

Minutes of Barningham Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 5th April 2023 at 7:00 pm in Barningham Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs: C Hammond, J Chalmers, L Hebert, R Baxter, T Steer & W Martineau.

1. Apologies for absence

D Cllr C Bull & C. Cllr J Spicer

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 1st March 2023 Parish Council meeting were agreed and approved as a correct record.

4. Meeting open to the public.

Two residents from Bardwell Road came to discuss the issue of speeding vehicles on Bardwell Road. They reported that there has been an accident recently and that this is the 3rd serious accident in 5 years on the exact same stretch of road, not to mention on at least 2 occasions they have seen tyre marks on their grass where someone has lost control. Unfortunately, Cllr Spicer was unable to attend the meeting but had spoken to the Clerk, prior to the meeting, about the possibility of installing gateways at the entrance to the village. In principle the Councillors are in support of some village gateways and would be happy to meet with Cllr Spicer and the relevant officer from SCC to discuss this option further. The possibility of having some additional signage along the road, perhaps 'accident black spot' or 'hidden dip' was discussed. The possibility of the resident's planting some hedging, on their land, to help break up the visibility lines along the road was also discussed. The option to extend the 30mph or establish a 40-mph limit outside the current zone was still something that was considered worth pursuing if other measures were felt to be insufficient. The Clerk will take this information back to Cllr Spicer and arrange a site meeting to look at the options. **Action Clerk**

The Village Hall are looking for some funding towards the cost of updating the heating. It was agreed that this would wait until the May meeting. **Action Clerk**

The village hall is holding a Fish and Chip Bingo Night on Friday 21st April and a Coronation afternoon tea on 7th May from 2-4pm.

5. Report from County Councillor: J Spicer

To discuss options for entrance gates Bardwell Road & Coney Weston Road & speed and safety concerns on the Coney Weston Road.

Cllr Spicer was unable to attend the meeting. For Bardwell Road see discussion under item 4. It was agreed to concentrate on this area of the village at this time.

6. Report from WS Councillor: C Bull

Cllr Bull sent her apologies as she was unable to attend the meeting. The Clerk will forward the information about the lorry parking on the green at Bishops Croft. **Action Clerk**

7. Chairman's reports

7.1 To include update on antisocial behaviour in the village.

6 MARCH – Went to order Dennis Hart's plaque from Timpsons in Bury.

9 March – Aggie's Piece meeting with Highways, Suffolk CC, PC members, Tree Contractor, Norfolk Rivers Trust to discuss and explore the future protection and development of Aggie's Piece.

23 MARCH - Phone call from Sheila Sier. A group of about 6 boys threw a small solar lamp taken from another resident's garden drive at her window. When they saw her watching they ran off. Resident from 36 Bishops Croft saw them throwing cakes at someone's window. A Mill Road elderly resident who lives alone – heart problem – has had things thrown at his window by this group. Very concerned.

24 MARCH – Walk to talk to residents affected by anti-social incidents. Spoke to two for details. Reported all on West Suffolk CC website. Reply within the hour with further queries and advice for next steps and Direct Links to record the problem.

25 MARCH – sent a report to our CEO PC Lee Andrews-Pearce regarding the ASB

29 MARCH – photo taken of Postcode lorry and trailer parked on second green in Bishops Croft and sent to Clerk. Turned village hall sign round to face the right way. Fittings very loose.

30 MARCH – e mail from Pearl Hart regarding the memorial to Dennis – new tree? Plaque and post ready for installation.

8. Clerk's Report

8.1. Election update.

The nomination papers were taken into West Suffolk Council. West Suffolk confirmed the nomination papers have been received and that they were all in order. The Clerk will ensure that any information that is pertinent to the election is displayed in the correct manner. Sadly, after many years on the Parish Council, Cllr William Martineau has decided not to stand again. His input and knowledge will be greatly missed.

Action Clerk

8.2. Rural Coffee caravan, to confirm date for visit to the village.

The Rural Coffee Caravan is coming to Barningham on Monday 24th April from 10am -12 noon. They will park in the village Hall car park. Advertising material will be sent through for display.

Action Clerk/All

8.3 Update on Microsoft 365 training

The Clerk did not attend this training as she was unwell.

9. Finance.

9.1 The following accounts were approved for payment:

Various	Administration	£1,487.02
Haward Horological	Maintenance	£420.00

9.2 Bank reconciliation and budget report

The Clerk provided a schedule of payments for the Councillors. Due to it being a new financial year, the bank reconciliation was not supplied as this was included in the end of year accounts. Budget reports and a bank reconciliation will be provided for the next meeting.

9.3 Ongoing issues with HMRC

The Clerk has arranged for HMRC to automatically collect the tax and National insurance contributions due, by direct debit. This should rectify the ongoing issue.

10 Village matters.

10.1 To confirm Defibrillator status and training.

The date for the defibrillator training was agreed as Saturday 27th May 10AM. The Clerk will confirm the date with the Community Heartbeat Trust and the village hall.

Action Clerk

10.2 To receive update on revenue from Clothing bank.

The Clerk has requested some information, from Barningham Charities, regarding options to distribute funds from the clothing bank at the shop. The Parish Council want to better understand the Charities criteria to see if this is something they can support. Unfortunately, the information received did not quite answer their query. Cllr Martineau will provide a copy of the report, sent to the Charities Commission, so that the Councillors can better understand the Charities criteria for awarding grants.

Action Cllr Martineau

10.3 To discuss litter picking - Keep Barningham Beautiful event for 2023.

The Clerk has asked West Suffolk Council about borrowing some litter picking equipment.

10.4 To discuss bus parking on verge, B1111.

The Clerk has received a report of a bus parking on the verge near Millfield on the B1111.

Unfortunately, the information received must have to been recorded incorrectly as we have been unable to work out which bus is causing the damage. This matter needs to be reported to the bus company and, if the bus is a school contract, to Suffolk County Council for action.

11.5 Village Hall sign, report to SCC

The Clerk reported the twisted round village hall sign to SCC. Almost immediately a report came back to say it had been looked at and did not need any action. This was not the case. This matter will be raised with Cllr Spicer when the opportunity arises. In the meantime, Cllr Steer will have a look to see if he can repair the sign.

Action Cllr Steer/Clerk

11. Aggies Piece

11.1 To discuss meeting date for potential wetland project.

A number of the Councillors, the landowner of the adjacent land, John Wallace, Sam Hurst – Norfolk Rivers Trust, Andrew Moore SCC highways engineer, Joanna Spicer and Peter Kerry met to discuss the potential for a wetlands project at Aggies Piece. Some further information is required but in principle the Parish Councillors support this project. We are waiting for confirmation of who owns the drain that runs under Aggies and into the field opposite. Peter Kerry and Sam Hurst are looking at locating the manhole covers in Aggies Piece to help inform the project.

Action Clerk

11.2 To discuss arrangements for plaques for memorial trees.

Peter Kerry is still trying to locate the memorial crab apple tree; he will find this easier once the leaves come on the trees. Cllr Baxter will have a look to see if she is able to locate it.

Action Cllr Baxter

11.3 To discuss options to address issues with fly-tipping at Aggies Piece.

There is currently an issue with fly-tipping at Aggies Piece. Unfortunately, because the track is used for farm vehicles, the option of erecting a gate is not viable. The Clerk has asked the police if they have any surveillance cameras we could borrow. Unfortunately, they do not have them for fly tipping. An outdoor, non-Wi-Fi, battery powered camera could be purchased, we would also need signage as it would be recording in a public place. Due to the cost and the logistics of having a camera it was agreed to wait at the moment and review if the fly-tipping continues.

12. Caretakers report Circulated.

My previous report was written prior to the final disposal of the first batch of fly-tipping at Aggie's Piece and the sweeping up of the car window glass in Hepworth Road – items which were covered at the March meeting. Since then, there has been a second incident of fly-tipping at Aggies which I have cleared and disposed of at the tip. I have completed the removal of Christmas wreaths from graves in both cemeteries; this process takes time since the change to bi-weekly bin emptying. I procured the fixings for the pair of Play Area signs and have fitted the signs to the highway post on the B1111. The metal liner of the pole-mounted litter bin beside the pub has finally disintegrated; I have removed it and replacement is not necessary.

A resident reported damage to one of the ground securing points of the scramble net in the Play Area as well as the loss of the rubber buffer from the pedestrian access gate. I am monitoring the safety of the scramble net, but it will need specialist attention soon. A tree has fallen forwards across the ditch in the far corner of the Cricket Meadow bringing the brambles with it. I have done what I can to cut around the litter bin there and permit the public safe access to it.

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

A post on the horizontal ladder has split. It is unclear if this has been vandalised or if there is a fault. The Chairman has taped the damaged area off and the Caretaker will tape with black and

yellow hazard tape. The Clerk has contacted HAGS about this, they are forwarding it to their claims department.

Action Clerk

14. Churchyard/Cemetery

14.1 To confirm notice regarding arrangements for memorial conditions.

The wording of the notice for the Cemetery discussed at the last meeting was agreed.

Arrangements will be made for the notice to be displayed in a prominent position in the Cemetery.

The notice asks for all conditions to be upheld. The Cemetery will be tidied up during the Keep Barningham Beautiful event.

Action Clerk

14.2 To note request for burial, details to be confirmed.

A request for the interment of the late Gladys Nancy Moore has been received. The date for this is yet to be confirmed.

15. Neighbourhood Plan.

15.1 Update on grant funding and next steps

We are still aiming to have a draft plan by the Summer. The Consultant is working on this. He will probably start firing off some questions - such as potential community actions (non-planning stuff) to the planning group soon.

16. Planning. to include any applications/decisions received since the agenda was posted. None received this month.

17. Newsletter.

To discuss items for inclusion.

We can now confirm dates for the litter pick and Coffee caravan visit. Once the date for the Defibrillator training has been confirmed Cllr Baxter will send round a draft of the newsletter for agreement prior to printing.

Action Cllr Baxter/Clerk

18. Church Clock service/repair

To include any update on progress.

The engineer was very apologetic about missing the previous appointment and now, following some work, the clock is fully operational again. Thanks were extended to Cllr Baxter for organising this.

19. Councillors reports and items for future agenda

The condition of the road surface at the junction with the B1111 and the A143 at Stanton is in a very poor state of repair. This will be reported.

Action Clerk

The VAS sign has been vandalised with graffiti and an attempt was made to steal the battery. This will be reported to the police.

Clerk

Action

20. Correspondence for information

20.1 To note correspondence received regarding parking at the school.

21. Date of next meeting Annual Parish Meeting 17th May 2023 7pm to be followed by the Annual Parish council meeting at 7.30 Barningham Village Hall

23. To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for

consideration of the following items:

23.1 Personnel Issues.

It was agreed to move the Caretaker up to the next salary scale point of 4 to £11.01 per hour. It was agreed to pay the Clerk two extra weeks' pay to cover the extra work she has done following time taken off ill with Covid.

23.2 Legal Issues. None.