

Barton Mills Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Judi Coe clerk@bartonmills.net 07724 737841

Chairman: Mr A. Harji 01638 510251

Minutes of the Meeting of Barton Mills Parish Council

held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 2nd July 2019 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr A. Harji, Cllr. C. Miller, Cllr. P. Boura, Cllr. G. Flack, Cllr. N. Horne, Cllr. S. Mullender, Cllr. K. Fuller, Cllr. M. Colsey

Also present: Clerk, Judi Coe and 5 members of the public

Cllr. A. Harji welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Cllr. A. Harji presented Cllr. P. Boura with a bouquet of flowers and a hand painted picture of the village as a thank you gift in respect of her 16 years' service on the council in anticipation of her resignation that is expected before the next meeting. Cllr. P. Boura expressed her gratitude and she stated she has enjoyed her role especially as it used all her skills. Everyone thanked her and stated that she would be missed as the work she carried out as a councillor was underestimated until her roles were passed onto other members.

Members of the public were then given the opportunity to speak on any matters.

One resident accepted the opportunity and reported the following:

- Concerns in regards to Fiveways and the A11, including the lack of speed cameras on the A11 as promised when the lights were installed, disappointment with the speed reduction now closer to the junction, concerns of more accidents occurring due to the lights installed on the roundabout lanes which he feels are not required, concerns of the cross over junctions on the A11 including faded road markings.
- He is aware that a local land owner had not got consent to make new access point onto his field and that he has reported this to Highways.
- Concerns of the Sunnica Solar Farm as he felt too much valued agricultural land in the area would be lost and perhaps heathland would be more suitable.

The resident was reassured that problems with Fiveways and the A11 have been reported to Highways England at a recent meeting, the new access point has also been reported to West Suffolk Council and that the Sunnica Proposal would be discussed in the meeting and exhibitions were being held if he wished to find out further information.

19/07/01 Apologies for Absence

Cllr. R. Lewis

19/07/02 Declarations of Members Interests

Cllr. A Harji – item 10.1

19/07/03 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meetings dated 4th June 2019 were proposed as a true record by Cllr. P. Boura and all agreed.

19/07/04 Police Matters

None

19/07/05 County and District Councillors Report

Neither councillor was in attendance and no report was received.

19/07/06 Planning and Environment

General & For Consideration:

DC/18/1567/FUL – planning app. For two dwellings on AWA Site, Church Meadow, Barton Mills, IP28 6AR
The plans were discussed and it was noted the height of the buildings were now inline with neighbouring properties and therefore Pamela proposed that the Parish Council should support the application, the vote was carried as 7 voted in favour and one member abstained. (JC)

DC/19/1115/LB – appl. For Listed Buildings consent, replacement of existing storm proof timber and Crittall windows to the rear elevation at Nook Cottage, 76 The Street, Barton Mills, IP28 6AA

Cllr. P. Boura proposed to make no comment on the application as the proposed changes were to the rear of the property, all were in favour. (JC)

Tree Applications (for information only): None

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Awaiting Forest Heath decisions and pending appeals:

DC/18/2191/FUL – planning app. For 1 self-contained two bed unit at 35 The Street, Barton Mills, IP28 6AA
- pending at 14.6.19

Noted

Decided/approved (for information only)

DC/19/1036/TCA – trees in Conservation Area at 29 The Street, Barton Mills, IP28 6AA – *no objections*

Noted

19/07/08 Clerk's Report & Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Last Meeting (For Info Only)

The clerk reported that she is on holiday from 2nd August to 19th August, it was agreed the email account and phone voicemail of the Parish Council should state that the clerk is on holiday and if your matter is urgent then please contact the Chairman, Amin Harji. Cllr C. Miller agreed to keep the website and Facebook page up to date. (JC/AH/CM)

19/07/09 Correspondence

The clerk reported the following correspondence had been received:

- An email from a resident voicing concerns of the amount of litter along the footpath to Mildenhall and the lack of bins this side of the river.

It was reported that if the Parish Council installed a bin then they would also need to pay for the maintenance and emptying of the bin, which would be costly, therefore it was agreed to not install a bin at this point but to monitor the situation.

- A follow up Facebook message had been received from a resident in regards to issues on Newmarket Road; lack of street lighting, speed limit and the path being narrowed by overgrown vegetation.

The clerk reported she had replied reassuring the resident that they had not been forgotten and the Parish Council are seeking to resolve these issues. The clerk also reported Suffolk County Council would not install new lights along the road as they do not budget for new lighting assets.

It was agreed the Parish Council would not install new lighting themselves as this is very expensive and the Parish Council had not budgeted for this nor do the Parish Council have funds to cover this expense. It was agreed the clerk would contact the resident stating this. (JC)

- An email had been received from a concerned resident in regards to dogs around the play equipment on the village green.

It was noted that this was not the first complaint of this type. Although 'no dogs allowed' signs were situated near the play equipment and a reminder was printed in the Barton Miller, it was agreed the only way to stop this in the future would be to install fencing around the whole play park area. It was agreed this would be expensive but the Parish Council could possibly budget for this next year and possibly seek funding from The Burrell Trust or the District Council. It was agreed the clerk would look into funding options and obtain quotes to install fencing. (JC)

- An email had been received from a resident concerned over the overgrown footpath between Mildenhall Road and the bridges at the River Lark and the speed of vehicles approaching the corner of Mildenhall Road where the footpath to Mildenhall begins and has requested additional warning signs and a speed bump.

The clerk reported that SCC are to cut the footpath and that this should have happened within 6 weeks from 13th May and she was currently chasing SCC for a date when this would take place. It was agreed for the clerk to contact Highways and ask for additional signs/safety measures at the bends on Mildenhall Road. (JC)

19/07/10 Parish Matters

19/07/10.01 Update on exception site scheme for affordable homes

Cllr. A Harji left the meeting.

It was reported that Isobel from Hastoe Homes had confirmed she had received an email from SCC stating that perhaps the intended plans for the site were now not feasible and instead a mixed smaller development may be feasible. They asked Isobel to meet with them to discuss this further.

Cllr. C. Miller reported an email had been received from the land owner of the Church Lane site asking the Parish Council to clarify why they felt the site along Church Land rather than behind Manor View was preferred by the Parish Council. A response stating reasons was sent, and no further correspondence from the land owners had been received.

It was agreed to hold another meeting before the September meeting to save valued time to discuss the feedback from the meeting between Isobel and SCC so that the Parish Council can move forward.

The clerk reported Isobel had not heard from planners in regards to site 5.

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19/07/10.02 Maintenance of Assets

a) Lighting

Cllr. P. Boura stated that her and Cllr. K. Fuller had looked at all lights to ensure Cllr. K. Fuller had an understanding before Cllr. P. Boura resigned from the Parish Council.

Cllr. P. Boura also reported several lights still needed replacing but more urgent than that is to convert existing lights to LED as some of the current lighting replacements are due to stop being manufactured in 2020. However, this cannot be sorted until a correct inventory is received from SCC. A quote in the sum of £75 has been received from Pearce and Kemp to fix the light out in Burrell Crescent, it was proposed to accept this quote once Cllr. K. Fuller confirms the light is still not working. (KF/PB)

It was agreed the timer on the new light in the Village Hall car park should be set at midnight. (PB)

The clerk reported the 100 Club have agreed to give the Parish Council £500 towards lighting in the village hall car park.

b) Other

An annual quote from AIM had been received to maintain the rat traps by the recycling bins totalling £100 which would be for 5-weekly visits, it was agreed to accept this quote.

It was agreed to ask Sarah Limmer to carry out work to remove growth from the base of the trees on the playing field where required. (JC)

Cllr. P. Boura reported the parts to repair the roundabout and to replace the swing bearings had recently arrived. Cllr. G. Flack offered to help with Cllr. P. Boura's husband complete the work. (PB/GF)

Cllr. N. Horne reported the monthly playpark inspection detailed that the bird deterrents on the swings in the play park were described as a low risk. He stated he would look at these to determine whether this was an issue and whether these need to be removed. (NH)

Cllr. G. Flack offered to fix the basketball net onto the hoop. (GF)

Cllr. P. Boura reported that the quote from Peter Cumber in the sum of £200 had been accepted and she would chase him as to when he intended to carry out the works required on the playing field. (PB)

19/07/10.03 SID Rota and appoint councillor to charge batteries

The SID Rota was agreed until the beginning of September and the clerk is to forward updated schedule to all volunteers.

Cllr. A. Harji agreed to charge the batteries.

19/07/10.04 Matters arising from Highways meeting

Members of the Parish Council voiced their concerns over the lack of knowledge and preparation for the Highways meeting by the representatives from Highways England.

Cllr. P. Boura stated she had sent out the reports from December 2016 in regards to long term plans and the potential cost of a bypass.

It was agreed the Parish Council would wait to hear from Highways on matters raised at the meeting.

19/07/10.05 Agree substation head of terms and appoint solicitor

The clerk reported a resident had offered to help with commercial advice and instructing a third party solicitor and that she had, as instructed, received a quote from Bendalls to act as solicitor in the sum of £750 plus VAT plus £20 land registry fees, of which the £750 plus VAT would be paid by UK Power Networks.

It was agreed to bring forward the agenda item to the next meeting and to thank and accept offer from local resident in regards to help with commercial advice. (CM)

Cllr K Fuller stated he would again seek to find out about other local substations and the amount of money the local council in the area had received. (KF)

19/07/10.06 Agree quote to re distribute village hall car park shingle

The clerk reported a quote in the sum of £1,812 had been received from RH Landscapes for 40 ton of gravel including labour to distribute this in the car park to an approximate depth of 40mm.

A quote from Mark Hayward for the redistribution of gravel already in the car park has yet to be received, Cllr. R. Lewis had agreed to talk with My Hayward about this.

It was agreed to not accept RH Landscapes quote as the Parish Council believe no more gravel is needed and to ask for a quote to re-distribute the gravel only. (JC)

Cllr. S. Mullender agreed to remind Mark Hayward for a quote to carry out the works. (SM)

19/07/10.07 Agree allotment Head of Terms

It was agreed to accept Head of Terms for the allotment lease which detailed an increase of annual fee from £100 to £130. (JC)

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It was also agreed the clerk would amend the current lease agreement between the Parish Council and the Allotment Society to create a draft in line with the lease between SCC and the Parish Council. (JC)

19/07/10.08 Agree whether to hold Parish Council meeting in August 2019

It was agreed to hold a Parish Council meeting on 30th July if the village hall was available. (JC)

19/07/10.09 Agree clearings of footpaths in the Parish

It has been reported that the footpaths from Station Road and the footpath along Cherry Hill, either side of the A11 are very overgrown.

Sarah Limmer has stated this work would be too much for her to carry out but her son had forwarded a quote totalling £584.68 but Sarah stated he has not got public liability insurance.

A quote totalling £300 to clear the footpaths has been received from RH Landscapes.

It was agreed to accept quote from RH Landscapes. (JC)

19/07/10.10 Sunnica Solar Farm

The clerk distributed plans on the Sunnica Solar Farm proposed site and Cllr. A. Harji reported an email from Freckenham Parish Council had been received asking if Barton Mills would like to send a representative to a meeting to discuss the proposed Solar Farm on 2nd July.

Cllr. A. Harji reported he had sent his apologies but potentially a representative could attend future meetings.

It was reported that the meetings to be held are neither to object or support the project but to discuss only at this time.

It was agreed the Parish Council needed to find out more information, following this the clerk reported that further public exhibitions are being held in the upcoming weeks.

19/07/10.11 Use of goals on the village green

Cllr R. Lewis had forwarded a Facebook discussion to the clerk to add to this meeting's agenda. Residents of Barton Mills were claiming children from Mildenhall are using the goals and leaving litter on the playing field and the residents followed on with a suggestion the goals should be locked away and not for general use.

Cllr. A. Harji reported he felt that locking the goals away would go against their purpose, as they are there to be enjoyed. Cllr. N. Horne felt that labelling the children as Mildenhall children was wrong.

Cllr. P. Boura reported she had attended a Mildenhall Parish Council meeting some time again and suggested the Parish Council purchased their own mobile goals.

It was agreed to leave the goals on the field for use by all.

19/07/11 Finance & Policies

19/07/11.01 Parish Council Bank Balances and Reconciliation from list of Payments and Receipts.

The clerk reported £25,002.99 was held in the deposit account at 10th June and £9,653.14 in the current account.

19/07/11.02 Cheques for signing and approval and to authorise payment of outstanding invoices.

Cllr. K. Fuller proposed to approve the following payments:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Gross</u>	
30-Jun	J Coe	Salary and Overtime	346.35	0.00	346.35	Chq 1661
30-Jun	J Coe	Expenses	48.34	2.48	50.82	Chq 1662
30-Jun	HMRC	PAYE/NI	224.80	0.00	224.80	Chq 1663
30-Jun	Pamela Boura	Expenses	67.00	0.00	67.00	Chq 1664
25-Jun	Proludic	Roundabout parts	677.84	135.56	813.40	Chq 1665
26-Jun	Community Heartbeat Trust	Paediatric pads	78.00	15.60	93.60	Chq 1666
30-Jun	St Marys Church	Use of room x3	30.00	0.00	30.00	Chq 1667
01-Jul	RH Landscapes	Grass cutting	400.00	80.00	480.00	Chq 1668
30-Jun	Pamela Boura	Expenses	5.00	0.00	5.00	Chq 1669
02-Jul	Sarah Limmer	Gardening	25.00	0.00	25.00	Chq 1670
			1,902.33	233.64	2,135.97	

The clerk overtime for June of 9 hours was also approved to be paid along with her August salary.

19/07/11.03 Matters arising from Finance Committee Meeting

The following was reported:

The budget to date and the expected income and expenditure until 31st March 2020 currently showed a surplus of £1,300. However, this figure only includes 2 months of actual figures and 10 months estimated.

The Fixed Asset register held by the Parish Council includes assets valued at the correct amount. However the insurance policy should show the replacement costs of the assets. It was agreed the clerk will liaise

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with SALC and the insurance brokers to gather further information to determine how the replacement values should be recorded.

The insurance brokers have now informed the clerk that the assets are based on values provided to them in 2016. It was agreed that the clerk should update the register to include an insurance value column and forward to the insurance brokers to ensure the Parish Council are adequately insured. It was agreed the replacement costs would be worked out by the clerk along with members of the Finance Committee via email.(JC)

It was agreed to continue showing expenditure inclusive of VAT for the financial year 2019/20 but prepare the 2020/21 budget net of VAT and the accounts for the year 2020/21 would be shown net of VAT.

The Burrell Trust have agreed to make a donation towards the cost of the small goals purchased last year and they have stated that they were in favour of more play equipment in the village.

Cllr. K. Fuller queried whether there is any S106 monies available to the Parish Council as he had heard there was but only if the local council requested it. Cllr. P. Boura responded stating that West Suffolk had not changed their policy and in the past if there is any available and provisions allow then the Parish Council have claimed money.

19/07/11.04 Agree and sign change of bank signatories

Cllr. C. Miller stated she had not completed the form but would forward her details to the clerk for the clerk to complete. The clerk would also liaise with Cllr. M. Colsey to include him as a signatory. (JC/MC)

19/07/12 Parish Councillors reports (for information only)

None

19/07/13 Items for future agendas

Exceptions site scheme update and agree how to move forward

Appoint solicitor in reference to the Substation

Agree quote to re-distribute gravel

Sunnica Proposal update

19/07/14 Agree Barton Miller clerk and back page

Back Page:

Litter

Goal usage

Clerk Page:

Footpaths

The meeting closed at 9:10pm



J. Coe

Clerk to the Parish Council