

## **Batheaston Parish Council – Council Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

### **Clerk's Report**

#### **Summary**

The elections have concluded, and I am pleased to welcome all 8 Councillors who were in post before April. You are now elected holders of public office (where, in most cases, you were previously co-opted). I am also looking forward to welcoming a new Councillor at the next meeting.

The May meeting is the annual meeting of the Council, at which we should review and approve all of the current policies and those terms of reference for working groups which are not for approval at this meeting. We will also review the draft Annual Governance and Accountability Return.

Preparing for this, initially by completing the financial records for 2022/23, is already a major focus for me and will require a lot of my time over the coming weeks.

I am also organising the Annual Village Meeting, on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, with the expectation that there may be a few short items from Council.

The other focus of my time is the Coronation Party, for which a great deal still needs to be done to secure approval from the Event Officers at BANES, to put in place the road closure, and to complete the other preparatory work that is needed. I am concerned that we will not be able to complete all of this work in time for the event.

#### **Some Specific Items of Note**

- I have commissioned the clearance of Giant Hogweed and Japanese Knotweed from the Council's land at the Riverside and along St. Catherine's Brook, at a cost of £225.
- I have commissioned maintenance work on our trees, as recommended by the BANES arboriculturist, at a cost of £1,200 (within our budget)
- I have secured two student placements from the University of the West of England to assist on the Car Park and Recreational Facilities project over the next 6-8 weeks. I am awaiting contact from them to begin their engagement with us.

**Richard Maccabee, Parish Clerk**

**18<sup>th</sup> April 2023**