

**BARTON-ON-THE-HEATH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON 19TH MAY AT 6.30 P.M.**

Present: Mr J Coker (Chairman), Mrs G Cathie (Vice-Chair), Mrs J Piney
Brigadier J F Rickett, Lt Col J B Henderson
Clerk: Mrs P Mead
Hon. Treasurer: Mr J Castle
County Councillor: Councillor C Saint
Public: Mrs R Aziz, Mr K Corner, Mr J Hayman-Joyce, Mr E Hicks, Mrs T Jones,
Mrs E Leck, Mr S Lofthouse QC, Mr J Mathias, Mr Mr D Poulson

Action

1. Apologies: None
2. The Minutes of the X/O Parish Council Meeting held on 29th March were approved. No matters arising, they were signed by the Chairman (JC).
3. Parish Funds
Finances: The first instalment of the precept had been received.

Public Access De-fibrillator: A Licence has now been agreed with Owen Mulholland to site the PAD in the ex BT phone booth which is on his land. The back plate from the booth is now with Jim Sked to adapt for fitting the digital key pad container for the PAD and, once installed, Western Power will be asked to connect the heater supply. The cost of both these tasks will be met from the defibrillator fund. A copy of the licence will be attached to the Minutes in the Minute Book

JC/PM

4. Planning application:

16/00591/FUL - Windmill Hill Plantation. This application had now been withdrawn following an assessment from Charlotte Dicks, Planning Officer, Stratford District Council who stated:

"The principle of the change of use of the agricultural land to allow the siting of holiday lodges would not be acceptable as the proposed holiday lets would be positioned in an unsustainable location, and would not be directly related to an existing tourist facility. I therefore consider that the development would not be acceptable in principle and would not comply with paragraph 28 of the NPPF and policy AS.10 of the emerging Core Strategy. I also have concerns with regards to the visual impact of the proposal on the Cotswolds AONB and due to the loss of the trees. In addition I have also received an objection from the County Highways Authority with regards to the intensification of the access along a 60mph road with inadequate visibility splays and the lack of turning area for refuse vehicles."

She noted that "Barton-on-the-Heath Parish Council have supported the proposal, but have not provided material planning reasons for the support. As such, I recognise the support but in line with the Council's constitution must inform you that the decision is a delegated decision."

There ensued some lively discussion on how this application had been presented and received. The Chairman reiterated that it was his intention that, as part of the Parish Plan (see below) open discussions would be held within the village on all matters. Concern had been expressed that the views from the floor had been ignored, however the Chairman pointed out that the views of those attending were not necessarily those of the village as a whole.

Mr E Hicks apologised profusely for any issues that had arisen as a result of this application.

It was agreed that the 'Declaration of Interest' statement would be reinstated into the agenda and councillors would be asked to confirm their position before every meeting.

5. Other matters

Parish Plan - The Chairman said that as the Village Design Statement produced some years ago, was now out-of-date, he had been in discussion with the Policy Officer at Stratford DC. He believed that it would be in the best interests of the village to have a Parish Plan. This would give an opportunity for everyone in the village to express their views on various issues and it was suggested that this be done by way of a questionnaire, public meetings and other information gathering. There is an agreed process to follow available from SDC. He commented that to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, such as that produced and agreed by Long Compton, had been a mammoth and lengthy process and he did not deem it necessary for a village the size of Barton. Following comments by Councillor Saint, it was understood that the advantage of a Parish Plan was that it could evolve whereas a Neighbourhood Plan was adopted. The Chairman proposed setting up a sub-committee to work on the Parish Plan and invited Julian Mathias to join him. The Chairman would coordinate the process as he had the experience from producing the last Village Design Statement. Juley Piney also agreed to join this sub-committee. Her expertise in questionnaires, data gathering and analysis will be a great help. JC

Gypsy Site - it would appear that West Oxfordshire and Stratford District Council had been at cross-purposes on this situation and it remains unresolved

The Sheds - BH asked if there was any movement with regard to the sale of the Sheds and the Chairman said that as far as he was aware the property was still on the market

Queens Birthday Celebrations - JP proposed a picnic on the green to which everyone would be invited to bring their own food which could be shared. JP would obtain a Temporary Event Notice from Stratford DC. An invitation would be sent out shortly JP

6. AOB **Constitution:** The Chairman had raised the issue of the modus operandi for the PC. BH reminded the meeting that We have a Constitution which had been agreed and signed by the previous Chairman. The current Chairman agreed that it would be a good idea for it to be re-visited for relevance and, once agreed, would be adopted and implemented.
- State of the roads around the village:** BH had spoken to the Highways Dept. and a reference no. has been obtained. Councillor Saint stated it is County Policy that if the pot-holes get to a certain size it should be a matter of hours rather than weeks before they were repaired. The Clerk should send a list of urgent issues to the Highways Department PM/BH
- Verges:** Mowing of the verges: There was a plan and this needs to be checked JCa

The meeting closed at 8 pm

Date of next meeting

Thursday 13th October 2016, 6.30pm