

BARNBY IN THE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 10th March 2022 at 7:00pm.

Attendees: Cllr Janette Barlow (Chair), Cllr Jackie Parker, Cllr Ben Powell, Cllr Graham Bett, Cllr Carol Speakman, Cllr John Lee, Cllr Debbie Darby, Helen Cowlan (Clerk)

Public: none.

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

The Parish Council welcomed Cllr Debbie Darby as Barnby's new County Councillor.

2. **Apologies for absence**

Cllr Richard Cowley was unable to attend due to illness and Cllr Betty Brooks was unable to attend due to having another meeting – apologies were accepted by the Parish Council.

3. **Declarations of interest**

None.

4. **Contributions from the public, District and County Councillors**

- *Cllr Darby* – Cllr Darby was welcomed, shared her thanks for being voted in, and her pride at taking up the position of County Councillor. Cllr Darby gave an overview of things she had looked at so far and was given an overview of key issues for Barnby.
- *Beckingham Planning issues* – Cllr Lee was made aware of proposals in Beckingham, and that works which had started included the addition of caravans and an oil tank (despite it not having been formally approved). Cllr Lee advised that NSDC is in a position where 125 extra pitches need to be provided, and that new and existing sites will be reviewed to see how the need can be met (this could include Chestnut Lodge as part of the review).
- *Speed limit extension* – Cllr Speakman has contacted Cllr Darby to see if the 30mph speed limit can be extended further out of the village to include houses on Long Lane. Clerk confirmed that this has also been raised to Highways who hope to include a review as part of a future site visit (to look at road signs etc).
- *Tree planting* – Cllr Lee advised approx. 10,000 trees have been planted in the District and that there will be another giveaway of free trees if anyone wishes to apply.
- *Road sweeping* – Cllr Lee advised road sweeping requests have been made but that they can also be asked for as needed.
- *Cattle market* – Cllr Bett raised a concern about the fact that the cattle market has been lost from the town. Cllr Lee advised that it had been hoped that it could be moved to / run from the Showground but plans are currently uncertain.

5. **Approval of minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th January 2022 were approved as being a true record of the meeting - proposed Cllr Parker, seconded Cllr Speakman.

6. **Matters arising from the minutes**

- *Roads and pavements* – Cllr Speakman carried out a review of roads and pavements in the village and reported 17 items which needed attention. Inspections have taken place with some found not to be hazardous, and some identified as needing repair. Some road markings have also recently appeared around areas not previously reported – different colours are assumed to have different priority levels. Cllr Speakman will revisit the areas of concern and submit photos and / or measurements for those that need reassessing. Details will be provided to the Clerk to escalate as needed. Cllr Lee advised that each Councillor can nominate three roads to be included as a priority in an improvement plan. Cllr Speakman suggested the road from Long Lane junction through to Barnby Academy (especially from the level crossing). Clerk to review how roads can be nominated.
- *Mower storage* – Cllr Parker enquired if there is now room in the shed for the small mower to be stored. **Action – Cllr Barlow to purchase a lock for the shed, and give to the Caretaker, prior to the mower being moved.**
- *Speeding signs* – Clerk confirmed that NCC will carry out a site visit to look at best places to put of '30 for a reason' signs, look if there is a possible location for the temporary interactive speed sign, and to review extension of 30mph zone. A request has also been submitted to NCC for 'slow down for horses' signs (or similar) on Newark Road and Long Lane near stables.

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- *Long Lane 'layby'* – although not necessarily an 'official' layby, NSDC have confirmed responsibility and that a bin can be installed but that costs for maintenance and emptying would be paid for by the Parish Council. Clerk has requested details of costings before a decision can be made.
- *Windows* – a site visit has been booked with NSDC for advice about options, processes, contractors and possible funding sources.

7. Finance

a) **Payments made since last meeting** (Jan):

Parish Council:

Marquee £633.99 (will transfer half from VH account)

Tree (for Tom) £12.00

CHT (Defib) £151.20 **Action – Clerk to find out when servicing will be done.**

Village Hall:

Sanitising supplies £10.00

Temp Events Licence (Live & Local) £21.00

Water Plus £19.62

b) **Payments upcoming:**

Anti bac for chairs £2.98

Ink for newsletter £36.99

Petrol (mowing) £16.45

Heating servicing – Vulcana have quoted £234 inc VAT, Atkins have provided a lower quote. Clerk to see if Vulcana can price match, or go with Atkins if not.

Grimes (gas cannisters) - £123.00

NALC – annual subscription £83.30

All payments were unanimously agreed – proposed Cllr Powell, seconded Cllr Bett.

c) **Income received:**

Hire £200.00 (Election + Private), £27.00 VAT

d) **Summary of Finances:**

Current spend has been in line with budget – full end of year spend against budget will be updated and circulated.

e) **Caretaker salary 2021-22** – minimum wage rate for 2021-22 increased to £8.91p/hr. The Caretaker's salary for 2021-22 was approved – proposed Cllr Powell, seconded Cllr Speakman,

f) **Clerk salary** – NALC have confirmed a pay increase in hourly rate for 2021-22 (backdated to April), creating a back pay amount, and the new rate being applied from March's salary. Payments were approved – proposed Cllr Powell, seconded Cllr Speakman.

g) **Internal Audit** – NALC have a small number of people on their list of those available to carry out internal audits, although many are further afield. Although much of the work could be done online, in the event of needing to see hardcopies of documents, distance is a key factor. Clerk to continue to try and find auditors who are closer. Cllrs Parker and Speakman advised they may know of people that could help if needed.

h) **VAT** – new processes will require the use of new software for reporting / reclaiming VAT. As the Parish Council doesn't charge VAT on anything, it isn't compulsory for it to be registered, and it may be easier to deregister from the current process. VAT can still then be reclaimed on purchases – this would be done annually, rather than quarterly. Clerk to book onto a NALC training course to find out options / bring to the next meeting.

i) **Utility Suppliers** – the cost of energy prices will be going up – two companies have offered to do a review to see who could offer the best deals. It was agreed that information can be reviewed, however, it may not be wise to move away from established companies.

j) **Filing cabinet** – Clerk to research options for lockable storage, e.g. looking online/social media.

8. Planning matters

a) 21/02512/HOUSE – Wellington Lodge, Long Lane – *proposed 1.5 storey side extension and single storey extension to rear.* **Outcome – application granted (info only)**

b) 22/0089/FUL & others – *17 applications for change of use for land for siting of caravans in Beckingham.*

Cllr Barlow attended the planning meeting at Beckingham and provided an overview of key concerns

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including (but not limited to) over intensification, access to and from the site, link road(s). It is a very organised group with solicitors and planning experts involved. It was felt that the template many Beckingham residents had used was very good and that this should be the basis for feedback – including potential direct impacts to Barnby in terms of additional traffic and speeding (cut through etc). **Action – Clerk to adapt template and circulate for review before submitting for each of the 17 separate planning applications that have been registered.**

9. Village Committee Report

Cllr Barlow would like to review the Constitution to ensure that as well as being up to date, its aims are clear in terms of fundraising. With Hall running costs of approx. £2000 per year, this is the minimum that should be achieved – with the current process of splitting fundraising 50:50 between running costs and projects, this means fundraising needs to be at least £4000 per year. There is an option to consider focus on fundraising for costs first, and allocating remaining funds to projects once that has been achieved. Either way, as much fundraising as possible should be done.

Marquee - the new marquee has been delivered and stored.

Live & Local – the event was, unfortunately, cancelled. All ticket money has been returned and attempts are being made to recoup costs.

Quiz night – 19th March – 7pm (bring your own drink) – event promoted via posters and Facebook.

Jubilee – the main event is on the Saturday and may be a 'bring your own' picnic on the Sunday. Cllr Lee has offered to donate £40 towards the event which will be gratefully received. The Clerk will also apply for a grant from NSDC which could give £150.

Future events – 3rd Sept Horticultural Show, 1st October Cheese and Wine night, Nov (tbc) Bonfire Night.

Football nets – the football nets are in poor condition and need replacing at a cost of approx. £60-£80 for two.

Action – Clerk to find available funding / support including asking Cllr Darby, NSDC grants, Co-Op / Lottery, local sports companies.

Donation – Cllr Parker enquired if the Parish Council would be willing to contribute to the Jubilee Events and it was unanimously agreed that £200 would be given.

10. Maintenance Plan and 'Aide Memoire'

It was agreed that the maintenance plan and aide memoire be adopted as a useful way of consciously reviewing works and their progress. It was agreed that it would follow the financial year dates. Proposed Cllr Speakman, seconded Cllr Parker.

The need for a new noticeboard was agreed including revisiting where it can be put up / what permissions would be required from NCC e.g. near the phone box. It was also suggested that the board could have the Nottinghamshire County Council logo on it. **ACTION – Clerk to review LIS terms, contact Cllr Darby about funding, and request NCC include a review of potential sites on their site visit.**

11. Crime / Police talk

The talk was informative and residents are encouraged to check security (especially for properties which may be more exposed at the edges of the village). It is important not to tackle anyone, and to ring the Police for help. A WhatsApp group has been set up so that residents can quickly message any updates on suspicious activity – Neil Gribby should be contacted to be added to this group. Cllr Powell advised that stats relating to crime / incidents will include the whole Parish, and the A17, but that the number of things happening in the actual Village tends to be lower.

12. Correspondence

- a) Great British Spring Clean – *review campaign for this year.* **Action - Cllr Parker to look at a Village 'Spring Clean'.**
- b) Lincolnshire Co-Op – *Community Champions.* **Action – Clerk to review this along with Tesco and Asda for potential funding sources.**
- c) Door2Door Services – *update on support available in the area – circulated.*
- d) NHS Track and Trace – *update advising standing down of requirements.*

13. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 10th May 2022 at 7pm Annual Parish, Annual Parish Council and Ordinary Parish Council meetings).

Meeting ended 21.15.

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