

## BARROW cum DENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF BARROW VILLAGE HALL ON Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022

**Present:**

Cllr Holmes Cllr R Rawlings Cllr T Bragg	Cllr Kronbergs Cllr Cousins Cllr Ford	Cllr Wesley Cllr Steer Cllr K Rawlings  Clerk in attendance: Kat Bowe
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Minute Ref		Action
6210	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Cllr Pearson	
6211	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</b> Cllr Steer declared an interest in agenda item 7. Cllr Holmes declared an interest in item 25.	
6212	<b>PUBLIC FORUM</b> There were 19 members of the public present.  One resident raised major safety concerns with the junction out of Beale Road. The clerk was given a copy of a section of the manual for streets. Clerk to raise issue with Hopkins as the road has not yet been adopted. Visibility from 2.4 metres back should be 43m with planting no more than 80cm high.  Concerns were also raised over the drainage issues across the parish. Recent rain made it difficult to walk around the parish on foot.  A concern was raised about the location of the post box on the Green. The resident felt it would have been better near the shop/recycling.  Cllr Kronbergs confirmed that the junction would be discussed under agenda item 15e. The drainage is a constant battle with Highways, residents are encouraged to use the Highways reporting tool. The post box was originally removed by BT. The post office put it back as close to the original location as possible. The Parish Council has no influence over the Post Office.  The Parish Council was asked to write to Hopkins Homes and asked to consider traffic calming measures. To be successful in getting traffic calming measures, accident data would need to be high. It could be possible that traffic calming could be requested as part of any new planning application.	<b>Clerk</b>

	<p>The Parish Council was asked if it had met with WSC to discuss whether WSC would agree to the Barrow Hill site. The resident raised concerns that the decision made at the extraordinary meeting could result in 340 extra houses. Cllr Rawlings assured the resident this would be covered under the NHP agenda item.</p> <p>Cllr Kronbergs confirmed that because of the vote at the extraordinary meeting he had resigned as lead member of the NHP sub committee and the working party.</p> <p>It was stated that AECOM's preferred site was Bury Road. The vote at the extraordinary meeting could mean 340 houses for Barrow, the question was asked, why would parishioners vote for more housing?</p> <p>It was confirmed that the Parish Council is still working to a number of 170 and that the NHP is worth proceeding with as it does more than just site selection, it allows for input on design code and allows the community and the Parish Council to have a proper input. Once the NHP is in full draft form it will be available on the website and there will be a further consultation for all electors to have their say.</p> <p>Concerns were raised that the Barrow Hill site is not linked to public transport whereas the Bury Road site is. It was stated that this would be considered if a planning application came forward.</p>	
6213	<p><b>Minutes of the last meeting</b></p> <p>The minutes from the Parish Council meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022 were circulated prior to the meeting. The minutes were proposed by Cllr Ford and seconded by Cllr Steer with all Councillors in agreement.</p> <p>The minutes from the extraordinary meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022 were circulated prior to the meeting. The minutes were proposed by Cllr R Rawlings and seconded by Cllr Ford with all Councillors in agreement.</p>	
6214	<p><b>COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT</b></p> <p>Cllr Soons went through her report. Copy on website.</p> <p>It was confirmed that Barrow Hill would be closed for 4 days to allow for the pavement resurfacing to be completed. Cllr Soons to speak to workforce to see if it can be open in the evenings.</p> <p>Cllr Soons encouraged people to get their COVID boosters and flu vaccines.</p>	
6215	<p><b>Highways</b></p> <p>a) Colethorpe Lane Work took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> September. No further drainage work is planned. Cllr Soons encouraged people to use the online reporting tool for all Highways issues. If nothing is done, it is important to re report issues and include photos as evidence.</p> <p>b) Freedom of Information request response – Highways (Gas Main works)</p>	Clerk

	<p>It was confirmed that the private contractor installing the gas main from Bury to Saxham paid standard fees to Highways. Cllr Soons requested copy of email.</p> <p>c) Pavement opposite the Drs - CR 373892 Work commencing on 14<sup>th</sup> November for 4 days. The access road on the Green is also being resurfaced with work commencing Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November.</p>	
6216	<p><b>NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</b> Cllr Rawlings formally thanked Cllr Kronbergs for his work on the NHP. He also thanked his predecessor.</p> <p>See appendix 1 and appendix 2 for update on meeting with West Suffolk Council and a general NHP update.</p> <p>Cllr Rawlings reassured residents that they will be kept informed and that there would be further meetings and consultations.</p> <p>Cllr Kronbergs stated that if the Parish Council backs an alternative site to the site backed in WSC's local plan then the planning inspectorate could see it as two plans and impose 340 houses.</p>	
6217	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan Working Party</b> To be moved to December agenda.</p>	
6218	<p><b>Correspondence from Bloor Homes - Barrow-cum-Denham Parish Council, Bloor and the land south of Bury Road, Barrow</b> A representative from Bloor Homes wrote to the Parish Council confirming that they are still keen to work positively and proactively with the Parish Council.</p>	
6219	<p><b>DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT</b> Cllr Houlder confirmed that WSC are undertaking a massive task with the local plan. They are told by Government how many houses they need to take, then work to allocating them across West Suffolk.</p> <p>WSC are struggling with financial management, costs are increasing dramatically. Reserves are being used. The budget gap is over £1m.</p>	
6220	<p><b>Cllr Houlder - District Council elections next May 2023</b> Cllr Houlder had to take part in a selection process to stand at the next election. He was not successful and has appealed the decision.</p>	
6221	<p><b>Remembrance Sunday</b> Cllr Kronbergs to lay the Parish Council wreath and Cllr Rawlings to lay the County Council wreath.</p>	
6222	<p><b>Correspondence re conflict of interest</b> Correspondence from resident noted. Concerns were raised about Councillors' conflicts of interest. Cllr Pearson replied and cleared the concerns.</p>	

6224	<b>To receive the Community Police Report</b> No messages to cascade. See appendix one for the police report from Cllr R Rawlings.	
6225	<b>Community infrastructure</b> a) Fishing Concerns have been raised about fishing at the pond and parking in the area. Two permits have now been sold. The Parish Council does not have the resources to police the pond.  b) Wildflower Meadow Beale Road Clerk continues to chase West Suffolk Council for an explanation.  c) Trees for Denham Cllr Holmes is keen to honour the Queen's Jubilee and plant some trees in Denham. The proposal is to plant some apple trees around the entrance to Denham Estate and some larger trees in the area before the roadside nature reserve. Clerk to agenda item after site meeting.  d) Footpath Haysborder Road Barrow Clerk to ask footpath officer to inspect.  e) Woodland Rise - Inevitable road traffic accident (resident correspondence) Correspondence from resident received concerned about how dangerous the junction is. Clerk to contact Hopkins Homes.  f) Parking on Burthorpe Green Clerk to write to residents and remind them not to park on the Green and ask them to remind guests not to park on the Green.	Clerk  Clerk  Clerk  Clerk  Clerk
6226	<b>Village Maintenance Contract</b> Cllr Cousins to read through draft contract and speak to the church about the maintenance of the churchyard going forward. Clerk to issue contract once finalised.	DC/Clerk
6227	<b>Dalham/Denham Confirmation order</b> The resident has objected to the footpath being reinstated due to horses being kept on the land. Suffolk County Council are considering proposed diversion by landowners. Cllr Cousins proposed objecting to this diversion. This was seconded by Cllr Ford.	
6228	<b>Sunnica</b> Planning application for solar energy farm – For information only	
6229	<b>Consultation on Proposed Changes to the West Suffolk Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2023/24</b> Proposal to increase discount on council tax for low-income households from 91.5% to either 95% or 100%. The Parish Council had no objection to this proposal.	
6230	<b>4 May 2023 - Elections to Parish and Town Councils - Estimated recharges</b>	

	The cost of a contested election is estimated to be up to £4,000, if both the Parish and District elections are contested the cost would be split. This is estimated to be between £1,500 and £3,000 for the Parish. This will be added to next year's budget.																																													
6231	<b>Quiet Lanes Update</b> The proposed Quite Lanes for Denham have been included in wave four. Cllr Cousins to complete the self-help installation form. Cllr Cousins and Cllr Holmes to install signs.																																													
6232	<b>West Suffolk Parish and Town Forum</b> The next forum is on 16 <sup>th</sup> November. Both Cllr Kronbergs and Cllr Steer plan to attend. Clerk to register councillors.	Clerk																																												
6233	<b>SALC</b> a) SALC ebulletins Circulated for information  Cllr Cousins left the meeting at 21:19																																													
6234	<b>Financial Matters</b>  a) <b>To receive the council's current financial statement</b> Adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Cllr Wesley seconded by Cllr Kronbergs with all Councillors in agreement.  b) <b>To confirm payments</b>  <b>PAYMENTS TO BE PRESENTED AT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022</b>  <div><b>2022/2023 Accounts</b>  <b>EXPENDITURE</b><table><tr><th>Date</th><th>Payee</th><th>Amount</th><th>Notes</th></tr><tr><td>BACS – 10/10/2022</td><td>HMRC</td><td>£38.00</td><td>Sept PAYE/NI</td></tr><tr><td>BACS – 12/10/2022</td><td>ICO</td><td>£35.00</td><td>Subscription</td></tr><tr><td>BACS – 25/10/2022</td><td>Wave Water</td><td>£22.63</td><td>Water at allotments</td></tr><tr><td>BACS – 31/10/2022</td><td>K Bowe</td><td>£565.00</td><td>Oct wages</td></tr></table> <b>RECEIPTS</b><table><tr><th>Date</th><th>Rec'd from</th><th>Amount</th><th>Notes</th></tr><tr><td>Various</td><td>Various</td><td>£770.00</td><td>Allotment payments</td></tr><tr><td>31/10/2022</td><td>Eats of England Co-op</td><td>£72.00</td><td>Burial income</td></tr><tr><td>31/10/2022</td><td>JJ Smith &amp; Son</td><td>£144.00</td><td>Burial income</td></tr><tr><td>31/10/2022</td><td>Lizzie's Hog Roast</td><td>£150.00</td><td>Jubilee donation</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table></div> The payments were proposed by Cllr Wesley and seconded by Cllr Holmes	Date	Payee	Amount	Notes	BACS – 10/10/2022	HMRC	£38.00	Sept PAYE/NI	BACS – 12/10/2022	ICO	£35.00	Subscription	BACS – 25/10/2022	Wave Water	£22.63	Water at allotments	BACS – 31/10/2022	K Bowe	£565.00	Oct wages	Date	Rec'd from	Amount	Notes	Various	Various	£770.00	Allotment payments	31/10/2022	Eats of England Co-op	£72.00	Burial income	31/10/2022	JJ Smith & Son	£144.00	Burial income	31/10/2022	Lizzie's Hog Roast	£150.00	Jubilee donation					
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	<p>b) To approve invoices  R H Landscapes £610+VAT  McGregor Services £600+VAT  Hammond Ford £252+VAT  The above invoices were approved. They were proposed by Cllr R Rawlings and seconded by Cllr Wesley</p>	
<b>6235</b>	<p><b>PLANNING</b>  DC/22/1861/LB      Denham End Farmhouse Denham End Denham Suffolk  IP29 5EE      Application for listed building consent - single storey rear extension   No objections</p>	
<b>6236</b>	<p><b>To note the following planning determinations</b>  DC/20/1396/FUL      Barrow Hall Church Road Barrow IP29 5AX  Planning Application - 1no. building to provide offices, community space, shop and café (mixed class E) following demolition of the existing building      Approved   DC/22/1390/LB  The Gables 19 Bury Road Barrow IP29 5AE  Application for listed building consent - single storey side extension with weatherboarding cladding to match existing dwelling      Approved</p>	
	<p><b>Breach of condition - approved plans - Proposed Dwelling Adjacent 2, Stoney Lane, Barrow, Suffolk,</b>  The clerk received an email regarding the above property. The Planning Enforcement Office will report back with their findings.</p>	
<b>6237</b>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>  5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 in the Committee Room of Barrow Village Hall at 7:15pm.   The meeting was closed at 9:30pm</p>	

Signed: ..... (Chairman) date.....

## Appendix 1

### **File Note of meeting between Barrow-cum-Denham and West Suffolk ref. Neighbourhood Plan 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022.**

**Present:** John Pearson, Richard Ford, Ralph Rawlings (Barrow) and Anne-Marie Howells, Marie Smith (WS)

1. Following on from the extraordinary meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022, at which a vote took place to select our preferred site, Barrow Hill was selected by a margin of 4:1, we arranged a meeting with West Suffolk to formally advise them of our decision.
2. WS disappointed with the outcome.
3. We challenged their decision as to why they preferred Bury Rd site, reasons given were ecological, one access point onto main road, closer to village amenities and further away from Wilsomer Wood. We stated that their reasons were subjective and the difference in distances were minimal. Furthermore, we challenged the issue of coalescence with Burthorpe, access to Bury Road was questionable due to proximity to listed buildings as well as shape of the road.
4. With regard to BD9 (Denham Lane) we objected on the basis of coalescence with Denham, access onto a narrow country lane, proximity to listed buildings, queried whether or not 20 houses could be accommodated on the site. WS response was that they have to ensure that 10% of development has to be on land less than 1 hectare. We suggested that the 20 dwellings could be delivered through landfill and that we had 10 granted planning permission. This was unacceptable as they have to show the 20 on a designated site. *Since this meeting we have discovered that the 10% can be applied as a total for the whole of West Suffolk which means it does not have to be in just one parish. Another point for us to kick back on.*
5. We mentioned that in Aecom's report dated September 2021, Barrow Hill sites was considered more suitable than BD13(Bury Rd). WS glossed over this stating this was superseded in subsequent reports.
6. On the question of housing numbers, WS reiterated that we could continue with our decision, however this will be additional to the WS preferred site, which they will continue with in their local plan, and we would run the risk of having 340 houses. This we disputed by pointing out that once numbers had been confirmed to us, at our subsequent meetings with WS, we were in no doubt that we would be able to select the sites.
7. WS stated that they could not wait for our timetable hence going ahead and selecting their sites at full council meeting.
8. Our response was that we could not proceed quicker on the basis we were waiting for WS to confirm numbers (we were working on 77 dwellings, as per Aecom report) At our meeting with WS in September 2021, expecting to receive the numbers, promised this would be forthcoming in December 2021. This did not happen with WS putting back the date to inform us. The first we knew was seeing the preferred sites and numbers in the Bury Free Press, which was published just a few days before our scheduled meeting. It was therefore impossible for us to select appropriate site – would it be for 77 or more? 170 as it turns out!!

9. WS local plan is going ahead as per the published time frames. Our understanding is that our NP can run concurrently with theirs, especially if we agree to their preferred site. Our plan is to produce our draft for submission by end January/early February 2023.
10. We questioned if development can be delayed until after the current period (2031) has passed. The answer is no and that planning permissions can be granted after the local plan has been adopted.
11. We informed WS that our Planning Consultant had ceased working with us due to BcumD voting for alternative site. WS expressed surprise. We did state that were seeking an alternative.
12. Discussion took place regarding the benefits of continuing with the NP which include design input, politically critical especially in the parish. There is a certain amount of protection from over development by being incorporated into WS Local Plan.
13. The meeting concluded by us stating that we were disappointed with WS in that it feels we have a gun to our head in falling into line with them and that we need time to reflect and to take further advice from Planning Consultants.

Ralph Rawlings



## Appendix 2

### **Barrow-cum-Denham Neighbourhood Plan – File Note, presented at Parish Council Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022.**

1. Following on from the extraordinary meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022, at which a vote took place to select our preferred site, Barrow Hill was selected, we arranged a meeting with West Suffolk, which took place on the 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022.
2. This was attended by Cllr's John Pearson, Richard Ford and Ralph Rawlings from Barrow, and Ann-Marie Howell, Marie Smith from Planning of West Suffolk.
3. We formerly advised West Suffolk of our decision and our reasons why (coalescence, benefits to the community, concerns regarding access to Bury Road)
4. With regard to the BD9 site (Denham Lane) this is of particular concern to the PC, and totally inappropriate for the area. WS claimed that 10% of development has to be on land less than 1 hectare. We pointed out that this can be achieved through landfill and that there was already planning permission granted for some 9 dwellings. This was unacceptable to WS and unlikely to pass Planning Inspectorate requirements.
5. At this stage WS are not prepared to budge from their original decision and in our view are not adopting the spirit of the NP process; they should be supporting the local community.
6. We will continue to challenge their decision and are engaging with Planning Consultants and seeking further advice.
7. In addition, we are obtaining legal advice from solicitors specialising in planning law and are well versed in the NP process.
8. A letter is being drafted to WS advising them accordingly, which will be sent to our main contacts plus relevant WS councillors, including the Leader of the Council.
9. In answer to questions raised during the public forum, regarding housing numbers. I clarified that if we do not reach agreement with WS and continue with our preferred site, then there is a risk that we would have to accept 340 houses, however this is something that we will not support and will not jeopardise the community in this way.

Ralph Rawlings  
7<sup>th</sup> November 2022

## Appendix 3

### COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT – NOVEMBER '22

#### MESSAGES

There were no messages from the Police to cascade this month. I have received notices from Police Connect on a range of topics, most of which have no relevance to our community.

- **'REPORTED CRIME FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST '22 – Total number = 6**

**Violence & Sexual = 2**

**Anti - Social Behaviour = 2**

**Other Theft = 1**

**Criminal Damage & Arson = 1**

CATEGORY	LOCATION	TIMELINE/ACTION
Criminal Damage/Arson	On or near Petticoat Lane	No suspect identified
Other theft	On or near Premier Stores	Unable to prosecute suspect
Violence & Sexual	On or near Hudson Way	Action to be taken by another organisation
Violence & Sexual	On or near Hudson Way	Unable to prosecute suspect
Anti-Social Behaviour	On or near Cedar Crescent	No crime timeline
Anti-Social Behaviour	On or near Mill Lane	No crime timeline

- **REPORTED CRIME FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER '22 – Total number = 4**

**Vehicle Crime – 1**

**Other Theft – 2**

**Other Crime - 1**

CATEGORY	LOCATION	TIMELINE/ACTION
Vehicle Crime	On or near Church Road	Under investigation
Other Crime	On or near Barrow Rd, Denham End	Under investigation
Other theft	On or near Barrow Hill	No suspect identified
Other theft	On or near Simpson Way	Under investigation

**Speeding** – following on from last months report, the Police conducted speed checks along Bury Road and Barrow Hill. A total of 13 motorists were stopped (50% were residents) of whom 3 received Traffic Offence notices and 10 received verbal warnings.

Ralph Rawlings

7<sup>th</sup> November 2022