

FOXLEY GROUP PARISH COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2022

The general meeting due to be held in August was this year postponed to September. The meeting started with all participants standing in silence as a mark of respect for Queen Elizabeth II following her recent death.

The council has given grants in previous years for causes that benefited the wider community. It was felt that the process to apply for a grant should be standardised be more transparent and made more widely available. To this end, a proposal was accepted and there is now an application form posted on the website that anybody could use.

For the year 2022/23, the parish council has moved to a different Lengthsman in order to achieve better value for money. As a consequence, there have been a couple of instances around verge cutting, where communication and co-ordination between the Lengthsman and Balfour Beatty, or their subcontractor, could have been better. The clerk will now follow up on this to avoid repeats of this in the future.

Following the sad death of David Davenport, Andrew Apps has been co-opted to join the council. The next timetabled elections will be in May 2023 when all councillors will need to be elected.

We Don't Buy Crime is an initiative led by West Mercia's police and Crime Commissioner. Under this banner, parish councils can provide subsidised SmartWater kits that can be used to invisibly mark property with a chemical that holds a unique identification. This allows any stolen property to be definitively tracked back to an owner, hence acting as a deterrent. The success of the scheme relies on 70% of properties in an area participating. Before embarking on this scheme, the council will try to test the water for interest.

Note: Formal minutes of this and previous meetings are available at <https://www.foxleygrouppc.org.uk/meetings-agenda.html>