

BARROW cum DENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN BARROW VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE ROOM ON MONDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2020

Present:

Cllr Pearson Cllr M Howard Cllr Pettitt	Cllr R Ford Cllr Hudson Cllr Holmes	Cllr Wilcock Cllr Kronbergs Clerk in attendance: Kat Bowe
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Minute Ref		Action
5504	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Burton, Cllr Wesley	
5505	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS None	
5506	PUBLIC FORUM There were five residents present. The chairman confirmed that the public forum must happen at the beginning of the meeting. The meeting is a meeting of the parish council not a public meeting, however members of the public are welcome to attend. The Parish Council were asked when developments will be made public. It was confirmed that we are awaiting the results of the SHELAA.	
5507	<p>Representative for Land South of Haysborder Road, Barrow</p> <p>Representatives for the Land South of Haysborder Road gave a presentation to the parish council. It was confirmed the land had been put forward in the call for sites for the SHELAA. Discussions around long term plans, aspirations had taken place along with traffic surveys and identifying a new access point off Colethorpe Lane.</p> <p>The client was looking to ascertain the parish council's views on medium to long term development. It was acknowledged that Barrow has experienced exponential growth in recent years south of the village meaning a significant increase in traffic through the village.</p> <p>The proposal is for 300/400 new houses with land being put aside for employment, and 6.5 hectares of open space. The development was presented as a Garden Village idea (Stand alone community that integrates with existing communities).</p> <p>It was agreed that the parish council could not give an opinion at present due to the current SHELAA and not wanting to prejudge the results of the impending Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	

5508	<p>To receive the Community Police Report.</p> <p>The latest police report was dated February. Cllr Pearson highlighted that the police part of the council tax was to increase by 5% meaning additional police officers. The Government have promised 54 additional police officers in Suffolk. Suffolk is seen as a low crime area.</p>	
5509	<p>Minutes of the last meeting</p> <p>Having been previously circulated, the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2nd December 2019, were proposed by Cllr Ford and seconded by Cllr Wilcock with all Councillors in agreement.</p> <p>The Minutes from the planning meeting on 6th January 2020 were also circulated, these were proposed by Cllr Hudson and seconded by Cllr Kronbergs</p>	
5510	<p>COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT</p> <p>Cllr Soons confirmed she has received several emails regarding flooding in Denham and had visited the site. She admitted that Highways has messed up and the problem should have been dealt with as high priority. Denham Estate have been asked to dig out the ditch which should help the problem. Five years ago the road was closed for drainage work. The drain which was installed appears to be too small. Cllr Soons was asked if this work could be revisited.</p> <p>Cllr Soons read her report which can be found on the website. The report included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Highways permit scheme – to prevent repeated roadworks in the same area • £150k improvements to Angel Hill • New Recycling Centre opened 16th January • Council taking over civil parking enforcement from police. • Childrens Centre Review – reorganising how they will deliver the service <p>Ongoing issues include the potholes on the road/path opposite the doctors surgery had still not been filled. Clerk to email details to Cllr Soons. The drain outside the shop still does not work. Money was spent on a new drain and kerb knowing that it wasn't linked. Clerk to email details to Cllr Soons who will in turn raise it with the senior director of Highways.</p>	Clerk
5511	<p>Village Infrastructure</p> <p>a) Vehicle Activated Speed signs</p> <p>Cllr Houlder has secured £2000 from his locality budget towards the purchase of the new VAS sign. Having a data link to download data from the VAS means an extra cost of £250. It was agreed that having this would be beneficial especially when talking with the police. This was proposed by Cllr Hudson and seconded by Cllr Wilcock with all in agreement. The Clerk will write to the villages that share the current VAS to see if they wish to purchase our share. If they don't Barrow will continue using it.</p>	Clerk

	<p>The Clerk continues to chase Highways for a share in the 40mph VAS sign. We can not use our existing sign in a 40mph area due to health and safety requirements.</p> <p>b) Newspaper Banks One newspaper bank has been returned. The clerk has had confirmation that the bank can be painted to improve its appearance. It was agreed the Clerk would approach a local handyman to do the job with a maximum budget of £100. This was proposed by Cllr Kronbergs and seconded by Cllr Howard with all in agreement.</p> <p>c) Parking on the Green, near Lion Green Pond The Parish Council has received an anonymous letter from a local resident concerned about parking on the Green outside number 11 The Green. A turning point has been there for a while but it has now been stoned and made to be more permanent for use as a private parking space/turning point. This is not acceptable. Cllr Wilcock to review data from an access survey completed many years ago. The Clerk to write to the resident.</p> <p>d) House on The Street – grass being damaged Significant damage has been done to the grass area as the house does not have a dropped kerb to access the drive. The resident has been written to before. Clerk to write to resident and ask for the grass to be reinstated.</p> <p>e) Footpath between Johnson Road and Denham Lane The pavement between Johnson Road and Denham Lane is in poor condition. Highways meet with Cllr Soons and Cllr Pearson and agreed to repair three potholes, however this will not solve the problem, pedestrians are having to walk on the road to avoid the puddles. More pressure will be applied to SCC. MH to have conversation with local pressure group.</p> <p>f) Drainage issue on The Street Barrow near the green Covered under minute ref 5510</p> <p>g) Allotment taps Two new taps have now been installed.</p> <p>h) Footpaths from Sharpes Hill to Mill Lane – being used by horses The footpath between Sharpes Hill and Mill Lane is being used by people on horses. Cllr Wilcock to monitor this. If the problem continues some signs will be installed.</p> <p>i) Footpath off Haysboarder Road – Overgrown Cllr Kronbergs received correspondence regarding an overgrown footpath off Haysboarder Road, he investigated and acknowledged one footpath is slightly overgrown but currently passable. Clerk to ask footpath officer to check.</p> <p>j) Denham End Flooding Covered in minute reference 5510</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>MH</p> <p>MW</p> <p>Clerk</p>
5512	<p>Highways Litter picking on Hargrave road to be added to agenda for March meeting.</p>	Clerk

	Cllr Howard to report pothole on Barrow Hill to Highways.	MH
5513	<p>Neighbourhood Plan See report from Cllr Howard Attached (Appendix A)</p> <p>a) Heritage Assessment Completed by Planning direct, councillors will see content in the first draft of the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>b) First Consultation – inclusion of (attached) Area Map All previously discussed changes to the questionnaire have been made. Planning direct suggested an additional question 'If the parish had to build more houses where would your proposed area be?'</p> <p>Councillors raised concerns over people not wanting development near them and felt it was a very sensitive area. The argument for including the question is to provide traceability back to the public consultation when making site allocations.</p> <p>Not including the question goes against advice from the Planning Consultants. Councillors were concerned that the results would not provide a representative answer. It could potentially mean a second public consultation at a later date.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan must go to a referendum and be approved by the UK Planning Inspectorate who would want evidence of why specific sites are chosen and would need valid reasons to justify backing a different site. Cllr Howard confirmed that a RAG analysis on the suitability of each site would be completed and these results would be compared to what the parishioners want.</p> <p>Councillors voted 5 to 2 against including the question at this stage. Planning Direct will be asked to contact the Parish Council and justify their reasons for including the question.</p> <p>c) Housing Needs Assessment & Indicative Housing Requirement. The Housing Needs Assessment was carried out by AECOM. Housing needs for the parish between 2019-2041 is 154 dwellings of which 77 are already allocated. This means an additional 77 dwellings for the period 2019-2041.</p> <p>The HNA emphasises the growing proportion of over 65's (more than 50% of the population of the parish by 2041), this together with the affordable housing requirements means that nearly half of any new dwellings would be 1 or two bedrooms.</p> <p>West Suffolk Council have provided their indicative housing requirement for the Parish over the same period of 236 dwellings with 77 already allocated, meaning an additional 159 dwellings. Planning Direct have confirmed that the parish does not have to agree with West Suffolk Councils numbers providing the parish is confident that their numbers are correct. Detailed analysis of WSC's calculations show they have not been fairly and reasonably calculated.</p>	

	<p>Cllr Howard and Cllr Kronbergs to meet with WSC with a representative from Planning Direct.</p> <p>d) SHELAA & Communications with WSC The SHELAA has been delayed by six months. The public consultation is likely to take place between May and July. There is no suggestion that WSC will be imposing hundreds of houses on the Parish as they currently have more than a 5 year housing supply. The calculated numbers of new dwellings is lower than some may have feared.</p> <p>There is no reason not to proceed with the Neighbourhood Plan and given the affordable housing requirements there may be less interest from developers.</p>	
5514	<p>Request for Village Christmas Lights The village used to have Christmas lights on the Green. All councillors agreed that the parish council would look into purchasing some lights ready for next Christmas</p>	
5515	<p>BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT Cllr Houlder confirmed that the SHELAA consultation had been delayed. The District Council have a planning meeting on 12th after which more information should be available. Cllr Houlder believes Barrow is under huge pressure due to being right on the A14 with easy links to Cambridge/Ipswich/Stansted. He expects there to be a big push from people to build in Barrow and expressed how important the Neighbourhood Plan is.</p> <p>The District Council are preparing their budget, police rates are going up. West Suffolk Council made a pledge to freeze council tax in St Edmundsbury to bring Forest Heath council tax into line. This may not be sustainable and some difficult political choices may need to be made. Going forward West Suffolk Council could face quite a budget gap after this year. Huge investments are being made in new leisure centres and public services.</p> <p>Cllr Houlder suggested trying to use some section 106 monies to repair the pavement between Johnson Road and Denham Lane.</p> <p>Cllr Houlder confirmed he used £2,000 of his locality budget towards the VAS sign for Barrow.</p>	
5516	<p>Village Maintenance Contract quotes The Parish Council received three tenders for the three year village maintenance contract. This is the councils single biggest expense each year. All councillors were given an analysis of the three tenders. It was agreed that more time was needed to analyse the contracts and addition questions needed to be asked prior to making a decision.</p> <p>The clerk was asked to find out whether they would be willing to split the contract and what if any implication this would have on the price and how often they planned to do the spraying and if this is included in the quoted price.</p> <p>Cllr Wilcock to do further analysis which will be circulated prior to the next meeting where a decision will be made.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>MW</p>

5517	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p>a) To receive the councils current financial statement Adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Cllr Pettitt seconded by Cllr Howard, with all Councillors in agreement.</p> <p>b) To confirm payments</p> <p>PAYMENTS TO BE PRESENTED AT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 3rd February 2020</p> <table><tr><td colspan="4">2019/2020 Accounts</td></tr><tr><td colspan="4">EXPENDITURE</td></tr><tr><td>Cheque No.</td><td>Payee</td><td>Amount</td><td>Notes</td></tr><tr><td>Online</td><td>McGregor Services</td><td>£72.00</td><td>Rake roadsides in Denham</td></tr><tr><td>Online</td><td>ARW Services</td><td>£190.00</td><td>Fix Playing Field Gate</td></tr><tr><td>Online</td><td>ARW Services</td><td>£600.00</td><td>Fit new taps at Mill Lane Allotments</td></tr></table> <p>c. Other invoices: Verse £260 for Newslink Hammond Ford £180 for accounting services</p> <p>The payments were proposed by Cllr Hudson and seconded by Cllr Holmes with all Councillors in agreement.</p> <p>a) Capital expenditure for coming year.</p> <p>None at present.</p>	2019/2020 Accounts				EXPENDITURE				Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Notes	Online	McGregor Services	£72.00	Rake roadsides in Denham	Online	ARW Services	£190.00	Fix Playing Field Gate	Online	ARW Services	£600.00	Fit new taps at Mill Lane Allotments	
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5518	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>DC/20/0039/HH 26 Stoney Lane Barrow IP29 5DD Householder Planning Application - (i)Rear single storey ground floor extension with re-positioning of existing external staircase (ii) Front Porch (iii) New bay window (following the removal of existing bay window)</p> <p>No objections</p> <p>DC/20/0063/HH 7 Abbots Close Denham IP29 5EN Householder Planning Application - (i) Single storey rear extension (following demolition of existing rear extension) (ii) remove and replace existing shed (retrospective)</p> <p>No objections</p>																									
5519	<p>For information – planning applications not commented on.</p> <p>DC/15/1653/FUL Barrow Hill Surgery, Barrow Hill, Barrow, Bury St Edmunds,Suffolk, IP29 5DX Planning Application - (i) Single storey rear extension comprising two nursing rooms (ii) re-configuartion of parking layout https://planning.westsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=NT116OPD05M00</p>																									

	DC/19/2383/HH 25 Mill Lane Barrow IP29 5BS Householder Planning Application - (i) Two storey side extension with dormer (following demolition of existing garage) (ii) porch	
5520	<p>To note the following planning determinations</p> <p>DC/19/2100/HH 7 Abbots Close Denham IP29 5EN Householder Planning Application - (i) 1no garage with office above and rear conservatory (following demolition of existing utility room and rear extension) (retrospective) (ii) 1no. shed (retrospective) (iii) drop kerb and vehicular access (retrospective) Withdrawn/abandoned</p> <p>DC/19/2428/PIP Land Rear Of Barrow Road Denham Suffolk IP29 5EG Permission in Principal - 2-5no. dwellings Refused</p>	
5521	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>29/11/19 Power for People Request to support the Local Electricity Bill For information</p> <p>13/12/19 West Suffolk Council SCRAP flytipping campaign For information</p> <p>24/12/19 Citizens advice Citizens Advice West Suffolk For information</p> <p>13/01/20 Karen Soon County Councillor Report Will be put on the website</p> <p>14/01/20 Local resident Speed check in Colethorpe Lane, Barrow, BSE Unfortunately the community speed watch can not do speed checks in Colethorpe Lane</p> <p>16/01/20 West Suffolk Council West Suffolk Parish and Town Forum: Save The Date: 17th March 2020 6.00pm-8.00pm For information</p> <p>19/01/20 Local resident Flooding in Denham End Covered in minute ref 5510</p> <p>21/01/20 West Suffolk Council Great British Spring Clean 20 March-13 April 2020 Cllr Howard to write piece for Newslink</p> <p>21/01/20 Local resident Mill Lane - development plans For information</p> <p>22/01/20 West Suffolk Council West Suffolk Council - Funding and Capacity Training Courses For information</p>	MH

	<p>28/01/20 Locality Neighbourhood Planning newsletter - Issue 8 January 2020 Circulate to Cllr Howard and Cllr Kronbergs</p> <p>29/01/20 West Suffolk Council New West Suffolk Local Plan programme For information</p>	
5522	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday 2nd March 2020, Committee Room, Barrow Village Hall at 7.15pm.</p> <p>The meeting was closed at 9:42pm</p>	

Signed: (Chairman)

Date.....

APPENDIX A

Mark Howard & Zigurds Kronbergs
Rev A

28 January 2020

Synopsis of NP Progress Report to be presented at February 2020 PC Meeting

There has been good progress since December's PC meeting.

Heritage Assessment.

A Heritage Assessment has been completed by Planning Direct. This has generated a list of heritage assets as well as various images of buildings & views from around the village and background demographic / geographic information for eventual use in the NP document.

The information is neither surprising nor contentious. The information will be made available for review by councillors when it is presented in the draft NP.

First Consultation

The changes discussed previously, are now included in the questionnaire. However, Planning Direct – as a result of their experience on another NP – now recommend we include a further question: - “If the parish *had* to build more house where would your preferred area be?” This would be posed with a map similar to the one shown in Annex A together with a multiple choice of north, south etc.

The reason is to show traceability and reasoning for any site recommendations in the NP back to a parish consultation.

The matter has been queried but Planning Direct's recommendation is firm: - *“If you don't include it in the forthcoming survey, you'll need to ask it later”*.

Accordingly, our recommendation is to include such a question in the forthcoming survey.

Housing Needs Assessment (HNA)

An HNA has been completed by AECOM. Their main finding is that the housing need for the parish over the period 2019-2041 is 154 dwellings of which 77 are already allocated (75 on the current building site east of Barrow Hill + 2 at the redeveloped barns on Barrow Hill). In other words, the housing need is +77 dwellings for the period 2019-2041.

The HNA also emphasises the growing proportion of over 65s (>50% of the parish's population by 2041). This, together with the requirements for Affordable Housing (30% of sites with >10 dwellings), will mean that nearly half of any new houses will be 1 or 2 bedroom dwellings.

In parallel, WSC have provided an Indicative Housing Requirement for the parish over the period 2019-2041 of 236 dwellings of which 77 are already allocated (75 on the current building site east of Barrow Hill + 2 at the redeveloped barns on Barrow Hill). In other words, +159 dwellings for the period 2019-2041.

Detailed analysis of WSC's calculations shows that they are not well founded. Of WSC's 236, 166 has been fairly and reasonably calculated and accords with our own HNA of 154. The small discrepancy is due to differences in West Suffolk & St. Edmundsbury data sets.

The increase from 166 to 236 is due to a complex spreadsheet calculation which has inflated the housing requirement (mainly) due to the parish's high delivery of housing in recent years. Actually, the converse should be true – Barrow has delivered lots of houses in recent years and therefore this should reduce rather than increase the requirement.

We have notified WSC of various errors in the calculations and are awaiting their response. We have also notified WSC that the PC will continue with the NP based on a housing requirement of 154 or 166 (depending on which data set the emerging Local Plan will use).

SHELAA & General Comments

I have received an unconfirmed report that the SHELAA has been delayed by 6 months. The public consultation on the SHELAA is now due for mid-2020, rather than January. This could be for many reasons including delays in the merger of St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath.

Housing data is updated every 1 or 2 years. New data is likely to impact the numbers discussed previously as the effects of Brexit are included as well as new data arising from the merger of St. Eds and Forest Heath.

In the various exchanges with WSC there been no suggestion of the *imposition of hundreds* of houses on the parish. WSC's own (worst case) calculations on housing requirement are substantially less than some of the numbers feared by some parishioners.

Currently, there is no reason not to proceed with the NP as originally anticipated.

In the coming weeks we aim to:

- Complete the public questionnaire ready for launch (with trial of the on-line questionnaire by the PC)
- Liaise with WSC on housing requirement
- Start to prepare for call for sites.

Annex A – suggested area map for questionnaire

