

MINUTES OF BARTON UNDER NEEDWOOD PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING 3rd September 2026 – 7.00 pm;
Robert Douglas Room, Barton Village Hall



Members Present: -

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

In attendance: Mrs S Rumsby, Clerk; 2 members of the public; Borough Cllr B George

- 26/94 Chairman's Welcome and Apologies for Absence –
Apologies noted from Cllrs Grahamslaw, Sellers and Borough Cllr J Jones
- 26/95 Declaration of Interest in items on the Agenda and requests for dispensation.
- 26/96 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 6 August and 27 August 2026
It was **resolved** that the Minutes were accepted to be signed as a true record by the Chairman.
- 26/97 Parishioners Forum –
A resident raised concerns regarding the proposed padel courts application which could potentially restrict the use of the MUGA by junior football groups, possibly forcing teams to relocate. It was suggested affected parents submit individual objections to the Borough Council. It was also worth contacting Sport England who have provided funding to the club. The resident was advised that BPC have no jurisdiction over the operation of the sporting activities and does not own the land that the MUGA sits on.
The resident was advised to liaise with other parents and ask Barton Rovers to make representation to HSC committee on behalf of the parents. As the ESBC planning decision was delegated to the officer in this case, Cllr George could call in the application to the planning committee. Resident to liaise with Cllrs Sharkey and George outside of the meeting. BPC had made no objection in principle but raised some concerns, as contained in BPC's Planning Report. Additional information requested should address these concerns.
- 26/98 Police, County and Borough Council Reports
Another accident at the Little India junction had occurred. County were still awaiting the coroner's report from the last fatality before making a decision on any action to take. Cllr George would approach Cllr Brown regarding the millennial sign which needed stabilising. Cllr George spoke about the drums for the Remembrance Parade. Volunteer scouts would be trained in 2 weeks at the church.
- 26/99 Committee Reports considered as circulated.
1. Finance
Meeting scheduled 9/9. The monthly Summary of Receipts & Payments and Schedule of Payments were accepted. Aerator electricity charges were high but as the water quality oxygen levels were improving, these will be switched back to operating on a timer.
 2. Planning
Comments and objections, updated Terms of Reference as circulated were referred to

ACCEPTED ON:SIGNED:

and accepted.

Two Pigs Appeal – BPC’s original comments were based on potential foreseen issues; Environmental Health had stipulated that any impact on neighbours was well below what could be constituted as a nuisance.

ESBC Local Plan Scoping Consultation – Members were grateful to have received R. Bell’s detailed input. Any concerns can be addressed at the next phase of the consultation. The overall concern was that ESBC have no clear vision on what the borough will look like; it was noted that ESBC had provided very little input into the proposed country park as part of the Newbold Quarry restoration. BPC remain committed to putting their view of Barton forward. Cllr Bedford felt that as part of the National Forest there should be more trees introduced along the A38 corridor.

Cllr Lord had attended a conservation area presentation and had the opportunity to speak to ESBC’s Naomi Perry. Her expectation was that some housing allocation would inevitably go to Barton.

It was agreed BPC Chairman to write formally to ESBC regarding the country park, copying in our County Cllr and engaging with Tatenhill, Dunstall and Branston Councils, as all will benefit from the scheme.

The Green application - SCC’s case officer had responded to BPC concerns over design and number of houses.

3. Community Assets & Environment

Meeting scheduled for 9/9. Cllr Naylor had stressed the importance of the Grounds Maintenance Tender for next year. Cllrs West and Sharkey, had already made good progress.

Tree work at the fishpond - no negative feedback had been received. Cllr Sharkey had monitored the work and was happy with the result. The canopy will be managed going forward.

4. Policies Events & Communications

Meeting scheduled for 9/9.

Remembrance Day Parade 8 November – Cllr Bedford was pleased with the drum donation and training offered – all Cllrs were requested to assist with marshalling the event.

Christmas Lights - Sunday 29 November; volunteers were also requested for the tree erection (21/11), marshalling (29/11) and dismantling (2/1/27). The event will feature a Christmas theme fancy dress. Santa and the elves will be making an appearance.

5. HR – The circulated National Pay Award for 2026-27 was noted.

26/100 Correspondence

A Brook Working Party date proposed - 7 November.

Community Assets transfer - The Chairman had received correspondence from the Leader of SCC regarding services and assets redistribution. It was unclear where responsibilities will lie. Some assets may be transferred to Parish Councils. BPC need to prepare for this eventuality. It was agreed a working group be formed to discuss capabilities and budgets, made up of the following Cllrs: S Naylor; D Lord; I Meadows; S West.

26/101 Outside Bodies & Special Responsibilities

1. **Holland Sports Club** – It was agreed that the sub-tenants should pay the legal costs in obtaining the licence to execute the sub-leases. They are commercial enterprises and it

was normal for the other party to pay these costs.

Cllr Crawley confirmed the project was progressing to programme with works on course to be finished by the end of October. The sub-tenants will have to pay for any extras they want (eg paint colours and lighting) and this will be clearly identified.

Groundworks have begun. There was an issue with ground levels, with a fall towards the building which will need addressing.

Cllr Lord advised that the sewer pipe runs parallel to the brook. He will attend a site meeting to tweak some design issues with levels and the treatment of surface water.

There should be no discharge or connection to the brook until a permit had been received. Foul - issue with the combined sewer overflow is to be addressed. A consultant was engaged for the planning application; and had provided a plan and calculation for external drainage. Cllr Lord had advised on solutions which would work but it was confirmed that RAB provides the indemnity for all works.

The building controller had approved the design for connection to the sewer which is all outside the building.

The internal floor is 600ml above the EA's expected flood level for a 1/100-year flood. External levels were unknown. In the event of any flood, insurers would be looking at the architect's design for culpability.

2. **Flood Risk Group** – a date of 7th November had been suggested for a Brook Working Party. There was no hope of assistance from landowners at Barton Gate for natural flood alleviation measures.
3. **Walton By-Pass** – the next liaison meeting was scheduled for 14/9. Cllr Brown was organising a site meeting on the Staffordshire side, in advance of the meeting.
4. **Quarries liaison** – meetings scheduled at Heidelberg 21/9; Newbold Quarry - 15/10. There were still issues with mud on the road from Newbold Quarry by A38.

26/102 Councillors/Clerk's Reports

1. Cllr Naylor reported that Gilvar lining had offered to repaint the loading bays on Crowberry Lane which had faded. However, it had been confirmed that SCC have to appoint authorised contractors only.
2. Cllr Bedford asked for input on the Chime article; suggestions were to mention the HSC site visit; tree works at the fishpond; the date for the brook working party, volunteers welcomed and also volunteers for marshalls at the two upcoming events.
3. Cllr Hassall expressed concern about traffic issues and had been approached from a resident regarding Barton Traffic Action Group. The resident was disappointed in BPC's investment in HSC rather than in traffic calming measures. Cllr Naylor had already written to the resident in detail but would respond again copying him in with communications from SCC regarding their current pause on approving SID installations. All agreed the BTAG was to be community led rather than BPC led and that the traffic issue needed a whole village-wide strategy. Cllr Hassall and Sharkey offered to visit the resident. Cllr Naylor to draft a letter to Staffordshire County Council. It may also be possible for the resident to represent BTAG at the upcoming Needwood Forum on 15 October.

26/103 Dates for future meetings:

2026: 5 November, 3 December; 2027: 7 January, 4 February, 4 March, 1 April

Meeting closed at 20.45