

BARNBY IN THE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 June 2019 in the Village Hall at 7:30pm.

Present:

Cllrs Janette Barlow (Chmn), Jackie Parker, Graham Bett, Carina Jukes, Carol Speakman, Karin Chaplin. Yvette Wellard (Clerk), County Cllr Maureen Dobson.

PC/37/19 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Powell.

PC/38/19 Declarations of Interest

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

PC/39/19 County Councillor.

- i) Cllr Dobson said that she had received an email from a Barnby resident complaining about the grass verge on Cross Lane which no-one was mowing and advised that NCC would cut grass verges within the 30mph limits five times a year.
- ii) Cllr Barlow reported that footpaths around the village, particularly across arable fields were impassable. **Cllr Dobson** would contact the Rights of Way Team. The **Clerk** to provide footpath numbers for reference.
- iii) Cllr Speakman asked what could be done about the problem of speeding in the village and Cllrs also raised the danger of speeding traffic to drivers, walkers and horse riders on the narrow lanes into the village, which are unsuited to a 60mph speed limit, particularly with the increased volume of traffic cutting through. Cllr Dobson advised that as a no-through road, the village would not be eligible for speed reduction measures, and that as it is national legislation, nothing could be done to reduce the speed limit of 60mph on the lanes. **Cllr Dobson** would request a tube count to check the volume of traffic. Cllrs discussed how effective the use of a speed gun would be as a deterrent within the village and for lorry watch in the lanes. The Clerk advised that if the Council wished to do this, it may be possible to borrow radar equipment, but volunteers would need to have training.

Cllr Dobson left the meeting.

PC/40/19 Approval of the Annual Parish Council Minutes.

Proposed as a true record by Cllr Jukes, seconded by Cllr Parker, the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 9th May 2019 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

PC/41/19 Matters Arising.

PC/32/19 The Clerk confirmed that Barnby had been entered for the Best Kept Village competition.

PC/42/19 Administration.

a) Clerk's contract. A letter was received from the Clerk informing the Council of her retirement from 31st October 2019. It was agreed that the **Clerk** would place a notice in the newsletter and on the website initially. If this did not produce any suitable candidates from the village, then the vacancy would be advertised in the surrounding parishes and through NALC. The **Clerk** would draw up a detailed job description for discussion and approval at the next Parish Council meeting.

b) Newsletter and website. Cllrs discussed whether the quarterly newsletter was a cost-effective way of sending out information from the Parish Council compared with flyers, the website and the use of the village data base for specific events and news. It was agreed that producing a newsletter was not necessarily part of the Clerk's duties and an invitation could go out to anyone in the village who might be interested in producing a newsletter in collaboration with the Parish Council.

As reported by Mrs Stanley at the March PC meeting, new software was being phased in by Wordpress for editing the website content from 2020 and that both she as editor and Mr Evison as administrator, would no longer be available to run the Barnby website. Cllrs were very grateful for all the help that Mr Evison and Mrs Stanley had provided in setting up the website. It was agreed that administration of the website should be included in the job spec. for the new Clerk.

c) Committee Report. Cllr Parker reported that ticket sales were good for Party on the Green. Two new teapots had been donated by Paul Harrison. The Parish Council approved a request from the Committee to purchase a new urn for the Village Hall to replace the old one. Future events planned were a Summer Lunch on 21st July, the Horticultural Show 7th September and Live & Local in October.

d) Village Hall Lettings and Maintenance.

i) The Clerk reported that the Church had booked the hall for the Harvest Lunch on Sunday 15th Sept. Members agreed that in support of the Church's fund raising, there would be no charge for the use of the hall. Mr Paul Harrison was planning a Remembrance Day event on the evening of Saturday 9th November. Cllrs stipulated that his booking should be paid for and not be reliant on the event raising money to donate to the Village Hall.

ii) A request was received from the Air Ambulance for a clothes bank to be sited in the village. Cllrs discussed possible locations such as the front of the Village Hall, behind the gate.

iii) The Chairman drew attention to the area behind the Village Hall which had become very overgrown. The fence was broken in places and in need of preservative which Mr Richard Simcock had offered to supply. Volunteers for a task force would be sought through the newsletter.

e) Community Fund Application. It had been suggested that the Parish Council could apply for community funding through the National Lottery Awards, for which a specific project would need to be planned and costed. It was agreed that one of the most pressing needs was the replacement or refurbishment of the Village Hall windows. The Clerk would request a visit by the Conservation Officer to discuss what type of windows would be permitted. Other projects suggested included replacement chairs and curtains. Cllr Chaplin offered to make new curtains if the Council would provide the materials.

f) Matters Arising from the Annual Parish Meeting. Mr Derek Parker had replaced the bulb in the defibrillator kiosk. The Clerk had emailed Philip Jessop re defibrillator training, but as yet no response. It was not felt necessary for the Parish Council to provide dog waste bags, but the Clerk would request an additional bin from NSDC for Back Lane near the footpath at School House and ask whether a larger bin could be supplied for the Village Green as the bin was frequently over-flowing.

PC/43/19 Finance:

a) Approval of Payments.

Proposed by Cllr Speakman, seconded by Cllr Chaplin, the following items were agreed for payment:

Eon	£105.11
L Chaplin – mileage for mower repairs	£ 19.26

b) Finance Report.

Cllrs received copies of the finance statement at 13th June.

c) Budget Review.

The 2019/20 Budget was revised to reflect the Village Hall's exemption from paying business rates and the Performing Rights Licence. It was noted that the budget for the Clerk's salary may have to be increased from November in order to attract the right candidate for the post and also for administration of the website.

PC/44/19 Environment and Open Spaces.

a) Village Green, Sports Field and Grass Verges.

Barnby had been added to the NCC mowing schedule for 5 cuts a year and the grass cutting team had visited the village twice. However on both occasions it was reported that the verges and Village Green were already cut shorter than the Council mowers were set at, so no mowing was done. The complaint which was sent to Cllr Dobson about the grass verge on Cross Lane had also been referred to the Parish Council and the Clerk would bring this to the attention of the NCC mowing team for inclusion on their next visit along with any other areas which are not regularly cut by residents.

b) Footpaths.

As reported to Cllr Dobson at the start of the meeting, complaints had been received about the state of the footpaths around Barnby, particularly through the arable field behind the Village Hall which should have a path through the middle of the field to the river. The Clerk would follow this up through Cllr Dobson and the NCC RoW Team, and also contact Lincolnshire CC which is responsible for some sections of the paths.

c) Roads and Traffic.

Further to the discussion with Cllr Dobson, it was suggested that when information from the tube count was available, it should be used to write to the MP highlighting the increased traffic cutting through between the A17 and Balderton, and the dangers posed on Barnby's narrow lanes. If 3 or 4 volunteers could be found to take part in speed watch sessions, the Clerk would make enquiries about borrowing a speed gun and attending a training session.

PC/45/19 Correspondence and Matters of Immediate Note.

- i) The Parish Council had received notification that a planning application for ground-mounted solar panels and a new switch room building at Barnby Manor had been approved. There had been no previous correspondence on this and the Clerk was asked to send a letter of complaint to the Planning Authority that the Parish Council had not been consulted on the application.
- ii) The next Safer Neighbourhood Group meeting would be held in Collingham on Wednesday 26th June.
- iii) Cllr Chaplin confirmed that she would be attending NALC's new councillor training on 17th June.

Date of the next meeting:

Thursday 11th July at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9:30pm