

# **BARNBY IN THE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9 April 2015 in the Village Hall at 7:30 pm.**

### **PC/35/15 Attendance and Apologies**

Members present: Cllrs Graham Bett (Chairman), Dave Shaw, Janette Barlow, Robert Jones, Barbara Hill, Celia Derbyshire.  
In attendance: Yvette Wellard (Clerk), Maureen Dobson (District Cllr), Linda Cox (District Council candidate), 2 members of the Parish.  
Apologies were received from Cllr Powell (on holiday)

### **PC/36/15 Declarations of Interest.**

There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

### **PC/37/15 Public / District Council Contribution.**

Cllr Dobson stated that as the District representative, she would have to object to planning application 15/00347/FUL, even if the porta-cabin was in the back garden, as it would still contravene the rules of the conservation area. She wanted to support the family, and would suggest to Newark & Sherwood Homes that a wooden shed may be more acceptable. Cllr Dobson advised that in order to be consistent, the Parish Council should also check whether a motor home kept on Back Lane was within the conservation area.

*Cllr Dobson and Mrs Cox left the meeting.*

### **PC/38/15 Minutes of the Previous Parish Council Meeting.**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12 March 2015 were proposed as a true record by Cllr Shaw, seconded by Cllr Barlow, agreed, and signed by the Chairman.

### **PC/39/15 Matters arising.**

**PC/28/15:** It was reported that in spite of a warning from PCSO Mike Munro, the quad bike was still being ridden around the village. Residents had reported it to the police again, and it was agreed that the Parish Council should also contact PCSO Munro again.

Cllrs Bett, Shaw and Powell were thanked for their work on cutting the hedges round the playing field, which now looked very tidy.

**PC/30/15:** The former Parish Clerk, Tom Maguire had looked at the possibility of a charity trust status for the Village Hall a few years ago. In his view, the biggest draw-back would be finding trustees willing to take on full management of the hall. He also advised that as the hall would not then be registered for VAT, it may not be financially worthwhile. The Clerk would obtain more facts and figures for future consideration.

### **PC/40/15 Finance and Administration.**

#### **a. Clerk's salary**

The Clerk had previously received an annual salary from the Parish, but this had led to difficulties in reporting PAYE to HMRC, as the new statutory online system of Real Time Information could only be used to report weekly or monthly payments. At the Clerk's suggestion, it was therefore proposed by Cllr Barlow, seconded by Cllr Derbyshire and agreed that the Clerk's salary would be paid monthly from the start of the 2015/16 tax year. As the annual payments had covered a period from January to December each year, a payment of £206.79 was approved for the months of January to March 2015 in order to complete the previous tax year.

#### **b. Draft 2014/15 Accounts**

Copies of the accounts and bank reconciliation were circulated. Cllrs noted that the main item of expenditure was the new ladies/disabled toilet and expressed appreciation for Cllr Dobson's grant of £250 towards this.

**c. Appointment of Internal Auditor**

Mr Tom Maguire had again agreed to carry out the audit. Proposed by Cllr Shaw, seconded by Cllr Barlow, his offer was gratefully accepted by the Council.

**d. Parish Web Site**

Cllr Barlow reported that the new website [www.barnbyinthewillows.com](http://www.barnbyinthewillows.com) was now available on line. It had been designed and purchased as a donation to the village by Parishioner, Mr Mark Evison, to enable the Parish Council to publish statutory information as required by the new Transparency Code for smaller authorities. The site also includes photographs, village news and events, the history of Barnby and a page for All Saints' Church. The site would be updated by the Clerk with further help from Mr Evison. The Parish Council thanked Mr Evison for all the work he had put in to produce a very colourful and informative web site.

**PC/41/15 Village Hall**

**a. Village Hall Committee Report**

Cllr Shaw the VH Cttee Secretary, reported that several fund raising events had already been planned for the coming year. Cllr Barlow highlighted the new rules concerning food allergens which would have to be complied with when serving suppers etc. Cllr Shaw would put this on the agenda for the next meeting of the Cttee for them to decide how this should be covered.

**b. Caretaker's job description and allocation of duties**

Mr Geoff Morris had conditionally agreed to take on some caretaking duties, subject to agreement of a revised contract. The Clerk would take over responsibility for bookings and the collection of payments. Mr Morris would mainly be responsible for preparing and opening the hall, and checking and closing after use. A revised contract would be drawn up and agreed at the next PC meeting. The Clerk reported that the store room needed to be sorted out, and that there was a provisional booking for a wedding reception on 1 January 2016.

**PC/42/15 Village Green and Playing Field.**

Mr Les Chaplin had already mowed the Green and play area three times, and several people had remarked on how well it looked. He submitted a report with the following observations:

- He has to pick up dog waste from the field before he can mow.
- There were horses' hoof prints on the SE quarter of the field.
- The bench on the Green is flaking and needs to be re-varnished.

It was agreed that the Clerk should obtain a sign for the play area saying 'no dogs or horses'. Cllr Shaw volunteered to varnish the bench.

Mr Chaplin would be on holiday from 6 – 20 May, and the Clerk would arrange for mowing during this time.

**PC/43/15 Footpaths, Roads, Environment.**

- a. A resident of the village had requested that the railings of the bridge over the Witham be re-painted. The Clerk was asked to find out who is responsible for the upkeep of the bridge.
- b. It was agreed that the village should enter the Best Kept Village Competition again this year, as it had encouraged a good community spirit.

**PC/44/15 Planning**

**a. 15/00347/FUL Porta-cabin at 1 Front Street and change of use for business.**

It was proposed by Cllr Derbyshire, seconded by Cllr Barlow and unanimously agreed that whilst the Parish Council was willing to support the owners running a business from their home, the application to erect a porta-cabin should be refused because it was within the conservation area and therefore only traditional building materials could be used. Concerns were also expressed about a possible increase in traffic if the business was advertised as selling from the premises; visits by clients should be by appointment only.

**b. 15/00514/FUL Extension to Wellington lodge, Long Lane.**

There were no objections to the plans as there would be little change to the outward appearance of the premises.

**c. Correspondence on straw storage at Fulbeck Airfield.**

The Clerk had received emails from neighbouring parishes (Fenton and Leadenham) asking for support for their objections to the storage of straw at Fulbeck Airfield for use at the Sleaford power

station. However, Cllr Derbyshire said that as the scoping consultation period had expired some time ago, it would be advisable to wait for a planning application to be submitted before commenting.

**PC/45/15 Correspondence**

There were no further items of correspondence.

**PC/46/15 Matters for Immediate Attention**

The Chairman advised that this would be Cllr Barbara Hill's last meeting as a Parish Councillor, after 45 years as a Member and former Chairman in Barnby, as she was standing down at the next election. Cllr Bett thanked her for her support over the years and said that her contribution and knowledge of the village would be greatly missed.

*The meeting closed at 9:25pm*

..... Chairman

.....Date