sarah Biddulph of Rodmarton Manor for her to join the parish council via co-option. Discussion of this had been deferred from the previous meeting. On being asked to vote two councillors voted in favour and two abstained and the chairman of the meeting did not get a vote; therefore this topic is on hold again until the next meeting in November.	
11	FINANCIAL AT BANK AS AT 25 JULY 2022 Treasurers a/c 0238463 £4,833.45 less noticeboard invoice of £1,500 + VAT £300 = £1,800, to be cashed. Savings a/c 7156322 £11,921.76. To pay: KP Gardens invoice would arrive soon.	
12	GENERAL/IN CIRCULATION: as per e-mails – no comments.	
13	COUNCILLORS' AND CLERK'S REPORTS: <u>Planning – Mark Grimes</u> : no comments. . <u>Highways– John Kinmont</u> : no comments. <u>Church</u> – nothing to report. <u>School</u> – Nothing to report. – <u>Grass Cutting – Paul Drake</u> — As reported elsewhere. <u>Kemble Airfield / Cotswold Airport</u> – Mr Berry said that the helicopter flights had no stopped. To report any antisocial behaviour contact the control tower telephone: 01285 771177 . <u>Police Liaison – Paul Drake</u> – it appears Rodmarton area has lost it PCSO. Mr Drake would find out the details.	PD
14	ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Speeding. Mr Drake reminded all that the speed limit on the rural roads was 60mph. So called speeding vehicles seem to be driven by parents delivering children to school. Proliferation of signage has little or no effect. Speed bumps had been offered as a deterrent but people also complained about pot holes, which also helped to reduce traffic speed. One thing the worried public could do is to note down the time and license plate number of the offending vehicle. Speed is perceived as fast in different locations on the road, eg near the water tower or bus shelter in Tarlton 30 mph would be far too fast. Approaching parents via the school asking them to correct their timing or reduce their speed has not seemed to work. A Member of the Public suggested that one should create influences within a school group and also make '20 is plenty' signs. Mr Berry said that if there is no legal speed limit (less than the 60 mph) then the camera from the police would be of no use; it could probably help if people wrote directly to lobby the Highways and other bodies. A Member of the Public said his wife had written to the County Council Highways but to no effect. There was talk of painted cut out silhouettes of children with the legend ' don't run us over' or 'nudge signs' reminding people to drive more considerately (slower). Mr Berry said that the school could talk to the children and he could liaise with the school on the topic. The answer to Mr Drake's question whether the parish council was in favour of local initiatives indoctrinating the children was 'Yes'. Mrs Hudson reported that someone had recently had a fire in the publicly owned Long Barrow situated on private land in the local area. Mr Drake asked if she could clear up the debris left and she said she would.	TB CH
15	NOTICE OF NEXT MEETINGS - DATE & TIME: 22 November 2022 (2023 to be set then) All at 7.00pm. Contact email addresses: Chairman: mark.rodmartonpc@gmail.com ; Clerk: rodmartonclerk@outlook.com .	

Signed:

Date: 22 November 2022

RODMARTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2022.

Councillors	Paul Drake, (Chairman), Wendy Taylor, Charlotte Hudson Smith, Eustace Santa Barbara
Clerk:	S Hare. County Councillor: S Hirst, Ward Councillor: Tony Berry; Members of Public x 2

ACTION

1	APOLOGIES – Mr J Kinmont	
2	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS – The minutes of the July 2022 were proposed by Wendy Taylor and seconded by Charlotte Hudson, agreed by Councillors and signed by the chairman of the meeting Paul Drake, as being a true representation.	
3	<p>MATTERS ARISING – Mr Berry said that the Tunnel House application for ‘glamping pods’ was on hold as Natural England had objections. Mr Drake said that the council would support the idea if the pods were to be constructed within the curtilage of the pub, not highly visible away ‘near the wood’. Mr Berry said he was no longer able to ask for a meeting of the CDC Planning Committee to discuss the topic he had to wait for the planning officer to be for or against the idea and then he could argue, with cogent planning reasons, (with which he had been supplied already by Mr Grimes), for or against the decision. Therefore there was no movement as yet.</p> <p>Re the Tarlton Telephone Box. It had been renovated but there was some snagging to do. Mr Kinmont would be asked to chase up the contractor who was his contact. The defibrillator had been installed.</p> <p>Re the Rodmarton telephone box – no site meeting held as yet but it was in a non-useful location whatever use it might be put to. Much discussion about possible uses had already been had and it was ultimately decided that to relocate and renovate this box would make it an expensive ornament. It was decided to scrap the box itself (Mr Grimes to check no planning implications) and Western Power would be contacted to disconnect the electricity supply.</p> <p>Re verge cutting in Tarlton – this was not a parish wide concern. Highways had cut some and it was hoped that in the New Year local residents keen to cut before the spring flower growth would get together to do so.</p> <p>Regarding the new Noticeboard for Rodmarton. There was more discussion on who owned the bus shelter (Mr Jasper Biddulph; his family had built it) and the Green (the Parish Council since 1974). Mr Biddulph did not want the noticeboard inside the bus shelter and the parish council wanted it and its notices to be protected from the elements and installed therein. After more discussion it was suggested that Mr Biddulph might consider issuing a Licence to the Council and this idea was ultimately agreed as suitable to both parties. Mr Grimes offered to draw up the details of the License to which Mr Biddulph agreed.</p>	<p>TB</p> <p>JK</p> <p>MG</p> <p>MG. PD</p> <p>MG</p>
4	<p>PUBLIC FORUM – The two members of the public (Rob Cuckow and Philip Moore, both of Tarlton), updated the council on their ideas for trying to influence people who drove inappropriately on the local parish roads, ie getting them to slow down. They had suggested DIY ‘nudge’ signs situated on private property of people who agreed to helping out. Signs’ motto included ‘Watch out for Children’ and ‘Drive Like Your Kids Live Here’. They also suggested interacting with the Rodmarton School. There was lengthy discussion about positioning, location and liability and how not all people think signs are taken notice of, and some people regard them as road side litter. However as the two members of the public were keen to pursue their idea, rather than not try ‘something’ it was agreed that they (Mr Cuckow and Mr Moore) would contact Highways about the possibility of signs being put in the verges but under local control, and Rob Cuckow would ask neighbours directly what they thought about the idea.</p> <p>Mr Cuckow was also anxious to see minutes of the parish council meetings before they had been signed off. Despite the Chairman being not keen on circulating unapproved</p>	

RODMARTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2022.

	minutes, and despite interested parties having attended a meeting knowing what happened anyway, he did agree that 'interested parties' could receive by email on the council's timescale, a draft set of minutes.	
5	<p>COUNTY COUNCILLOR/WARD COUNCILLOR/POLICE COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER</p> <p>Mr Hist handed out a paper about the A417 road alterations at Birdlip, the so called 'Missing Link' to dual carriageway road at this point, to alleviate the chronic traffic jams. The proposals were to go ahead. There would be an exhibition on the proposals and the historical and archaeological findings on site. Details available via Michael Goddard, A417 Missing Link Project Director, Regional Investment Programme (South West), National Highways. www.highwaysengland.co.uk. Mr Berry reported that: one could now 'book on the day' for a Recycling visit; the Cotswold District Council budget for the upcoming year was up on the council's website with 'multiple choice' options for people to select what the money should be spent on. Regarding fly-tipping of rubbish he said that recently 9 people had been caught/prosecuted. He also said that the CDC had dropped the idea of borrowing money to enable them to do projects they had in mind, eg solar parks. There was no attendance from the Police Community Liaison Officer.</p>	
6.	PLANNING: As discussed in Matters Arising Item 3.	
7	TELEPHONE BOXES/UPDATE ON DEFIBRILLATOR: As discussed in Matters Arising Item 3.	
8	RODMARTON NOTICEBOARD – As discussed in Matters Arising, Item 3.	
9.	CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCIL COUNCILLOR – co-option to be suspended and any interested person may allow their name to be put forward for the May 2023 formal elections. This proposed by M Grimes and seconded by Eustace Santa Barbara.	
10	<p>FINANCIAL AT BANK AS AT 22 OCTOBER 2022 Treasurers a/c 0238463 £1,841.36 Savings a/c 7156322 £13,548.22 Paid: Clerk for 6 months £750. KP Gardens's last invoice of the year £117.60 + VAT £52.63 = £204.27</p> <p>PRECEPT: The clerk tabled financial information, including the quote for grass cutting for £2,502.36. The clerk drew to the councillors' attention that according to the auditors the parish reserves should not be more than twice the precept. This total could be mitigated by ring fencing funds, eg for the parish council's stated potential need to hire barristers to fight a controversial planning situation detrimental to the parish. The items were reviewed and it was agreed to ask for a precept of £6,500 (the same amount as the last two years): proposed by Mark Grimes, seconded by Charlotte Hudson Smith. Clerk to submit to Cotswold District Council (done). The internet banking forms had been received. The KP Gardens quote was agreed and the clerk to inform Pete Kirkpatrick, the contractor (done).</p>	<p>PSH</p> <p>PSH</p>
11	GENERAL/IN CIRCULATION: as per e-mails – no comments. This item is now not to be included in future Agenda.	
12	<p>COUNCILLORS' AND CLERK'S REPORTS: <u>Planning</u> – Mark Grimes: no comments.. <u>Highways</u>– John Kinmont: no comments. <u>Church</u> – nothing to report. <u>School</u> – New Headmaster settling in well. – <u>Grass Cutting</u> – Paul Drake – As reported elsewhere. <u>Kemble Airfield / Cotswold Airport</u> – Mr Grimes reported that the 'party plane' was to be used as a Christmas themed entertainment venue, but thinks this is a stalking horse for other things. An MOP said that the aircraft is advertised for use in Flight Magazine. To report any antisocial behaviour contact the control tower telephone: 01285 771177.</p>	

RODMARTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2022.

	<u>Police Liaison – Paul Drake</u> – it appears Rodmarton area has lost it PCSO. Mr Drake would find out the details.	
13	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS- regarding the bad flooding at Jackments Bottom. Mr Grimes thanked Mr Hirst for visiting the site. The elderly couple who live there are very distressed as even the ambulance and nurse were unable to visit the sick husband. ‘Something’ had been promised but no timescale had been offered and both Mr Grimes and Mr Drake lobbied Mr Hirst and Mr Berry in the strongest terms possible for a practical and practicable solution to be activated immediately. It just was not right that these elderly people were literally fearing for their lives due to this flooding. Mr Hirst said he could ‘up the ante’ to get potholes filled. Mr Drake said that the road was part of the Old Fosse off the A433 and water surges down lane and runs through the parishioners’ porch and into the garden depositing gravel in deep drifts, therefore more work than filling potholes has to be done, and as far back as the main A433. Mr Grimes reminded all that it was a Public Right of Way not a ‘private driveway’. Mr Hirst promised that it would be on his agenda when meeting with Richard Gray, the local Highways officer on Friday. He also suggested the ‘squeaky wheel’ scenario; ie more people put in a plea to Highways, either to Richard Gray or his boss Dom Morris.</p> <p>Mr Grimes then spoke about the deep standing water on the road from the Tarlton Water Tower to Tarlton Downs (Red Sheds); this has been a problem for decades and even if gullies or sumps were dug the problem was still there; water with unseen potholes underneath, bad for cars, but lethal for bicycle riders. It was suggested that at the very least the grips were cleaned out and by men with shovels as the mechanical screw often digs up hill, which is unhelpful and a waste of time and money.</p> <p>Mr Grimes said that Highways signage was in a shocking state, with many fallen (or pushed) down or at odd angles, sometimes for over two years, despite being often reported, eg the give Way sign at the end of Kemble Avenue.</p> <p>Re Christmas – Mr Grimes requested and proposed the purchase of two Christmas trees, one for each village at a cost of £298; this was agreed.</p>	SH, TB SH
14	<p>NOTICE OF NEXT MEETINGS - DATE & TIME: 2023 Meetings in Rodmarton Village Hall All at 7.00pm. Dates: NB: now set for 3rd Monday: 20 February, 15 May, 17 July, 20 November 2023.</p> <p>Contact email addresses: Chairman: mark.rodmartonpc@gmail.com; Clerk: rodmartonclerk@outlook.com.</p>	

Signed: 

Date: 20 February 2023

RODMARTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2023

	<p>the County Councillor, Mr Stephen Hirst and the Ward Councillor, Mr Tony Berry both of whom had inspected the problem however no cogent solution has been forthcoming. She was afraid to leave her house lest it was flooded while she was away. She added that since the Bathurst Estate took over the farming in that area the tractors have become larger and make more damage to the road infrastructure. The lane to Jackaments farm on which Jackaments cottage is situated is a public highway and not a private drive, not to be confused with Jackaments Lane. Mr Drake said Jackaments Lane had been resurfaced with an experimental surface some time ago and added that although it was a 'minor' route it was used a lot. Mr Kinmont said that Mr Gray and Ms Portlock of Highways did know about the situation. Mr Berry said he would speak to Mr Gray and Mr Hirst to try to galvanise some action for the roads and the tree. Mrs Hopkins said that over the years the lane had simply not been maintained and begged that a solution be scheduled and that something actually be done. Mr Drake asked for swift progress and for Mr Berry to report back what has been done.</p> <p>Mr Rob Cucknow distributed his typed up version of what he thought should have been written in the Minutes reporting what he had said at the previous meeting and desired that the minutes be changed to emphasise more his input. Before the clerk could enlighten him, Mrs Hopkins swiftly and firmly interjected and advised Mr Cucknow that one may not change Minutes as written, (and in this case already agreed by councillors and signed). All the councillors indicated that she was correct in her statement. Minor changes may be made with the full agreement of councillors at a meeting but a member of the public has no such right. There is a right to ask for a topic to be put on the agenda of a subsequent meeting. The Rodmarton Parish Council next meeting will be after the 4th May local elections topic on 15 May 2023.</p>	<p>TB</p> <p>TB</p>
5	<p>COUNTY COUNCILLOR/WARD COUNCILLOR/POLICE COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER The County Councillor did not attend. The Ward Council, Mr Berry, indicated that if the RPC were thinking of holding any celebrations for King Charles' coronation then there was money from the lottery to be applied for and one should apply timeously regarding any road closures desired. Rodmarton Parish Council was not planning to hold any events. He reported that that the Cotswold District Council had an Exceptional Hardship policy and a Fund to help people. Best way to apply was either direct to the CDC or via the Citizen Advice Bureau. The CDC was instigating a Peer Review strategy – ie looking into their own activities. The CDC had signed up to the Ecology Bill. Planning for the truck stop/lay-by near Stratton had been rejected but the applicants were appealing. He reminded everyone that to vote at the 4th May elections one must prove one's identify at the Polling Station. He said that there was a CDC 'confidential briefing' set for 7 March and when asked what it was about, weirdly he said he did not know as it was 'confidential'. Regarding the damaged verge on the No Through Road at Tarlton caused by a lorry that got stuck as it had been driven to the wrong Hullasey, the Bathurst Estate had made good. There were no questions for the Ward Councillor. Councillors agreed that as the Police or the Police Community Liaison Officer did not attend meetings any more nor send a report regrading local police matters to the Council that the heading should no longer be included above. The clerk said that she could sometimes get a report or visit from the police or the PCSO for the AGM. One can only ask them and see if they have the time to attend.</p>	<p>PSH</p>
6.	<p>PLANNING: No new planning. The Tunnel House planning was controversial and both Mr Berry and Mr Drake had involvement with the Bathurst Estate. Mr Drake declared his interest but was still against the plan for the glamping pods. Mr Berry asked if the council would like someone other than him to represent the parish council and it was agreed that such a person should be sought. (Clerk's Note: subsequently Mrs Julia Judd, another local Ward councillor, was approached and she agrees wholeheartedly with the RPC, so some progress might be made).</p>	<p>TB</p> <p>PD</p>

RODMARTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2023

7	<p>POSTS ON GREENS – REPAIR/REPLACE Mr Drake explained that there had been some damage to posts around the greens and he sought agreement for funding from councillors to replace or repair the damaged posts, which were doing a good job of guarding the grassed areas. This was agreed (proposed by Wendy Taylor and seconded by Charlotte Smith, agreed by all) and Mr Drake would oversee the works.</p> <p>Mr Kinmont said that unfortunately the small green triangle in the diverging road at the south end of Rodmarton on to Irongate Lane was being eroded by vehicles (tractors, delivery vans, cars) but it was not in the ownership of the Parish Council rather the Biddulph family so perhaps they might organise reparations.</p>	PD
8	<p>ELECTIONS 4 MAY 2023 – people should be nominated and return the paperwork in person to the Cotswold District Council by 4pm on 4th April. If there are more than 7 nominations (the full complement for Rodmarton Parish Council) there would have to be an election and the CDC would charge the parish council £2,000, for administering it.</p>	
9.	<p>KING’S CORONATION – celebrations – there was no appetite to organise any celebration.</p>	
10	<p>FINANCIAL AT BANK AS AT 13 February 2023 Treasurers a/c 0238463 £3,266.38 Savings a/c 7156322 £10,562.21 Paid: PFK Littlejohn auditors - £200 + VAT £40. Because Mr Grimes was a cheque signatory and he was resigning it was agreed that K P Gardens should be paid 50% of their agreed quote now so as to give some time to organise other people to be cheque signatories or able to do online banking. Other invoices should be paid timeously too. It was agreed that the Clerk should now become able to pay invoices under strict agreement from councillors. The necessary admin with the bank should be entered into soon. Proposed by John Kinmont and seconded by Charlotte Smith.</p>	PSH PD
11	<p>COUNCILLORS' AND CLERK'S REPORTS: <u>Planning – Mark Grimes:</u> no comments. <u>Highways– John Kinmont:</u> operations were in hand. <u>Church – nothing to report.</u> <u>School – nothing to report.</u> – <u>Grass Cutting – Paul Drake</u> — As reported elsewhere. Mrs Taylor said that the lime tree had dropped some branches and these probably needed tidying up before the mowing season started. Mr Drake would advise K P Gardens. <u>Kemble Airfield / Cotswold Airport – KIV.</u> To report any antisocial behaviour contact the control tower telephone: 01285 771177. <u>Police Liaison – Paul Drake</u> – nothing to report.</p>	
12	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS- Mr Drake reported that he had organised the planting of the Wild Service Tree (as supplied and invoiced by the Parochial Church Council) on the Green at Rodmarton in time for it to be blessed at the church service. He had already paid the contractor and would submit his invoice soon. He mentioned that this was the second replacement tree in this position; and so he had organised the removal of the old stump.</p>	
	<p>NOTICE OF NEXT MEETINGS - DATE & TIME: 2023 Meetings in Rodmarton Village Hall All at 7.00pm. Dates: NB: now set for 3rd Monday: 15 May, 17 July, 20 November.</p> <p>Contact email addresses: Chairman: padrake@hotmail.co.uk; Clerk: rodmartonclerk@outlook.com.</p>	

Signed:

Date: 15 May 2023