

MINUTES OF BARTON UNDER NEEDWOOD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

2 November 2023 – 7.00 pm, Robert Douglas Room, Barton Village Hall

Members Present: -

Cllr E Sharkey

Cllr J Taylor

Cllr J Brookes

Cllr K McInerney

Cllr D Lord

Cllr I Gilbey

Cllr C Allcock

Cllr C Walker

Cllr S Naylor

In attendance: - Clerk, Mrs S Rumsby; 3 members of the public. Cllr B Ashcroft

1. Chairman's Welcome and Record of Apologies for Absence
Cllr E Sharkey welcomed all to the meeting.
Apologies were noted from Cllr L Young, County Cllr J Jessel, Borough Cllr V Gould
2. Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda
None
3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 5 October 2023.
With amendment made to item 9.7, it was **resolved** that the Minutes were accepted to be signed as a true record by the Chairman.
4. Parishioners Forum
A resident highlighted issues of parking on pavements and corners all over the village causing obstruction and blocking visibility. Parking infringements enforced by Clear Streets or in the case of obstruction, police matter. Any regular hotspots to be forwarded to the Clerk for police attention. Residents bought up various Allotments matters including identification numbers for plots, signage to deter trespassers and bonfires. A site meeting is to be arranged to listen to plot-holders concerns.
5. Police, County and Borough Council Reports
 1. Police
Proposal to consider support for TRO at Wales Lane/Brookside Road discussed.
Majority against, motion not carried.
 2. County Council – Cllr Jessel to confirm date for gullies cleaning that will be funded out of the Divisional Highways Budget.
A speed survey has been requested to be undertaken by the Safer Roads Partnership on the C18 Forest Road, between Barton and Dunstall crossroads as a result of ongoing complaints regarding excessive driving speeds.
Also still awaiting date for traffic survey on lower part of Wales Lane to determine if SIDs warranted.
 3. Borough Council – Oak Road dog walking area – Cllr Ashcroft has actioned this to be looked at. She will also chase a response from the Planning Department to our unanswered letters, mainly around inconsistencies in planning decisions and non-compliance with Local Plan policies.

6. Notice of Casual Vacancy posted on website, social media and noticeboards.
Appointment of Committee members in replacement to:
Allotment Committee – Cllr Chris Allcock appointed.
P&OS Committee – Cllr Kevin McNerney appointed.
7. Committee Reports considered as circulated.
 1. Finance
A 2023-24 budget review meeting had taken place.
It was **resolved** to approve circulated meeting notes and presented Receipts and Payments Summary, bank reconciliation and scheduled payments.
Fishpond Committee request for training platform £8,845 plus VAT
Resolved: all agreed to spend.
Budgets from Committees to be submitted by 20 November.
Internal Audit visit taking place on 15 November, Cllr Naylor to bring up best practice regarding whether to build up funds for the Burial Ground maintenance.
 2. Planning
Cllr Gilbey referred to the planning comments made and a revised application for the Palmer Close garages development. As it is an improvement on the design all in favour of no objections.
There being no other queries raised or comments it was **resolved** all comments ratified.
 3. Parks & Open Spaces
Toddler Park – Cllr McNerney apologised for the lack of minutes from their recent meeting. Cllrs received an update on the toddler park completion of works. Benches and tables to be looked at. The benches would be green oak with recycled plastic lumber supports. A formal opening ceremony and plaque had been discussed.
Budget to include grounds maintenance contract uplift due for next year.
National Forest Signs need attention.

Fishpond Sub-Committee –
Cllrs readdressed the cormorant issue at the pond following advice previously circulated from the Angling Trust and RSPB.
Cllr Taylor updated that the cormorant had now gone, however the Fishpond Sub-Committee will look at suggested options. There is funding available for projects.
Cllr Brookes referred to his infrastructure report. Any replacement planting will be dealt with, season dependant. Wildflower area to be tidied up by contractor.
Cllr Taylor advised a peg has been closed permanently on Potters Way due to conflict with obstruction of the roadway .
 4. Burial Ground -
A recycled bench by the Memorial Wall is on the wish list.
 5. Human Resources –
A meeting had taken place on 18 October.
Social Media Policy to be circulated soon.

Safe-guarding advice requested from ESBC and a meeting is scheduled.

6. Allotments -

The half size plot has been allocated to someone further down list as no one else above was interested in it. There is no demand for creating smaller plots.

St James Road – Trent & Dove allotment land, we had expressed an interest in this land to alleviate our demand for plots but received no response. Their stance may have changed as planning permission for house development unlikely. Clerk to chase for reply.

Resolved – update report from the Allotments Committee noted.

7. VEC –

First Aiders and Marshalls have been identified for the Remembrance event. **Resolved** - Committee updates noted.

8. Correspondence

Correspondence noted. Clerk to approach Co-op solicitors for detail on questions regarding the Car Park registration, Cllr Lord suggested answering any queries should not incur any cost to the Parish Council. Cllr Taylor advised that Co-op personnel had visited the car park some years ago and mentioned trying to reduce the maintenance contribution made to the Parish Council.

9. Outside Bodies & Special Responsibilities

1. Communications – nothing to report.

2. Speedwatch – following reports of concerns about near misses at the pedestrian crossing on Station Road, it was agreed to ask Speedwatch to monitor the area if an approved location.

3. Flood Risk Group – Cllr Sharkey updated on Storm Babet/Ciaran and the brook working party. There would be a multi-agency meeting in December. Bellways had installed a new bridge on the Full Brook. Dogshead Lane flooded and highways grips need clearing. A local flood warning may soon be possible as the EA were considering leaving in the gauge at the bottom of Short Lane along with an automated rainfall monitor. An Alert group could then be set up to contact affected properties.

4. Walton By-Pass Bridge – no update

5. Quarries Liaison – meeting date to be rescheduled.

10. Councillors & Clerk Reports

1. Cllr Gilbey – lights by the teen shelter in Collinson Park are still not working.

2. Cllr Brookes suggested putting out comms on the upcoming road closure Walton Lane. Information on the gully cleaning will be updated when we have more news. Input for comms from VEC to be made to the Chime and our website.

11. Dates of Future Meetings:

Next meeting 7 December 7.00 p.m. (preceded by Trustee Barton Village Hall meeting at 6.30 p.m.).

The meeting closed at 20.47