

MINUTES OF BARTON UNDER NEEDWOOD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
4 April 2024 – 7.00 pm, Robert Douglas Room, Barton Village Hall

Members Present: -

Cllr E Sharkey (Chairman)	Cllr J Taylor	Cllr K McInerney
Cllr S Bedford	Cllr L Young	Cllr C Walker
Cllr I Gilbey	Cllr S Naylor	Cllr J Brookes
Cllr C Allcock		

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

24/01 Chairman's Welcome and Record of Apologies for Absence

Cllr Sharkey welcomed all to the meeting. It was announced the meeting was being recorded to assist with the minutes.

Apologies were noted from Cllr D Lord, County Cllr J Jessel, Needwood Ward Cllrs B Ashcroft, J Jones.

24/02 Declaration of Interest in items on the Agenda and requests for dispensation

Cllr Sharkey declared an interest in planning application P/2024/00288 23 Wales Lane - tree felling. Cllr Sharkey will not take part in voting on this matter but was granted dispensation not to leave the room during any related discussion.

24/03 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 7 March 2024

It was **resolved** that the Minutes were accepted to be signed as a true record by the Chairman.

24/04 Parishioners Forum

None present

24/05 Police, County and Borough Council Reports

1. Police – no report but the Clerk advised that PCSO Chris Edwards had visited the office to introduce a new PCSO Dominika onto the patch.

2. County Council – a meeting is arranged for 18 April with Richard Rayson and Chris Archer to look at flooding issues on Efflinch Lane – Cllrs Lord & Naylor to attend.

2 days of gully cleaning have been done, with those prioritised as having highest risk of flooding to property – revealed issues with drainage, for example Gilmour Lane gully was cleared but is packed full of roots; junction of Mill Lane to traffic calming on Efflinch Lane- blocked Severn Trent manhole affecting drainage along that stretch. Lengthsmen to continue to report and monitor. Collinson Road/Wales Lane junction bridge pothole worsening and repairs do not last. Footpath to the Radhurst is becoming unpassable.

Amey highways contract with SCC has been renewed for another 5 years from October 2024. Cllr Jessel has been asked to raise Amey's workmanship issue with the leader of the Council. Cllr Brookes suggested we promote the new Sunday Bus timetable on our noticeboards and possibly Chime if space allows.

Delegated authority to put in road closures during flooding to be discussed with J Jessel at the meeting on 18 April.

3. Borough Council –
Cllr Jones had reported to the clerk that the enforcement team are looking into the dangerous and growing pothole at the entrance to the Oak Road shops. SCC have denied any responsibility as it is on private land.

24/06 Development of Strategic Plan

Survey form – thanks to all who contributed putting it together. Cllr Young had a concern with the developer funding opportunity question. Following discussion it was agreed to let the question stand. The Borough Council would ultimately have their view on the merits of any applications. A detailed housing needs survey would go into more detail on housing matters. The current ESBC Local Plan runs to 2031 with no provision for any large housing development within the settlement boundary up to then.

Cllr Gilbey advised the School drop off point had remained an open undecided application but has recently been withdrawn this March.

Preliminary results of survey and report from Strategy Day will drive focus of what is to be discussed at Barton Live/Open meeting.

All agreed Survey to be issued as drafted with the flyer from 5 April.

Format for the Annual Parish meeting to include:

Finance report from Cllr Naylor

Sustainability - Cllr McInerney to present any research found on EV charging.

Chairman's report plus possibly one other slot.

Main points from survey will be covered. Agenda to follow.

24/07 Committee Reports considered as circulated.

1. Finance

Payments' list - Discussion around CCTV maintenance fee: Cllrs agreed we should not pay for a second maintenance visit quoted and if it is not resolved, we may wish to discuss looking at alternative suppliers.

Rural Village Services Group newly introduced subscriptions – whilst they do a lot of campaigning on rural affairs, Cllrs were asked to reviewed their services, read the newsletters to determine whether to subscribe to this service – decision deferred to next meeting.

Resolved – all finance reports reviewed and accepted.

2. Planning

Cllr Gilbey referred to the planning comments and objections circulated.

23 Wales Lane application – There were no objections to this application.

Cllr Gilbey referred to permission granted to the Co-op for solar panels which would be angled to face Crowberry Lane – both Crowberry Lane and Main Street are in the Conservation area.

This ESBC decision will be added to list of points to query with the ESBC planning manager.

3. Parks & Open Spaces

Cllr McInerney advised quotes for woodwork - benches which have now been received and will be reviewed at a meeting. The grass has been too wet to cut. National Forest have been refurbished and are back in situ.

Fishpond – Cllr Taylor referred to her Sub-Committee report and the Draft Terms of Reference circulated. Cllr Brookes raised some queries on the ToR with reference to Environment Agency recommendations and what would occur if their technical officer recommendations contravened scientific evidence. Cllrs Sharkey answered that their recommendations were the

best advice to rely on, as Cllrs are not experts in pond management, but that Cllrs would take a 'common sense' view on advice from any source and relate it to the local situation .
Concrete posts on Potters Way adjacent the brook need attention. An option to replace all was discussed, quotes could be estimated for an ESBC funding application. Cllr Taylor will liaise with Cllr J Jones.

It was **resolved** to accept the report and proposed Terms of Reference by a majority with one against.

Cllr Brookes' proposal to not close the Fishpond for a spawning period during 2024 was deferred to the next meeting to allow more time for Councillors to read the proposal and the Fishpond Sub Committee to review with the bailiffs.

Cllr Gilbey asked what issue the motion was aiming to address. Cllr Brookes clarified that an issue with having a closure for spawning was that it prevents fishing.

4. Burial Ground -

Damaged noticeboard – Burial Ground committee to decide on re-installation method and location.

Wales Lane Tree felling – the committee will engage in close liaison on necessary footpath closure for these works. Photographs will be taken of headstones prior to works taking place.

5. Human Resources –

Nothing to report.

6. Allotments -

A Committee meeting is to be scheduled.

7. VEC –

Report circulated and accepted; the Committee have received good responses to Barton Live invites. Comms to circulate who will be there.

8. Communications -

There had been no meeting.

24/08 Correspondence

All Correspondence noted. JTHS presentation – we will send two representatives and contribute £25 to the awards.

Election Police Fire & Crime Commissioner 2 May.

24/09 Outside Bodies & Special Responsibilities

1. Holland Sports Club – Refurbishments being looked at. A costs analysis for cancelled rugby events due to flooding is being compiled.

2. Speedwatch – no report. HGVs with no company markings had also been seen. Cllr Allcock had previously passed details of HGVs to Alison Jones and was impressed by the standard communication used with the haulage companies and positive responses.

3. Flood Risk Group –

The Chairman reported no further progress with St Modwens on de-silting of ponds within the Barton Business Park to reduce flood risk in the lower part of the Barton Brook. This will be brought up at the meeting on 18 April. It will also be raised at the next Needwood Forum

meeting. The EA are understood to be having high level meetings with Severn Trent re sewer flooding. Flooding to land and properties to the rear of Station Road is due to pipes being surcharged and under pressure from under-capacity. [Sam Griffiths gully report to be circulated by the Chairman.](#)

4. Walton By-Pass Bridge – report previously circulated from Cllr Lord. Technical drawings have been provided to DCC and SCC including a change to the realignment at the Barton end due to flooding implications. Awaiting planning application.
5. Quarries Liaison – awaiting meeting. Confirmation to be sought for the timing for implementation of revised alignment of FP17 diversion previously agreed with Aggregate Industries. BPC Chair to contact AI Estates Manager again . Flooding issues at junction for turn off Dunstall Cricket Club will be raised with Cllr Jessel and Richard Rayson. Recent works by AI have made it worse.

24/10 Councillors & Clerk Reports

1. Cllr Taylor – 3 x oak trees have not survived at the fishpond. Vernon to be contacted. Meeting date alteration - 6 June full Council clashes with D Day events – it was agreed to bring the meeting forward by one day.
2. Cllr Young – application for the Walton bridge is now live and link to be sent.
3. Cllr Bedford is to be added to the HR committee which was agreed at their last meeting.

24/11 Dates of Future Meetings:

2024 : 2 May (Annual Meeting), 8 May (Annual Parish Meeting) 5 June, 4 July, 1 August, 5 September

The meeting closed at 20.51