

Great Coxwell Parish Council: Assets, Facilities, Activities and Responsibilities

18.2.19

On your behalf your Parish Council holds assets, provides facilities, organizes activities, incurs responsibilities and enters into contracts benefitting the parish, as well as dealing with other issues arising at meetings.

We undertake to respond to parishioners' concerns at regular council meetings, and to review and discuss this list with you every year at the Annual Parish Meeting in May, to which everyone is invited.

We are a very small Council. Your encouragement and active involvement are needed to maintain the environment, heritage and social life that can be enjoyed here. Our precept only covers what we're liable for. Volunteering matters!

Don't forget to check the website – greatcoxwell.com – for news of meetings and details about the council's work. A Newsletter with social events is sent regularly to everyone who wants to receive it: contact web@greatcoxwell.com

Assets: owned and maintained

1. The Parish Reading Room and its grounds (via the Reading Room Trust)
Upkeep, improvements and ground maintenance costs
2. War Memorial and garden
Upkeep and improvements costs
Remembrance Day preparations - wreath
3. Village telephone box/book exchange
Upkeep
4. Bus shelter on A420
As A420 traffic increases, maintenance becomes more difficult and use decreases. Use of the bus-stops by the mini-roundabout will increase with the arrival of the new path. The council aspires to provide bus-shelter(s) by the mini-roundabout.

Assets: rented and maintained

5. Great Coxwell Park and Playpark
Maintenance and improvement of grass, flower meadow, hedges and trees, footpaths, signage in Park
Maintenance, replacements, weekly checks and adherence to H&S guidelines in Playpark

Parish contracts

6. Grass-cutting contract with County Council
Currently the parish council takes responsibility for using the County Council grant to cut village and parish verges

Other village and parish assets, for which maintenance and fund-raising is needed

7. Footpaths around and into the village
A Footpath Warden (voluntary) regularly reviews the footpaths in and around the village including stiles and fencing, and makes recommendations to the parish council.
The parish council is currently involved in upgrading a major Right of Way between the village and Faringdon
8. Village Pump and cobbled path
The partly surviving pump is close by a well which served the oldest part of the village. The path leading uphill to the church and Vicarage and downhill to the cottages below was cobbled probably in the 18th century. The pump and path are not on anyone's property, and are becoming derelict.

Parish landowners and organisations with whom we work

- The National Trust
The National Trust owns the Great Barn, Courthouse, three houses in the village and much of the western half of the parish including Badbury Hill and Wood. We are in close touch with the Trust so that we can work together to support environment, heritage and countryside education in the parish
- Local farmers and landowners
Local landowners and tenants maintain verges and hedges throughout the parish. We are in close touch regarding hedge-cutting etc
- St Giles church. The church building and churchyard are important to many people in Great Coxwell, regardless of personal use
The church hires the Reading Room for special meetings and events, holds plant sales from which the council benefits, and is a beneficiary of Artsweeks income
- Women's Institute
The WI hire the Reading Room for monthly meetings, and help to resource the Artweeks café, fetes and special events.
- Oxfordshire Artweeks
The Artweeks Committee plans two weekends of art exhibitions in the village every May, including registering and advertising with Oxfordshire Artweeks (payment), finding artists and venues, and running an all-day café for 4/5 days.
- Annabelle's Nursery
Following expansion the children now have more facilities for outdoor play on-site, however Annabelle's continues to support the Park generously.
- Village Community Group
Villagers open the Reading Room every Wednesday morning for anyone who'd like a cuppa and some company. This is wonderful for people who would have difficulty getting out of the village. The efforts of this small team are hugely appreciated.