

MINUTES OF BARTON UNDER NEEDWOOD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held 5 May 2022 – 7.15 pm Robert Douglas Room, Barton Village Hall

Present: -

Cllrs S van Daesdonk (Chairman)	Cllr A Jones	Cllr J Taylor
Cllr L Bennett (Vice Chairman)	Cllr L Young	Cllr I Gilbey
Cllr E Sharkey	Cllr D Lord	Cllr G Hughes
Cllr S Severn		

In attendance: - Clerk, Mrs S Rumsby; Cllr J Jones, 0 members of the public.

1. [Appointment of Chairman, Vice Chairman – Declaration of Acceptance of Office](#)
Cllr S van Daesdonk was nominated for Chairman by Cllr G Hughes and seconded by Cllr A Jones – **Resolved** all agreed and Declaration of Acceptance signed by Cllr van Daesdonk.
Cllr L Bennett was nominated for Vice Chairman by Cllr E Sharkey and seconded by Cllr G Hughes – **Resolved** all agreed and position accepted by Cllr Bennett.

2. [Record of Apologies for non-attendance](#)
Apologies were accepted from Cllrs J Weaver, B Ashcroft

[Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda](#)

Cllr Sharkey declared an interest in the planning application for 28 Station Road due to neighbouring his property.

3. [Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 7 April 2022.](#)
It was **resolved** that the Minutes were accepted to be signed as a true record by the Chairman
4. [Parishioners Forum](#)
None present
5. [Police, County and Borough Council Reports](#)

1. [Police](#)

Report circulated. Cllr Severn was concerned at 38% increase in crime overall. All agreed there was a lack of substance to the report. Cllr Sharkey said police he had spoken to acknowledged there was problem with recruitment. There were also issues with people not reporting for fear of backlash. The drugs prevalence is not being dealt with despite reporting. Cllrs agreed that encouraging more reporting was the only way to drive up stats which would mean more police presence allocated to Barton. The Clerk will ask for a police surgery to take place at the village hall, light refreshments to be provided to encourage public attendance.

2. [County Council](#) – no additional report

3. [Borough Council](#) – Cllr J Jones received feedback on the new blue recycling bags. Whilst they are small, residents can still leave larger items beside the bin for collection. A full list of what is allowed is on the Borough Council website. Recent fly tipping was mentioned and our Ward

Councillors asked to be advised of any future issues.

Bellways not carrying out their responsibilities was the main long-standing issue and a meeting is to be arranged.

Cllr Sharkey queried what major project our MP was involved in which would be of benefit to the Parish. He is working on the A38 project with Cllr J Jessel and did support our stance with the boundary changes proposals.

6. Appointment of Officers to Committees and Outside Bodies

Resolved - Positions Reviewed and appointed as per the attached appendix.

7. Committee Reports as annexed.

1. Finance

It was **resolved** that the recommendations and circulated reports be noted and approved.

2. Planning

Cllr Gilbey referred to schedule which was self-explanatory.

Cllr Sharkey highlighted that the application for the Middle Bell which is in the conservation area had a very unsatisfactory one-page heritage statement and wondered why the planning officer would even register the application without asking for a more detailed statement.

61 The Green – Cllr Taylor reported that fence has to be moved by end of July and hedge to be replanted by Autumn, still a larger area than permitted. Staffordshire County Highways should be involved with the encroachment onto the highway and Planning enforcement also needed to address the breaches.

Bellways development – the committee will report back once the meeting has taken place with Naomi Perry.

Resolved - Report and comments noted and accepted.

3. Parks and Open Spaces

Our new contractors had visited twice and any areas missed promptly rectified. They will cut back brambles at the fishpond and attend to an area on Collinson Park path. Cllrs were impressed so far with a good start.

Fishpond - Disabled bays, hedging to be cut back by bailiffs. Quotes are being obtained to replace rotten bollards.

Bailliffs have surveyed platforms and quotes awaited for all. Peg 13 is now blocked off pending action.

New planting - Cllr Taylor will chase Holland Sports Club for the work on trip rails, then the plastic barrier tape can be removed. HSC to weed the area.

Village Green registration – Cllr Gilby was attempting to revive this and is trying to contact the relevant people via Cllr Ashcroft.

4. Burial Ground

Nothing to report

5. Human Resources

Nothing to report. Meeting to be scheduled

6. Allotments

62 plots in total. Rents collected with 5 payments outstanding. The waiting list stands at 15 and will prioritise residents, albeit 7 already on the list will be fulfilled. Trent and Dove to respond to Cllr van Daesdonk request regarding land. They are still considering affordable housing in the village.

Cllr Sharkey queried if in the current cost of living climate, we should consider additional allotment land and maybe consider teaching how to grow vegetables in liaison with gardening societies. Cllr Bennett advised vegetables grown cannot be sold for a profit. Cllrs discussed the possibility of having a community garden on the Dunstall estate former bonfire field. It was agreed Cllr Sharkey would draft a letter to Simon Clarke exploring this potential – indicating we are looking for more allotment space and there may be a project there to serve the community as well as encouraging wildlife and the growing aspect. A picnic area was also mentioned. Funding may be sourced. If a positive response is received the allotment committee can take forward.

7. VEC

Report circulated. The Queen’s Copse is growing and Cllr A Jones has been weeding the area.

8. Administration

1. Correspondence

All items noted. Cllr Bennett would attend the John Taylor High School awards presentation on behalf of the Council.

9. Outside Bodies & Special Responsibilities

1. Speedwatch

The team reported on a recent watch at the Royal Oak, lots of speeding recorded. Police are finding that there are repeat offenders. The Stats show 50% people speed.

2. Flood Risk Group

Cllr Sharkey reported on a zoom meeting with Mark Swain discussing options for flood risk measures. A further meeting is arranged for 6 June. Resolution schemes were reported to be cost prohibitive. Cllr Jessel is being chased for further information on the Barton Brook at St Modwens.

10. Councillors Reports

1. The Chairman updated on a recent meeting she had attended with Countryside Properties, Chaired by a South Derbyshire District Cllr from Walton. Eon was in attendance along with Breheny - the bridge builder. There will be 1,000 residential units and two new roundabouts north and south and at Walton. The bridge design and culverts were under review with a start date now expected to be end of July 2022. There is no S.8 agreement. Flood levels were unresolvable. The footpath over the new bridge will be wider than originally planned. Highways are to maintain the self-cleaning culverts. Pill boxes are protected and part of a Transforming the Trent Valley project and will be handed over to Staffs Wildlife Trust. Cllr Severn has pushed for listed status. The existing Bailey bridge will be footway/ bridle way and cycle route only. Highways to retain responsibility and the developers will bring the road up to a satisfactory standard. A traffic management plan to be approved. Councillors queried if the Barton roundabout will be light controlled as there will be an increase in traffic. The Chairman will circulate plans and will attend the next meeting on 4 July. Cllr J Jessel will arrange a

meeting and invite BPC to talk through traffic issues.

CLlr Lord stressed the need to check that flood levels will not be made worse as this will detrimentally affect Barton Brook. The Chairman advised this was made clear at the meeting.

2. Cllr Young updated on the Festival plans. Scarecrows would be in a slightly different format. Teddies are being knitted for a teddy trail. A road closure has been applied for which the team have been warned needs policing.
3. Cllr Bennett advised two benches have been refixed in resin compound in addition to the two which had been cemented in.
4. Bollards outside St James' Church – Richard Rayson is due to visit to look at the reduced height. The Chairman had offered to attend the site meeting – the other half to the bollards had been found and the Chairman has a suggestion to fit in sections with a rod between them to hold together. St James Court residents have also offered to help manoeuvre them. They are heavier than the war memorial bollards. The only alternative is for the Church to fund lighter wood bollards and stain to match.
5. Cllr Severn asked if the new benches could be cleaned from bird droppings. S Murray is on the case and lengthsman also asked to clean fingerposts.
6. The Clerk reported our lengthsman had cut back some of the overhanging branches at the corner of Mill Lane and Efflinch. A report was out for the site to be inspected as branches were still dangerous. Our lengthsman had attempted to make safe by cutting back ivy from ground level but more work is required with heavier equipment. Any debris should be put back over the field fence.
Clerk to write to the High School as the footpath between Holland Park and the School has become overgrown.
Clerk reminded all to return their completed Register of Interests.

11. Dates of Future Meetings:

9 June – Advance Apologies from Cllr Severn; 7 July; 4 August - Parish Council Meetings
1 Sept - Parish Council Meeting followed by Trustee Barton Village Hall Meeting;
6 October; 3 November; 1 December 2022 – Parish Council Meetings

The meeting closed at 9.40pm