

# **Barton under Needwood**

## **Annual Parish Meeting**

**6 April 2023**

Prepared by:

Siobhan Rumsby, Clerk to the Council

Website: [www.bartonunderneedwood-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bartonunderneedwood-pc.gov.uk)

Email: [clerk@bartonunderneedwood-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@bartonunderneedwood-pc.gov.uk)

Tel: 01283 716059

## **CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT:**

### **Susanne van Daesdonk – Barton Parish Council 2022-23**

The Annual Meeting was held on May 4<sup>th</sup> 2022 and this Council entered its last year before the elections on May 5<sup>th</sup> 2023.

### **Key Projects**

#### **Parks and Open Spaces**

A new grounds maintenance contractor started work at the beginning of the season and the everybody was very happy with the quality of the works carried out.

Collinson Park was plagued with issues through the summer with graffiti and general vandalism. The committee worked on various initiatives and continue to do so.

A number of pegs at the Fish Pond have been renewed.

Some of the trees on the refurbished bank have been replaced as the original ones did not survive the heat of last summer.

An additional oak tree has been planted and will be the 'Coronation' oak.

The National Forest signs are being repaired and updated.

#### **Village Enhancement**

The beacon was refurbished and was a key part of the village's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

The 'Square' was decorated for the Platinum Jubilee with knitted crowns which people appeared to find very attractive given how quickly they disappeared.

Working with the RBL, the November remembrance events took place as normal with an act of remembrance on 11<sup>th</sup> November and the usual parade and service on Remembrance Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>.

The Christmas tree lights were switched on by Father Christmas on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **Death of Queen Elizabeth II**

We were all saddened to by the death of Queen Elizabeth II. A book of condolence was made available working with St James. A civic service was held in St James and the Chair was honoured to read the Proclamation of Accession of King Charles III.

#### **Coronation of King Charles III**

Preparations are advanced for a village party to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III.

#### **Allotments**

Following on from the pandemic and folks wanting to grow their own fruit and vegetables, there is a waiting list for allotments.

#### **Flood Risk**

The watercourses through the Bellways estate and associated open land have been cleared. Changes to one of the culverts have been agreed and a maintenance plan will shortly be in place. This is a major achievement following on from the floods of 2020.

Work continues on a plan for a Natural Flood Management scheme on the Barton Brook and good progress has been made.

Councillors have been attending meetings about the new Walton Bridge to ensure that flooding on the Barton side has been adequately catered for.

## **HR**

It was with great sadness that we received the news of the sudden death of Val Windsor, our Litter Picker for many years just before Christmas. A new Litter Picker joined us in March.

## **Planning**

The Planning Committee have had a particularly busy and at times challenging year. Thanks as always must go to our Trusted Adviser Roger Bell.

## **Burial Ground**

A large stone trough has been installed next to the Memorial Wall. The trough, which came from the local blacksmiths, believed to be a quench, had been sitting in the back garden of the Horton's family home in Bell Lane for years. The family have been clearing out the house and they felt that given its connection to the village the trough should stay in the village so asked if the Parish Council would take it and they were delighted to do so. It's always a difficult time when you have to clear the family home and we would like to thank Nicholas, Jeremy and Sarah for their generosity. Their father, Norman, did serve as Chairman of the Parish Council in the 1980s and their mother, Win, taught at the John Taylor for many years.

## RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT 2022-23

### – Siobhan Rumsby RFO / Graham Hughes Finance Chairman

The Receipts and Payments account for the year ended 31 March 2023 has now closed and the statement drafted. Accounts will be subject to internal and external audit.

The total income received was £149.5k which included a precept of £76,000. The burial ground generated circa £15.5k. The council were thankful to receive grants and donations from Mercers, Cameron Homes and B&D Key Trust totalling £20,357: £10k of which has been earmarked for work in Collinson Road toddler park and £10k towards fishpond peg works. Rent income totalled £3,821 which included the allotments and fishing permits.

Expenditure for the year was £105.5k. Staffing costs remain the bulk of expenditure followed by grounds maintenance covering the parks and open spaces. Burial Ground spent circa £4K and this included stonemasons charges in making safe some headstones which were in danger of toppling. At the time of writing work was well underway in replacing fishing platforms and we are grateful for funding provided by Cameron Homes. Some shrub planting was also carried out over the summer.

We were also grateful to receive funding from B&D Key Trust to assist with refurbishing and lighting the Jubilee Beacon.

Some £500 has so far been spent on the village Coronation party and whilst we have been unsuccessful in our bid for Lottery funding, it is hoped B&D Key Trust and the Parish Council reserves will cover remaining items.

The Parish Council has ended the year with funds in hand of £163.5k, of which £66.6K has been earmarked for future provisions and projects and the Council hold a minimum recommended reserve of some 3 months operating costs which has been set at £37k.

A breakdown of the accounts, budget, scheduled payments and bank reconciliation is presented every month to the full Parish Council. The Finance Committee meet periodically to check the accounts, review the budget and make appropriate recommendations to full Council.

Following an end of year internal audit, a finance meeting will be scheduled late May to review the final year end statements. The Annual Governance and Accountability Return will then be subject to an External Audit and will be available for public inspection on request for a period in July.

### **New Financial Year**

At its meeting in January 2023 full Council approved the new financial year's precept with a 6% rise to £81k. The Parish Council Tax Rate for the average band D property has therefore increased by £2.35 per annum to £41.16.

Thanks expressed to the Councillors making up the Finance Committee for their guidance and assistance in all finance matters and in particular to outgoing Finance Councillors who will not be standing at the May election, Graham Hughes, Alison Jones and Sue van Daesdonk whose expertise will be very much missed.

DRAFT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS - *Subject to Internal and External Audit*

Barton under Needwood Parish Council		Receipts and Payments Account	
S. Rumsby, RFO - 31 March 2023			
<b>Receipts</b>		<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
Local Authority Precept		£ 76,000.00	£ 64,893.28
Local Authority Other		£ 1,865.00	£ 1,865.00
Burial Ground		£ 15,480.90	£ 11,531.00
Rents - Allotments, Fishing & Holland Sports		£ 3,821.89	£ 3,263.50
Investment Income (Interest)		£ 243.94	£ 406.88
VAT Reimbursement		£ 9,862.34	£ 6,039.80
Other + Grants & Donations		£ 20,357.59	£ 18,494.46
Car Park		£ 9,367.88	£ 8,503.43
Village Hall Salary contra		£ 12,587.16	£ 7,428.40
Credits not on statement		£ -	£ -
		<b><u>£149,586.70</u></b>	<b><u>£122,425.75</u></b>
<b>Payments</b>			
Salary / Wages		£ 49,947.87	£ 48,283.27
Administration		£ 7,928.55	£ 8,953.44
Burial Ground		£ 3,946.29	£ 2,326.88
Allotments		£ 1,913.45	£ 1,016.06
Fishpond		£ 5,500.00	£ 2,839.34
Donations & S.137 payments		£ 385.50	£ 433.10
Capital Expenditure		£ 237.50	£ 23,563.48
General Payments inc Maintenance & Repairs		£ 1,570.25	£ 2,010.82
P & OS Grasscutting/Grounds Maintenance		£ 12,120.33	£ 7,884.53
Special Projects		£ 757.59	£ 1,573.20
Lengthsman		£ 2,570.00	£ 835.96
Car Park		£ 988.00	£ 2,697.30
VAT Payable		£ 4,475.76	£ 8,246.13
Village Hall Salary contra		£ 12,462.59	£ 5,734.48
Vec		£ 738.72	
Unpresented cheques		£ -	£ -
		<b><u>£105,542.40</u></b>	<b><u>£116,397.99</u></b>
Net Income for the Year to date		£ 44,044.30	£ 6,027.76
Add Cash Balances B/Fwd 1st April		£119,551.82	£126,504.69
		<b><u>£163,596.12</u></b>	<b><u>£132,532.45</u></b>
<b>Represented By Cash Balances</b>			
Current Account		£ 2,001.00	£ 2,001.00
High Interest A/C (Closed)			
Deposit Accounts		£ 87,522.39	£ 56,534.85
Petty Cash		£ 150.00	£ 150.00
National Savings Account		£ 73,922.73	£ 73,846.60
<b>Total Cash Balances</b>		<b><u>£163,596.12</u></b>	<b><u>£132,532.45</u></b>
	Reconciliation	-£ 0.00	

### General Power of Competence

As an eligible Council, the General Power of Competence (Part 1, Localism Act 2011) has been applied to the following payments for the benefit of people in the area on activities or projects not specifically authorised by other powers. Payments made:

John Taylor High School – prizes	25.00
Royal British Legion – Barton branch	63.00
Barton Lions Tea Party	107.50
Barton Fire Brigade – Christmas star	50.00
British Red Cross – memorial donation	20.00
Barton Festival	<u>120.00</u>

<b>Total</b>	<b>£385.50</b>
--------------	----------------

### COUNCILLORS' EXPENSES

Councillors may claim for reimbursement of goods and services purchased on behalf of the Parish Council and occasional travel expenses. Councillors are entitled to one ream of A4 paper per year.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

The Parish Council are responsible for maintaining village assets including the Burial Ground, Collinson Park, Ash Tree Pocket Park, the Fishpond, the War Memorial, Allotments off Efflinch Lane, St James Road Garden and various planters around the village. It is also the Sole Trustee of Barton Village Hall and leases the majority of the land at Holland Sports Club.

The Parish Council are not responsible for the following:

Maintenance of roads and footpaths, jetting of gullies – *Staffordshire County Council Highways*  
The canal / brook / surface water flooding – *Environmental Agency/SCC and water authorities plus riparian owners (adjacent properties)*  
Fly-tipping, illegal advertisements, noise complaints, dog fouling, street cleaning and bins – *East Staffordshire Borough Council*  
Speeding, anti-social behaviour - *the police – non urgent incidents to be reported via their Website*  
Illegal parking– *Clear Streets, Staffordshire County Council*  
Parking causing an obstruction- *the police via their website*

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

Susanne van Daesdonk, Chairman  
Lynn Bennett, Vice Chairman  
Jeannette Taylor  
Stephen Harley

Alison Jones  
Graham Hughes  
Lindy Young

Ed Sharkey  
Ian Gilbey  
Derek Lord

Sean Severn and Jim Weaver both resigned towards the end of the term and Stephen Harley was Co-opted in January 2023.

## MEETING ATTENDANCE

Parish Councillors have attended all monthly Parish Council meetings with the exception of the following where apologies were accepted:

April 2022	Cllrs D Lord & J Weaver
May 2022	Cllr J Weaver
June 2022	Cllr S Severn
July 2022	Cllr S Severn, J Weaver
August 2022	Cllr S Severn, J Weaver
October 2022	Cllrs S Severn, J Weaver, L Bennett
November 2022	Cllr J Weaver
December 2022	Cllr D Lord
February 2023	Cllr A Jones
March 2023	Cllr L Young

ESBC Needwood Ward Councillors: Bev Ashcroft has attended 2 meetings; Jacqui Jones attended 3  
Staffordshire County Councillor: Julia Jessel has attended 0 meetings  
Police representatives: 3 meetings attended.

Parish Council meetings are generally held on the first Thursday of every month, commencing at 7.15 pm in the Douglas Room, Barton Village Hall, Crowberry Lane, Barton under Needwood. At the start of the meeting, there is a Parishioners Forum where 15 minutes is allocated for Parishioners to bring up any matters for discussion.

## Contact Details

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Siobhan Rumsby. The office opening hours by appointment are 10am until 12pm Mondays; and 1pm until 3pm Wednesdays and Thursdays.  
Tel: 01283 716059 Email: [clerk@bartonunderneedwood-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@bartonunderneedwood-pc.gov.uk)

Barton under Needwood Parish Council  
Village Hall  
Crowberry Lane  
Barton under Needwood  
Burton upon Trent  
Staffordshire  
DE13 8AF

The Parish Council website has a wealth of information so please do have a look. We are also on Facebook but note 'Messenger' is not monitored so please contact the Clerk directly via the office, telephone or email.

[www.bartonunderneedwood-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bartonunderneedwood-pc.gov.uk) / [Barton under Needwood Parish Council](#) | [Facebook](#)

## **Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service - Barton under Needwood Fire Station**

The current station strength is positive with 11 members of staff. To be better placed for the future, the service is eager to attract a more diverse workforce. The benefit to the village and the wider community of Barton Under Needwood for a more representative workforce is vital. This will ensure the service remains relevant and enable it to assist in making the area a safer place to live and work.

New trainees have started at the station, Stuart and Jonathan are from very different backgrounds. They both bring a wealth of experience and will, I am sure provide positive influences to the team.

I am eager to attract the next generation to ensure the Station is effective in providing a service, there are plans for open days, car wash events and taster days. This will hopefully raise the profile of the station. I will share these dates when I receive confirmation.

I will be looking to strengthen the existing links between the service and the Council to ensure we are providing the best service possible.

I will provide an update on wider issues both from a service and national perspective at the meeting should there be a requirement.

Mark Tattum

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service.





## **Holland Sports Club – Dick Titley Chairman**

### Chairman's Report for year ending April 2023

It is over a year since our previous manager Tracey handed over the reins of our club manager to Craig. You will recall that Craig inherited Tracey's role plus much more in an effort to relieve both the Chairman and Executive members of roles which have been passed down the line over many years. It has been a tremendously busy year with so many changes being made in an effort to bring the club up to Craig's standards and what a great job he has done, and for which we are extremely grateful for. Craig has since been joined by Em Povey and between them they taken the club up to a new level and I know that they are as excited as we are with taking it to an even higher level in years to come.

It is quite apparent that we are still recovering from the COVID lock down and the consequent lack of revenue. The current financial situation in the UK is impacting hugely on the club, with rising costs and lack of revenue from reluctant members who are struggling financially. We are determined to make the club and its facilities available to all and keep costs down as much as possible in these extremely hard and challenging times. We expect this situation to last much longer and I am grateful for the help of our Executive team including Simon Lovatt, Tim Bowen and Seamus Treanor who have met with me regularly to thrash out ideas to help the club stay ahead of the recession.

In early 2022 we started a disability access project to improve access around our facilities. We have recently installed disabled toilets and a ramp into our function room, and we are now planning for access to our pitches and courts. A growing number of our members have not been able to watch their favourite sports due to sodden or un-even grounds. Our tennis club have shown their desire to hold wheelchair tennis but access has not been suitable. We have therefore been applying for external funding to build pathways to enable our members access to their sports. The project continues and I am grateful for the generosity of our regular contributors Barton & Dunstall Key Trust, the Mercer family, Packington Free Range, Tippers Builders Supplies, Burton Consolidated Trust and the East Staffordshire Borough Council for their generosity in supporting this project. There are many more who have contributed to the campaign and for which I am extremely grateful.

We are also very grateful to the Probations Service's 'Community Payback Scheme' who support us each weekend with carrying out repairs and upkeep of our grounds and buildings. Working together with our groundsman Fran Johnson our facilities and grounds look amazing.

The individual sports clubs remain our most important partners within our club, and it is great to see them all growing in numbers and improving their facilities as the year goes by. This year we welcome Alrewas Cricket Club who are joining a ground sharing scheme with Dunstall Cricket Club. We are thankful of their patience and understanding whilst we have worked hard to improve these facilities and we also look forward to continuing with our close relationship with the Parish Council in the coming year.

### **Dick Titley - Chairman of Holland Sports Club**

[dick@titleys.com](mailto:dick@titleys.com)

Mobile: 07958022499

[hollandsportsclubbarton@gmail.com](mailto:hollandsportsclubbarton@gmail.com)

## **Barton Village Hall – For the Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

**Chair's Annual Report and Treasurers Report (see separate document)**

Social Media: [Barton under Needwood Village Hall](#) | [Burton upon Trent](#) | [Facebook](#)

Web: [Village Hall - \(bartonunderneedwood-pc.gov.uk\)](#)

Bookings: [bartonvillagehallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:bartonvillagehallbookings@gmail.com)

### **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION – BARTON UNDER NEEDWOOD BRANCH**

The Barton branch of the RBL currently has 24 members although only 9 regularly attend meetings so keeping the branch active is becoming increasingly difficult.

Our oldest member will be 93 this year and is looking forward to a trip to Korea in the summer as a guest of the Korean Government in this the 70th year since the end of the Korean War, it's also worth noting he raised over £1000 during last year's poppy appeal as he does every year. Another of our members will be 90 this year and is a Nuclear Test Veteran. We do have some remarkable men in our community. Our Standard Bearer attends many events around the County and is proud to represent Barton under Needwood.

The 2022 Poppy Appeal raised £6239.41 up on 2021 by £236.95. A great effort by all. It is particularly satisfying to know that 11% of this total was raised by the Infants and Junior schools so we hope the baton of remembrance is being passed on.

We would like to thank Barton Parish Council for arranging the events on November 11th and Remembrance Sunday for the community and to give Councillor Alison Jones a special mention as 2022 was her last year as chief organiser, a task that we have never made easy. She picked up the organisation of the event, supported by Councillors Taylor and Young, when the RBL instructed branches they could no longer organise the parade and 2018, the centenary of the end of the First World War, was a particular highlight and started several traditions such as the wonderful poppy display.

We are delighted to report that the County now uses Barton Village Hall for a number of events. It is used regularly for standard bearer training and this year also saw the County conference being held there. Indeed, we received a note of thanks from the County Chairman only last week saying what a God send the Hall is to the RBL and complimenting Siobhan, Steve and Tamsyn for their support.

[bartonrbl@gmail.com](mailto:bartonrbl@gmail.com)

## BARTON & DUNSTALL KEY TRUST

As many of you know the Key Trust was formed in 2007 from the amalgamation of some old local village charities. The new Charity created a substantial capital fund, supplemented in recent years with royalties from Aggregate Industries. All our funds, including those received from Aggregate Industries, are invested in an account, managed by Investec and we use the income generated on projects requested by and for the benefit of the community and for individuals living in Barton and Dunstall. We also have some allotments on Dogshead Lane, available for rent

Over the last few years several of our Trustees have retired and we have been pleased to welcome new faces, with new expertise and interests.

During Covid, applications for support all but dried up as we all stayed at home. In the last year things have certainly come back to life and we have been pleased to welcome new applications. Applications like one to help St Mary's Church in Dunstall to overhaul their organ, installed in 1853 and still in regular use, we helped provide some audio-visual equipment for St James in Barton. The Parish Council kept the beacon alight for the Queen's Jubilee with our support. Holland Sports Club are able to develop their disabled facilities at the club with our help. Over recent times we have been please to help Barton Bowls Club with their refurbishment, the village pond with repairs, improved access at the Methodist Church, new gates and posts at St James Church, improvements to Dunstall broadband and others. The Village Hall had new staging with help from the Trust and was able to showcase that for the popular plays and pantomime

Current projects include helping to refurbish the small children's play area at Collinson Park, a defibrillator to be located on The Green, outside the Royal Oak and we've pledged substantial funds to help with the improvements needed to the Bells at St James Church

The Trust was pleased to help the Thomas Russel Infant and Junior schools with their prize giving. Their previous sponsors were no longer able to offer support so, last year we stepped in to ensure that their annual prize giving events can continue. The Key Trust is now proud to be the sponsor of prize giving in all three schools in Barton

We have supported several young people with their extra- curricular activities and sporting achievement and continue to welcome applications for these activities now they are all active again

The Trust is happy to support those in need through illness, disability, bereavement or accident. We don't publicise these grants but we are there to help when needed

We have a successful Christmas voucher scheme for those who live in Barton or Dunstall and could do with a little extra help at Christmas and we are always willing to look at new applications to support those in need at this expensive time of year. Most of the shops in the village happily accept our vouchers

Application forms along with grant terms and conditions are available on our web site website <http://www.bartondunstallkeytrust.co.uk> The web site also contains information about grants awarded, meeting dates, our trustees, annual accounts and other information

Our Trust is regulated by the Charity Commission and full details can be found on their web site <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission>

[key.trust@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:key.trust@hotmail.co.uk)

## **BARTON NEIGHBOURHOOD VOLUNTEERS**

Report not submitted at time of printing.

[bnvvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:bnvvolunteers@gmail.com)