

BARROW cum DENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM ON MONDAY
7th September 2020**

Present:

Cllr Pearson Cllr M Howard Cllr Cousins	Cllr Holmes Cllr Pettitt	Cllr Pettitt Cllr Ford Clerk in attendance: Kat Bowe
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Minute Ref	Action	Action
5622	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Kronbergs, Cllr Houlder, Cllr Hudson	
5623	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS None	
5624	<p>PUBLIC FORUM Three members of the public dialled in.</p> <p>One resident provided an update on the open spaces at Grove Park. The resident had a productive meeting with the landscapers and an email group has been set up to improve communication. Seed is due to go down this week. The landscapers will look after the area until it is adopted by the Council. The biggest concern is what will happen once the Council take over. Instructions on how to maintain it will be requested and passed on. There is still an option of setting up a group to look after the maintenance. Prices for maintenance will be sort.</p> <p>The New Priest in Charge, Lynda Sebbage introduced herself to the Parish Council. She will be looking after five parishes and will be working part time. Lynda is looking at working closely with the village and is hoping to put on lots of events. At a future meeting, Lynda would like to discuss making the churchyards environmentally friendly.</p>	
5625	<p>COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT Report sent prior to meeting. Cllr Soons highlighted the key points including funded school travel, spare seats may not be available, the Lowestoft third crossing is given the green light and the County Council hit 1000 miles of newly resurfaced roads on 4th August (project started in 2017). There is free Bike Ability training available, details in the report (on website)</p> <p>Cllr Soons has raised the flooding on the street with the drainage team however has not yet had a response, they are currently prioritising internally flooded properties.</p> <p>The Clerk informed Cllr Soons of the issues she has encountered trying to get access to the Highways 40mph VAS. The original request was submitted with</p>	

	<p>supporting documentation in September 2019. Local residents have contacted the Clerk to see what is happening with it. Cllr Soons asked the Clerk to send an email with a detailed timeline so it can be raised up the line.</p> <p>The Parish Council have received a complaint about overgrown hedges blocking the footpaths along Bury Road, this has been reported on the Highways reporting tool, the clerk to write to the households. Cllr Soons advised to report it.</p> <p>The water leak on Sharpes Hill was reported, Cllr Soons to chase, currently the drainage team are prioritising internally flooded properties. Anglian Water are back on the case, if the problem is due to Anglian Water then Highways will let them deal with it.</p> <p>Cllr Soons has been able to sort out home to school transport for two families and urges affected families to get in touch.</p>	Clerk
5626	<p>To receive the Community Police Report New money to fund appointment of 54 new officers and support staff, so far 17 roles have been filled. The main issues currently are street drinking and aggressive begging. During the pandemic, the homeless were housed in hotels</p>	
5527	<p>Minutes of the last meeting Having been previously circulated, the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 6th July 2020, were proposed by Cllr Holmes and seconded by Cllr Ford with all Councillors in agreement. The Minutes of the planning meeting on 27th July were previously circulated Cllr Howard requested an amendment to minute reference 5617 (b) - The Parish Council would retain the right on whether it is accepted into the NHP, with the amendment, these minutes were proposed by Cllr Cousins and seconded by Cllr Wesley</p>	
5628	<p>Volunteer Scheme It was agreed that the volunteer scheme is self-limiting as the need is reducing gradually. Barrow Good Neighbours will continue in a stronger form. No action to be taken.</p>	
5629	<p>Village Infrastructure</p> <p>a) Grove Park Open Space During the public forum an update from a resident was received which sounds encouraging. Cllr Wesley raised concern over the maintenance of wildflower as from experience it can take a lot of upkeep and needs to be reseeded every two to three years due to the soil type. Cllr Wesley to liaise with the resident.</p> <p>b) Flooding on the Street The was mentioned under minute ref 5625 the issue is poor drainage, not flooding.</p> <p>c) Condition of Barrow Shop, Car Park and Takeaway An anonymous letter was received complaining about the condition of the village carpark and asking the Parish Council to encourage business owners to tidy up and paint their buildings. The Parish Council spoke to the chip shop</p>	PW

	<p>owner and asked them to remove a sign, this was done within 24 hours, the pothole has been repaired. Clerk to chase contractor to empty the Newspaper bank. Cllr Wesley asked to obtain quote to plant some hedging.</p> <p>d) Hedges obstructing footpath on Bury Road This was discussed under minute ref 5625</p>	PW
5630	<p>The Village Green The Parish Council received a complaint about cars parking on the Village Green outside the Weeping Willow Pub. The Pub have installed no parking signs in the past. The Clerk will write a letter stating car owners must be asked to move their cars.</p> <p>A resident with access over the Green has reconstructed his driveway without seeking permission. It has been made slightly wider, so it now fits two cars. A significant step has been introduced which could be a trip hazard. The Parish Council are concerned about liability. Clerk to obtain information from insurers regarding the implications. Clerk to contact owner to establish whether the current level is the finished level.</p>	Clerk Clerk
5631	<p>Sharpes Hill Water Leak This was covered under minute reference 5625. A local resident has recently approached Anglian Water and now has a direct contact with Anglian Water, they are planning to revisit soon.</p>	
5632	<p>Painted Stones The Parish Council plan to make a permanent feature of the painted rocks outside the Town Estate Rooms. Clerk to place a piece in Newslink, on Facebook and contact the school advising people of the drop off point for the rocks.</p>	JP
5633	<p>Fishing Regulations There was an incident recently at the Lion Green pond involving a fisherman and a local resident which was brought to the Parish Councils attention.</p> <p>Currently a fishing permit is not required to fish in Barrow ponds. The Parish Council plan to create a list of rules and create a permit. Cllr Howard to make a proposal for signage/permit. Proposed cost, under 12's free, OAP £5 and adults £10. Agenda item for next meeting</p>	MH
5634	<p>Speeding on Colethorpe Lane This was covered under minute reference 5625. The Parish council have asked people not to warn others on Facebook when the community speed watch/police are in the village.</p> <p>Statistically from looking at the data from the VAS there is less of a problem with speeding on Bury Road than Barrow Hill. The Parish Council are trying to get a post installed on Colethorpe Lane within the 30mph limit so the existing VAS can be used there too.</p>	
5635	<p>Planning Consultations – NALC It was agreed that the Parish Council should respond to the Planning White Paper – Planning for the Future.</p>	MH

	Cllr Howard to write response for discussion at the next meeting. Deadline 15 th October 2020.																									
5636	<p>Neighbourhood Plan The Clerk read out Cllr Howard's report. See Appendix 1 for the report.</p> <p>Once the Call for Sites applications have been received, they will be summarised with a map and sent to Planning Direct for analysis. Once the analysis is complete it will be sent back to the Parish Council to decide on land allocation.</p>																									
5637	<p>DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT Cllr Houlder sent his apologies.</p>																									
5638	<p>Councillor Vacancy Cllr Wilcock has now resigned from the Parish Council. The Councillors expressed their appreciation for all he has done over the years.</p> <p>The Parish Council now have two vacancies which will be advertised shortly.</p>	Clerk																								
5639	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p>a) To receive the council's current financial statement Adoption of the Accounts were proposed by Cllr Cousins seconded by Cllr Holmes with all Councillors in agreement.</p> <p>b) To confirm payments</p> <p>PAYMENTS TO BE PRESENTED AT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 7TH SEPTEMBER 2020</p> <p>+ 2020/2021 Accounts</p> <p>EXPENDITURE</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Cheque No.</th> <th>Payee</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>Notes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BACS</td> <td>R H Landscapes</td> <td>£1,860.00</td> <td>Grass cutting June and July</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS</td> <td>McGregor Services</td> <td>£720.00</td> <td>Grass cutting for July</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS</td> <td>McGregor Services</td> <td>£462.00</td> <td>Grass cutting for June</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS</td> <td>Verse</td> <td>£303.45</td> <td>Newsletter printing</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Other invoices Hammond Ford £234 Newslink printing cost with 1 page in colour £342.10</p> <p>The payments were proposed by Cllr Pettitt and seconded by Cllr Ford with all in agreement.</p> <p>c) Financial Regulations These were circulated prior to the meeting. The up to date financial regulations were adopted. This was proposed by Cllr Ford and seconded by Cllr Holmes with all councillors in agreement.</p>	Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Notes	BACS	R H Landscapes	£1,860.00	Grass cutting June and July	BACS	McGregor Services	£720.00	Grass cutting for July	BACS	McGregor Services	£462.00	Grass cutting for June	BACS	Verse	£303.45	Newsletter printing					Clerk
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	<p>d) Insurance Renewal The insurance quote was circulated prior to the meeting. The quote is inline with what was agreed with a £33 increase making a total premium of £1,123.26. The quote was accepted. This was proposed by Cllr Howard and seconded by Cllr Holmes with all in agreement.</p> <p>It was stated that the Parish Council would not be authorising addition cuts on the village maintenance contract. Clerk to speak to the contractors.</p>	
5640	<p>PLANNING None</p>	
5641	<p>To note the following planning determinations DC/20/0693/FUL Land Adjacent 16 The Green Barrow Suffolk Planning Application - 2 no. dwellings and associated car parking (following demolition of outbuilding and swimming pool) WITHDRAWN</p> <p>DC/20/0694/LB Land Adjacent 16 The Green Barrow Suffolk Listed Building Application - 1 no. dwellings and associated parking (following demolition of outbuilding) WITHDRAWN</p>	
5642	<p>Correspondence 21/07/20 Karen Soons Suffolk Green Access Strategy For information</p> <p>29/07/20 Resident Fishing Lion Green Pond Covered under minute ref 5633</p> <p>July West Suffolk Council CCB-Covid19 For information</p> <p>06/08/20 West Suffolk Council Great British Spring Clean To include in the winter Newslink and speak to Hargrave PC.</p> <p>06/08/20 Resident Update on Grove Park Open Spaces Covered under minute ref 5624 and 5629</p> <p>10/08/20 SALC Latest SALC COVID-19 ebulletin dated 10 August 2020 For information</p> <p>11/08/20 Resident Speeding Colethorpe Lane Covered under minute ref _____</p> <p>26/08/20 Resident Sharpes Hill Water Leak Covered under minute ref 5625</p> <p>26/08/20 Locality Planning reform impacts on neighbourhood plan making For information</p> <p>27/08/20 SALC West Suffolk Area Forum For information</p>	

	<p>01/09/20 Resident Sharpes Hill Water Leak Covered under minute ref 5625</p> <p>01/09/20 SALC New Pay Rates 2020-21 For information</p>	
5643	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday 5th October 2020, virtual meeting via Zoom at 7.15pm.</p> <p>The meeting was closed at 9:15pm</p>	

Signed: (Chairman) date.....



Neighbourhood Plan Report

a. Public Consultation

The consultation went well with no significant issues and we received 375 responses . The data has been collected and a report compiled, which is with Zigurds Kronbergs for review. Once his comments have been incorporated I will circulate to the Council. We should not publicly discuss the report before the Call for Sites closes on 23 October, since it might influence matters. It is right and proper that the Council scrutinises the report before it is finalised and issued. There are 3 options for the review – either a non-public meeting before 23 October, comments by email or simply wait until the Call for Sites has ended. The email is option is not satisfactory as it is difficult to arrive at a definitive position - so we can either wait or do a closed meeting.

b. Call for Sites

This is a requirement of NPs which wish to allocate sites. I circulated various papers for the Call for Sites. An entry has been made in to Newslink and there will be notices on notice boards, web-site and on social media starting tomorrow. In parallel, I have been in contact with WSC for their calculation of a revised Housing Requirement. Our own (i.e. AECOM's) calculations for housing need was 154 new homes of which 77 were already in the pipeline, leaving 77 new homes. Originally, WSC had calculated a requirement of 236 houses to 2040 of which 77 were already in the pipeline leaving 159 new homes. WSC previously informed us that the calculation method was subject to change and we requested a new set of calculations – which we received recently. Their latest calculations show a housing requirement of 204 to 2040 of which 56 are already in the pipeline, leaving 148 new homes. In other words, a slight reduction. WSC's calculation method is unclear and my first impressions are that the logic of the calculation method remains fundamentally flawed. I will continue to liaise and to find out further information.

c. Newts

We have received another report of newts with photos confirming that they are Great Crested Newts. There is roughly 1500m between the two reported sites. There are 2 possible explanations – 2 separate colonies or that at areas within the parish are some form of habitat network. There will be an entry in Newslink asking for more information from parishioners.

d. Grant for Development of Design Code

At our last meeting, I reported the possibility of AECOM compiling a design code for new developments and we decided to apply for a grant to cover their costs. The motivation for this is to ensure new developments are generally in-keeping with the local building vernacular. We applied for a grant and we have been notified that the application was successful. I will liaise with AECOM to get the study underway.

e. Grant for Consultancy Report

I reported previously that we needed to re-apply for money from the original grant money for Planning Direct in this Financial Year. The application has been completed and submitted.

f. Government White Paper – Planning for the Future

Councillors may have heard in the news about central government's plans to streamline the planning process and they have published a white paper.

It is at an early stage and it is not clear whether any new planning system would either increase or decrease planning pressure on Barrow – arguments could be made either way.

Neighbourhood Plans and Local Plans will continue although their scope may be reduced. It is unclear if any new plans would be retrospective on existing NPs or LPs.

The advice we have received is to carry on with the NP as originally planned.

One concerning aspect of the white paper is that plans for 'renewal' areas would have a statutory presumption in favour of development – although the exact meaning and weight of this is unclear.

The government has asked for feedback to the white paper and the Parish Council may wish to provide feedback by 29 October. Given its potential importance I recommend the PC does provide feedback to ensure that the parish's interests are registered.