

Minutes of Barningham Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 4th March 2020 at 7:30pm in Barningham Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs: C Hammond, R Baxter, S Lusher, A Steer, N Greenwood, W Martineau & C. Cllr J Spicer

1. Apologies for absence. Cllrs A Woodward & B. Cllr Bull.

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 - The minutes of the Wednesday 5th February 2020 meeting were agreed and signed as a correct record.

4. Meeting open to the public No comments or questions raised.

5. Report from County Councillor: J Spicer

The problem of parking and traffic in Mill Road was discussed again. Cllr Spicer has been to the site and looked at the problem with an officer from SCC. It was agreed that we need to speak to the school regarding the problems in Mill Road as it is understood that 57% of students live outside of the village. It was agreed to postpone any decisions until we have had a chance to speak to the school and look at the results of the travel survey that they are currently undertaking. There is a problem with flooding both at Aggies Piece and on the adjacent road. This may just be down to the volume of rain we have had recently or because of problems with the drains there. This will be investigated further once the area dries up. Cllr Spicer is still looking at the possibility of have a stop sign, rather than a give way sign at Pound Corner. SCC are putting in half a million pounds to renew/replace road markings and signage outside schools in the county. Cllr Spicer will arrange a meeting with the school and the Parish Council to discuss options for the school.

Action Cllr Spicer

Cllr Steer raised concerns about the slippery road surface at the junction from the B1111 on to the A143 at Stanton. Cllr Spicer will investigate this.

Action Cllr Spicer

6. Report from West Suffolk Councillor: C Bull

Cllr Bull was unable to attend the meeting but asked the Councillors to consider voting in the Hopkins Homes Charity vote (details circulated). Cllr Bull also indicated that she may be able to make a financial contribution towards the cost of the lych-gate gate and the car park repairs.

7. Report from Barningham Primary School

The school is busy preparing for Easter and all of the joys that the spring and summer bring. We are exploring the recycling and compost area to try to reduce our waste. I have considered putting solar panels on the roof of the main building. This would generate electricity for the school as well as supplying back to the network. Perhaps a route for the new Head Teacher to explore? Despite a number of applications, the first round was unsuccessful, but the governors are more hopeful with a high level of interest. The closing date is Friday 06 March. Coronavirus continues to dominate our planning. We have posters around the school for advice and taken some internal measures to limit the spread. These include encouraging the children and adults to wash their hands more frequently and to remove the water cups in the classrooms and use water bottles instead.

The responses to the biannual Travel Survey are coming in. There are some very strong opinions about speeding cars and no footpaths. I shall be collating the feedback over the next few weeks and will share my findings with you all then. The report is sent to Suffolk County Council as well.

Please can I invite you to attend our Easter Service at St Andrew's Church on Thursday 02 April, starting at 9:15? Or to join us at our Easter Coffee Afternoon in the school hall on Friday 03 April, from 2:30? WE would love more members of the local community to come along to school events to gorge stronger links.

8.2 Clerk:

8.2.1 Highway matters. Update on SCC self-help scheme and Mill Road.
See under Cllr Spicers report.

8.2.2 Defibrillator, to discuss VET's event.
The Clerk was still waiting for more information at the time of the meeting.

8.2.3 New streetlight for Bishops Croft.
This has now been installed and we are waiting for it to be connected.

8.2.4 Police Community Engagement Officer Update
Sadly Andre De Jongh stepping down from the CEO role in Bury St Edmunds. The department is looking at a suitable replacement, they will keep us updated

8.2.5 Grounds Maintenance, Vertas 2020/21
The quotation for grounds maintenance has been received from Vertas, it is for £1954.33. This is an increase of £93.06 on last year, just under a 5% increase on last year. It was agreed that we should ask our current contractor for a price and if it was a reasonable amount we should change to them.
Action Clerk

8.2.6 Emergency Plan
Corona Virus Covid-19 The Parish Council are keen to be prepared in the event that the Coronavirus – Covid-19 becomes an issue for the residents of Barningham. We anticipate that there may be the possibility that people will be asked to self-isolate if they become unwell. We would like to be aware of those who are vulnerable in the village and be there to offer help if needed. We envisage that this help would take the form of delivering groceries, medication etc. To this end we are contacting all volunteers currently held on our Emergency Plan list to see if you can help in a situation like this.
Action Cllr Baxter/Clerk

8.2.7 Website training
The Clerk has arranged some one on one website training with Community Action Suffolk.

9. Finance

Following accounts approved

	Admin	£1,762.10
community workshop ltd	newsletter/flyer	£58.00
SALC	finance and data pro	£19.00
Vertas	cricket meadow	£558.36
Countryside, conservation and tree services	Aggies	£975.00
K Isaaks	Wheelie bin stickers	£95.00

9.2 Councillors nominated to check schedule of electronic payments
He Clerk has received confirmation from Barclays that the new mandate has been set up. Cllrs Hammond and Steer are still to register themselves for internet banking.

9.3 Bank reconciliation

The Clerk provided the Councillors with a bank reconciliation, income and expenditure account details and a budget report.

9.4 Confirmation of internal Auditor and internal audit review.

After discussion it was agreed to go with Trevor Brown this year for the internal audit. He is experienced with Parish Council accounts and comes highly recommended.

It was agreed that Cllr Steer would carry out the internal audit review. **Action Cllr Steer/Clerk**

10 Keep Barningham Beautiful

Refreshments will be provided by the Clerk. Help will be given to produce a risk assessment for the event.

11. Village Hall

The village hall is holding a coffee morning on 2nd April, from 10:30-12:30 and a fish and chip supper on the 15th May. A new Pilate's class, in partnership with Fit Villages is starting up. The first session is free and then subsidised for the next 6 weeks. The village hall are arranging to have the patio laid in the garden area.

12. Neighbourhood Plan

The Clerk has had a telephone call with AECOM. She has explained the options we would like to explore and they are confident that they can help us. She is waiting for them to make contact with a date for the site meeting.

13. Speed watch/VAS

The Clerk has ordered some more wheelie bin stickers as the previous proved very popular. The battery has been charged and changed on the Church Road device. The Application for a new post has been sent off. The clerk will chase this up. **Action Clerk**

14. Councillors reports and items for future agenda

It was reported that the picket fence at the entrance to the village, coming from Stanton, is in a poor state of repair. The Clerk will report this to Cllr Spicer. **Action Clerk**

The hedge on Pound corner, near the old laundry and the hedge on Church Road, at the junction with Bardwell Road, are both growing out into the road. The Clerk will report these.

Action Clerk

15. Aggies Piece

To discuss ongoing work, Eddie's Tree and Community Orchard.

Peter Kerry and his team have done a lot of clearing work at Aggies Piece. The meadow is currently a pond! The Clerk is arranging a meeting with Peter Kerry and Frances Parr, from the School, to discuss ideas for orchards at both the school and Aggies. The Clerk will also discuss a suitable site for the memorial tree for the late Eddie Sier. **Action Clerk**

16. Caretakers report Circulated.

Following a specific request from a member of the public I have started to edge the footpath in Sandy Lane; this is made more necessary by the overhanging vegetation restricting the footway there. I also took the opportunity of the school holiday to scrape more mulch from the layby opposite the pub.

Since my last report I have attended the Signing, Lighting and Guarding Course for highway workers.

17. Play area reports

Circulated.

18. Churchyard/Cemetery

18.1 To review cemetery fees

The Clerk provided the Councillors with the new fee scale.

18.2 To discuss Lych-gate repair/replacement

The Clerk has contacted two contractors, one in the village who contacted her after seeing that we looking for quotes. She is still waiting for quotes.

18.3 Works to trees/bushes Lych-gate Cemetery

There is some work to be done to the trees and bushes in the lych-gate cemetery. The Clerk will give the go ahead to get this work done. After discussion with Peter Kerry it was agreed that a full team for a day and a half would potentially be needed to tackle all the work that is required there. The Clerk was contacted by a resident, whose fence backs on to the lych-gate cemetery, to ask that the ivy is removed from the fence so that he can replace it. Peter Kerry will include this in the works.

Action Clerk

18.4 To discuss condition of St Andrews Car park

The Clerk met with a representative from Garrod Construction. They discussed a number of options. These varied in price from £1106.00 to £9547. The Clerk will share this information with the Councillors and try to get another quote for comparison.

Action Clerk

18.5 Ongoing maintenance of Church Clock

There is still a problem with the church clock. The Clerk has spoken to Ian Jerrold and he is dropping the key off to Cllr Hammond. Once Cllr Hammond has the key will arrange for Hayward Horological to come out and repair the clock.

Action Clerk

18.5 To discuss green bin fees.

The church are going to be charged for the green waste bin. This is in line with all domestic properties. It was agreed that as the likelihood is that most waste will come from the lawn cemetery, the Parish Council will cover this cost.

Action Clerk

19. Planning Matters

None received.

20. Correspondence for information

20.1 SALC E-bulletin dated 20 February 2020, circulated.

20.2 SALC, New training courses/dates, circulated

21. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 1st April 2020. To confirm date for the Annual Parish Meeting

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

22.1 Personnel Issues. None

22.2 Legal Issues. None

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