

AGENDA ITEMS

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of September 3, 2024

Re. min. no. 2690 iii/2425 Finance & Governance Cllrs Ward, Butters, Downey and the Clerk are due to meet on Tuesday, 15th October, 7pm via Zoom to consider the 2025/26 budget and precept.

Re. min. no. 2691/2425 I have accepted the invitation from BDC for them to arrange the annual safety inspections of the Copdock and Washbrook play areas. I have asked that the inspection of the swing and slide at the village hall be incorporated with either Fen View or Mill Lane play areas, or it be undertaken at a reduced cost. Babergh has advised they will contact The Play Inspection Company to put forward the request.

Re. min. no. 2695/2425 The invitation from Sproughton Parish Council to discuss the BMSDC JLP Part 2 SHLAA was accepted.

Re. min. no. 2696/2425 Permission was granted by BDC for a new dog litter in to be installed at the Playing Field. A bin costing **£128.18+VAT** has been bought and installed. I'd like to thank Martin Taylor for his assistance with choosing the bin, taking delivery of it and installing it. BDC has been advised the bin has been installed and asked for it to be added to the emptying schedule. The new bin has been added to the CWPC Fixed Asset Register.

FINANCE

VAT Reclaim from 1 April 2024 to 31 August 2024, for £915.97 was submitted online 9 September 2024. The monies have been received.

Unity Trust Bank interest rates are to be lowered from 2.75% to 2.60% (date of change not advised).

Grass Cutting Will Moser's remaining works to March 2025, re his quote, total £1,600; there is a remaining budget of £1,785, leaving a budget surplus of £185.00.

Babergh DC Dog & Litter Bin Emptying

(Having checked the findings of the audit undertaken by Cllr Tyrrell, against the schedule held by Babergh DC, it was found that we were being charged for 2 bins that we don't have @ £69.00 each. This was brought to the attention of the BDC public realm team 3 weeks before the direct debit payment was due to be taken but unfortunately, the error wasn't amended in time. A request for £138.00 +VAT (total £165.60) has been requested.)

UPDATE: 19 August 2024 - I've been advised by Babergh DC that the request for a refund has been passed to their Finance Team.

UPDATE: 10 September 2024 – BDC has issued a Credit Note; I have asked that this be changed to a full refund.

OTHER MATTERS

SALC Training – I've booked to attend the SALC training session for 'Councillor Code of Conduct', to be held on 17 October and 'Dealing with difficult people and conversations', to be held on 12 November 2024.

Clerk's hours – it should be noted that my hours worked for August & September have been significantly increased due to a Freedom of Information request and a Subject Access Request that I have had to work on. The cost to the Council has been at least £300 + the unpaid hours worked by Councillors to fulfil the requests.

Sue Frankis
Clerk to the Parish of Copdock & Washbrook