

MINUTES of a MEETING of BARTON PARISH COUNCIL which was held in the VILLAGE HALL, School Lane, Barton on Tuesday 4th July 2023 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. John Howland Jackson [JHJ], Chloe Langford [CL], Andrew Martin [AM], Shelley Arora-Tailby [SA], Deni Devappriya [DD], Sam Richardson [SR] Danielle Stretch (Clerk) [DS], RFO Ian Minto [IM]

District Councillor: Lisa Redrup

Proposed Councillor: James Thomas

Apologies: Cllr. Amy Winterbourne

Members: 8,

Quorum: 3

Dated 08/7/23 Clerk to Barton Parish Council

AGENDA

23-34/ 22 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

AW gave her apologies which were approved by the meeting.

23-24/23 Co-option of a proposed new councillor – James Thomas

The Council **RESOLVED** (prop. SR, sec. JHJ) unanimously to co-opt James Thomas as a member of the parish council.

23-24/24 To approve the minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting on June 21st 2023 and the parish council meeting of May 2nd 2023

Both sets of minutes were approved unanimously by Council (prop JHJ sec AM)

23-24/25 To consider matters arising from the minutes.

There were no matters arising from the minutes that were not being dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

23-24/26 To receive declarations of interest for items on the agenda.

AM reported that his son-in-law provided one of the quotes for signage

PUBLIC FORUM

A resident reported that she has a wildlife garden with carefully tended wildflower planted verges that she has been nurturing for some time. The verge cutters came along and close cropped these on a mower even though she came out and asked him not to and the plants would not have had time to set seed. CL said that she would email the resident about this after the meeting.

Another resident asked about the bus service provided by Whippet as to buses had been cancelled in succession on Saturday.

Another resident asked if there could be more content in the Parish Magazine from the Parish Council as not all elderly people in the village would look at the website.

He also reported that he felt the overgrown verges on Cambridge Road were making getting out of Roman Road more dangerous. He also asked if a letter could be sent to residents with overgrown hedges asking them to cut them back as they were impeding the pavement in some cases.

23-24/27 To receive County and District Councillors reports: Michael Atkins, Lisa Redrup

Lisa Redrup presented her monthly District Council report to the meeting.

She said that there was a range of advice on dealing with the cost of living at

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support>

A new mobile Food Hub has been funded by the Council and run by not-for-profit organisation, Hope CIC, has been launched to support communities during the cost-of-living crisis.

Cambridgeshire has been awarded £11.5 million over two years to improve energy efficiency in homes which are not on mains gas. More information, including eligibility criteria, are available at <https://www.actiononenergycambs.org>

The District Council report can be read on the PC website.

Lisa Redrup left the meeting after presenting her report.

23-24/28 To receive reports from the RFO (Ian Minto)

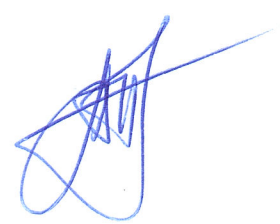
The RFO reported that the bank balances at 30/06/2023 were current acc. £48994.01 Deposit acc. £28738.82

He said that the AGAR reports had been submitted and that we have received an acknowledgement to say that they have been received.

The receipts and payments for May and June are as follows:

May Payments:

- £3.00 Credit card fee
- £46.00 Printer Cartridges Clerk (Credit Card)
- £160.72 Rialtas Software support and fee



- £273.60 BWP Creative website /email hosting annual fee
- £22.81 DRAX street lighting
- £85.23 RFO salary
- £425.73 Clerk Salary
- £1056.00 Grass cutting (£2 x £288.00 + £480.00)
- £9.00 Clerk Phone
- £150.00 Face painting Coronation event.

May Receipts:

- £77.24 Comberton Crusaders Pitch Hire
- £181.67 HMRC VAT refund
- £890.00 Coronation Donations x 9. (full details held)

June Payments:

- £3.00 Lloyds credit card fee
- £762.02 BHIB PC insurance
- 336.00 Balaam Bros High Gate repair
- £720.00 SCDC Bin collection annual
- £11.99 Amazon via Cllr DD Laminated pouches for coronation
- £23.57 DRAX street lighting
- £6.22 H3G Clerk Phone
- £85.03 RFO Salary June
- £425.73 Clerk salary June

June Receipts

It was **RESOLVED** (prop. CL, sec. SR) unanimously to approve the receipts and payments for May and June 2023.

23-24/29 **Council Matters** To receive and discuss circulated update from the PC working groups

Governance and Finance

Annual Parish Meeting

The APM took place on Thursday 15th June. It consisted of an annual overview by JHJ, the RFO's report by IM and reports on the Amenities and Open spaces WG by CL and Traffic and Transport by AM as it was felt that this would cover most of the major events of the last council year.

Councillor Vacancy

The vacancy was advertised on the parish noticeboards and website but only one person put their name forward. The vacancy has now been filled by the co-option of James Thomas.

PC Agenda and Report Circulation

The WG considered comments from some councillors regarding the late circulation of meeting papers and reports before the last PC meeting. The A&OS meeting report for May h was circulated unavoidably late. This resulted in a number of decisions being deferred until a later date. The Clerk was asked to ensure that all agendas and supporting documents were circulated well in advance of

the meeting. The WG acknowledge that this had been an isolated occurrence for the best of reasons and that the PC/WG system was working well in most instances. JHJ and AM both asked to be invited to attend the subsequent meeting in order to catch up with the decision making and this was agreed.

Statutory Returns

Owing to IM's absence from the May meeting due to taking holiday the PC had not been asked to approve the various forms which constitute the PC's Statutory Returns which are the basis for the external audit. An Extraordinary Meeting was therefore held on Wednesday 21st June for this purpose.

Clerk Resignation and Replacement

Danielle Stretch has decided to step down from the post of clerk and gave notice that she would be leaving the position on June 19th. Following discussion, she agreed to extend her notice period until July 15th in order to help the PC through the APM and the 4th of July PC meeting.

Fortunately, after meeting with JHJ and CL, IM has decided to return to the position of Clerk as well as RFO from July 15th onwards.

Amenities and Open Spaces

The village pond lifebuoy

This has now been installed under the footpath map.

Club, Leases of Bowls tennis club and BRIG.

CL has continued to Liaise with the Council's lawyers on the drafting of the underleases for BRIG and the tennis club. We are awaiting a date from the Bowls Club to discuss any changes to their draft lease by their legal advisor and are continuing to correspond with the lawyer from SCDC regarding whether their formal consent is needed to grant the underleases.

Grass Cutting

The first cut by our new contractor, CGM, took place during the first half of June and, due to the perfect grass-growing conditions, the grass was longer than usual by this point. The contractors asked the PC to point out that the first cut would be rougher than usual because of this.

The PC was asked to consider whether to ask the contractors to collect the grass cuttings after a cut as this makes the contract more expensive but does encourage wildflowers and biodiversity.

JHJ said that he was not prepared to double the cost of the grass cutting contract but suggested that the PC could ask the contractors to collect the grass cuttings in areas where this was deemed to be needed.

It was **RESOLVED** (prop. CL, HD) unanimously to request a and when occasional on demand collection of grass cuttings as part of the grass-cutting service.

Road signs following serious accident at the intersection at New Road and the A603.



A collision took place between two cyclists that resulted in a brain injury for one of them. The A&OS group recommends that there should be road signs on both sides of the bend advising cyclists to proceed with caution.

It was **RESOLVED** (prop. JHJ, Sec. SR) unanimously that the council approves the purchase of road signs for the dual use footpath at the junction of New Road and the A603 and that up to £250 will be set aside for this expense.

AM said that the PC should inform Highways that this work is proposed.

Mike Radford will also be approached and asked if vegetation alongside this corner could be lowered in height in order to improve visibility.

Barton Greenways has been informed of the visibility issue.

Old Pavilion

The PC expressed a huge thanks to John Boocock and David for tidying up the Old Pavilion.

The PC has circulated an inventory of its contents to Barton groups and organisations. A second meeting will be held on July 15th and anything not wanted or needed by village organisations will be offered to residents to re-use or recycle.

Playground Inspection Report

AM was thanked for his work in undertaking repairs on the playground.

It was **RESOLVED** (prop. DD, sec SR) to approve the purchase of sundry items necessary for this work for up to £300.

AM said that the roundabout needed more thought on how to fix it and the embankment slide steps were in a terrible condition. A resident said that they had been improved. AM felt that, at some stage, the PC would need to look at the mound and spend some money on it.

Recreation Ground Signage

Playground signage

CL said that we would need to consult with BRIG as the existing sign was put up when the Pavilion was built.

A resolution on this will be **DEFERRED** until the next meeting when an estimate can be put before the PC.

Replacement sign at entrance to the car park

The WG felt that a new sign was needed at the entrance to the car park giving the opening hours of the car park.

It was **RESOLVED** (prop. CL. sec. HD) unanimously to purchase a new A1 entrance sign in accordance with the quote given.

Project to repair/replace the village noticeboards

The WG group is aware that the noticeboards around the village are looking worn and need to be replaced. This will be considered in due course but, in the meantime, residents are asked to remove obviously out of date notices.

Cricket nets and disability inclusive play equipment

Fundraising has raised over £2,000 for the playground. The WG are suggesting and a disability inclusive outdoor table tennis table is purchased initially and cricket nets in due course when funding is available.

HD said that to play table tennis from a wheelchair and that she would not label it as disability inclusive except in specific circumstances

JHJ said that the PC had successfully raised some money and needed to show the results of it. He emphasised that this was not the end and that the fundraising would continue.

Two different types of outdoor table tennis table were presented to the parish council, and it was decided to purchase the one that seemed to be the most robust.

It was **RESOLVED** (prop. HD, sec. AM) unanimously to purchase the Cornilleau Park permanent static 9mm outdoor table tennis table.

Additional Football Pitch

Comberton Crusaders have asked if a smaller youth team football pitch would be possible at the Wimpole Road end of the recreation ground. Councillors met on the recreation ground to see if a second junior (U9) football pitch would be possible in addition to cricket nets. They thought that both would be possible but there were concerns that the village does not have a groundsman.

It was **RESOLVED** (prop. SR, sec. HD) unanimously to approve the possibility of a second junior football pitch.

Dog Poo Crisis

CL reported concerns about unsanitary conditions in the village due to increased numbers of dogs in the village and the consequent increase in dog poo uncollected.

SCDC maintain that general bins can be used for this purpose, but the WG does not feel that this is a satisfactory solution. The A&OS WG recommend purchasing 4 new dog poo bins and to organise for these to be emptied regularly as part of the rubbish collection in the village. This will be charged by SCDC at £4 plus VAT per bin. The cheapest bins that they have found cost £138 and can be post or wall mounted.

It was **RESOLVED** (prop. CL, sec. JT) unanimously to approve the purchase of 4 new dog poo bins and for SCDC to be asked to empty these bins as part of their regular collection service at an additional cost of £4 plus VAT per bin.

Additional signs will be put up to remind dog owners to use the bins provided.

Use of the Recreation Ground for cycling events

BRIG continues to object to the car parking policy which was approved at the last meeting in May. A copy of the policy has been given to other organisations using the car park. A meeting is being organised to discuss this and other matters concerning the Parish Council and BRIG.

Pavements on King's Grove

A resident has drawn attention to the urgent need for repairs to the pavement on King's Grove. The PC will lobby Highways to do this work and encourages residents to do this as well.

Overgrown Hedges

The recent lovely weather has led to some hedges becoming overgrown. The WG would like to send out a letter to residents to remind them to cut back their hedges so that they do not spill out on to pavements,

It was **RESOLVED** (prop. CL, sec. SA) unanimously to send out letters to residents with overgrown hedges to request that they cut them back.

Communications and Community Engagement Working Group

There was nothing to report from this WG.

Traffic, Transport and Travel Working Group

Summary of Grantchester section of Haslingfield Greenway with a proposal for TTT group to respond to the consultation.

Work is planned to start in November on this and details will be presented to the PC before then. AM reported that he had attended the open event in Grantchester to see the part of the Haslingfield Greenways that passes through the centre of Grantchester. Grantchester PC are against these plans. He suggested that we take this opportunity to support Grantchester on this and felt a better route would be to use the baulk path that avoids the pinch points on Burnt Close and on Broadway.

It was **RESOLVED** (prop.CL,sec.HD) unanimously to support Grantchester Parish Council in their objections to the plan to route part of Haslingfield Greenways through the centre of Grantchester.

Summary of EWR public drop-in

The TTT group attended the public consultation in May where the EWR group revealed that they had revisited the Northern route into Cambridge and found it to be cheaper with less environmental impact than the Southern route. However, they confirmed that they will be sticking to the Southern route as this links directly to the new Cambridge South station and the medical research campus. They believe that this will create 80,000 new jobs and a tunnel is likely to be routed under Chapel Hill. More details can be found at www.eastwestrailco.uk.

Update on Barton Greenway project and 20 mph in Barton

Work has started with roundels being painted on New Road, Comberton Road and High Street.

Proposal to buy additional MVAS unit.

The PC MVAS system is on Haslingfield Road and was on Comberton Road for eight weeks prior to this. The decision regarding the purchase of another MVAS was deferred pending the results of the LHI bid.

Planning Working Group

JHJ suggested that, due to his experience of working in property, that JT would be an excellent new member to join the Planning WG.

It was **RESOLVED** (prop., sec.) unanimously that JT would join the Planning WG.0

23-24/30 Planning Applications Pending

Ref: No. 23/0582/TTCA

1 School Lane, Barton

Felling of Cypress and Walnut trees due to excessive shading of garden

Status: Pending Consideration

Ref. No. 23/02195/PRIOR

78 Wimpole Road, Barton

Existing 15 m communications mast to be replaced with 17.6 communications mast

Status: Pending Consideration

Ref: No. 23/

Ref:22/0460/TTCA

82 Wimpole Road, Barton

T1- Sycamore Fell

Status: Awaiting consideration

Ref: 22/0311/TTCA

215 Wimpole Road, Barton

Demolition of conservatory and shed. Erection of two storey side extension, single storey rear extension, first floor rear extension, freestanding private gym and interconnecting undercover areas.

Status: Non determination – subject to appeal

23-24/31 To receive and discuss report regarding BRIG

No report has been received from BRIG.

23-24/32 To receive and discuss report regarding Barton Village Hall

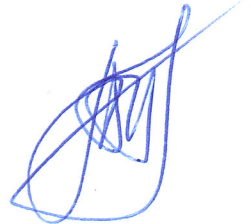
Election of new Parish Council representative to Barton Village Hall (A resolution is needed)

This was DEFERRED until the next meeting.

23-24/33 To receive and discuss Clerk's report and correspondence

The Clerk had received a disturbing report from a resident to say that human excrement was being dumped at a building site. She was asked to report this to Environmental Health.

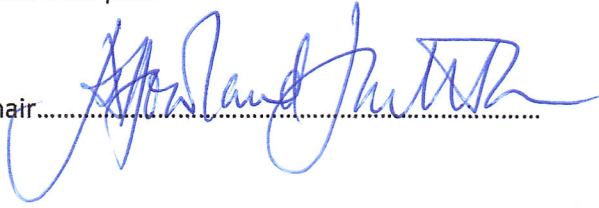
23-24/34 To receive Neighbourhood Watch Report



No report has been received.

Meeting Closed 9.32 p.m.

Signed by Chair.....

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Sandford', is written over a dotted line.

Date.....

Date of next Parish Council Meeting: Tuesday 5th September at 7.30 p.m. in Barton Village Hall