Barton on the Heath Chairman's report 2024 2025

This has been an uncharacteristically quiet year for Barton on the Heath Parish Council. We managed to have a total of two meetings, and there were no particularly memorable items to discuss. There have been numerous applications for tree works, including works to be carried out on the tree in the middle of the village green.

There have also been applications for extensive works to Dover house, which has recently been sold, and to Berkeley house for a replacement conservatory and boot room.

2024 saw lots of village activities

In May, a memorial service was held for Hamish Cathie at Long Compton church, as Barton church was not large enough.

In June, we had a very successful village fete, raising much-needed funds for the Village Hall and local charities. It was great to see so many from the village involved in the set-up, take-down, and running stalls on the day.

In September, a very successful jazz on the lawn event was held in memory of Hamish on the lawn at Barton House to raise funds for Shipston Home Nursing. Many thanks to the Cathie family for allowing the event to be held on the back lawn of the house. Many thanks also to the tireless committee for organising it and all those from the Village who helped with setup and takedown.

And more recently, a very jolly victory in Europe Day luncheon held in The Coach House, courtesy of James Caithie and superbly organised by Penny Mead and Catherine Aitken, for which I’m sure we will all pass on our grateful thanks

James Hayman-Joyce has been busy organising replacement trustees for the village hall and ensuring that its finances remain in good standing. He’s also organising the refurbishment of the Bird memorial in the middle of the village green, which hopefully should be finished before the fete.

We’ve had to advertise for our casual vacancy on the parish council, as Gillian stepped down after many years of service. We are pleased that Alistair Aitken has been co-opted onto the parish council.

We may need to do the same again in due course to ensure that we continue to have enough members of the parish council to form a quorum.

In other news, Brian Radford repaired the Camden Close noticeboard, which unfortunately still hasn’t stopped all the notices being removed recently.

 The defib and its cabinet have been replaced through the good works of a Shipston's first responder, and Chris Dyer has taken over our website from Great Wolford.

The Clerk and the Chair will be attending an 'Idiot's Guide to Websites' to ensure that we can keep it up to date, as is our legal obligation.

I would like to thank the parish counsellors and the hard-working treasurer and clerk for all their efforts this year.

For 2025- 2026. We will schedule four dates in advance to ensure a regular round of meetings.