

## Parish Council Notes – Council Meetings 5<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022

**Budget & Precept 2022/23:** The Parish Council unanimously approved its budget for 2022/23 at the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January and approved a precept request of £177,932 which will result in a 5.96% increase in a Band D Council Tax payment to the Parish Council. This equates to an actual rise of 56p per month or £5.63 per annum to £99.94 from £94.31 in 2021/22. Full details of the approved budget and a statement on the Council's budget making process for 2022/23 are available on the Parish Council's website.

**Election Charges:** Cotswold District Council will be considering a recommendation that the cost of Parish and Town Council elections be charged to the local councils rather than being met by the District Council at its Cabinet meeting in January. If Cabinet agrees to the recommendation, costs will be charged to Parish and Town Councils for all contested elections held after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 which will include the May 2023 ordinary elections. CDC's reasons for this change are as follows: 1) to make savings and increase revenue; 2) elections are of direct benefit to parishes and towns and can be argued should be paid for by their councils rather than the District Council.

**Delegated Authority:** The Parish Council has amended its Standing Orders to provide for further delegation to the Clerk, in consultation with Councillors, to enable greater Council resilience and preparedness. This is in the context of growing Covid-19 prevalence and possible further national and local measures to be introduced. The Clerk is to be enabled to exercise full powers of delegation, other than those not allowed in law. This will be reviewed at each full Council meeting as a standing agenda item.

**Police:** The Parish Council was advised that PC Francis Ward had now taken over responsibility for the village as PC Webb would continue to work in Cirencester. Council gave thanks to PC Webb for all his help and support during his time in the parish.

**Rissington Rd Car Park:** District Cllr Nick Maunder reported that the improvement works at the Rissington Rd car park had been delayed but a contractor had been appointed and a site meeting was due to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> January. The contractors had been informed that the car park will need to re-open by 1<sup>st</sup> April.

**Village Green:** In addition to the temporary metal railings that had been installed around a section of the village green, Council agreed to put up green fencing temporarily to enable the recovery of the grassed areas along the riverside walk. A long-term solution would be sought to protect this area in the future.

**The Old Chapel:** The new tenancy for The Old Chapel has now started and Council would like to formally welcome its new tenant Zena Beauchamp, who is trading as Zena the Barber & Hairstylist, to the Community Centre site.

**Deputy Clerk:** The Council resolved to recruit a temporary Deputy Clerk for a period of 6 months for 8-10 hours per week from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022. Full details will be available in the next edition of the Browser.

**Annual Parish Meeting:** An early reminder that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm in the Community Centre. Further details will be available in the next edition of the Browser.

**Next Parish Council Meeting:** Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 7pm in The George Moore Community Centre.

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