

June 2026 Notes from Cllr Catherine Brown

I hope you have all survived the hot weather. I would be interested to know your comments regarding the state of the tarmac and whether there are any areas you feel need attention in case we have further hot weather.

The **Community Fund** is open. I would be grateful if all parish councils would post the link on their socials and website please:

[PDF version](#)

On Saturday you will have received my email on **Community Climate Shelters** for air-conditioning units in our libraries, village and church halls or suitable rooms/spaces. These can then be used as heating units in the winter. I currently have not had a reply from the Leader or Deputy Leader of SCC but had great responses from my shadow councillors.

This month has been slightly different as I have had my main holidays.

Following a number of enquiries, the governments Local Government Reorganisation was to be expected mid-July, but with the possibility of a new Prime Minister, it is felt that this decision could be postponed but unlikely to be cancelled. Following today's press conference they were more or less confirmed!

Meetings/outings:

SCC Charities' and Trusts Committee; Abbots Bromley PC/highways community team; MP telephone meeting- B503/Blithfield angling; Lichfield Road AB footpath; LNRS, Lichfield; SCC Better Health Staffordshire/Country link CC education farm Marston-on-Dove; St Marys & All Angel's Hoar Cross, 150th Anniversary BBQ; Barton's new Holland Sports Club (postponed due to the weather)

Tatenhill & Rangemore:

S106 speed calming parish meeting and progress report- requested update.

Rangemore School feasibility study. Awaiting.

Whilmore Stables sewage. SCC highways have re-circulated the 2025 onsite review. This review found that there was a disused water or sewage pipe that was discharging, and nothing to do with SCC highways/verge.

Barton:

Barton Turn- requested update from crash investigation unit.

Walton Bridge/bypass. SCC requested more specification. Progressing.

Away for last meeting.

Road maintenance. Positive feedback. What is the view of the PC please?

Efflinch Lane planning decision: SSC have requested a holding objection for further minerals review.

Hoar Cross & Newchurch:

Scotch Hill Road closure planned for maintenance.

Awaiting feedback on the numerous road maintenance issues for 1-2 miles in every direction from Hoar Cross Hall Hotel. Would the PC like a 'walk-about'? Follow Saturday please would potholes be re-reported and let me have the reference numbers.

Abbots Bromley:

- Following a complaint regarding the grass verge Uttoxeter Road, review has found that it belongs to SCC highways so the resident will be receiving notification.
- Lichfield Road footpath construction. Following a meeting this week with all stakeholders, the procedures and process are much further forward this month and almost complete.
- Curb stones Burton Road. Imminent repair. I again reported the recovered car due to the latest suspected breakdown today (Saturday), and have requested urgent review moving the curbs 15cm back each way.
- Requested minutes of the highways meeting.
- Blithfield Reservoir angling closure. Discussion with stakeholders and MP.

Newborough:

Church Lane: gullies on going.

Dunstall- road sign needs replacing.

Wychnor- nothing reported.

Yoxall- SID signs, planning.

Just received a report about HGVs on corner by Golden Cup. Reported to the Police and Highways today.

Barton under Needwood Parish Council - Receipts and Payments Monthly Summary

2026-27

Receipts	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total	Budget	Budget Balance
Rents	1,435.00	210.00	35.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,680.00		
Interest	9.58	23.35	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	56.93		
ESBC	44,437.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	44,437.82		
LA Other	932.50	0.00	99,965.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100,897.50		
Burial Ground	0.00	2,350.00	600.00	740.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,690.00	16,000.00	-12,310.00
Fishpond	290.00	0.00	540.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	830.00	2,500.00	-1,670.00
VAT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Car Park	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Grants/donations	0.00	2,136.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,136.00		
Total Income	47,104.90	4,719.35	101,164.00	740.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	153,728.25		

Payments	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total	Budget	Budget Balance
Bank Charges	12.58	12.90	0.00	18.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	43.95		
Salaries	3,818.97	3,462.52	3,457.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,739.11		
Lengthsmen	254.55	203.40	203.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	661.35		
HMRC	1,206.01	1,527.14	1,415.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,148.24		
Nest Pensions	0.00	189.16	189.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	378.32		
Admin	1,238.08	2,364.81	715.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,318.31		
Donations	0.00	0.00	90.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	90.00		
CAE - Parks	184.88	1,891.25	355.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,431.25	25,808.00	23,376.75
CAE - Burial Ground	0.00	0.00	195.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	195.83	5,000.00	4,804.17
CAE - Allotments	1,130.00	0.00	0.00	45.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,175.16	2,152.00	976.84
CAE - Fishpond	165.07	0.00	239.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	404.73	2,500.00	2,095.27
Capital Exp	0.00	3,532.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,532.00		
Maintenance	51.19	588.22	710.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,350.05		
Car Park	101.68	101.68	101.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	305.04		
General payments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Projects	0.00	922.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	922.84		
PEC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
VAT	44.63	1,076.34	321.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,442.47		
Total Spend	8,207.64	15,872.26	7,995.13	63.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	32,138.65		

Barton under Needwood Parish Council -

Schedule of Payments presented to Full Council
(invoices and quotations emailed with meeting pack)

02/07/2026

		£	£	£	Allocation
Payee	Description	Value Gross	VAT	NET	
Salaries total				0.00	HR
Nest Pension Scheme		189.16		189.16	HR
HMRC				0.00	HR
Lloyds	Bank Charges			0.00	Admin
Sky mobile	mobile phone and CCTV data			0.00	Admin & CAE
Barton Village Hall	Hall hire	262.39		262.39	Admin
Source for Business	Water supply - Burial Ground	78.78		78.78	CAE
Source for Business	Water supply - Allotments	45.16		45.16	CAE
JPS May2625	Grounds Maintenance	1,467.13	244.52	1,222.61	CAE
Hulls Environmental	Pest Control Fishpond	98.00		98.00	CAE
Rural Services	Annual subscription	66.16	11.03	55.13	Admin
C. Sellers	Renovation Christmas Star	181.37		181.37	PEC
ICO	Data protectoin fee	47.00		47.00	Admin
McAfee	Security protection	114.99	19.16	95.83	Admin
SPCA	Finance Training x 4 Cllrs	192.00	32.00	160.00	Admin
C. Charlton	Allotment padlocks x 2	16.66		16.66	Allotments
Barton Teddy Festival	Donation Scarecrow competition prizes	130.00		130.00	Donations
AquaCulture Equipment	Aerator	915.00	183.00	1,098.00	CAE
			Total	3,680.09	

Highlighted items are contracted, urgent or authorised from committee budgets for ratification

Notifications:

BT Landline and Broadband Contract Renewal

Quarterly Charge

Previous contract

£234

New Contract x 24 months

£200

increases by £4 each April

Signed:

Barton under Needwood Parish Council

Notes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee 15th June 2026

Present: Cllrs Hassall, Lord, Sharkey and Roger Bell as co-opted member

Apologies: Cllr Crawley

Declarations of Interest: Cllr Lord for item 2

P/2026/00565 20 Efflinch Lane Construction of a single storey side extension.

The property looks like it is an inter-war semi-detached property, similar to a number of others on this part of Efflinch Lane. It has already had the benefit of a two storey side extension which fits in well with the traditional character of this property. The proposal is for a fairly narrow side extension which goes close to, but not to the boundary, leaving room for access.

Resolved: No objections

P/2026/00533 1 Wharf Houses Listed Building Consent for the installation of an EV charging socket and 19/06/2026 supply cable

This proposal is for an EV charging socket and cabling. We feel that the main issue is whether or not the cabling and associated socket has any detrimental effect on the listed building. We do not think it does.

Resolved: No objections

P/2026/00488 Barton Marina Retention of signage in association with the installation of a car park 17/06/2026 management system (ANPR)

P/2026/00489 Barton Marina Retention of a car park management system (ANPR System)

We have dealt with these two applications together, as our response is common to both. This is a retrospective planning application for infrastructure which is largely in place. This includes a car parking management system (ANPR - Automatic number plate recognition system) for use within the existing parking areas comprising cameras, columns, cabinets, signage, signal poles and payment kiosks, together with a Kiosk upgrade in Car Park 3. The respective Design and Access Statements note that the existing car parks already have planning permission and that these applications seek retrospective permission for the associated infrastructure, the locations and layout of which are shown on numerous illustrations and drawings. The Design Statements note that these above ground elements have been designed using sensitive design principles. These principles, however, have not been set out in the Statements and so we do not know what they are.

Three car parks are involved, Car Park 1, immediately to the north of the Marina basin, Car Park 2, which you might call the main and largest of the parking areas to the west of the main built Marina complex, and Car Park 3 near the main entrance. It is claimed that the

system will increase security across the site by monitoring vehicles accessing the parking areas. The Design Statements also note that the proposals will ensure that the existing car parks are used more effectively and will reduce the potential for unauthorised uses such as fly tipping, although no evidence is provided to indicate whether fly tipping has ever occurred such that this is a valid concern.

The Parish Council has been aware since the infrastructure was first put in place that there was an intention to move towards charging for using the parking facilities, which are currently free to use. Following representations by the Parish Council, ESBC confirmed that a retrospective planning application for the erection of the equipment is required and this may have prevented the start of charging. The proposal includes the retention of payment kiosks but the application documents avoid stating that charging will be implemented. This leads to believe that charging is the intention of the Applicants. Clearly these two planning applications set out the car parking infrastructure and paraphernalia associated with any normal car park particularly where parking charges are involved. As such, this kind of infrastructure is found in many car parks and, in this location, we cannot see that any harm is caused or that any Local Plan policy is offended, directly. We would like to be reassured that any laying of cables etc. does not affect the integrity of the landscaping and individual tree roots.

BUT and this is a major local concern, if charging does come to fruition, then we are concerned about the knock-on consequences. We have already seen that when there are events at the , since the owners have closed the temporary overflow parking facility, overflow parking does spill out onto the adjoining roads, especially leading up to Barton Turns and at the bend short of the Station Road junction. The extent of such parking creates highway safety issues, particularly on the bend and junction. We can, therefore, envisage that drivers and visitors wishing to avoid paying a fee will see that they are able to park on adjoining roads, including Barton Turns and Efflinch Lane for free and then take a short walk into the Marina itself. This situation may, therefore, lead to an issue of highway safety on the adjoining roads and even potentially along Station Road, which may cause hazards and tailbacks, especially at the chicane. This may be contrary to Policy SP 35.

We also assume that these parking proposals fall within a tourism and leisure use and, therefore, will be subject to the criteria of Policy SP 15. As a consequence of introducing charges, we, therefore, believe that this will adversely affect the local transport infrastructure and residential amenity. There appears to be no mitigation measures being proposed. If the introduction of parking charges affects the number of visitors to the Marina, then this may also have a detrimental effect on the local economy. Evidence of such an adverse impact is available where local authorities have started charging for use of public car parks.

We note that the site of Car Park 1 also has planning permission for two other uses, a series of craft workshops and a motel. Should infrastructure in this area be retained, it will impede the implementation of these other two permissions. For some years now we have requested that the applicants provide some sort of development strategy for the site, but as far as we are aware this has never materialised. Whilst we obviously accept that this is not a planning issue, as the local community, it would be nice to be informed which land use – of the three now proposed - the Applicants intend to implement.

Resolved: No objections in principle, to the infrastructure proposals as presented here, for the retention of infrastructure required for the site management and safety issues, specifically stated in the application documents. However, as a consequence of

introducing parking charges, if that is the intention, then we do object to the impact of the development on the amenity of the local area, as we believe that there is the potential for on-street parking on the adjoining roads which may cause a highway safety hazard. Such a consequence, we believe, would be contrary to Policies SP 15 and SP 35 and we would wish to object accordingly.

It would be helpful, if prior to determining this application ESBC establishes explicitly whether or not the applicant does intend to start car park charging.

P/2026/00472 80 Park Road Demolition of existing garage to facilitate the construction of a double storey rear extension and balcony and a single storey side extension.

This proposal involves a substantial two storey rear extension. This aspect looks as though it fits in well with the property and it is located on a reasonably sized plot. The single storey side extension involves the demolition of the existing garage but replaces it with what is also described as a garage with double doors. From looking at the front elevation and the ground floor drawing, it doesn't look like the garage would be able to support even a small car, so we can only assume that the word "garage" is being used for storage purposes or for uses or vehicles other than for a car. The other problem we have with the side extension is that it is incredibly close to the boundary and consequently to the neighbour's property. We question, therefore, how it can be constructed, how access will be available to the rear garden and how maintenance may take place in the future not just for this property but also for the neighbours. By virtue of its overbearing impact and its massing and proximity to the neighbour's property at No 78, we feel that the proposal is contrary to Policies DP 1 and DP 3.

Resolved: Object to the proposal as being contrary to Policies DP 1 and DP 3 due to its massing and overbearing impact.

P/2026/00613 10-12 Main Street Eucalyptus (T1) reduce crown by 4m back to the previous reduction points. Eucalyptus (T2) reduce crown back by 4m back to previous reduction points

This application involves work to two trees in the Conservation Area. From the accompanying photographs both trees are quite tall and consequently we feel make a valuable contribution to the amenity value of the Conservation Area. Unfortunately, although the applicants refer to the cutting back to the previous reduction points these are not illustrated, so we cannot tell what impact this might have on their amenity value.

Resolved: In the absence of any further information about the previous reduction points we find it difficult to offer any comments.

P/2026/00451 155 Efflinch Lane Erection of single storey extension to rear of property. Integral double 10/06/2026 26/05/2026 garage extension with double en-suite bedroom over.

At the last meeting we objected to this proposal as being overdevelopment. The Consultation letter we received from ESBC identified the closing date for comments as 10th

June and indeed this appeared to be the closing date noted on the case officer's report. We, therefore, thought that we had responded in good time before the closing date. We were very surprised when we found that the closing date was actually 1st June and that, therefore, our comments had not been taken into consideration. As the application was refused on 4th June, with the case officer using similar reasons to our objection then in practice no harm was done. But the Planning Committee felt that we ought to express our concern to ESBC regarding this administrative error. It was also unusual, to say the least, that ESBC should determine this application so promptly after the closing date

Resolved: The Planning Committee expresses its concern to ESBC that we had timed our response based on an inaccurate deadline set out clearly in the consultation letter. Whilst we accept that this was probably an administrative error, we would just like to be reassured that dates are checked before being sent out so as to avoid this error being repeated.

P/2026/00440 Land at Efflinch Lane Development by Cameron Homes

The Parish Council considered a report on this proposal at their last meeting and agreed that in order to meet the 8th June deadline for comments that we should submit a summary of the objections and the main points of concern. We wanted to set out in more detail the Parish Council's concerns over the drainage and flood risk strategies. We understand that an extension of time to respond has been granted up to the 27th July, but we have been informed by the Head of Development Control that he hopes to put this application on the ESBC Planning Committee on 28th July. So, whilst we do have some time, if that Committee deadline is correct, then we still need to make our full submission as soon as we can so that ESBC has time to consider our detailed issues.

Cllr Lord outlined some of the issues he had discovered in considering the Applicants' Statements. He indicated that the flood risk strategy had not been tested, the attenuation pond was probably too shallow, due to a lack of capacity elsewhere and that water from here was intended to be pumped but no provision appeared to have been made for this. There was also some confusion as to whether foul drainage would be pumped or use gravity flow. Cllr Lord will develop these thoughts into a report to be included in our full submission to ESBC.

Date of Next Meeting Monday 29th June at 5:00pm

Barton under Needwood Parish Council

Notes of the Planning Committee 29th June 2026

Present: Cllrs Crawley, Hassall, Lord and Sharkey and Roger Bell as co-opted member

Apologies: None

Declarations of Interest: None

P/2026/00672 14 Park Road Construction of new front access ramp to provide wheelchair access. Conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation. Rear single storey extension. Conversion of roof structure to habitable accommodation. Raised patio area to rear garden to provide wheelchair access. Installation of air conditioning.

This set of proposals form a collection of adaptations to this property in order to accommodate a disabled young adult and his family allowing him to live independently and within the community. The works include extending the front driveway for three cars, constructing a front access ramp, converting the garage to habitable accommodation including air conditioning, converting the existing roof space for habitable accommodation and storage and creating a new raised patio area to the rear garden. According to the accompanying Planning Note, the works have been devised in such a way as to allow the applicant to gradually transfer from family dependency to living independently within the property with the continuous support of his Care Team. Again, according to the Note, the applicant currently requires 1:1 care 24 hours a day, but this will increase as he moves away from family dependency.

The property is a detached bungalow on a fairly large plot. The proposed dormers in the roof space of the front elevation will make the property look similar to adjacent properties and so it should fit within the street scene. The widening of the front driveway appears to involve the removal of a tree by the front door. The parking area material is proposed to be finished in a permeable resin surface. We recognize the personal circumstances of the applicant, and the accompanying Note explains the reasoning behind the proposed works.

Resolved: No objections

P/2026/00650 1 - 5 St James Court Main Street Replacement windows and doors to 1-5 St James court including revised fenestration to no 4 St James court.

This appears to be a collective application for replacement windows for all the five properties in St James Court, which lies within the Conservation Area. The existing wooden windows are due to be replaced by aluminium. Looking at the existing and proposed drawings this appears to be on a like for like basis in term of the style. No explanation is provided as to why the applicants have chosen aluminium as opposed to wood. As the properties fall within the Conservation Area, we have always understood that wood was the preferred material for replacement windows in Conservation Areas. We have also been aware that English Heritage has previously identified the replacement of wooden windows

by other materials as representing a decline and dilution in the character and fabric of Conservation Areas.

Resolved: No objections in principle, especially as this appears to be a like for like proposal in terms of window style. However, we would just ask that if ESBC is inclined to permit the proposal that they explain their reasoning for accepting a material other than wood. Our concern is that this may set a precedent for other properties in the Conservation Area.

P/2026/00618 124 Main Street Following demolition of existing garage and rear extensions, construction of canopy, side and rear extensions

The property is located in the Conservation Area. Works include a new front porch. The garage is apparently due to be demolished to make way for a storage area, although what looks like garage doors are to be retained in the front elevation. At the rear, windows in the roof space are to be replaced with a dormer and what looks like either railings or a Juliet balcony. The ground floor flat roof rear extension is to be replaced with a longer pitched roof extension. The full width porch on the front elevation adds symmetry to the property.

Resolved: No objections

P/2026/00440 Land at Efflinch Lane Erection of 55 no. dwellings including details of access, landscaping, and associated infrastructure and works including the creation of an attenuation pond, siting of a pump station and a sub-station

We have already produced a draft report which is awaiting a more detailed assessment of the flooding and drainage issues. We are hoping that this can be finalized for our next meeting in two weeks' time, so as to meet ESBC's extension of time deadline.

The Clerk informed the Planning Committee of the concerns of a local resident, with regard to the potential for anti-social behaviour, arising from both the location of a parking area and what appears to be a redundant piece of open space in the northern part of the proposed layout for this development. Concerns were also expressed about the loss of residential amenity through noise, loss of air quality and pollution and the loss of privacy through the use of EV chargers.

We understand that the writer has already submitted these detailed and considered objections to ESBC. The Committee felt that this was very much a personal objection which had already been expressed in a very clear and articulate fashion. As a Planning Committee we did not feel that we could contribute anything further. We have already made criticisms of the design and layout and, in particular, the ghettoization of the affordable housing areas, making the point that this form of housing should be indistinguishable from the market housing. Design features such as parking courts with a lack of off-street parking just demonstrates that this objective has not been achieved. One area, however, where we feel we can contribute is to reinforce the need for either the applicants or ESBC to undertake a Crime Prevention Review.

In considering these issues we also noticed that there appeared to be a thin, narrow area of land between the rear boundaries of the proposed properties and the boundary of the existing properties on the Causer Road development. The drawing shows this area as a dark green line with a note to the effect that the ditch is to be replanted. At either end of this

strip there appears to be a gateway access. It is not at all clear as to whether this strip of land is regarded as open space or indeed how it is to be maintained, who is responsible and where any future ownership lies.

Resolved: It was agreed that we add a point to the Design section of our draft report to request that, in the light of the concerns of this resident, either the Applicants or ESBC undertake a Crime Prevention Review to ensure that any revised and approved design and layout incorporates safe, secure and defensible spaces. We also agreed that in our submission we should query the various issues associated with the strip of land on the northern boundary of the proposed development

Local Plan Review and Timetable - A Note for Information for Parish Councillors

We have recently been notified of the intention of ESBC to commence preparation of a new Local Plan. Local Plans are important due to planning legislation stating that you determine planning applications in accordance with the Local Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The starting point in looking at any application, therefore, is that we need to ask what does the Local Plan say about this proposal – are there any planning policies that apply? But Local Plans are also forward looking documents which should provide some certainty both to developers and local communities as they allocate land for specific purposes, such as housing, open space and industry. The implication here is that once a Local Plan has been through a process of widespread consultation and an Examination conducted by an Independent Planning Inspector then it should provide considerable weight in determining planning applications and confidence that development will take place on the allocated areas while resisting development elsewhere.

Local Plans have generally taken a long time to come to fruition. In the past they have undergone a process which has included, an Issues and Options stage, the preparation of a Draft Local Plan, both subject to consultation before the preferred Local Plan is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for an Examination at which the Inspector hears or considers all objections. The Inspector writes a report for consideration by the Local Planning Authority before its final adoption as the statutory Local Plan for the Borough.

The Government has an objective of aiming to build 1.5 m houses over the next five years. In order to achieve this objective, it has made changes to the National Planning Policy Framework. In addition, just recently it has consulted on proposed changes to the process of preparing Local Plans. We get the impression that there is a concerted effort now to try and achieve full Local Plan coverage of the country and also to concertina a timetable so that plans are prepared over a 30 month timescale.

The main issue with preparing Local Plans has always been the balance between ensuring there is sufficient and widespread consultation and feedback with the need to prepare plans in a timely fashion. Once a Local Plan has been submitted to the Planning Inspector then the length of time it takes is dependent on the amount and the complexity of the objections received, which is an unknown factor until you get to that stage.

ESBC has now set out a timetable (attached) which follows the Government's new guidelines. This allows for three periods of consultation or Gateways as they are called. The first, sets out the main issues which ESBC will wish to tackle in the Local Plan. The second is effectively the production of a draft Local Plan for consultation and the third Gateway is the Local Plan being submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for Examination.

The Parish Council is a statutory consultee which means that we should be consulted at all appropriate stages. The Planning Committee will consider all these documents and prepare reports for the Parish Council at appropriate times. The first time that we will be involved in this Local Plan process is fairly soon as the timetable envisages consulting on a Scoping stage with stakeholders during July and August this year. As far as the overall timetable is concerned then a Local Plan is envisaged as being submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in November 2028, with an Examination taking place shortly after in December of that year and formal Adoption of the new Local Plan taking place in May 2029.

Cllr Sharkey noted that representatives of the Parish Council are due to meet ESBC Officers on Tuesday 30th June with Borough Councillor Jacqui Jones to discuss the after uses for the Newbold quarry area including a possible Country Park type area and how this might fit within the new Local Plan.

P/2025/00513 Outline application for up to 70 houses at The Green

Cllr Lord made reference to the comments of the Flood Risk Officer at Suffolk County Council and his discussions with the Applicants regarding this planning application. The Officer has requested that these comments were for our assistance only and that they should not be made public at this time. Cllr Lord stated that he remains in consultation and detailed discussions on this application with the Flood Risk Officer

Date of the next Meeting Monday 13th July 2026

ESBC Local Plan Review Timetable

Pre-commencement stages 2023 -July 2026

Document	Preparation Stage	Key Milestone Target Dates (2026-9)
Publish notice of intention to commence local plan preparation.		June 2026
Scoping consultation inviting feedback from stakeholders on how to engage with them and what the plan should contain		July -August 2026

Gateway 1 Assessment October 2026

Formal commencement of plan making	October 2026
Publish a summary of the main issues raised in the scoping consultation. Consult for 6 weeks on the proposed local plan content and evidence, including a draft vision	March 2027- May 2027

Gateway Assessment 2 February 2028

Publish proposed Local Plan Policies, site allocations and designations	March 2028
Consultation period of 8 weeks	April/May 2028

Gateway Assessment 3 October 2028

Local Plan submitted for Examination	November 2028
Examination	December 2028
Adoption	May 2029
Publish Policies Maps and begin Monitoring	June 2029



Community Assets & Environment Committee Meeting (CAEC)

MINUTES of a meeting held on Tuesday 23 June 2026, 6.00pm to 7.15pm
Small Meeting Room, Barton Village Hall.

1. Attendance and Apologies

Cllrs C Davis (CD), E Sharkey (ES), I Meadows (IM), S Naylor (SN), Clerk S Rumsby, Cllr D Lord (DL)
(arrived 6.30pm)

2. Annual Election of Committee Chair and Committee members –

Cllr Davis was elected as Chairman for this financial year; all members present confirmed they were happy to stand on the Committee.

3. Declarations of Interest - None received

4. Parks

- a. Supervision of Grounds Maintenance Contract
Andy Davis had completed the first checks following the last Grounds Maintenance visit, his report was circulated. The reports may be useful in tweaking the contract for any gaps identified.
- b. List of Repairs to equipment - Andy had met with Cllr Sharkey and had confirmed he was happy to carry out minor repairs.
- c. Regular Inspection Record - draft circulated, this will be updated with photographs and given to Andy for equipment checks to be made. Action ES/Clerk
- d. Replacement of benches and tables – a supplier was being chased. Some existing kit/wood could be refurbished. Cost of kits from a local sawmill had been identified, but installation quotes were required. Action ES
- e. Overhanging tree canopy adjacent Collinson Park on Collinson Road – residents complaint received. Cllr Sharkey advised delivery vehicles tend to catch overhanging branches. It will be added to the quotes for tree works at the fishpond. Action ES/Clerk
- f. Toddler Park soft close gates – a hydraulic closing system with adjustment to the side pillars to accommodate was required as a safety measure. Action : Clerk to contact DSK Engineering, Cllr Sharkey to pass on drawings. It was suggested Adam Spurrier could also be approached for this work. Action ES
- g. Criminal damage to barrier, bucket swing – replacement or removal to be considered. Replacement to be priced up and before a decision could be made. (enquiry to DSK). Action ES/Clerk

5. Fishpond

- a. EA Fish Survey and liaison with Jody Hughes, EA Fisheries Officer on Management Plan
Tree work would need to be carried out before the autumn leaf fall.
Request for info received – a response was agreed to advise that BPC were planning for tree works to be done before leaf fall to reduce algae. Refer to the EA reports concerning overstocking – Cllr Sharkey advised the fish survey indicated the pond was not overstocked and the fish were coping with the conditions.
It was agreed to publish the EA report stating that the recommendations concerning tree management had been accepted and that selective coppicing would be carried out for the overall benefit of fish and wildlife. **Action –Clerk to Publish on Website with link on Facebook.**

- b. Permission for use of fishpond for pond dipping (TRJS) and the Barton Belle (Village Teddy Festival) was ratified. Bailiffs to be informed of the dates. Action Clerk
- c. Severn Trent had approached BPC with a view to installing a permanent water sampling device. This was welcomed, Clerk to obtain more information as to location, size etc and notify Adam and Simon. Action Clerk

6. Allotments

- a. Neighbour issues – no complaints had been received regarding trees or bonfires
- b. Plot-holder issues – dog fouling, theft of produce and gate lock.
Members did not recall offering CCTV which was thought to be impractical due to power issues, data storage and monitoring footage.
- c. New lock for entry gate – Cllr Meadows had met with Lichfield locksmiths – several barrel locks had gone missing. The gate frame is narrow for a box to be installed for the pin combination lock. This will be picked up again for more detail, possibly with a view to a mounting plate being welded on to gate. There could still be issues with the code being changed or tampered with. Cllrs agreed it was worth pursuing the digital lock. Action IM
- d. Agreement breaches - non-maintenance of plots; non-payment of rent (x 5)–warning letter; Cllrs to carry out a site inspection to identify non-maintained plots. Action tba
- e. Identification pegs–it was agreed Clerk to purchase plastic id markers with pre-drilled holes. Pressure treated, wooden stakes could be bought for fixing. Action Clerk
- f. Formation of Allotments Committee–All agreed Clerk to send note to all advising that an Allotments Committee formed of plot-holders had been suggested, it should be made clear that Graham continues to act as lettings secretary. The group could put forward their ideas. Action Clerk

- 7. **Grounds Maintenance Tender 2027-2029**– documentation to be tweaked in July/August ready to go to tender in September. The contractor could then be selected in October ready for budgeting in November. Cllr Lord advised that the Bellways land transfer of the Mill Lane plot was to progress. The site will fall under BPC responsibility so therefore needs to be included in the tender.

8. Burial Ground

- a. Suggestions for improvements to Memorial Garden–Cllrs Sharkey and Naylor to meet with representatives of the Gardening Guild to go through the suggestions. Cllr Sharkey to circulate the Gardening Guild's report. Action ES/SN
- b. Tree work – lifting of crown on the Norway Maple in memorial garden required.
Action ES/Clerk
- c. Capacity
 - i. Exceptions to Rules– it was agreed to leave the criteria as is.
 - ii. Potential new ground – approach to landowners. Cllr Crawley to update on conversations with local farmer. Rev Andy had advised that the Church is establishing what spare plots remain within their ground.
 - iii. Mill Lane/Bellways plot, transfer of land being progressed. It was agreed to research what the process is to convert the ground. This was thought to be a lengthy process and the plot could be used by Barton Rugby Club until it was known when and if viable for any other use.
- d. Headstone Topple Testing–methods still being researched; Cllr Davis to circulate Ministry of Justice guidance. Action CD
- e. Complaint – plants damaged and dog fouling – it was agreed to erect extra signage - Dogs on Leads and Cyclists to Dismount Action Clerk

9. Village Hall Car Park

- a. Strip of land adjacent Methodist Church – BPC had been approached as members of the church were no longer minded to maintain the garden frontage and had requested if it could be turned into a footpath to the car park. Councillors felt this would encourage parking on the path and felt it best therefore to keep the planting and to hand over maintenance of same to our own groundsman.
- b. Tree removal – garden adjacent foyer. A large conifer needs to be removed as it was affecting light into the foyer and roots could also encroach into drains. Cllr Sharkey had engaged in some design suggestions for replacement planting and quotes need to be updated for the tree removal. He did not think planning permission was required but ESBC to be notified of the plan. Action ES

10. Budget provisions overall – budget to be reviewed once costings were known for items discussed, eg tree work, benches etc.

11. Actions from previous Parish Council meetings

- a. War Memorial
 - i. Reflectors for Bollards – Clerk to purchase
 - ii. Fingerpost refurbishment—it was agreed that this was not a priority; Councillors would monitor and replenish with Hammarite paint and cleaning as required. Action to be deleted.

12. Councillors Updates or items for next Agenda

- a. Knee rail, Gilmour Lane opposite TRJS – The rail is now defunct and can be removed. Cllr Sharkey to discuss with HSC if they would like to re-cycle the top rail or keep as spares for their rails. Action ES
13. Date of next meeting. It was agreed to gradually move towards the intended quarterly meetings for CAEC. Provisional date Wed 09 Sept at 1800, to be confirmed

Notice of Memorial Safety Inspections (Headstone Topple Testing) – Summer 2026

Barton under Needwood Parish Council wishes to advise that routine safety inspections of memorials within the churchyard will be carried out during this summer.

These inspections, sometimes referred to as “topple testing,” are undertaken periodically to ensure that headstones and other memorials remain safe and stable. This is part of the Council’s responsibility to protect visitors, staff, and volunteers who access and maintain the churchyard.

The last full inspection was completed in 2022, and in line with good practice, the Council now undertakes these checks every four years.

The inspections will be carried out with the utmost care and respect for the memorials and the individuals they commemorate. However, where a memorial is found to be unstable and poses a potential risk, the Council has a duty to take immediate action. This may include carefully laying the memorial flat to prevent it from falling and causing injury. A notice will be placed on or near the memorial to indicate that it has been made safe.

Where possible, the Council will make reasonable efforts to contact the registered owner or family members of any affected memorial, to discuss appropriate next steps.

We appreciate that memorials hold deep personal significance, and we thank everyone for their understanding and cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and respectful environment for all.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact the Parish Council clerk@bartonunderneedwood-pc.gov.uk telephone: 01273 716059

Barton under Needwood Parish Council - May 2026

CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATIONS

GENERAL

1. Appeal for support from Trent Rowing Club for contribution towards new boat store
2. Resident request for update on Fishpond Management (*copied to CAEC for response*)
3. Resident copy of points raised with ESBC in objections to the Efflinch Lane development (*copied to Planning Committee*)
4. Resident report of sinkhole o/w 102 Main Street – *Clerk responded*

ESBC

5. Protection of Premises Workshop (Martyn's Law) 22 and 29 July. (circulated)

SPCA/NALC

6. Newsletters and training opportunities- forwarded to all Cllrs;
7. Response from SCC on Suspension of SIDs and countywide review