

## THE PARISH OF BERRICK SALOME

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 9th May 2019 at the Berrick Salome Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

### 1. Apologies for absence

Anne Kilduff, Mike Craven-Todd, Susan Radice.

### 2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 10th May 2018 were summarised by John Radice.

The minutes were approved, and were signed by Ian Glyn.

### 3. The Annual Report of Parish Council

This was presented by the chairman, Ian Glyn.

This is my end of term report covering four years of your Parish Council. I reflect on another active year in The Parish. Many of the themes and issues faced over the past four years persisted and received our attention last year. Some have been resolved but some rumble on and will continue to exercise your new Council in months to come.

#### *Planning Issues*

We have been required to or "invited " to comment on 17 Planning Application this year. I say "invited to" because three such applications were outside our Parish Boundary but close enough to warrant our input. Let me deal with those three first.

1. Ben 3/4 is the David Wilson Homes development that abuts Rokemarsh. We objected to the Application for reasons that are well known --but SODC granted consent, --principally because it formed a fundamental component of the emerging Benson Neighbourhood Plan and delivered the much heralded "edge road". While respecting that decision, we question the integrity of it, as the decision was made before the result of the Benson Neighbourhood Plan referendum was known. Since the principle behind the Grant was entirely predicated on the support of the Neighbourhood Plan for the development and since that support was entirely because it delivered the Edge Road --it seemed to us to be wrong to grant the permission before the result of that referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan was established. We will never know what the result of that referendum would have been if the issue of Ben 3/4 had still been open. Those in Benson (and indeed Rokemarsh who were given a vote) who might not have seen the prize of the Edge Road as being sufficiently important to sacrifice this plot of farmland to development, had no incentive to vote accordingly in the referendum as permission had already been granted for it. This seemed to us to be a significant flaw in the democratic process and we made that point as strongly as we could to the Planning Committee -- unsuccessfully as it turned out.
2. Ben 5 (on land on the east side of the B4009) was refused by SODC, appealed by the Applicant and, eventually, called in by the Secretary of State and refused by him because it ran contrary to the emerging Benson Neighbourhood Plan.
3. The Application for nineteen houses next to the Orchard in Rokemarsh (but on land in Benson Parish) was refused by SODC but is currently the subject of an Appeal. We have repeated our objection in the Appeal proceedings and take comfort from the fact that Benson Parish Council are objecting too --stating in unequivocal terms that the proposal runs contrary to the Benson Neighbourhood Plan.

All of which confirms the power of Neighbourhood Plans in the current environment of Planning Process.

Closer to home, we recommended approval to eight Applications, one of which is still being considered by SODC but for the other seven -- SODC agreed with our recommendation and granted consent. We recommended refusal for three Applications, two of which were withdrawn and one of

which (The copse land in Roke) is still outstanding. And we are in the process of considering three further Applications.

With regard to the copse land in Roke, we asked SODC to consider enforcement action against some of the aspects of what has happened on that plot. They started that process and will consider what further action to take depending on the outcome of the outstanding Planning Application relating to the land. We see the precipitous actions of the landowner of this plot as being very regrettable and will attempt to play our part in protecting local interests in that regard. We are conscious of the alternative strategies being promoted by those that are most affected by what happens here, and we will try to navigate a route through those to deliver an acceptable outcome.

#### *SODC Plan/ Chalgrove*

Let me now refer to developments re Chalgrove Airfield. SODC got itself into the extraordinary position of having to withdraw the version of its Local Plan that so perniciously proposed significant developments at Chalgrove Airfield. In doing so they lost their Leader and the new team set about rewriting the Plan in double quick time so as not to jeopardise significant Central Government Funding.

This they achieved and we were all asked to comment on the revised SODC Local Plan over the winter. The revised Plan is, in our view, a much more balanced and sensible document in that it does not rule out the development opportunities on certain Green Belt land around Oxford where the merit of the Green Belt designation offers only marginal benefit. Chalgrove remains in the Plan as one of the potential sites for significant residential development but the Plan itself acknowledges the potential of its non- deliverability because of Martin Baker's refusal to relinquish its lease and its non - desirability because of its location. We still have work to do to protect our local interests against the idea of developing Chalgrove Airfield but I feel that any judgement made by the Inspector of the Plan and any subsequent legal action will be made on a much more sensible and rational basis than the one we faced this time last year.

In all other respects the SODC Plan seems to me to be a good one that is worthy of our general support.

#### *Expressway*

The other big issue overshadowing the Parish at this time last year was the possibility of the most southerly route proposed for the proposed Oxford to Cambridge Expressway being routed through the Parish.

Steve Rhodes has done a tremendous job for us this year keeping an eye on this issue and representing us in the relevant forums. The eventual route is far from being decided (or at least announced) but it appears that the risk of it decimating our lives in this Parish seems to have passed with the most southerly route currently on the table cutting through land north of Chislehampton. This is another major infrastructure project that we will have to keep our eyes on in coming months and years.

#### *Thames Water*

Moving to more basic issues, David Bridgland has pursued Thames Water for a remedy to the issue of foul water overspill whenever the water table rises. Fortunately, there have been no instances in recent months. We had a good meeting with Thames Water a month or so ago. The conclusion of which was

- 1) Thames Water have identified and fixed a significant leak into the system off Chapel Lane in Roke occurring whenever the water table rises.
- 2) The last time that we experienced problems was as a direct result of a pump failure coinciding with the failure of its back up system rather than a more fundamental problem.
- 3) Thames Water are adamant that the exit pipe from the Rokemarsh pumping station is correctly sized, that any increase in size would deliver other unacceptable issues and that there is no advantage (or possibility) of upgrading the exit pipe during the development of the David Wilson Estate.
- 4) Our Parish is on a priority reporting system, so that further investigative works can be commissioned immediately if we experience further issues. This is important because the location of the water ingress can only be detected and identified when the water table is high. David Bridgland has the name and number of the senior engineer who will organise an inspection if and when we experience issues
- 5) There are several self-help issues that we should all attend to in our properties. David will be circulating a list of those to all households soon.

### *Neighbourhood Plan*

The other significant activity this year has been the ongoing work on our Neighbourhood Plan. A team of ten of us have worked furiously on this during the year taking it through its very onerous "consultation" phase and onwards to its submission to SODC and therefrom to an Examiner and then back to us for Referendum. The current state of play is that it is being scrutinised by SODC till 5th of June and an Examiner will be appointed at that time. We hope that it can be put to referendum at the back end of the summer this year. The whole exercise is driven by surprisingly tight rules and emerging conventions and has been more taxing than some of us anticipated at the outset. I hope that the result will be worth the effort and will guide future development in the Parish --while acting against any unscrupulous and any uncaring development prospects that may arise.

Because of the nature of our Parish, the backbone of the Plan is the emphasis on the four distinct Settlements (Berrick Prior, Berrick Salome, Roke and Rokemarsh) and the desire to keep them geographically separate while operating and behaving as one united Parish. The Plan simply would not have got over some of the hurdles put in place of its preparation were it not for the extraordinary input of some of the team members. I will not embarrass them by naming them, but they know who they are, and we all owe them a significant debt of gratitude. Also worthy of note is the way in which so many in the Parish engaged in the process by commenting on the various drafts and consultation mechanics put before you during the Plan's gestation. Many thanks.

### *Traffic Calming*

Now that we know what we are facing as a result of developments in Benson, the traffic calming team have set to work devising methods of minimising and mitigating the effect of increasing volumes and speed of traffic through the Parish.

The first job was to establish current behaviour and a traffic count has been conducted. This reported significantly increased volumes to those suggested a couple of years ago in similar work as part of the research undertaken to support some of the Benson developments. And it recorded seriously worrying speeds at certain times of the day.

I suspect that some of the proposals emerging from the team will be entirely uncontroversial but that, on others, opinions will be divided in a horribly Brexitlike way. We will have to work out ways to canvass and react to opinions as the proposals emerge but, meanwhile, it is my intention that nothing controversial should be implemented by the team until a democratic process of some sort has given it the authority that it needs.

### *Playground*

We have continued to repair the Playground equipment to keep it safe and usable. We did investigate a complete replacement, but the costs involved confirmed that our chosen strategy of remedial work was appropriate.

### *Village Hall*

Much work has been done during the recent years to preserve and enhance the Village Hall which now benefits from an entirely new roof and walls. Improved insulation makes it a much more economic proposition to run and a much more pleasant environment to be in.

The relationship with the Wallingford Bridge Club gives the Village Hall a very sound base for the future. This year the Bridge Club paid for the resurfacing of the larger car parking arrangements.

The Parish recently put in Planning Permission for the final phase of the rejuvenation of the Hall and we await SODC's consent (or otherwise) on that. The scheme will:

- 1) Provide a secondary entrance to the Hall to enable the two rooms to be operated separately
- 2) Improve the Appearance of the roadside elevation by introducing windows and additional storage facilities to that frontage and landscaping the area between the Hall and the road.
- 3) Rearrange the Car Park entrance and exit to advantage in terms of safety, appearance, and disruption to the properties nearby.

Work is also being done to remodel the governance of the Village Hall to reflect current legislation and the fact that the original arrangements have expired by time. You will hear more of this later this evening from the Village Hall Management Committee.

### *Road furniture*

I hope you will all have noticed that all the road signs in the Parish have been upgraded and modernised. This is particularly relevant to the 7.5-ton weight restriction signs which had faded in to oblivion. Now that they are legible, we need to work out ways of reporting miscreants to ensure that the limit is meaningfully enforced.

#### *Litter picking*

An army of litter pickers braved the weather and the traffic again this year to tidy up our verges. We would welcome proposals to manage this problem in the Parish on a permanent basis so as to keep litter to a minimum -- at the very least we encourage walkers to be picking up stuff so thoughtlessly discarded by passing cars.

#### *Bridleways, Control of cycle safaris, PAGE, Neighbourhood Watch*

We are grateful for the continuing activities of the "champions" -- the individuals who represent our interests by protecting our Bridleways and footpaths, / who exercise some element of control over those who use our lanes for cycle safaris and races / who represent us on PAGE and who are working to set up a low key Neighbourhood Watch presence.

One thing that we failed to tackle this year was the review of our watercourses and ditches to ensure that these are clear so as to avoid flooding in the future. I think we need to address this in coming years, and I'm pleased to be able to tell you that Douglas Taylor has agreed to co-ordinate that task for us again.

In their continuing effort to mother us into a state of complete dependence on daft rules the government have required that we seek everyone's consent to remain on the Parish email list. Absent that consent we are required to cut you off from that extremely efficient method of keeping you informed of what is going on. As of tonight, 17 of you had not consented. After this evening, if you still haven't given us that consent, you will be removed from the list. To those 17, I say "It may well be that this is what you want -- but, equally, it may just be that you want to keep in touch with local things and have the same disregard for the ministry of silly rules as do I. If the latter -- well you've made your protest but please, now, give us your consent by emailing the clerk accordingly".

And finally, I want to say something about this Council -- your Parish Council -- at the end of its term. There's been a lot going on over the last four years and I believe we've kept abreast of it even recording some memorable successes - of which the installation of Broadband (masterminded by Hannah Bradley before she stepped down) may be the most significant. All six Councillors who have served (including Hannah) have worked hard and well to deliver what, I hope, has been a successful Council. And, I know I've said this before on many occasions, we have been served in the most extraordinary way by a totally magnificent Clerk in the form of Chris Cussens.

But all good things must come to an end and we now look forward to the next four years. Steve Rhodes steps down from the Council and Mike Craven Todd joins us. Steve has been a tower of sensible force and wisdom. He has masterminded our approach to the Expressway while offering ultrasound judgements on all the issues we've faced. We will miss him, of course, and we are extremely grateful to him. You've got a hard act to follow, Mike, but if anyone can do it - you can. Many thanks to Steve for the past and to Mike for offering to take his place.

I am on record as saying that I think you need a new face in this chair too. I say so because I've been doing this for a long time and because new blood, new ideas, refreshing styles and approaches are good. But despite my protestations and our very real attempt to find a replacement I'm afraid to have to tell you that no-one stepped forward, so you've got me as a Councillor for another term.

When I started writing my report, I had it in mind to reflect on how disappointed and disillusioned I was not to have been replaced -- how it reflected a certain lack of support and commitment from Parishioners to serve. But as I wrote these words, I gradually saw a different picture and did some maths which made me altogether more cheerful and hopeful. By my calculation, and excluding Parish Councillors and the Clerk, there are 60 Parishioners who organise, manage or act in some capacity to create the local institutions and functions that bind us all together in this Parish. Sixty Parishioners who get off their arses to make the settlements of Berrick, Roke and Rokemarsh the delightful places that they are to live in and belong to. And the really good news is that, of those 60, a very refreshing number are from a generation below the older members of our community on whom we have relied in recent years.

Again, I'm not going to name them – but they know who they are. And that made me much more relaxed about hogging the position of Parish Councillor for another four-year period. So, for those 60 Parishioners AND for those who serve as Parish Councillors can I ask you all to stand and create a ripple of Applause.

#### **4. To receive the observations of the County and District Councillors**

Steve Harrod forwarded a report *in absentia* on behalf of OCC:

##### *District Council Election Results*

Cherwell – Remains under Conservative control.

South Oxfordshire – Moved from Conservative to No Overall Control; Liberal Democrat/Green coalition likely.

Vale of White Horse – Moved from Conservative to Liberal Democrat control.

West Oxfordshire – Remains under Conservative control.

##### *Six recycling centres set for spring clean in May*

During May six of OCC's Household Waste Recycling Centres will be closing for two days to carry out a deep clean and essential maintenance at the sites. This is part of the council's planned approach to maintenance, and is designed to keep sites safe, looking clean and fresh and helping improve the customer experience when using these much valued facilities. Only one site will be closed at any one time and all other sites will be open on those days. Residents are asked to plan ahead for these closures, ideally holding on to your waste until the site reopens or if that is not possible visiting one of the neighbouring sites. Site Closure Dates:

- • Alkerton - Wednesday 8th & Thursday 9th May
- • Ardley - Tuesday 14th & Wednesday 15th May
- • Drayton - Thursday 16th & Friday 17th May
- • Stanford - Tuesday 21st & Wednesday 22nd May
- • Oakley Wood- Thursday 23rd & Friday 24th May
- • Redbridge - Wednesday 29th & Thursday 30th May

For those residents with permits, please note that these can be used at any of the sites.

##### *Primary School places*

More than nine out of ten parents whose children are set to enter the classroom for the first time this September have been offered their first choice of primary school in Oxfordshire. A total of 93.39 per cent of the 7,125 applicants have received their first choice – above all recent national averages across the UK. The consistent high number of first choices achieved in Oxfordshire is due to the county council's careful forward planning to make sure the right numbers of school places exist – since 2010 the council has created more than 10,000 new primary school places. That means that since 2010 the number of primary school places in Oxfordshire has risen by 22 per cent. About a fifth of that has been achieved via the building and opening of new schools and the rest through expansions of existing schools – new buildings, making better use of existing accommodation, or marginal increases in admission numbers. This year's figure of 93.39 per cent for first preference offers compares with the 2018 figure of 92.77 per cent. 2. Parish Briefing Note – 07 May 2019

Although the national average for 2019 will not be published for some time, Oxfordshire remains ahead of the averages for 2018 (91 per cent) and 2017 (90 per cent).

#### *New Oxfordshire Council Partnership*

Residents in Oxfordshire are already benefiting from the impact of an ambitious and innovative new partnership between two councils – with plans being explored to develop closer working over coming months. Cherwell District Council and Oxfordshire County Council set up a joint working partnership in October 2018 – it is one of a very small number of examples of a district and county council sharing staff and services in the whole of the country. The county council’s cabinet approved the continuation of the partnership at its meeting on April 23.

#### *Women’s Cycling Race*

Henley-on-Thames will be the start location for stage three of the OVO Energy Women’s Tour professional cycling race. Full details of the Oxfordshire route were revealed at a ceremony at the town’s Leander Club – home to rowing greats like Sir Steve Redgrave CBE and Rebecca Romero – on Monday 15 April. The famous South Oxfordshire town will host a Big Bike Breakfast on the morning of the race, Wednesday 12 June. Crowds will line the streets, cheering off participants on the 145 kilometre-leg that will finish outside Blenheim Palace in West Oxfordshire. Elite cyclist Sophie Wright announced that Oxfordshire’s race section will start from Market Place in the centre of Henley. Oxfordshire’s county, city and district councils announced last month that a stage of the OVO Energy Women’s Tour, the UK’s most prestigious women’s cycle race, had been agreed to race through the county for the next three years, in partnership with event organisers SweetSpot Group. From Henley, stage three will traverse the Chilterns via Pishill to Watlington, before returning via the climb of Britwell Hill to Sonning Common and Goring. Crossing the River Thames at Wallingford, the route will pass through Didcot, Harwell and Wantage, crossing the Vale of White Horse to Faringdon, before looping through the West Oxfordshire towns of Burford, Charlbury and finally Woodstock in the closing kilometres. Oxfordshire is expecting economic and health benefits from hosting the prestigious event, with cycling fans expected to visit the county to watch the race, generating additional business for restaurants, bars, hotels, B&Bs and shops. More detail of the route can be found here: <https://www.womenstour.co.uk/stages/stage-3/>

David Turner reported on behalf of SODC:

#### *European Election; Key dates for this election:*

Some deadlines have already gone.

25 April – statement of persons nominated for election published

7 May – deadline to register to vote in this election

8 May – deadline for applications to vote by post (5pm) or change existing postal or proxy vote details

15 May – deadline for applications to vote by proxy (5pm)

23 May – polling day (7am to 10pm)

26 May – election results (10pm).

#### *Compost Giveaway.*

On Saturday 11 May, we are hosting our annual free compost giveaway from 9am to 11am at Milton Park overflow car park, Park Drive, Milton OX14 4SR (next to Allmakes Ltd). Residents are invited to come and join us to fill a box, bag or container with locally produced compost – free of charge. (Max of 4 containers per person). They just need to bring their own shovel!

#### *Free home security guide.*

With the lighter evenings, Thames Valley Police is encouraging residents to review their home security to ensure they are better protected against burglary. They have produced a [free Home Security Guide](#), encouraging people to look at their property through the eyes of a burglar, and to think about how they would break in if they locked themselves out. Many will be surprised at how easy it would be. The guide contains lots of hints and tips including:

- physical and digital security measures to protect the home

- how to avoid invalidating home insurance through poor security
- a handy checklist for when you go away.

The website is: <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/police-forces/thames-valley-police/areas/advice/home-security-guide/>

*Neighbourhood Plan update.*

SODC is currently consulting on the Berrick Salome Neighbourhood Plan until 5pm on Monday 3 June. There are now 14 areas across South Oxfordshire with an adopted neighbourhood plan.

*SODC Elections.*

The outcome of the elections last week means that the Council now comprises:

Liberal Democrats	12
Conservatives	10
Greens	5
Labour	3
Henley Residents	3
Independents	3

Currently the Liberal Democrats, Greens, Labour and Henley Residents are discussing the possibility of forming a coalition between them. The next Full SODC Council meeting is on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May.

*Council offices*

The Council is still in a temporary building. The target completion for the new Crowmarsh HQ is 2021 – 22.

*Planning issues*

The last 12 months have been dominated by the SODC Local Plan, with Chalgrove Airfield a major issue. The new set of councillors have brought different ideas.

*Budget*

There has been a 4.5% increase in the SODC's share of the Council Tax, but reserves are still being used up.

*Leisure centres*

These are being well used. Improvements have been done at Thames. Access is still an issue.

*Recycling*

SODC is the top LA for recycling

*Grants*

The Council operates a £500,000 Capital Grant scheme, and also a £5,000 Personal Grant scheme.

*Questions*

Ian Glyn asked about the consequences if the Local Plan is revisited. DT said this would cause problems with funding being withdrawn.

Chris Kilduff asked whether this would affect the Expressway? DT thought that central government would override any LA views. The route had not been finally decided.

Responding to a question about a current contentious planning application in Roke, DT said that the Officer was recommending a refusal, but the applicant will appeal.

## **5. Statement of the Parish Council's accounts for the year ending 31 March 2017 and observations**

Craig Tribe reported as follows:

On behalf of the Parish Council I present the receipts and payments accounts of the Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Receipts for the year totalled £21,303. This compares with £20,420 in the previous year. The main sources of income were the parish precept of £7,166, a grant from Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment of £1,225 for kissing gates installed on one of the parish's footpaths, a grant of £9,000 from Locality which covered the neighbourhood plan consultancy cost, a donation of £1,290 from the Berrick Salome Quarry charity to cover the cost of the parish's second defibrillator and VAT repayments totalling £2,580.

Total payments for the year were £23,104 compared with £26,735 previously. Last year's expenditure included £15,018 spent on the village hall improvements. The main 'one-off' items of expenditure in the current year were £1,770 spent on the defibrillator, a replacement dog waste bin and the access gate to the village hall, £2,000 on legal advice regarding BEN3/4 and the Benson Neighbourhood Plan, £8,485 on costs relating to the neighbourhood plan, £1,271 on playground repairs and improvements and £1,225 on the kissing gates referred to previously. A lot of this expenditure was covered by the grants and donation referred to under income. VAT paid on the total expenditure was £3,033 and most of this has been, or will be, recovered.

There was a net deficit for the year was £1,801. This compares with a deficit last year of £6,314. The parish council accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis. This means that there are sometimes time differences as to when income and expenditure are recognised in the accounts.

Total reserves carried forward to 2019-20 were £16,226. A reserves summary is shown at the foot of the accounts. Of the total amount all but £2,783 was allocated to specific projects.

For 2019-20 the Parish Council decided that no increase in the Band D parish precept of £43.43 was required. However because of a slight increase in the number of tax payers the total precept for 2019-20 is £7,292 compared with £7,166 for 2018-19. The council believe it is important to maintain healthy reserves to help us fight unwanted development and also to look at ways of improving the villages.

## **6. To receive the report of the Berrick Salome Quarry Charity**

Guy Slocombe, Trustee and Chairman, provided a report as follows:

### *Charity Overview*

The Quarry Charity brings in a rental income of £2000 per annum from the business on the B4009 on an old disused quarry. The Charity exists to administer these funds for projects or equipment which benefit the community of Berrick Salome Parish (Berrick Prior, Berrick Salome, Roke and Rokemarsh). Anyone can apply for funding on behalf of an organisation or village project. The Trustees, a small group of villagers, elected annually at the Village Meeting, administer these funds on behalf of the village. Anyone interested can ask to be nominated for election - just contact Guy Slocombe (01865 400931, 07979603079 [gslocombe@btinternet.com](mailto:gslocombe@btinternet.com)) or Abigail Clayton (07738319200 [abigail.clayton@getfeedback.net](mailto:abigail.clayton@getfeedback.net)).

### *Current Funds*

The Quarry Charity's bank balance May 2018 stood at £7800.15. Our income over the year has been £2000.00 derived from rent received from the Wilkinson's Wood Yard site on the B4009. Interest of £16.42 was also received.

In October 2018 £1,290.00 was paid to Berrick Salome Parish Council to pay for a second defibrillator in the village.

In April 2019 £1,258.37 was paid to Berrick Salome Parish Council to support the playground refurbishment work.

No unsuccessful requests were made.

This leaves the current balance at £7268.20

The committee agreed that given the passage of time since the Woodyard took occupation of the land and the historic nature of the paperwork, a solicitor should be appointed to interrogate the files with a view to reviewing the terms of the current tenancies. Knights of Oxford have been appointed and we await their advice imminently.

## 6. Election of Committee of Management of the Berrick Salome Quarry Charity

The committee comprising Guy Slocombe, Monica Hyde, Neville Gill, Julie Bird, Abigail Clayton (treasurer) and the Chairman of the Parish Council was re-elected en bloc, proposed by Ray Perfect and seconded by Marian Shaw.

## 7. The accounts and report of the Berrick Salome Relief in Need Charity

Jane Franklin reported to the Meeting:

The Charity was set up to provide grants of money, provision of items or provision of facilities for persons in need living in the Parish of Berrick Salome. These grants are to relieve, either generally or individually, persons resident in the beneficial area (viz Berrick Salome, Berrick Prior, Roke and Rokemarsh) who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress

Income is received from rent from a parcel of agricultural land and a fixed interest investment plus interest on accumulated income. Chalgrove Charities, who manage the agricultural land for us, have successfully renegotiated the rent to be tripled, so we will now receive an improved income annually.

No applications have been received over the past year.

The Trustees of the Charity are

The Rev Dr Michael Lakey (ex-officio as The Rector for the time being of St Helen's Berrick Salome)  
Nominative trustees appointed by the Parish Council of Berrick Salome

Mrs. J. Franklin (Chairman)

Mr. G. Cooper (Treasurer)

Co-optive trustees appointed by special resolution of the Trustees with special knowledge of the Parish

Mrs. S. Clayton

Mrs S. Derbyshire

Mr G. Cooper [grahamcooper95@gmail.com](mailto:grahamcooper95@gmail.com) acts as administrative officer.

## 8. To receive a report on the Village Hall

The following report was presented by Jonathan Parkinson on behalf of John Bird:

### *Charitable status*

Hitherto, the trustees have been personally responsible. This has been changed to C10 status and is all set up with the Charity Commissioners. The constitution is being updated. With this risk removed, the Committee is hoping for more volunteers.

### *Committee*

Currently this just comprises John Bird (Chairman), JP (Treasurer) and Ian Glyn

### *Lease*

The rent free period will end in March 2020. The Hall has a lease from the Parish, which owns the land. IG reported that the Parish Council is debating the form of that lease. It is in fact unclear who actually owns the Hall

## 9. To receive a report on the allotments

The following report was presented by Alison Blakey:

All fenced off allotments are now occupied; there are more plots available – but prospective tenants will have to clear the scrub at their own cost.

The large heap has been consolidated into a smaller one, and uncontrolled tipping on it brought to a halt. It is available as compost – all welcome.

A plea to dog-walkers: please clear up all mess.

## **10. Any other business**

- 10.1 John Radice raised the question of dog mess down Green Lane. In response, it was pointed out that any additional bin would need to be accessible from the public road, so siting it at the far end would not work. Putting up notices to be considered

The Meeting concluded at 9.15 pm.