

Minutes of Barningham Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 at 7:00 pm in Barningham Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs: C Hammond, S Kenyon, T Steer, S Lusher, W Martineau, J Chalmers, B. Cllr Bull & C Cllr Spicer

The Parish Councils commitment and respect statement was read out by the Chairman and copies were made available to the public:

**1. Apologies for absence.** Cllr R Baxter

**2. Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

2.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda. None

2.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests. None.

2.3 To grant dispensations as appropriate under Section 33 of the Localism Act. None.

**3. Minutes** -- Minutes of the Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022 meeting were agreed and approved as a correct record.

**4. Meeting open to the public** 16 Members present.

A number of residents came to discuss the planning application for up to 45 dwellings, a new community hall, pre-school, and change of use of land for formal sports pitch provision and public open space on land North of Sandy Lane in Barningham. Concerns were raised over Flooding, both on the site and the adjacent roads. The increase in traffic travelling through the village, not least when passing the entrance to Bishops Croft. The potential impact and loss of fauna and flora in that area. The additional impact of extra sewage generated by the new homes. The Parish Council encouraged those present, who had not already done so, to submit comments to West Suffolk Council. Cllr Bull explained that as the Neighbourhood plan and the new Local Plan are not in place and this land is outside the settlement boundary and therefore in the countryside, the following applies: Planning applications are considered against the adopted existing Local Plan in this case our existing Rural Vision 2031 adopted in 2014. The council has met its housing delivery test and retains a 5 year land supply therefore the policies retained in the Local Plan remain up to date. The emerging Local Plan and/or the SHELAA sites have NO weight in the determination of planning applications. Any application outside the settlement boundary would be treated as a departure to the Local Plan where the principle of development is restricted/not acceptable. This means that this application is premature and somewhat speculative and will not find favour with the planners at this time. It was confirmed that a Hy-brid application will be treated as one application and all the elements will be considered at the same time.

Concerns were raised about shooting heard in the moat plantation. Residents were concerned for the safety of the Barn owl and the buzzards that nest in there and other wildlife close by at Aggies Piece. It was acknowledged that the land owner is allowed to shot vermin on his land but it was not clear if this was the case. A resident will speak to the landowner to see if he had authorised this activity, if not it would need to be reported to the police.

Residents from Mill Road came to discuss the problem of traffic and parking in Mill Road. Options for traffic calming have been discussed before but no real solution has been found so far. Cllr Spicer will look again at options and this will go on as an agenda item for the next meeting. Safety issues associated with inconsiderate parking, in Bardwell Road, by parents/careers taking children to the School was also raised. This will also be an agenda item for next month. **Action Clerk**

A problem with off road motorbike noise was raised. This will be included as an agenda item at the next meeting. **Action Clerk**

**5. Report from County Councillor:** J Spicer

Cllr Spicer commented that Suffolk County Council are a statutory consultee, with regard the planning application for 45 dwellings, discussed in the public forum. As such they are legally

obliged to submit a response, including a summary of S106 infrastructure requests that would be applied if the application were to progress. It was noted that the school bus, for the Ixworth School, is now stopping closer to the substation as requested. Cllr Spicer reported that Suffolk is one of nine county areas invited to negotiate a historic 'County Deal' - a new devolution model that, subject to negotiations, will give local leaders more powers to make decisions for their communities for the first time. It comes as part of the Government's 'Levelling Up' White Paper to deliver more decision-making. It could have powers around areas like regional transport, business support, skills and economic development among others.

## **6. Report from WS Councillor: C Bull**

Cllr Bull provided information and advice to residents with regard the planning application for land North of Sandy Lane. This discussion is recorded under item 4, meeting open to the public. The street light in Sandy Lane has finally been repaired and is working again. West Suffolk Council are currently looking at their resources and waste strategy. Weekly food waste collections and roadside glass collection are being considered. The idea is to bring all waste collections in line across the country. The glass collection initiative could potentially have a negative impact on organisation who currently benefit from funds raised by bottle banks located on their land.

## **7. Progress reports.** For information, from:

### **7.1 Chairman**

18 January – Sandy Lane footpath light switched on

20 January - review with the Clerk of insurance and safety rules regarding activities planned for Platinum Jubilee in the wider village venues.

### **7.2 Clerk:**

#### **7.2.1 Works to Village Sign/Lychgate**

The contractor hopes to get the rejuvenated village sign installed by the end of February (weather permitting ) They will also take the Lych Gates away at the same time. When they are installing the Sign they will get someone to look at the plinth and give the PC a quote to repair.

## **8. Finance.**

8.1 The following accounts were approved for payment/received.

Payment	Madeleine Beck	Maintenance	£19.43
Payment	Various	Admin	£1,693.45
Receipt	HMRC	VAT Repayments	£5,223.39

### **8.2 Bank reconciliation and budget report**

The Clerk provided a schedule of payments, bank reconciliation and budget report for the councillors information.

## **9 Jubilee Event**

### **9.1 Update on arrangements**

There appears to be some confusion over the arrangements for the Platinum Jubilee event. Cllr Steer has stepped down from the committee, but will continue to arrange the fly past. Cllrs Hammond, Lusher and Kenyon are all willing to join the committee.

## **10. Speed devices**

No update this month.

## **11. Aggies Piece**

No report this month.

## **12. Caretakers report Circulated.**

This has been a very quiet month with the only extra work of note being clearing the slippery leaf mulch from the pavement and gutter in front of the pub. This has been my first winter for some time without access to a leaf blower and I had rather taken my eye off the ball in this area for which I apologise. The option to purchase a leaf blower was discussed. The Clerk will discuss this further with the caretaker.

## **13. Play area /Cricket Meadow to receive any update.**

No update this month.

## **14. Churchyard/Cemetery**

14.1 Notification of burial for the late Jane Page.

A request has been received to see if we could accommodate the late Jane Page adjacent to another plot in the lawn cemetery. Unfortunately, after a site visit by the Chairman and Caretaker, it was agreed that this would not be possible. The Clerk will contact the applicant to inform her of this decision. **Action Clerk**

14.2 To discuss allocation of burial plots in the Lawn Cemetery.

It was agreed to meet at the lawn cemetery to discuss the ongoing plan and wording of the current regulations. The Clerk will put forward some dates to meet. **Action Clerk**

## **15. Neighbourhood Plan.**

15.1 To note and discuss West Suffolk Councils revised Local Plan timeline.

West Suffolk Council have been in contact to inform us that the timeline for the preparation of the West Suffolk Local Plan has been amended and the preferred options consultation is now scheduled to take place between May-July 2022. As they are still in the process of preparing the local plan, the meetings they anticipated holding this month with neighbourhood plan groups to discuss preferred site allocations will now take place in March/April. The Neighbourhood planning group are waiting for this update before planning further engagement with the village.

## **16. Planning**

16.1 DC/21/2478/HYB | Hybrid planning application - A. outline planning application (means of access to be considered) - provision of up to 45 dwellings, a new community hall (use class F2), pre-school, and change of use of land for formal sports pitch provision and public open space B. Planning application - change of use of agricultural land to amenity land. | Land North Of Sandy Lane Barningham. The Parish Council will submit the following comments:

**This land is currently outside of the village settlement boundary and therefore Barningham Parish Council do not support this application.**

**At the parish council meeting, held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, a number of residents came to share their concerns regarding the application. These included concerns over: Flooding, both on the site and the adjacent roads. The increase in traffic travelling through the village, not least when passing the entrance to Bishops Croft. The potential impact and loss of fauna and flora in that area. The additional impact of extra sewage generated by the new homes. The Parish Council encouraged those present, who had not already do so, to submit comments to West Suffolk Council.**

16.2 DC/21/2501/FUL | Planning application - a. one dwelling b. two bay cartlodge. Cherry Tree Cottage Pound Corner.

**The Parish Council support this application.**

## **17. Councillors reports and items for future agenda**

17.1 Emergency plan update.

Cllr Baxter was unable to attend the meeting but it was asked that clearer maps are provided showing the Parish Councillors areas of responsibility. Cllr Hammond will discuss this with Cllr Baxter. **Action Cllr Hammond/Baxter**

17.2 White entrance gates. To discuss options for refurbishment  
This matter is in hand.

#### **18. Correspondence for information**

18.1 Parish and Town Forum which will be held on 9 February 2022 via Microsoft Teams. The Clerk will attend this. **Action Clerk**

**19. Date of next meeting** 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

**To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of the following items:**

20.1 Personnel Issues. None.

20.2 Legal Issues. None.