

		<p>'The admin involvement on behalf of The Tree Council was not justified by level of Tree Warden activity. A key point moving forward is that GTG has a wider scope of potential members from which to draw people into being involved with the organisation of the group. It is also intended to structure GTG on a less formal basis to reduce the administrative burden in that way.'</p> <p>See attached notification</p>	
2-2020'	7	<p>Clerks Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Annual report has been completed and accounting figures are now on the web site as required. 	AJW
2-2020'	8	<p>Highways Update: Flower verges, Church Lane, Ditches, and passing places.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Di T reported that from her enquiries it seems we would be better to employ a professional gardener to prepare and sow the seeds for us as DIY schemes are destined to be high maintenance and often fail. It was agreed that we would approach William Pope asking for a quote and see if he is qualified and happy to assist. Also suggested that we wild flower the whole triangle which would look lovely and improve the entrance to the village. All agreed. Bean has been in touch with Cotswold seeds and they have a vast knowledge and are happy to advise us on the best seeds to sow. Debs had a discussion with Andrew Tucker regarding the ditches. This is not an annual job for the farm but is we would like it done more often Andrew is happy to chip in with some funding. Debs ascertained that it is about 10 days work at a cost of £2600. The plan is now to speak with Andrew again and formulate a plan with a review in February 221 then annually, to see what if anything needs doing and how the PC can help. A suggestion was to complete the work in April next time. The path to Tetbury: this has been cleared (of sorts) but has been done very badly so Di has spoken to Nikki with our thoughts and will report back JP to contact Matthew Kerlew regarding our annual tree maintenance and ask him to undertake the work as soon as possible. 	<p>DBD</p> <p>DBD</p> <p>DT JJP</p>
2-2020'	9	Correspondence received: None	
2-2020'	10	Reports from any meetings attended: None	
2-2020'	11	Finance:	
2-2020'	12	To approve payments (if any) - Printer Ink purchase x 2 £136.11 Proposed DT Seconded DBD	
2-2020'	13	To receive most recent income and expenditure figures: Income: Precept £632 and VAT claim £822.39	
2-2020'	14	<p>Bank Balance as at date of meeting £12,339.49</p> <p>It should be noted that we still have lots of expenditure waiting</p>	
2-2020'	15	<p>Planning - See attached –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All have decisions made except the latest regarding Glamping at Church Farm. A comment is to be added by Parish Council mentioning concerns regarding possible light and noise pollution but with no specific objection to the principle of the site. The container at the Old Cow sheds has now been removed and we understand that Mr Fenton has been asked to change the garage building back into an animal shelter or apply for retrospective planning. we suspect he will do the latter. 	DT
2-2020'	16	<p>Defibrillator training for village</p> <p>Training still to be arranged after Lockdown at a possible cost of £250 To be added to budget</p>	KL
2-2020'	17	<p>Great War Commemoration Bench for triangle: The bench was to be made by Willis Bros. We assumed that this has been delayed due to lockdown however, they do not seem keen or do not reply to phone calls, emails or visits, so Bean is to try Cherington Forge and the sawmill in Cirencester to obtain quotes.</p>	KL

2-2020'	18	Broadband- Several residents now connected not further reporting on this matter for the time being.	
2-2020'	19	<p>Feedback on potential costs feasibility: How to spend our money,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wild flower verges (see above) • Signage drive slowly through village/lanes – Dt reported that Signs are not allowed signs unless they are official and those are very expensive. Will ask about new sign at Larkhill end of Village by new gates. • Notice board renewal, AJW to ask for a quote for new noticeboard • Village sign, gates and planters at crossroads at Larkhill end of village: DBD to look at village boundary to see if this would be appropriate. DT to ask Highways the cost of sign (and gates) and to confirm positioning. 	DBD DT
2-2020'	20	<p>Other Matters</p> <p>The Church is possibly planning a (socially distanced) Christmas Eve parade ending in the Churchyard with possible refreshments. It was suggested that we could offer financial assistance for the refreshments. Also, it could be a chance to leaflet drop to houses explaining what the Parish Council does and what the Church does for the village. There are lots of new residents who may not know they would be very welcome at the Church and how it is the centre of our village. Also, a chance to get more people involved with Parish Council events and on our email list. It was noted that whilst we can't be seen to be funding the Church with council money, we can offer help with joint social functions which will hopefully involve more of the village residents.</p>	DT AJW
		<p>Budget:</p> <p>Tree Maintenance £500.00 Annual Troughs & Planters £100.00 Annual Annual Gardening £300.00 Annual Bench & Concreting Triangle £500.00 One off Village upkeep £600.00 variable Annual amount Printer ink/paper £250.00 Annual Annual web site fee £200.00 Annual GAPTC Membership £52.00 Annual <u>Insurance £165.00 Annual</u> <u>Defrib Training £250.00 One off</u> £2687.00 Verges wildflower <u>2000.00 One off</u> £4687.00 FLOAT Incidentals <u>£2000.00 Variable annual amount</u> <u>£6687.00</u></p>	
		<p>Any other business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jill Peacey announced that she is resigning from the committee. • Clerk noted that we have two vacancies on the Council (Could wait until we have new Councillors) and will send an email to Village asking if anyone would like to join us. • Clerk to investigate how to hold AGM now overdue. • Standing orders and Financial Regulations to be added to web site. DT & DBD to look through template and discuss/present at next meeting. Clerk to send documents for attention. 	AJW DT DBD AJW
		Date of next meeting Thursday 4 th February 2021- Church or Zoom TBC	
		Andrea Warrington Clerk/RFO Long Newnton Parish Council	

Information to Tree Wardens regarding dissolving the Group

- CTWG was initially formed under the administration of Cotswold District Council (CDC) in 1996 and ran in that format for ten years. Towards the end of 2006 CDC felt that they could no longer run the group and so explored ways to keep it going and held a meeting of Tree Wardens (TWs). The Tree Council sourced funding and CDC also made a contribution to run the group. The then British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) took over the group along with a Steering Group of Tree Warden volunteers. This arrangement ran to the end of 2008. BTCV had used the funding by that stage and the Steering Group had arranged a lot of the programme so they felt it was time to "go it alone". BTCV obtained an initial grant from a charity to assist in the setting up of the reorganised group.
- In the years following this a core of Committee members, with only a few different Chairmen have worked with Ann Jones, who has remained as Co-ordinator/Secretary throughout. Committee organised various training sessions and conferences, which were initially well supported by Tree Wardens. However, latterly, the level of Tree Warden attendances declined, with the numbers largely consisting of other people who we got to know through their general interest in trees - "interested parties".
- Committee has been responsible for its own funding and has used personal contacts to raise donations which have ensured the group's financial stability.
- CTWG has kept in touch with Town/Parish Councils. However, as at October 2020, of the 115 Town/Parish Councils/Parish Meetings within the CDC area our best information is that no more than 52 appear to have a TW. There is additionally one Parish Council outside CDC area which has 3 appointed TWs and which we have "adopted" as there is no TW network in their council area.
- The current register has a total of 63 TWs attached to those 52 parishes, plus committee members Keith Mills, Clive Hester and Robert Neal not attached to parishes. In addition to these we have a further 17 people, including the President, who are either, or both, unattached or TWs in adjoining council areas.
- An analysis of data between January 2019 and September 2020 shows that, of the 63 TWs mentioned above, only 18 made email contact with the Co-ordinator for any reason on 5 or more occasions (and 3 of those were Committee members). At least 25 did not make email contact at all.
- Further analysis, from our attendance sheets, shows that from 6 events (training, walks, AGM) during 2019, out of 86 attendees only 25 were TWs attached to CDC Parishes - organisers and trainers/presenters are excluded from these figures. The

remaining attendees other than a modest number of unattached TWs were from "interested parties".

- The administration of TW Networks and especially the workload of the Co-ordinator has become more complex in recent times. Firstly this resulted from the complications caused by General Data Protection Regulations. Second, The Tree Council has recently put in place a requirement for us to sign up to new procedures relating to specific training and administrative procedures. These changes require a Network, such as Cotswold Tree Warden Group, to put in place a training programme to be delivered to each new TW and used as refresher training for established TWs. This would entail trying to deliver a schedule where we could match up timings for TWs, organisers, trainers and venue facilities to be available. As a small voluntary Committee, with no set funding, we are unable to commit to this and the implications of the administrative changes, which will involve time and effort behind the scenes, without any visible benefit for Tree Wardens.
- Without giving a commitment to follow the new procedures, we and you are not entitled to use the term Tree Warden, which is the trademarked property of The Tree Council.
- The Committee has asked regularly for people to come forward to join in the running of CTWG. The consistent lack of volunteers, even to take on a relatively minor shadowing role, convinces us that the CTWG and its links to The Tree Council has had its time.
- There is no alternative left to the Committee other than putting forward the proposal to dissolve the Cotswold Tree Warden Group.
- For those of you who are interested, we will be able to let you know about another local group with similar interests, but without links to The Tree Council and its Tree Warden Scheme. Its purpose is the promotion and enjoyment of trees, including training and practical workshops.