

		<p>After discussion it was agreed to write to the District Council commenting on the poor drainage from the site, and the apparent tendency to manipulate plots of land to allow more housing.</p> <p>Kate Baugh of Gloucestershire Rural Community Council then gave a presentation on her role in supporting neighbourhood development plans (NDPs) in the Forest of Dean. The points she made included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An NDP is a community-led plan with legal status that carries weight with the District Council when considering planning applications • The plan cannot contradict the District Council's Allocations Plan, but can qualify it with more local detail • Local knowledge of drainage and sewer pipes can be the kind of evidence it incorporates • An NDP includes a local character assessment which can point out land-based features such as green space that is valued by the community • Housing developers can make planning applications even if there is no site allocated in the Allocations Plan, and NDP policies can not only pre-empt these but also have an effect on proposals for adjacent parishes • The NDP is also about setting out a vision for the future • The process will be a series of consultations, the results of which are put together to form policies • The NDP document will go to the District Council for external examination before a local referendum – only 51% of the voting turnout is required for the plan to be approved. 	<p>AM</p>
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		<p>In terms of who does what, Kate said:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The parish council have already designated the whole parish as the “neighbourhood area” • The District Council will provide some support and advice • Greater support is available from Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (if desired) • There needs to be a local steering group with at least one parish councillor and members of the community to take the NDP through the process • Kate herself would not be a member of the group but would help ensure the process comes out with a robust document <p>In the process, members of the group will become more au fait with planning generally. The time taken will be between 18 months and two years – there has to be at least two consultation periods of six weeks each, with up to twelve weeks for external examination and eight weeks for the local referendum.</p> <p>In terms of costs, a grant of £8,000 is available from Government, and the parish council is expected to put in at least £200 per annum to show good faith. Kate added that the plan has to be land-based, and so can cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure including drainage and transport • Conservation areas • Heritage • Wildlife • Outstanding planning applications • The location of businesses and new build housing • Current mix of housing types • Farm diversification plans 	
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		<p>The process will include a look at maps to see where development might occur in the future – any housing should be within the “settlement boundary” which is smaller than the parish.</p> <p>After questions from the meeting, Kate was thanked for her presentation. The clerk announced there was a sheet at the back of the hall for people to sign up to attend the first meeting of the steering group.</p>	
6	Playing Field	<p>The clerk spoke to the circulated brief for playing field toilets, which would go out to identified local firms. In the absence of definitive information on the line of the sewage pipe, contractors would be asked to estimate costs for a 10m-long connection.</p> <p>PS reported that more ideas were coming forward from members of the play area group, and he had acquired forms for various grant sources. The next step would be to approach the operators of the wind turbine for potential support, though they would apparently prefer the approach came from a village group rather than the parish council.</p>	
7	Finance	<p>The following invoices were approved for payment:</p> <p>£27.12 Merlin Waste, dog waste £48.00 Signs 4 You, car park signs £54.00 SmartWater Technology Ltd, operating licence £40.68 Merlin Waste, dog waste £350.00 AR Website Design, new website £158.20 Andrew Maliphant, January salary £13.48 Andrew Maliphant, expenses</p> <p>The circulated third quarter financial report was received with thanks.</p>	

8	Correspondence for Information	<p>The clerk reported a number of items of correspondence, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of a GAPTC course on negotiation within the planning system • Confirmation from the District Council of the process for paying the annual precept • The new Community Chest fund with grants of up to £5,000 available from the County Council • A local “Clean for the Queen” campaign being managed by an organisation called Hubbub • New parish newsletters from highways contractors Amey • The new parish auditing process with external audits costing £200 if desired 	
9	Clerk’s Report	<p>The clerk reported that the new parish website would be live within weeks. PS said that notices could be put on the parish council’s Facebook page, and GC added that meeting agendas would be put on the parish notice board as well as the meeting notice.</p> <p>The local ambulance service had advised that the cost of a defibrillator for the village would be a one-off payment of £1,800 (with VAT £2,160) for a four year lease of the equipment including the cabinet. This means that the unit would be replaced if there were any faults or if it was stolen, and there would be a training course for the community once a year. The only other cost implication would be a power source to the cabinet which would be funded by the organisation taking responsibility for it, as the unit has a built-in heater element which prevents it from freezing. The local telephone box was not available as a potential site, and GC added the search for a suitable site continued.</p>	

		The clerk reported that the contractor carrying out tree surgery in the churchyard had kindly made some suggestions for a churchyard management plan. As previously agreed, a draft plan would be produced for approval, including any long-term maintenance issues.	AM/GC
10	Councillor's reports and items for future agenda	PS reported that an assessment of the playing field had come from the Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association, which generally described the field as "average" but noted the absence of seating and signage.	
11	Public Forum	A local resident asked when was the last village traffic survey, as it now takes over five minutes to cross the A48 on the way to the playing field.	
12	Date of next meeting	Due to councillor absences the next parish council meeting will be in the village hall on Wednesday 16 th March from 7.30 pm, when the agenda will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for the neighbourhood development plan • Defibrillator for the village • Regulations for the playing field 	

Signed:.....Chairman.

Date:.....