

Barton Mills Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Vicky Bright: 07712 232920 clerk@bartonmills.net

Chairman: Mrs A. Dawson 01638 714449

Minutes of the Meeting of Barton Mills Parish Council

held in the Church Room on Tuesday 6th February 2018 at 7.30 pm.

Public Forum:

There were two members of the public present.

Present: Cllr. A. Dawson (Chair), Cllr. P. Boura, Cllr. R. Lewis, Cllr. F. Lewis, Cllr. K. Fuller, Cllr. G. Flack, Cllr. S. Mullender and Cllr. N. Horne. District Cllr. Brian Harvey also attended. County Cllr. Louis Busuttil arrived at 8:48pm.

18/02/1 Apologies Accepted from Cllr. Amin Harji.

18/02/2 Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Dawson Item 6. d) & Cllr. R. Lewis Item 6 (ii).

18/02/3 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th January 2018

Resolved 18/02/3.01

These were proposed as a correct record by Cllr. Boura, agreed unanimously, and signed by the chairman (AD).

18/02/4 Police Matters

There was no report available.

18/02/5 County & District Councillor Reports

Cllr. Harvey reported on the progress of the "One Council" and the Electoral Wards predicted for 2017/2020 Electorate. The decision for a Mayor or Chairman is still to be decided. There will be a single Licensing/Regulatory Authority.

Cllr. Busuttil reported that SCC had not been able to find additional savings of £3 million and this sum would be taken from reserves. The increase is to stay at 6%, with 3% ring-fenced for Adult Social Care.

18/02/6 Planning and Environment

General & For Consideration:

- i. DC/18/0010/ADV - Application for Advertisement Consent - (i) 2no. internally illuminated fascia signs and (ii) 2no. internally illuminated freestanding shard signs - Barton Mills Service Station Fiveways Barton Mills

Resolved 18/02/6.01

Cllr. Boura proposed supporting the application, all were in favour.

- ii. DC/18/0018/HH - (i) two storey rear extension (ii) single storey side extension (following demolition of existing garage) (iii) single storey front extension (to include porch and garage) (iv) replacement side dormer - 33 Church Meadow Barton Mills

Resolved 18/02/6.02

Cllr. Boura proposed objecting, with five in favour and three abstentions;

'Barton Mills Parish Council objects to application DC/18/0018/HH, there have been concerns raised by neighbouring residents regarding the proposed curtilage of the garage being situated in front of the property, this is not in keeping with the character of the neighbouring properties, which have open plan front gardens, thus affecting visual appearance, and it is felt this may set a precedent.

The proposed two storey extension is felt to be too large and its bearing will impact substantially on the neighbours, it will block out natural sunlight in the garden and conservatory, and their privacy is affected, it will also cause loss of outlook and overshadows the neighbours back bedroom.

It is felt this would be over development of the site and therefore in contravention of DM24 (sub para's a, b & c) of the Joint Development Management Planning Policy Document.'

- iii. Procedure for Planning Comments to be submitted, to be reviewed
Resolved 18/02/6.03

Cllr. Dawson proposed that all future comments submitted on applications for consultation by the Parish Council, be drafted and then forwarded to the appointed Planning Councillor, Cllr. Boura for approval before being submitted to FHDC.

Tree Applications (For Information Only)

- (i) DC/17/2521/TCA – 23 The Street Barton Mills IP28 6AA – *Approved*

Awaiting Forest Heath decisions and pending appeals:

- a.) DC/18/0001/HH - Householder Planning Application - (i) porch (ii) single storey rear extension (following demolition of existing garage and rear conservatory) - 24 Church Meadow Barton Mills – *Still Pending*
- b.) DC/17/2604/FUL - Householder Planning Application - Double garage for temporary living accommodation (retrospective) - Land West of 35 The Street Barton Mills – *Still Pending*
- c.) DC/16/0683/FUL Retention of hand car wash operation - Car Wash Fiveways Services, Fiveways, Barton Mills - *Still Pending*
- d.) DC/17/2435/FUL – 1 dwelling following demolition of outbuilding. Resubmission – Land adjacent to the Old Maltings, The Street, Barton Mills - *Still Pending*
- e.) DC/17/1773/HH – Conversion of existing garage into annex - 40 The Street, Barton Mills – *Approved 11/12/2017.*
- f.) 'Fiveways Farm' Update – The Clerk reported that the Forestry Commission had replied to say that;

“Part of the land in question belongs the Forestry Commission, but the area closest to the roundabout belongs to Forest Heath District Council, this includes the large derelict mobile home. Following the successful, but hugely expensive eviction of Mr Dale and his animals from Forestry Commission land, we removed a large quantity of waste materials, several caravans and vehicle at significant cost. Some material still remains on our land, and we plan to undertake a comprehensive clear up within the next three months. I appreciate this is not ideal, but we will continue to remove materials gradually, particularly when site conditions are dry enough to enable better vehicle access.”

Cllr. Brian Harvey was asked to find out what the FHDC position is and to update the Parish Council accordingly.

18/02/7 Clerks Report & Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Last Meeting (For Info Only)

The Clerk advised that she had been contacted regarding a faulty street light between 19 & 21 The Street. Cllr. Boura had looked into this and replied to the resident explaining that, although the light is owned by us, it is maintained by SCC and should be reported online through the SCC website. This light is a G39 light which is close to the overhead electricity cables and can therefore take many months to get repaired. The Parish Council hopes to replace all the G39 lights and this light is to be included in the next batch of replacements.

The Clerk advised that a resident had contacted her regarding the poor state of the footway along The Street between the Bull in and The Bell Pub. The Clerk confirmed she had reported this online to SCC.

18/02/8 Correspondence

(i) The Clerk advised she had received a letter of complaint regarding the playing field notices prohibiting horses and the use of Drones on the Playing Field. The resident believes the word 'prohibits' to be inaccurate and illegal (as there is no law stating drone flying is illegal on a public place), and that the wording should be amended to read 'forbid'. The resident also feels that there are already too many negative notices around the village. The Clerk clarified that advice had been sought from SALC and the FHDC Legal Team regarding actions which the Council could take, and wording of signage to be used. The Clerk clarified that the signage does not refer to any law, or state that it is illegal, it is merely the Parish Council as Landowner who is prohibiting the use of drones and riding of horses on their land, and as Landowner we have the right to do so. The Clerk also advised that although there is no official Law stating Drones cannot be flown in public spaces, the Drone Code (Civil Aviation Authority) clearly states that the Drone user should not fly their drone within 150ft (50m) of property and people.

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It was agreed that the signage would remain as it is and Cllr. Boura is to ask Peter Cumber to erect the signs in the Playing Field.

(ii) The FHDC Parish & Town Forum will be held on Thursday 22nd February 2018 at 6:30pm, at the Gazeley Village Hall, Gazeley.

(iii) The Clerk presented the SCC Highways 'Community Self Help' Survey. This scheme will enable local community groups and Parish/Town Councils to undertake work that Highways does not have the budget to undertake. www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SuffolkHighwaysCommunitySelfHelp, The survey will close on Wednesday 28th February 2018.

(iv) The Clerk advised that Highways England had sent a letter advising residents that Landscaping and Visual Improvement works would be carried out along the A11 verges between the A14/A11 junction and the Fiveways roundabout at Barton Mills. Work will begin during the week of 5th February 2018 until 27th March 2018, this work will be carried out between 8pm and 6am. The work will require the use of chainsaws and other heavy equipment, so apologies for any disturbance caused.

18/02/9 Parish Matters

(i) Update on New Community Notice Board for the Playing Field

Cllr. Lewis (FL) advised the grants had now been received and the board will now be ordered, there is an expected 6-week timeframe for delivery. Thanks go to Cllr. Harvey and Cllr. Busuttill.

(ii) Update on Street Lighting Program & UKPN Update

Cllr Boura confirmed the removal of the redundant light in Worlington Rd. The Bell Lane light is still waiting on BT to finish. The Clerk advised that SCC had sent the new maintenance contract and inventory for 2018/2019, Cllr. Boura is to check and update the Inventory and then pass to the Clerk to forward to SCC.

Cllr. Boura proposed the next batch of lights to be replaced in 2018/19; 1. The Street (between 19 & 21), 2. On the street near the junction with Church Meadow, 3. outside 1 Station Road (far end). Cllr. Boura is to source quotes for the replacement of these lights. Cllr. Boura also advised that the two solar lights on the path (Wiggin Close to Olive Court), need to be replaced, these are costed at £12.99 each.

Resolved 18/02/9.01

It was agreed to purchase the two replacement lights at a cost of £25.98 plus postage.

(iii) Affordable Housing Update

The Clerk reported that Isobel Wright, Hastoe Homes had advised that the planners were interested in sites 1-4, with site 2 being the most favourable due to access. It was agreed that the Clerk request that Isobel send details of the ranking for each site and the reasons for their preference. The Clerk is to invite Isobel to the next meeting and the public will be invited to attend to take part in consultation of the 4 sites.

(iv) Maintenance of Assets

Cllr. Boura advised that the Burrell Trust had offered a donation of £700 towards the small goal posts. The Clerk is to approach the 100 Club and the District Councillor for further grants.

It was agreed to carry out the repairs to the seat in the Spring.

It was agreed that no bonfire should be held on the car park or on the Peace Garden to burn the Horse Chestnut leaves.

(v) Formal approval of extra expenditure for the Football Coaching Advertising Banner

Resolved 18/02/9.02

It was agreed to approve the extra expenditure of £60 for the banner to advertise the Football Coaching.

(vi) Consider Support for application for Parking Restriction opposite the junction with Church Meadow

The problem of lack of visibility coming out of Church Meadow, due to the parking opposite and the height of the Church wall were discussed and whether the Parish Council would support an application for a 3 Scott Avenue, Mildenhall, Suffolk IP28 7LT clerk@bartonmills.net 07712 232920

Parking Restriction, it was felt this would be impossible to enforce. The suggestion was made to see if a good site could be found for a Traffic Mirror and Cllr. Horne is to investigate this.

Resolved 18/02/9.03

It was unanimously agreed not to support the application for a parking restriction.

(vii) Consider action Re: muddy footpath between end of Grange Lane and Grange Farm.

Resolved 18/02/9.04

It was agreed to take no action.

(viii) Discuss action Re: Vehicles parking on the field adjacent to Grange Lane

Cllr. Boura raised the issue of parked vehicles on the field being at risk from falling branches. Cllr. Dawson and the Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council would not be liable, should this happen, as it is classed as an 'act of God'. Cllr. Boura proposed sending a letter to all residents of Grange Lane advising them not to park on the field, due to risk of falling branches. The Clerk suggested that this may inadvertently be accepting liability if any incident should occur. The Clerk is to get a Tree Survey arranged.

Resolved 18/02/9.05

It was agreed with 4 for and 4 abstentions to send a letter to the Grange Lane residents advising them not to park on the field due to risk of falling branches.

(ix) Consider action Re: Lane next to; St. Pirans Cottage, Newmarket Road (Unclassified Highway U6203)

The Clerk advised that this lane had become overgrown and was impassable. The Clerk is report it online to SCC.

(x) The Great British Spring Clean 2018

Ken Venus has agreed to organise the litter pick event. It is to be held on 3rd March 2018 at the Village Hall at 9:30 – 10:30am until 12pm. The Clerk is to forward all correspondence etc. to Ken.

18/02/10 Highways & Footpaths

(i) SID Update & Confirm February/March 2018 Rota

Cllr. Boura advised she will download the data from the unit and then it will be placed at the Church Lane site.

Cllr. Flack and Peter Alder will move the unit to Worlington Road on 17th Feb, Cllr. Flack and Peter Alder will also move the unit to Mildenhall Road on 3rd March. The Clerk is to confirm volunteers for 17th March.

18/02/11 Finance & Policies

(i) Parish Council Bank Balances and Reconciliation from list of Payments and Receipts.

Cllr Boura proposed approving these and it was agreed unanimously.

Resolved 18/02/11.01

The bank balances and reconciliation of payments and receipts were received and adopted and signed as such by the Chairman, Cllr. Dawson. The bank account balance as of 19th January 2018 is £24,959.18.

(ii) Cheques for signing and approval and to authorise payment of outstanding invoices.

The cheques were approved and signed by Cllr. A. Dawson and Cllr. P. Boura.

Resolved 18/02/11.02

Came & Company	Annual Insurance	1568	£1,049.87
INL	Grass cutting	1569	£120.00
Mrs. V Bright	Mileage & expenses	1570	£20.06
Tuddenham PC	Planning Training	671	£20.00
Mrs. P Boura	Expenses	672	£34.83
Tindall's	Barton Miller Paper donation	673	£108.00

(iii) Update on Account for Reserves

No update available

(iv) Parish Council Insurance Renewal Confirmation

Resolved 18/02/11.03

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It was agreed to accept the Annual Insurance renewal of £1,049.87, through Came & Company.

(v) 2018-19 Grants to Community Organisations to be Agreed

Resolved 18/02/11.04

Barton Miller Paper Donation 45 reams @£108.00 from Tindall's
Rainbow Club - £150
Good Neighbour Scheme - £150

18/02/12 Barton Miller Back Page to be agreed

Housing Association update and consultation.
'Great British Clean Up'

The Chair (AD) announced that due to health reasons the Clerk had resigned. It was agreed to include an extra page inside to advertise the Clerk vacancy.

18/02/13 Councillors' reports and items for future agendas

(i) External meetings that Councillors may wish to report upon

Cllr. Lewis (FL) gave a report on behalf of the Village Hall Committee, they have installed a new Fire Door. The Committee would like to look at installing a concrete ramp and path from the door to the car park and asked if the Parish Council would consider installing similar from the field (through hedge) to join up with the car park. Cllr. Lewis is to obtain quotes for the next meeting and the Clerk will add it to the March agenda.

(ii) Councillors Reports

Cllr. Lewis (RL) & Cllr. Mullender confirmed they had attended the Planning Training on 15th January 2018 at Tuddenham St Mary. Cllr. Lewis stated he felt the training was informative, as it had clarified that Parish Councils are in fact Statutory Consultees, but that it focused too much on the negative and objections to planning applications, rather than towards supporting selective and controlled planning.

Cllr. Boura advised that for the month Cllr. Lewis (FL) will have the notice board key and Cllr. Lewis (RL) will be doing the Barton Miller back cover, Cllr. Harji / Cllr. Dawson will be carrying out the play area inspections

(iii) Items for future agenda's

- Affordable Housing Update and Consultation (Isobel Wright, Hastoe Homes attending)
- Concrete ramp/path from Field to car park quotes & consideration
- Report on 'Great British Clean Up' event
- GDPR Update
- Bank Account for Reserves Update
- SID data & Rota for March/April 2018
- Maintenance of Assets (Goal posts)
- Community Notice Board update
- Street Lighting Update/ Quotes
- Fiveways Farm Update

The Meeting closed at 9:09pm.

The Councillors held an informal Private meeting after the Parish Council Meeting to discuss the Clerk vacancy and job description/advert.

***Next Parish Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 6th March 2018 at 7:30pm, in the Village Hall.**

Signed: *Annette Dawson*
Chair, Barton Mills Parish Council

Date: 6th March 2018