

Minutes of Barningham Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd November 2022 at 7:00 pm in Barningham Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs: C Hammond, J Chalmers, W Martineau, R Baxter, S Kenyon, D Cllr Bull & C.Cllr J Spicer

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllrs L Hebert & T Steer

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 12th October 2022 Parish Council meeting were agreed and approved as a correct record.

4. Meeting open to the public

The resident, who raised concerns over the speed of traffic in Bardwell Road, has been asked to provide further details to SCC Cllr J Spicer for further investigation.

Julie Surridge reported that the recent fish and chip night, held at the Village Hall, and raised £270.

It was proposed that we plant a Christmas tree, to be included in the Queens canopy, on the green at Church Gardens. This could then be a focal point for Christmas events going forward. The Clerk and Cllr Martineau will look for a suitable tree and endeavour to have it planted before this Christmas if possible. Cllr Bull said that she would fund some lights for the tree.

Action Cllrs Martineau/Bull/Clerk

5. Report from County Councillor: J Spicer

As mentioned above Cllr Spicer is waiting for correspondence from the resident in Bardwell Road who has raised concerns about the speed of vehicles there. Cllr Spicer was pleased to see that the VAS, near the school, has been set to flash 20's plenty and a smiley face for those that do keep their speed 20 or below. Cllr Baxter asked about moving the 30mph limit area in Coney Weston Road. Cllr Spicer will pick this item up again and seek professional advice from SCC engineers. Cllr Spicer provided some cost of living information. The Clerk will see if she can get an electronic copy for the website and sharing on Facebook.

Action Cllr Spicer/Clerk

6. Report from WS Councillor: C Bull

Cllr Bull reported that St Andrews multi-storey car park is having some work done this week. The next stage of the plans for the new West Suffolk hospital will go before a special development control meeting at the end of the month. There is a new energy efficiency scheme for West Suffolk residents. Cllr Bull will share some information about this.

Action Cllr Bull

7. Progress reports. For information, from:

7. Chairman.

7.1 School Parking, to re-visit issues regarding parking at the school.

As reported under item 5 the VAS has been set up near the school. It is understood that the school are setting up a junior road safety scheme.

17 October – took History of Barningham information to Lesley, History recorder

21 October – Neighbourhood Plan group virtual meeting with Ian Poole, consultant and West Suffolk adviser Boyd Nicholas regarding options for the next step in light of West Suffolk's timescale plans

27 October – November Agenda/ October minutes put on Parish Noticeboard opposite the church.

28 October – Went to Village Hall Fish and Chip Supper and Bingo Evening. Great fun and met new residents in Mill Road.

31 October – received 4 village Remembrance Wreaths to be collected as appropriate.

Read the following information relevant to the Community:

Suffolk Resilience Forum – Training for Community Emergency Planning and events/ Suffolk Risk Register//Suffolk Prepared for homes and businesses. Feedback welcome regarding their website e.g. Winter Ready Home and Business advice

Green Ixworth – concerns regarding Highways and Developments Plans affecting the A14 and A143. The Implications of new developments, roadworks, rural transport support

8. Clerk:

8.1 New residents welcome packs, to discuss distribution areas.

Cllr Baxter has provided an up to date list of Councillors distribution areas in the village. The Clerk will do some work to make sure we are covering all the properties in the parish. **Action Clerk**

8.2 Feedback from Handling online abuse and intimidation webinar.

The Clerk recently attended some training on handling online abuse and intimidation. One of the ideas to come out of the webinar is to set out our rules of engagement on our Facebook page. It was suggested that we update our rules of engagement on our Facebook page to include the following:

Welcome to our page, which aims to communicate our activities as a Parish Council. If you wish to be a part of this online community, you must agree to abide by this code of digital engagement, which is designed to keep everyone safe.

Rule 1: Debate and disagreement are welcome on this page, but only if expressed with courtesy, respect and politeness.

Rule 2: Posts should not contain abuse, harassment, intimidation or threats of any form.

Rule 3: Posts should not contain any form of discrimination – including racism, sexism, ageism, ableism, homophobia, transphobia or religious intolerance.

Rule 4: Posts should not spread false or unverified information.

Rule 5: For transparency reasons, users should not post anonymously.

If any of these rules are broken, page admins reserve the right to delete posts, block users and report content to the police if necessary.

It may not be possible to respond to all queries on this page due to time constraints - if you have specific enquiries please send directly to BarninghamPC@outlook.com.

The Clerk will communicate this information to the Facebook administration team. **Action Clerk**

9. Finance.

9.1 The following accounts were approved for payment.

Various	Admin	£1,785.87
Places4people	Neighbourhood plan	£3,644.40
R H Landscapes	grass Cutting	£628.80

9.2 Bank reconciliation and budget report.

The Clerk provided an up to date schedule of payments, budget report and bank reconciliation for the Councillors information.

9.3 Budget 2023/24. To discuss the 23/24 budget.

The Clerk has prepared some budget information for consideration. Carrying over unused reserves, as we did last year and taking in to account that we have outstanding VAT to claim, it was agreed that we would precept for the same amount as last year at £34,758. This would enable the Parish Council the opportunity to carry out, and meet their financial obligations and potentially allow around £790 towards any new projects. This would represent a 0.11% increase, amounting to an 11p increase, on the Parish Councils element of a band D properties Council Tax.

Action Clerk

9.4 Information of proposed changes to WSC local Council Tax Reduction Scheme.
The Councillors completed the questionnaire asking for support for the WSC local Council Tax Reduction Scheme. They supported the option to increase the maximum discount available to 95% and feel that it is a good idea to support the more vulnerable in the community. The clerk will submit the responses to West Suffolk. There are some issues with an organisation completing the survey online as some of the questions are aimed at individuals. Cllr Bull will look into this.

Action Clerk/Cllr Bull

10 Village matters

10.1 Concerns raised over Oak tree on Millfield green

Concerns have been raised, by a resident, about the condition of the 'Millennium Oak Tree' on Millfield Green. As this is on West Suffolk Land the Clerk has contacted West Suffolk Council for advice. West Suffolk have acknowledge this query and will endeavour to respond within the next 8 weeks.

10.2 To discuss options for a tree at church Gardens

The Clerk has asked Sicon for further advice. At the time of the meeting no response has been received. See also under item 4 on the agenda.

10.3 Grass Cutting contract. To note requests to tender sent.

Noted.

10.4 Sandy Lane footpath, to note action taken over issues with tree.

The overgrown tree/bush has been cut back.

10.5 To note works to memorial area prior to the Remembrance Day Service.

Steve Wilson, the Village Caretaker, will do some work to the area around the war memorial, ahead of the Remembrance Day service.

11. Aggies Piece

11.1 To receive any update.

Sheila Sier said the family were willing to pay for the installation of Eddie's Silver Birch when a suitable site is found. Arrangements for the new trees are in hand.

Action Clerk

A bath has been fly-tipped at Aggies. Cllr Baxter will send the details of the exact location.

Action Cllr Baxter/Clerk

12. Caretakers report Circulated.

This report covers a shorter period than normal. I have reverted to visiting the village only once a week unless emergencies arise and the bins seem to be coping with this so far. The sweeping of Church Road is a regular feature at this time of year and it will soon be time to scrape the leaf mulch from the layby opposite the pub. I had to make a special visit to the Cricket Meadow with my stepladder to untangle the zip-wire seat; it seems unharmed by the experience and the cracking of the rubber element was not made worse. I have installed a plot reservation plaque in the Cemetery and re-arranged the tributes on one grave at the request of the Clerk.

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

13.1 Update on zip-wire seat issue.

This has been reported to HAGS and we are awaiting a response.

14. Churchyard/Cemetery

14.1 To discuss repairs of the kissing gate in the Cemetery

We are awaiting a quote for replacement/repair.

14.2 To note installation of reserved stone marker.

As reported under item 12, the stone marker to mark the reserved space in the Cemetery has been installed.

15. Neighbourhood Plan.

15.1 To include a report following a meeting with West Suffolk Council.

Following discussion it was acknowledged that if we take the plan forward to referendum with the existing housing number allocation from West Suffolk it is likely to fail. We have already objected to the number with West Suffolk Council and we can object again at the WS public examination.

This could be fought as a separate issue from the Plan and the Plan could just concentrate on issues regarding design and other areas included in the plan such as sustainability and environmental issues. The Clerk will share an example of this design of plan with the Councillors and working party group.

Action Clerk

Despite inaccuracies in the data regarding public transport it is unlikely that the banding criteria for Barningham will be changed as we have a number of services that would place us in that banding criteria regardless.

The Clerk and Consultant will complete an end of budget report and apply for more funding.

Action Clerk

It is understood that the developers, for the West Suffolk preferred site, would be happy to meet to discuss their plans. It was agreed the Parish Council will wait for the developers to contact them and that they would be informed that if they want to hold a public event the Parish Council would be happy to attend.

15.2 To discuss concerns raised about local GP capacity.

Concerns have been raised regarding problems getting a doctors appointment at the local surgery. Although this was not the experience of the Councillors present at the meeting, it was

acknowledged that this is a matter we need to be mindful of going forward. It was agreed we need to be mindful of the ability of the current doctors surgery to cope with any increase in patient numbers. We will make sure that these concerns, as well as other infrastructure concerns, are

included in discussion in the future.

Action Clerk

16. Planning

16.1 To note: NMA (A)/21/0910 | Non-material amendment for DC/21/0910/HH - a. amendment to approved roof b. amendment to approved roof tile, 51 Bishops Croft, Barningham.

16.2 DC/22/0445/FUL Planning application - ground-mounted photovoltaic solar arrays together with substations, inverter/transformer stations, grid connection infrastructure, grid cable route, site accesses, access gates, internal access tracks, security measures, storage compound, and ancillary infrastructure, landscaping and biodiversity enhancements. Land East Of Firfield, Bowbeck, Bardwell. The comments made by the Parish Council previously still stand.

These were: **The Parish Council have no objection, in principle, to this application. They would however like to better understand the effects this might have on the local wildlife, not least by the erection of a high fence. Concerns were also raised about the loss of agricultural land. They would be minded to better support an application of this nature on a brownfield site.**

16.3 DC/22/1460/FUL Planning application - one dwelling, Land Adjacent 1 Hopton Road Barningham. Application withdrawn. Noted.

17. Councillors reports and items for future agenda

17.1 Cllr Baxter asked the Councillors to consider items they would like included in the next newsletter.

Action All

17.2 The Clerk will contact Community Heartbeat again to chase a response over why 999 did not have the code for the defibrillator cabinet. It was agreed that it would be helpful to host some more defibrillator training. The Clerk will look in to this. The Clerk will also ensure that the regular, required checks are being carried out by the shop.

Action Clerk

17.3 Cllr Baxter will ask Cllr Hebert to look at the Emergency plan before it is signed off.

Action Cllr Baxter

18. Correspondence for information

18.1 Warm spaces advice, to discuss options for support over winter. It was agreed to ask the Rural Coffee caravan to come to the village to give advice about support over the winter.

Action Clerk

18.2 Transport East consultation

The Clerk will complete this consultation for the Parish.

Action Clerk

18.3 Headway Suffolk, request for funding

Noted.

19. Date of next meeting 7th December 2022 7pm

20. 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.