

MINUTES OF BARTON UNDER NEEDWOOD PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING 7 August 2025 – 7.00 pm;
Robert Douglas Room, Barton Village Hall



Members Present: -

Cllr E Sharkey (Chairman) Cllr S Bedford Cllr S Naylor Cllr L Young
Cllr H Frend Cllr M Hassall Cllr C Davis (from item 25/88)

In attendance: - Clerk, Mrs S Rumsby; 5 members of the public

25/87 Chairman's Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were noted from Cllrs N Crawley, D Lord, J Sellers, C Wallace

25/88 Casual Vacancy – One Candidate, Clive Davies, was considered for co-option to fill the vacant position. Clive offered that he had worked at Citizens Advice as a general advisor for 14 years; he also has contractual and project experience and has sailed with the Youth Trust. There were no questions and whilst the candidate and members of the public left the room, it was **resolved** unanimously that the candidate be duly co-opted as a Councillor. He was invited to join the meeting.

25/89 Declaration of Interest in items on the Agenda and requests for dispensation – none received.

25/90 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 3 July 2025

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

25/91 Parishioners Forum –

Residents were in attendance to hear of any updates on The Green application. Local schools had been contacted for their input along with ESBC. 64 copy objections had been received by BPC. BPC's detailed response to be posted on the website. ESBC's 5-year land supply has been maintained to 2030. Focus has been on Burton and Uttoxeter with Barton already having fulfilled its allocation. It was unknown how the Local Government Reorganisation may affect local plans.

25/92 Police, County and Borough Council Reports

1. Police – PCSO Leathers referred to his circulated report. Some recent incidents were not being reported. Any harassment or threatening behaviour should be called in as a 999 incident.
2. County Council – Cllr Brown's report had been circulated. SCC have agreed to replace the war memorial bollards with hard wood material. It was agreed that BPC would fit reflective discs on alternate bollards. Argos to be approached as some directional signage to their site may help divert HGVs from the village.
Provident Land – Cllr Brown will be pushing for Stafford to respond regarding the proposed access to the development. It was proposed and agreed that the Clerk should contact Cllr Brown to thank for her detailed report and assistance.
3. Borough Council – no report

25/93 Committee Reports considered as circulated.

1. Finance
Monthly Summary of Receipts & Payments; Bank Reconciliation; Schedule of Payments all accepted. The quotations for topographical surveys were discussed and it was resolved to

accept quotation 1 for the Fishpond survey only; others areas to be reviewed in a future budget. Quotes for VAT advice deferred to Holland Sports Club item.

2. Planning

Comments and objections in the Planning Committee report were referred to.
All responses agreed.

3. Community Assets – Parks Open Spaces, Burial Ground, Fishpond, Allotments

Collinson Park: Several Grounds Maintenance contractors had been researched and will be approached to clarify their interest in tendering. The formal tender process will be reported to the September meeting. Annual Playground inspection low risk items flagged and regular inspections are also being carried out by our Co-opted member, Daniel Boulter. Cllrs were impressed with Daniel's involvement.

Fishpond: Fishery management plan to be discussed in more detail by CAE Committee. The Working Group are active and Bailiffs appointed were Simon Darby; Daniel Boulter and Cllr Hugh Frend. John Anderson had invited all interested Cllrs along to FiSH with some notice.

Burial Ground: Gardening Guild recommendations to be considered.

4. Policies, Events and Communications

Minutes of the meeting were summarised and now accepted along with the updated Terms of Reference. Cllrs were encouraged to attend the VJ commemoration.

5. HR – A recent meeting had been inquorate, however informal notes had been circulated and were now summarised. The Clerk left the room whilst the National pay award was referred to; the award would be back-dated to 1 April with the Clerk remaining on the same pay scale.

The Clerk's Appraisal was being monitored; a monthly tasks list had been created and will set out how to guides to main tasks.

Changes to the HR Terms of Reference were outlined and all agreed adoption.

The Groundsman's Appraisal had also been completed. Job Descriptions for both roles had also been reviewed.

25/94 Correspondence - Flood resilience survey to be completed on Cllr Lord's return.

25/95 Outstanding Action Points - List reviewed.

25/96 Outside Bodies & Special Responsibilities

1. Holland Sports Club - it was resolved to move to a closed session at the end of the meeting to discuss confidential items.

2. Flood Risk Group – meeting to be scheduled with Mark Swain re gauge project and flood risk on Barton Brook. A landowner has been contacted regarding the flood management scheme.

3. Walton By-Pass Bridge – there has been some good progress with piles now in. We still await the Chicane.

4. Quarries Liaison – Heidelberg and Newbold quarries meetings to be scheduled.

Water levels at marina lakes have dropped but this is due to the weather - quarry works now operating further away.

25/97 Councillors & Clerk Reports

1. Cllr Young reported that the Teddy Festival plans are all set and a Teddy Sleep over arranged at the library.

2. Cllr Bedford had drafted the Chime article thanking departing Councillors and introducing new; dates for Remembrance and Christmas lights to be added. Objections to The Green planning application will be included.

Cllr Bedford declared an interest in St Giles Hospice but wished to inform the Council that Barton is hosting their Light up the Light service in Remembrance of loved ones on 6 December at 4pm, St James' Church.

25/98 Dates of Future Meetings

2025 : 4 September, 2 October, 6 November, 4 December.

2026: 8 January, 5 February, 5 March, 2 April, 7 May, 4 June, 2 July, 6 August, 3 September

Meeting closed at 21.