MINUTES of the BARTON-ON-THE-HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Held on 23rd September 2026 in the Village Hall

Councillors Present:

Chairman: Mr. James Coker Mr. Johnny Rickett Mr. Alistair Aitken Mrs. Juley Piney

Clerk to the PC: Mrs. Julia Hicks Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Mandy MacPherson

Public Present:

Cathryn Aitken, James Hayman-Joyce, Penny Mead, Heather Rutherford, Caroline Pennick and Master Albie Pennich, Kay Sonneborn, Liz. Vernon, Richard Ward,
Councillor Sarah Whalley-Hoggins,

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest**: None were highlighted by those present.
3. **Public Forum:** Councillor Jo. Barker updated the meeting with matters arising in Warwikshire County Council; firstly that the local government have paused on the decision to split County Councils. The speed limit in the village was again raised and it was suggested that Highways should visit and assess the situation of speeding cars through the village. Heather Rutherford enquired on the time limit in supplying signage. James Hayman-Joyce high-lighted that he walks daily all roads into Barton and that in his opinion a 20mph would not be effective. James Coker suggested traffic calming could be more effective. To be discussed further.
4. **Minutes of the OGM of 29th June 2026** were agreed by Johnny Rickett and approved and signed by Chairman James Coker with matters arising to be discussed in meeting
5. **Updates from the OGM of 29th June 2026:** To be discussed in meeting.
6. The interim Statement of Receipts and Payments for the financial year 2026/27 was presented to the Council by The Hon.Treasurer Mandy McPherson.
   The current account opened the year with a balance of **£62.21**. Receipts to date total **£2,076.56**, comprising the **£2,000 precept** and a **£76.56 CIL payment** from Stratford upon Avon. Payments to date total **£163.49**, resulting in a current account balance of **£1,975.28**.
   The reserve account stands at **£2,186.31**, including **£4.90 interest** received during the year. Total Parish Council funds therefore stand at **£4,161.59**. After allowing for the **£150 defibrillator provision** and **£2,000 Village Asset Replacement provision**, the amount currently available to the Parish Council is **£2,011.59**.

7. **Planning Application**

Berkley House : 26/02060/FUL : Installation of sunken swimming pool. James Coker asked Caroline Pennick to elaborate further on the plans; the pool will be green and not the usual turquoise blue with the pumping station housed under the pool, so as not to be seen from the road.

The Lodge : 26/01828/FUL : Structural Repairs, demolition of modern extension, replace with new extension. The Council were happy with the Heritage architects being used for this project and have no objections.

AOB:

Maintenance/spraying of village verges : Alistair advised that the SDC website had not been updated, but that a contractor is responsible for the maintenance, although it is not know the exact dates.

Update on 2026 Village Fete Funds Distribution : Cathryn Aitken reported that the funds raised had been distributed between:
Kate's Home Nursing / Shipston Home Nursing / Maggie's Cancer Charity / RABI, with contributions to St. Lawrance Church and The Village Hall, it has been suggested that any expenditure needed The Fete Committee were happy to support, such as the service of the boiler.

Harvest Festival : Hearty thanks were expressed to all those who helped to make this years harvest festival a great success. Penny Mead thanked all in supporting the church and the Fete Committee for paying for the cleaning of the hall, but especially the brilliant team who baked and cooked providing a delicious meal.

Redesign of Village Website : Cathryn Aitken reported that the current village website is outdated both in information and it's functionality. Whilst there is not much traffic on the website, the Parish Council is legally required to publish the minutes of meetings and accounts and therefore a website is required. James Coker, Julia Hicks and Cathryn had a meeting to discuss the contents of the website and also to gather ideas from villagers. The plan is to keep the website simple, requiring minimal updates and where updates are required that they can be undertaken by a village administrator.
The website is to have information on the village as a whole, the Church and Village Hall, including pictures and history. The website would also include planning applications, Parish Council minutes and Accounts, key dates and key email addresses. It is also the aim to include links to holiday cottages in the village. In terms of building the website, the information will be collected by Cathryn and then quotes will be sorted, including a quote from the current administrator Chris Dyer. Following the discussion on footpaths, it was agreed that including footpaths around the village would be a good idea.

Next OGM Meeting: November 10th 2026

Meeting ended: 19:01