

## BARNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Barningham Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2011 at 7:35pm in Barningham Village Hall.

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

1. **Apologies for absence** C Hammond
2. **Declaration of Interest** None
- 3 **Minutes.** Minutes of the meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2011 signed and approved as a correct record.

### Meeting Adjourned

#### 4. **Meeting open to the public**

A group of young people came to the meeting to complain that there is nothing in the village for their age group to do. The Parish Council are aware that this is a problem and assured the youngsters that this was an issue they had been looking into for some time. The Parish Council asked that they be patient as the process, of first finding a site, deciding what equipment would be best, sourcing this and then finding the money to pay for it, is a long one. The site has now been decided upon and we are currently arranging site meetings with manufactures to discuss different equipment options. The next step will be a public consultation to decide which the preferred option is. It was asked that any ideas for what the youngsters would like be passed on to a member of the parish council.

Residents from Mill Road came to discuss the problem of excessive speed and the volume of traffic in their road. This item was already on the agenda for discussions and Cllr Last had prepared a list of possible options, these included: new footway, Cul-de-sac, one way system, further road narrowing, cycle/pedestrian path on roadway, extension of 20mph school speed limit, limit road to access only. It would appear that the residents present favoured a one way system with added traffic calming, perhaps speed cushions. The Clerk will contact SCC to discuss all the options and arrange a site visit.

**Action Clerk**

A resident came to talk about the problem of fly tipping, especially in the small spinney past Aggies Piece, which appears to be mainly trade waste. She has been reporting this to St Edmundsbury Borough Council and they have always arranged to have it collected promptly. It was agreed that a piece should go in both the Parish News and in the PC quartley newsletter to ask residents to question tradesman about what arrangements they have in place to dispose of any waste they are removing.

**Action Cllr Last**

A resident asked about the possibility of a pavement in Bardwell Road. He has grave concerns over the safety of pedestrians walking here due to the excessive speed of passing traffic. This would be the responsibility of the County Council and Cllr Spicer said that although it was her number one priority and was on the list, it would not be undertaken in the next year due to budget restraints. It was requested that the police do speed checks and Cllr Ray will make this request at the next police tasking meeting. The chairman will put an article in the magazine asking again for volunteers for Community Speed Watch.

**Action Cllr Last/Ray**

An update on the planning application for 1 Hepworth Road was requested. The Parish Council had no information at this time.

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

Cllr Spicer reported that the A1088/A143 Ixworth bypass would be closed for approx 10 days, at night, for repair works.

Cabinet have agreed that there should be a consultation on the change to two tiers for the Thurston Schools pyramid. It is the wish of the schools to retain all the primary schools and build an annexe at Thurston. Ixworth and possibly Blackbourne are applying for academy status. It is important that the Parish Council puts forward their views, in the consultation, as this is important for the future of all the children in the village.

Suffolk Wildlife Trust has provisionally agreed to purchase Knettishall Country Park from the Riddlesworth estate. If their bid for funding, to the Heritage Lottery, is successful they will formally

proceed with the purchase and SCC will withdraw from the site. Even if the SWT is not successful SCC will still withdraw from the park at the end of this month as previously agreed. The public will still be able to access the site but the car park barrier, pay and display machines, toilets and office will be closed/removed. The SWT are already looking after the animals.

It was reported that the 30mph sign, on the B1111 coming in from Stanton, was obscured by the adjacent hedge. The Clerk will contact the land owner and Cllr Sier will carry out the necessary work. The hedge at St Michaels is also overgrown, the Clerk will write to the householders regarding this.

**Action Clerk**

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

SEBC are looking at their budget in a bid to reduce it by 3.5 million. They aim to do this through a combination of cutting costs and increasing revenue. They are currently carrying out a consultation, available to complete online, if you are not one of the 2000 households chosen at random.

#### **7. Report of Community Police Officer**

The police were not in attendance and submitted no report.

#### **8. Presentation from Geoffrey Phillips Re Digital Switchover**

In our village switchover starts on 9<sup>th</sup> November and ends on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2011. On the 9<sup>th</sup> Nov the BBC2 analogue signal is switched off and on 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov BBC1, ITV, and channels 4 and 5 will go off. Analogue TV's and recorders won't work after switchover. The Help Scheme provides help for people who: Are aged 75 or over, **or** Have lived in a care home for six months or more, **or** Get ( or could get): Disability Living Allowance (DLA), **or** Attendance or Constant Attendance Allowance, **or** Mobility supplement, **or** Are registered blind or partially sighted.

All eligible people will have received a letter during May or June detailing what is happening and an application form for help to convert one television to digital. They will also have received a reminder during August and receive a final reminder by 7<sup>th</sup> October.

The cost of converting one TV to digital including all equipment, aerial upgrades and 12 months aftercare service is £40. (Free if you are eligible and also get pension credit, income support, income-related employment and support allowance or income- based jobseekers allowance)

There are other options including the provision of recording equipment which will be explained to the eligible person, but these come at higher cost.

If you know anyone in the community who may need help in converting to digital and who you think is eligible for the Help Scheme please encourage them to call **0800 40 85 900**

Meeting reconvened

#### **9. Progress reports.** For information, from:

##### **9.1 Chairman:**

##### **9.1.1 Shared Services Event.**

The Chairman attended this event to discuss St Edmundsbury Borough Council and Forest Heath Council sharing planning services. The Parish Councils were asked how they saw the service at the moment and what they would like to see. The Parish Councils were in agreement that they would like to see more meaningful consultation, that their comments carried 'more weight' that it was recognised that not all parishes are the same, a better understanding of PC deadlines and that we would like to see quicker and more enforcements of breaches of planning rules.

The Chairman is booked to attend a SEBC's budget proposals focus group.

##### **9.2 Clerk:**

##### **9.2.1 Damaged tree, Millfields.**

The Clerk has arranged for Simon Collins, from St Edmundsbury Borough Council to come and meet with Cllr Last and Cllr Cummings to discuss our concerns regarding the damaged tree on Millfields. The meeting will take place on Thursday 22 September at 1pm. They will take this opportunity to discuss concerns regarding the position of the play area gate, the possible use of extra signage and possible uses for the cricket meadow with Mr Collins.

##### **9.2.2 Footbridge and steps, permissive path.**

The clerk has written to the landowner and is awaiting a reply.

##### **9.2.3 Queen Elizabeth II Challenge, Cricket Meadow.**

After discussions with the Clerk, Mark Healy, from Fields in Trust (FIT) is going to prepare a document giving his thoughts on possible uses for the Cricket Meadow.

#### 9.2.4 Play area signage.

See under 9.2.1

#### 9.2.5. Vehicle Activated sign, B1111

The Clerk has received information about vehicle activated signs. Unfortunately Jon Noble is no longer in post and the clerk is trying to make contact with his replacement to arrange a site meeting.

#### 9.2.6 Wos up

The clerk was disappointed to find that, once again, the Wos up project had visited the village without the benefit of advertising. They were in the village every Wednesday from 15<sup>th</sup> June until 20<sup>th</sup> July. It was agreed to wait until we receive their official report before pursuing this matter further.

#### 9.2.7 Clerks report on urgent decisions since last meeting. None

### 10. **Accounts.** 10.1 The following accounts were approved for payment.

Steve Wilson	£426.57
Vicki Gay	£549.93
H M Revenue & Customs Only	£106.60
Vicki Gay	£38.19
SEBC Returning Officer, election	£661.25
SCC, newsletter	£62.00

#### 10.1.2 **Budget. To consider budget for 2012/13**

The internal finance group will meet to discuss the budget. They will prepare proposals to discuss at the October meeting. **Action Internal Finance group.**

### 11. **Councillors reports and items for future agenda**

11.1 **Cllr Childs, Community Affairs.** To include suggestions for Queens Jubilee Celebrations Cllr Childs has received no response from anyone willing to help with any event. We will wait to see how well supported two events, planned for the next two Saturdays, are before any decision is made regarding a possible event to mark the celebrations.

#### 11.2 **Cllr Cummings. Transport / Highways.**

Cllr Cummings had no report to make.

#### 11.3 **Cllr Gilbert, Communications.** To include letter of thanks from Pearl Hart

Cllr Gilbert has received a very nice letter of thanks from Pearl Hart regarding the recent work carried out by the Parish Council on her late husband's memorial plaque at Aggies Piece. This will be circulated.

#### 11.4 **Cllr Hammond, Cemetery.**

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

#### 11.5 **Cllr Martineau, Administration.**

Cllr Martineau had no report to make.

#### 11.6 **Cllr Sier, Environment**

Cllr Sier reported that a neighbour had someone open their front door, causing distress to his wife, late on Friday night. Cllr Sier also had a board at the end of his drive damaged. It was stressed that both these matter should be reported to the police as these may not be isolated incidents and the police need to be made aware of all individual crimes for this reason.

### 12. **Caretakers report**

Grass growth is slowing which is a blessing for the mower. It is now only operating courtesy of a freezer bag tie in a strategic position. My aim is to get it to see the season out in the hope that Tripp Batt will have a sale before the winter. Litter collection has included large quantities of recycling as is normal during the school holidays.

The hedge-trimmer has seen a lot of action. I have trimmed the hedges at the car park, old cemetery and the coppiced bank. Aggies's Piece has also taken up a lot of time; as well as trimming the long hedge I have opened up several sections of the winding footpath, dismembered a fallen tree and mown and strimmed all over. The hedge-trimming alone has saved the Council several hundred pounds.

The Sandy Lane footpath has had its annual trim which resulted in a trailer-load of cuttings going to the tip. Other work has included my attendance at the Cemetery Committee meeting and digging the Bishops Croft grit bin into the ground.

The Clerk will order two sets of anti-wrap devices to replace the damaged ones in the play area. The postage cost is quite hence the reason to purchase two sets. **Action Clerk**

13. **Church Clock.** Update on application for funding  
The Clerk has been in discussions with the Heritage Lottery and has been advised to put in a request for more money. This will enable the project to become an educational project perhaps with interpretation boards, a web cam, open day or work with the primary school. The Parish Council will need to ask the PCC for a faculty before any work is carried out. The clerk will speak to the school to see if they would like to be involved in the project. Cllr Martineau will speak to the PCC regarding the need for a faculty; he will also look to see if he can find any record in the late Michael Lingwoods papers to see if there is any reference to previous jubilee celebrations. **Action Clerk/Cllr Martineau**

14. **Mill Road** to consider options for traffic calming  
See under item 4, Meeting open to the public.

15. **School Fence.** To consider position of school fence.  
The fence at the school has been positioned slightly in the wrong place, taking a small amount of land from the parish council. This fact has always been acknowledged but it was felt unnecessary to have the fence repositioned. The school is currently establishing a bog garden and it comes close to where the fence should be. The School are seeking guidance as to whether or not the Parish Council would like them to move the fence or may it remain in the current position? if they are allowed to keep the fence in its' current position, they will build it in the correct place when it requires replacing. The Parish Council had no objection to the fence remaining in its current position and the bog garden being developed as along as it was recognised that the boundary fence is in the incorrect position.  
**Action Clerk**

16. **Change of day for meeting** to consider changing the night the Parish Council meet on.  
After discussion it was decided to leave the meeting night on the first Wednesday of each month.

17. **Cricket meadow development.** Options for future use.  
In addition to a meeting with Simon Collins, see under item 9.2.1, the clerk is arranging a site meeting with SMP to discuss options. Information from Adizone is to be circulated and the Clerk will also arrange a site meeting with them. **Action Clerk**

18. **Planning Matters**  
SE/11/0914 S Grey, Willowtrees, Bardwell Road, Barningham. Erection of two storey and single storey extensions to western elevation. **No objection**

19. **Correspondence for information**  
19.1 SCC Mobile Library consultation  
The documentation for this consultation will be circulated and discussed at the October meeting.

19.2 Viridor, invitation to the 'Suffolk Recycling Experience'  
The information was circulated and those interested in attending will make this known to the Clerk.

The Following information was circulated: 19.2 Havebury, Residents day. 19.3 Havebury News.  
19.4 Suffolk View. 19.5 LAIS

20. **Playing Field (Cricket Meadow)** Legal date 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2014 to 1<sup>st</sup> February 2015

21. **Date of next meeting:** To confirm the date of the next meeting, this is scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> October 2011

22. **To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of the following items:** .22.1 Personnel Issues. 22.2 Legal Issues.

No further business meeting closed.