

MINUTES OF BARTON UNDER NEEDWOOD PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING 15 APRIL 2026 – 6.30 pm;
Robert Douglas Room, Barton Village Hall



Members Present: -

Cllr E Sharkey (Chairman)	Cllr D Lord (Vice Chair)	Cllr M Hassall
Cllr H Frend	Cllr N Crawley	Cllr S Bedford
Cllr C Davis	Cllr S Naylor	Cllr I Meadows

In attendance: Mrs S Rumsby, Clerk

26/46 Chairman's Welcome and Apologies for Absence
Apologies for Absence were noted from Cllrs C Wallace, J Sellers

26/47 Declaration of Interest in items on the Agenda and requests for dispensation. Cllr Meadows, item 26/48.8. All happy for IM to remain.

26/48 Hollands Sports Club Project

1. General Funding Position – HSC had confirmed receipt of the £100k grant from the Football Foundation. Their committed funds now totalled £1.15m. (£1.25m if BPC's loan application for £100k was confirmed), leaving an estimated shortfall of £25k. HSC are reviewing the electrics to try to reduce costs without losing efficiency. Councillors discussed the status of the Letter of Commitment from the Mercer Foundation and expressed a preference for a more formal assurance to mitigate the risk of any funding withdrawal.

HSC had confirmed that a contract had now been signed with the builder. It was noted that upfront payments of 15% of the contract value had been requested which was unusual, although it was acknowledged that some deposits had been required for steel work. Clarification of payment stages within the contract was discussed.

HSC had outlined that, once the main structure is completed, the internal fit-out is expected to be delivered through separate subcontractors. The role of HSC Directors in overseeing and managing contractor's work was essential.

Cllr Naylor reiterated that BPC's primary objective was to ensure the delivery of the sporting facilities, particularly the changing rooms. Other elements such as the bar, gym and other works were recognised as separate to BPC's principal remit.

Following discussion, councillors agreed that there was no sufficient basis at this stage to withhold permission for the development to commence.

2. Update on loan application – all queries from the MHCLG had been satisfied and the application had been passed for secondary assessment. Changing Rooms fit was expected around 22 June. Alternative loan arrangements were discussed in the unlikely event of the PWLB loan being refused.

3. It was resolved to move to a close session excluding press and public for the remaining items on the Agenda due to sensitive and commercial confidentiality – all agreed.

A summary of items discussed and resolution made is as follows:

1. The detail of the Changing Rooms Contract specification would be discussed further at the next meeting.
2. Confirmation of insurance cover was forthcoming

3. An irrevocable undertaking from the directors of HSC would be sought to commit to the new lease under the Heads of Terms presented with the old Lease being surrendered.
4. Councillors resolved to permit to the demolition and construction commencing on or after 20 April with conditions around surety of funding; insurance confirmation; determination of the BPC loan application and HSC's commitment to the new lease.

Meeting closed 19.53