

BARNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Barningham Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 6th July 2011 at 7:35pm in Barningham Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs: Cllrs: B Last, K Cummings, L Gilbert, A Childs, E Sier, C.Cllr Spicer & WPC Tate & B Cllr D Ray

1. **Apologies for absence** C Hammond & W. Martineau,
2. **Declaration of Interest** Cllr Cummings declared an interest in item 18 on the agenda. It was decided that her interest was not prejudicial.
3. **Minutes.** Minutes of the meeting of 1st June 2011 signed and approved as a correct record.

Meeting Adjourned

4. **Meeting open to the public**

The footbridge on the permissive path, adjacent to Coney Weston Road and the steps on Sandy Lane, has been dismantled to deter access. Although the Parish Council recognise that the land owner is within their rights to do this they were disappointed that the land owner had not informed the Parish Council of their intentions. The bridge and steps are the property of the Parish Council and were not inexpensive. As such the Council is keen to have them returned, undamaged, as soon as possible. The Clerk will investigate the situation. **Action Clerk**

5. **Report by County Councillor: J Spicer**

Cllr Spicer reported that the A1088 between Norton and Ixworth will be closed at night for a week.

Cllr Spicer is attending a meeting to discuss the issues surrounding the schools review. There is a call for a secondary school this side of Thurston. This option may be complicated if existing middle schools apply for, and achieve, academy status. Cllr Spicer will keep the council apprised of the situation.

6. **Report by Borough Councillor: D Ray**

Cllr Ray reported that the A14, between the Haughley bends and the Ixworth turn off, will be closed for a week, at night, sometime in September or October. This may mean that we will see an increase in traffic at this time.

There is a change to the grant system at St Edmundsbury. Rather than having two grant application forms there will now only be one. Also Parish Councils will now only be able to apply for either grant once every two years, in line with other applicants.

The next Parish Conference is scheduled for 20th October at Gt Whelnetham.

7. **Report of Community Police Officer**

There have been a number of instances of anti-social behaviour in the village recently. Cllr Gilbert has reported the incidents but was disappointed that, despite being told otherwise, she had not received a visit from an Officer. PCSO Will Pardoe apologised for this breakdown in communication and will ensure that Sgt Jay contacts Cllr Gilbert. Residents are advised to report any incidents to the control room on 01473 613500. Cllr Gilbert will make sure this number is printed in the magazine. **Action Cllr Gilbert**

Meeting reconvened

8 Progress reports. For information from:

8.1 **Chairman:**

8.1.1 Newsletter. The Councillors were pleased with the newsletter and it was agreed to add a piece about the safety concerns regarding the play area (see under item 14)

8.1.2 **Budget monitoring report.**

The councillors all received an up to date quarterly budget report and bank statements. The budget is pretty much on target and the precept payment has been received from St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

8.2 Clerk

8.2.1 Affordable housing, dates for site finding meeting.

The Clerk was still awaiting a reply from Hastoe re the above.

8.2.2 Bollards B1111.

The bollards are on order and the work should be done within the next 6 to 8 weeks.

8.2.3 Memorial in Cemetery

The clerk has some details about benches. She will arrange a meeting with Mr & Mrs Atwell to see which bench they would like. It was agreed that the Parish Council will pay up to £150 towards the overall cost.

Action Clerk

8.2.4 Damaged tree, Millfields.

The Clerk has spoken to St Eds. They are going to address the problem. The Clerk was advised to contact the Tree Officer to inform them that we would carry out any remedial work to ensure the health of the tree if they were unable to act quickly enough.

Action Clerk

8.2.5 Streetlight B1111.

Following her site meeting with Richard Webster, from Suffolk County council, the Clerk has received a price of £2685.79. This is not a lot less than the £2961.16 previously quoted. The Clerk has asked Mr Webster to look at the possibility of replacing the existing light with one that will light a bigger area. He will contact her with a price for this.

Action Clerk

8.2.6 Marking out of football pitch.

The Clerk has received a price of £60, plus vat, to mark out a football pitch on the cricket meadow. It was **resolved** to go ahead with this.

Action Clerk

8.2.7 Pharmacy Application

The NHS has classified Stanton as rural 'controlled' in relation to the above application.

8.2.8 Jubilee Celebrations

The Clerk has received some information about Jubilee Church Tower Beacons, this will be circulated. Cllr Childs reported that he has spoken to a number of people who would be interested in being involved in some form of celebration. Cllr Childs will continue to ask around and gather ideas.

Action Cllr Childs

8.2.9 Notification of temporary Road Closure

The C641 Rushford Road/The Street/Hollow Lane, Coney Weston/Market Weston between the C642 Norwich Lane and B1111 Hopton Road will be closed for carriageway repairs from 1 to 12 August 2011 (0730hrs to 1530hrs). The alternative route will be advertised as C642 Norwich Lane to Bowbeck, C643 Bardwell Road, Mill Road, B1111 Hopton Road and vice versa.

8.2.10 Clerks report on urgent decisions since last meeting. None

9. Accounts. 9.1

Steve Wilson	£426.57
Vicki Gay	£530.53
H M Revenue & Customs Only	£126.00
Vicki Gay	£22.41
SCC, bollards and speed humps	£2650.00
Broker Network, Came & Co insurance	£640.11
S Reeder, internal Audit	£300.00
Suffolk Wildlife Trust	£38.00
Barningham Village hall, training hall hire	£13.00
SALC, Training	£270.00
S Wilson, fuel	£10.00

9.1.2 **Alteration to mandate.** To update signatory list.

Cllr Last, Cummings & Gilbert all took away forms to complete and return to Barclays Bank to enable them to be signatories on the account.

10. **Councillors reports and items for future agenda**

10.1 **Cllr Childs, Community Affairs.**

As discussed under item 8.2.8 Cllr Childs has been speaking to residents about plans for the Jubilee celebrations.

10.2 **Cllr Cummings. Transport / Highways.**

Cllr Cummings was instrumental in returning items to residents and reporting damaged fire hydrants to Anglian Water following the antisocial behaviour in the village . Cllr Cummings asked that the village caretaker confirms that he keeps a written record of the play area equipment check. The Clerk will ask that he confirms this. **Action Clerk**

10.3 **Cllr Gilbert, Communications.** To include update on memorial plaque, Aggies Piece Pearl Hart has confirmed that she would like a brown wax finish for her late husband's plaque. The repaired memorial will be back in-situ soon.

10.4 **Cllr Hammond, Cemetery.** To include Cemetery landscaping, arrange date for working party meeting. Cllr Hammond was unable to attend the meeting. It was agreed that a meeting will be held on Thursday 28th July in the evening at 7pm. The Clerk will let Cllr Hammond and Steve Wilson know this. **Action Clerk**

10.5 **Cllr Martineau, Administration.**

Cllr Martineau was unable to attend the meeting and had no report to make.

10.5 **Cllr Sier, Environment**

Cllr Sier has cut back the overhanging brambles at Aggies Piece.

11 **Caretakers report** to include, removal of steps from asset register.

The rain has returned late in this report period and so the grass is growing again. Previous to this I was able to work in a variety of locations, including watering the new planting at the Village Sign to help it become established.

Brambles are spreading at a great rate in several areas, especially the cemeteries and Aggies's Piece. Mike Millett and I have had to relocate the picnic bench at Aggies's after it was taken for a walk; it also needed to be tightened up and have some offensive graffiti obscured with permanent pen. I have, for the first time, had to cut down tall vegetation on some apparently tended graves in the New Cemetery; I have also been removing old wreaths from some plots.

The dog-proof mesh fencing in the Play Area is being damaged by people climbing over the railings; I have tried to stretch it back into shape and secure it with cable ties. The rubber buffer had also been removed from the small entry gate, I have replaced it. I have fixed an Exit Only sign at the Village Hall car park and cut back overhanging tree branches both there and at Jerrold's Close.

At the Cricket Meadow I have been cutting back overhanging branches and brambles at the entrance beside the Primary School. While doing this a resident reminded me that this is really the responsibility of the adjoining landowner. I have removed the net-roof hoops from the goalposts here because they had been snapped and had become hazardous. There is still a serious problem of grit from the surface dressing of the roads accumulating on the pavements in Church Road and Hepworth Road.

12. **Recent Acts of Vandalism in Village**

See under item 7.

13. **Church Clock.** To discuss current arrangements and future plans.

Cllr Gilbert has spoken to the new residents of church cottage and they have agreed to take over the winding of the parish clock on Saturdays and Mondays.

With reference the mechanised winding a breakdown of the estimate previously received will be sought. The clerk will also look for sources of possible funding. **Action Clerk**

14. **Position of Gate, children's play area** to consider the safety of children using the play area. Cllr Last has drafted a letter for residents pointing out the dangers for both motorists and children using Sandy Lane and the play area. This information will be included in the current newsletter. The Clerk will look at prices for signage alerting drivers to the fact that children are playing and for parents informing them that they need to be responsible for their children when they are leaving the play area.

Action Clerk

15. **Thatch Register.** Request for information from Suffolk Fire and Rescue Suffolk Fire and rescue are compiling a 'thatch register' of all properties in the county with a thatched roof. In Suffolk in the last 12 months they have attended 12 fires and assisted in an additional 19 just over the county borders. They want to be proactive in helping the owners and residents of these properties by providing them with relevant information to reduce the risk of fire before it happens. It will also be useful for their control; room so that they can ensure the correct amount and type of vehicle are sent to incidents to help minimise the damage. The councillors provided the Clerk with a list of properties in Barningham and she will forward this on.

Action Clerk

16. **Suffolk Housing** Society invitation to save our Villages Cream tea. The Chairman will attend this event.

17. **Planning Matters** to include any applications/decisions received since the agenda was posted.

18.1 SE/11/0670 Holland, College House Farm, Bardwell Road. Erection of extension to existing outbuilding to provide a 3 bay cart lodge including solar photovoltaic array. **No objection**

19. **Correspondence for information** To note the items listed below which have been circulated or will be available for inspection at the meeting.

19.1 SALC- LAIS, Training dates, Newsletter of the year

19.2 SCC – request for Community Fire Volunteers

17. **Councillors reports and items for future agenda.**

None

18. **Playing Field (Cricket Meadow)** Legal date 2nd February 2014 to 1st February 2015

19. **Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 3rd August 2011

20. **To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of the following items:**

20.1 Personnel Issues. None 20.2 Legal Issues. None

No further business, Meeting closed: