

BARNBY IN THE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 9th SEPTEMBER 2021 at 7:00pm.

Attendees: Cllr Janette Barlow, Cllr Jackie Parker, Cllr Powell, Cllr Carol Speakman, Cllr Graham Bett, Helen Cowlan (Clerk)

Public: Mr Neil Gribby

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Carina Jukes (due to a prior engagement). Additionally, apologies for absence were received from all County/District Councillors due to clashes with other meetings. Apologies were accepted by the Parish Council.

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Contributions from the public, District and County Councillors

- Clerk read the updates provided by each Councillor. Key points included:
 - a) Cllr Lee advised to get in contact if the road sweeper and/or cleaning teams are needed, to update him if there are any issues with fouling, and also if there are any issues with antisocial behaviour in the area as reports are currently low. Cllr Lee would like to improve communications between the Parish, District and County Councils to improve issues with parking and/or speeding in the Village.
 - b) Cllr Brooks also offered support for traffic / speeding issues.
- Mr Gribby requested details of the Parish Council, and Village Hall, financial position, to which the Clerk responded including an overview of how income and costs are distributed.

4. Approval of minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th July were approved as being a true record of the meeting - proposed Cllr Speakman, seconded Cllr Parker.

5. Matters arising from the minutes

- Cllr Speakman proposed that any matters arising from the previous meeting's minutes should be addressed during each meeting (rather than moving them to the following meeting) to help to ensure progress is made as soon as possible – the agenda wording will be removed/rephrased – unanimously agreed.
- Cllr Speakman asked for updates on specific items, to which the Clerk gave information as follows:
 - a) Land allocation for Gypsy Traveller sites – no response has been received from MP Robert Jenrick but a copy of our response to the consultation will be forwarded on.
 - b) Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) – the next round of funding applications is in January.
 - c) 30mph / 'slow for a reason' signs – no update has been received so will be chase up by the Clerk.
- Cllr Parker asked for an update about the website / changing providers – the Clerk advised that the website is being built and a link will be sent for Cllrs to review before taking steps to move away from the current provider. The Clerk ensure the current account provider assists with advice/smooth transfer as far as possible.
- Cllr Barlow requested that, when raising issues/concerns, Cllrs ensure that they have gained full facts / wider information to make sure everything has been considered before making decisions about next steps.

6. Actions list (HC/all) – updates on previous actions raised

A summary of the current positions was given with key updated being provided in other areas of the minutes.

7. Finance (HC)– review financial issues / authorise payments

a) Payments made since last meeting (July):

Parish Council:

Mower fuel £26.39 (June and July)

Mower belt £14.32

Village Hall:

Water Plus £32.48

SSE £144.74 (estimated readings – refund will be due when actual readings are updated)

Wave (sewerage) £74.03

Parish Clerk: Mrs Helen Cowlan Tel: 07905 787086
E-mail: parishclerk@barnbyinthewillows.com

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- b) Payments upcoming:
Newsletter – printing £50.40
Weed and feed has been purchased for the Green and Sports Field (Derick Parker to provide receipt)
All payments were unanimously agreed – proposed Cllr Speakman, seconded Cllr Powell.
- c) Income received – sources of income include the Horticultural Show (£168), Hall Hire (£24) and the next instalment of the precept will be due in September (tbc).
- d) Summary of Finances – current bank balances were provided.
- e) Banking – HSBC have advised that the type of bank account will be changing to one that incurs a monthly fee (likely to be after having an introductory period). **ACTION – Clerk to review alternative options with other banks to see if it necessary to move to another bank.**

8. Planning matters

- a) Review NSDCs Allocations & Development Management DPD – *consider the suggestions made for the allocation of land for Gypsy/Traveller sites (specifically Chestnut Lodge), and agree next steps.*

Cllr Speakman shared an update from NSDC's Planning Department who may recommend refusal to renew a temporary planning application relating to Sandhills which could lead to them having to find sites for an additional 10 pitches.

The Parish Councillors remain concerned about Chestnut Lodge's inclusion as a potential site for an additional 20 spaces in line with previous views – key points of concern being a lack of amenities in the surrounding area, as well as additional pressure being placed on local schools and healthcare provision. There is also a lack of information available about whether or not the conditions of the permission granted for the existing two pitches are being met. Concerns were raised that precedent could be set if future applications start small, and then change to be increased.

Councillors reviewed all of the sites under consideration, and the reasons for those that had been discounted, and felt that the following would be more suitable:

- Tolney Lane – this area already has a community into which additional families could be included
- Belvoir Ironworks/Middlebeck - this site would enable the Travellers to have easy access to road networks, as well as having closer access to amenities including schooling.

ACTION – Clerk to submit formal response, and liaise with Coddington and Balderton PCs to see if they wish to meet and/or have a joint response. A copy will also be forwarded to MP Robert Jenrick.

9. Speeding

Concerns were raised about recent speeding issues, particularly from delivery drivers, along Dark Lane and Front Street and the impact this could have for the safety of residents (including children and pets). It was agreed that it was time to take more formal action, and Cllrs Parker and Speakman volunteered to be involved. It was felt that road markings may not be an easy option in the early stages at least.

ACTION – Clerk to engage with Speedwatch scheme and liaise with Coddington Parish Council about borrowing their speed gun (including establishing training processes); Clerk to invite a member of the local Policing Team to a future meeting (PCSO Andrew Mighall and PC Gareth Nicholson); Clerk to establish the current position of the local SNG.

10. Litter Pick

Cllr Speakman highlighted that litter is more visible now that verges have been cut. There are also issues with littering in the 'layby' at the top of Long Lane near the A17. **ACTION – Clerk to request NCC do a litter pick along Long Lane; identify ownership of the 'layby' and whether or not a bin could be installed / whose responsibility it would be, how often it could be emptied etc.**

11. Village Committee Report

- Cllr Parker provided an overview of events and plans including:
 - a) Picnic on The Green (Aug) – just over 50 people attended and was an enjoyable event.
 - b) Horticultural Show – the event was a success and enjoyed by many with £168 raised (to be banked by the Clerk).
 - c) Wreathmaking – to be held early in December with details to follow.
 - d) Queen's Platinum Jubilee – this will be a big event for June 2022 and plans will start soon.
- Cllr Parker proposed that a new marquee is needed due to the condition of the current one deteriorating, and that costs be shared between the Parish Council and Village Committee. It could be useful to have one which could be put up in the car park to extend covered space, and would give flexibility to events held on

Parish Clerk: Mrs Helen Cowlan Tel: 07905 787086
E-mail: parishclerk@barnbyinthewillows.com

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The Green (where weather conditions can vary for both scenarios). Consideration would need to be given to its storage, and costs could be approx. £1000 depending on size. **ACTION - JP to bring further details of research into sizes and costs to the next meeting.**

- Concern was raised about the condition of items in the shed (including the old chairs) and what action was needed to clean / reorganise the area. **ACTION – Cllr Bett to review.**
- Cllr Speakman suggested that new tablecloths would be needed due to the current ones becoming worn.
- Cllr Barlow advised that the cause of the damp had been identified as being a blocked gutter (causing water to cascade down the external wall) and should have been solved now that it has been cleared. Next steps will be to decide the best way to clean up damage caused to the interior.
- Cllr Barlow advised that there is a slate missing from the roof but its replacement is being organised.
- Concern was raised about elements of maintenance for the Hall and surroundings (including front door, gate and weeds). It was felt that there were opportunities to identify remedial action, but also to establish frequency of regular checks / tasks, and ensure owners were allocated to them.
ACTION – Clerk to add an item to the next agenda to review caretaker responsibilities, and the possibility of setting up a working party; Cllr Parker to ask Derick Parker to organise the front door being treated with oil (unanimously agreed).
- Cllr Speakman enquired whether or not terms of the Disability Discrimination Act were being met due to there being no handrails at either entrance to the building. The Parish Council discussed where hand, or grab, rails could be added (especially at the front) and that consideration would need to be given to the building's listed status. It was acknowledged that a review, or audit, of regulations could help to establish if 'reasonable adjustments' are being met. **ACTION – Clerk to contact County Councillor about rails / planning requirements.**

12. Village Committee Constitution

As the previous versions of the Village Committee Constitution, and Village Hall Constitution appear to be one document, but may be better as two, a full review will be carried out with suggestions for amendments being agreed at a future meeting. The Village Committee Constitution will include amendments to reflect eight members, and a quorum of six, as discussed at the last meeting. **ACTION – Clerk and Cllr Barlow to review content, format and changes needed.**

13. Vacancy

NSDC have confirmed that an election is not required, and that the vacancy can be filled by co-option. The Parish Council discussed how to proceed and agreed that the two prospective candidates will be contacted to write to the Parish Council to state why they wish to be considered, and that applications will be reviewed at the next meeting. **ACTION – Clerk to provide feedback to NSDC about lack of clarity of the Vacancy Notice wording (about how to apply), and confirm the process from posting vacancy through to co-option.**

14. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting –Thursday 11th Nov at 7pm

Additionally – Clerk to write to PC Coaches and Stage Coach to confirm that bus services are still operating as normal with no plans to cut services (as had been rumoured).

Meeting ended 21.30