

BARLOW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BARLOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2017 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, BARLOW

- Present:** Councillors Mrs J. Brougham, T. Crowley, Mrs J. Hunter, J. Rushby, Mrs. J. Siddall and S. Woodhouse.
- Also in attendance:** Clerk Mrs A. Jones
- 181/17** **Apologies for Absence**
Councillors B. Allcock, D. Curtis, County Councillor Foster and District Councillor Huckerby had sent apologies.
- 182/17** **Variations to the Order of Business**
The Clerk had received notice of a Planning Appeal going to Planning Committee on 12th December 2017. The notice had arrived after the agenda had been issued (in the afternoon of 4th December.) It was agreed to bring this item to the front of the agenda.
- 183/17** **Declaration of Members' Interests**
Cllr Mrs Brougham declared an interest in agenda item 12 c) and will not take part in the discussion.
- 184/17** There were no requests for dispensations for Members with DPI's.
- 185/17** **Public Participation/Report of the Police/District and County Councillors.**
- a) No members of the public were present.
- b) Report from Derbyshire Constabulary. PC 2722 Sally Horner had sent a report for November which was circulated to Councillors after the meeting. There were 5 reported crimes in Barlow.
1. Criminal Damage Barlow Village Hall as in November Minutes.
 2. Burglary Dwelling (attempted) – Millthorpe Lane
 3. Burglary Dwelling - Highlightly Lane
 4. Burglary non-Dwelling (shed) – Millthorpe Lane
 5. Theft of motor vehicle – Valley Road.
- Only 3 calls for anti-social behaviour in the area (Barlow/Unstone/ Holmesfield). Advise for residents to be extremely vigilant during the Christmas Season with regards to security. Several homes in Dronfield have already been targeted.
- c) Cllrs Foster and Huckerby had not sent reports.
- 186/17** **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
The minutes of the BPC meeting on 6th November 2017 had been circulated.
RESOLVED: That the minutes of 6th November 2017 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair, Cllr Hunter.

187/17

Matters Arising

- a) It was agreed to leave the valuation of the hall as it is for the present time. Any reduction in premium would not justify the cost of another valuation.
- b) DCC has agreed to cut back the encroaching verge on Hackney Lane footpath to make the footpath the full intended width and safer for pedestrians to use. We have not had a date for when the work will be carried out. Residents at Nesfield are very pleased.
- c) Councillors Crowley and Woodhouse had mown the pitch.
- d) Councillor Crowley had sourced a Christmas Tree and will put the receipt through for next month's payments.

188/17

Planning Appeal. The Clerk had received notice that 17/00790/FL Highbrook, Far Lane was being presented to the Planning Committee on 12th December recommended to be Conditionally Approved. BPC has objected to this development on grounds of overdevelopment of green belt contrary to green belt policy. At such short notice it was not certain if any Councillors could attend. Cllr Rushby will try to make it. The Clerk will notify Planning Control of BPC's objection and the possibility that Cllr Rushby may be able to attend. (*Clerk's note: Cllr Rushby attended and the application was rejected.*)

189/17

Clerk's Report/Correspondence

- .1 Transport Design Guide Consultation. This had been circulated to Councillors and was noted.
- .2 PDNPA Development Management Policies Document. This had been circulated to Councillors and was noted.
- .3 Frequency of Playground Inspections. The Clerk will download guidance from ROSPA to create a weekly visual inspection checklist of the Playground Equipment. A supply of forms will be left in the filing cabinet for Councillors. Cllrs Crowley and Rushby will alternate weeks to provide a weekly inspection. The Play Equipment will then be taken off the monthly Village Hall Maintenance Inspection Schedule.
- .4 PDNPA Statement of Community Involvement was noted.
- .5 Paul Hardy had reported Badger damage to Playing Field which was dangerous for footballers. Councillors noted that there are limits to what action can be taken as badgers are a protected species. The best advice was to check the pitch and fill in any holes before use. It was noted to check next year's contract with NEDDC for the number of cuts we are paying for, and to monitor.
- .6 Proms in the Park request – there has been no further communication on this.
- .7 Hall on-line booking. This is still being developed. There is currently no proposal for there to be an on-line payment facility. Councillors are aware of data protection issues and this will be reviewed after the February 2018 update to GDPR.
- .8 There would seem to be enough Christmas Decorations for the hall for the Children's Christmas party, and Cllr Siddall has more in her garage if needed. The Clerk will let Cllr Allcock know.

- .9 The meeting with Lee Rowley MP and Angelique Foster County Cllr. had been very positive with a free-flowing discussion on a range of issues. The minutes of the meeting are given at Appendix B. It was agreed to have a meeting of this type on an annual basis going forward. One key outcome was the proposal to purchase a speed gun and set up a Community Speed Watch Group. It was resolved to proceed with this arrangement. The Clerk will email PC Sally Horner to take it forward. Cllr Hunter suggested that Derek Hunter would be willing to sponsor the purchase of a speed gun.

190/17

Financial Report

- .1 The Clerk presented the balances of the Reserve and Current Accounts with itemised transactions since the previous balances. The Financial Report is given at Appendix A and includes income and expenditure. This was received.
- .2 Accounts for Payment were approved as listed. A charity donation had been approved which will be on next month's list.
- .3 Councillors had reviewed 2017 expenditure. The precept for 2018/19 was agreed at £25,000 as 2017/18.
- .4 Fixed outgoings were reviewed. The Budget will be reconsidered at February 2018 when the outcomes of the Village Survey have been assessed.

191/17

Village Hall/Recreation Ground Issues

- .1 This month's inspection was carried out by Cllrs Rushby and Woodhouse. The report had been circulated and was noted.
- .2 The wheelchair is no longer required at the Village Hall. The Clerk will enquire if the Red Cross would be interested in taking it.
- .3 It was agreed to delay reviewing the Hall 'To Do' list until after the priorities had been considered at the Village Survey meeting.
- .4 The emergency services require a key safe code which is not changed on a regular basis. It was agreed to have a second key safe for emergency services use only. The Clerk will enquire if a different colour safe is available to make it clearer which safe is for emergency services use only.
- .5 RJB Services quote for digging a hole for drains inspection was the preferred quote as safety measures were included, and the appointment of RJB Services was approved. Cllr Crowley and the Clerk were delegated to authorise further work as required to a maximum value of £1,000 to rectify the drainage problem as an urgent H & S requirement. If more than £1,000 is required Cllrs Hunter and Rushby are to be consulted. (*Clerk's Note: In the event, the drains issue was resolved by installing a manhole at no further cost.*)
- .6 Cllrs Curtis and Crowley are on the schedule for next month's Hall inspection.

192/17

DALC Circulars up to and including Circular 14/2017 and Training sessions list had been circulated and were noted.

193/17

Village Hall Committee Meeting It was noted that the proposed 22nd January meeting clashed with Carnival AGM. It was agreed to hold the VHCM on 29th January instead. The Clerk will notify representatives of the change.

194/17

Issues raised by Councillors

Cllr Hunter proposed that the Council's profile needed to be raised, for people in Barlow to know who their Councillors were and to be approachable for residents to bring matters to their attention. It was agreed that photographs and pen portraits will be published on notice boards, on website and in the Parish Magazine. This is planned for April 2018. Derek Hunter would be able to take photographs.

195/17

Any Other Business

- .1 It was agreed that more grit bins and dog waste bins will be included as one of the priorities for next year's spending.

196/17

Date of Next Meeting - 6.30 pm Monday 8th January 2018 at Barlow Village Hall.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MEETING STARTS AN HOUR EARLIER THAN USUAL, AND IS THE 2ND MONDAY IN JANUARY NOT THE 1ST DUE TO NEW YEAR'S DAY BANK HOLIDAY. EXTRA TIME HAS BEEN ALLOWED FOR THE VILLAGE SURVEY DISCUSSION.

197/17

Items for the January 2018 agenda

None noted.

Seasonal refreshments were served after the close of the meeting.

APPENDIX A**BARLOW PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL REPORT TO MEETING 4TH DECEMBER 2017**

Item	Balance	Variance
Balance of Business Current Account No. 80093299 at 31/10/17	£26,278.86	
Balance of Business Current Account No. 80093299 at 27/11/17	£24,053.96	(£2,224.90)
Balance of Business Reserve Account No. 00462128 at 31/10/17	£21,753.70	
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PAID OUT - Cheques cleared between 31st October and 27th November 2017

Chq.no./DD	To	Detail	NET	VAT	TOTAL
2554	D. Hunter	Window Cleaner			£10.00
2556	Grant Thornton	Annual Audit	£200.00	£40.00	£240.00
2557	Glasdon	2 Dog waste bins	£189.28	£37.85	£227.13
2558	NEDDC	Playground Inspection	£32.00	£6.40	£38.40
2559	NEDDC	26weeks trade waste	£368.42	0	£368.42
2560	NEDDC	Dog bin emptying to Sept. 2017	£222.95	£44.59	£267.54
2561	Direct 365	Fire Extinguisher Testing	£67.00	£13.40	£80.40
2562	British Gas	27/07/17 – 20/10/17	£103.52	£5.17	£108.69
2563	UKdrainage	CCTV survey of drainage	£120.00	£24.00	£144.00
2564	AP Jones	Clerk's wages and expenses			£658.93
2565	HMRC	Tax September and October			£115.64
DD	Eon	Electricity			£133.00
DD	Plusnet	Wifi			£39.00
TOTAL					£2,431.15

No cheques unresented**Income Banked since report of 31st October 2017**

Receipt.	Payer	Detail	TOTAL	Cum.
	A Sanderson (BACS)	HH 11 th November	£45.00	
	Camping Club	HH Deposit 25/26/27/August 2018 chq.	£50.00	
	Esme Portsmouth	HH 10/12/2017 (cash)	£111.25	£206.25

Accounts Payable - Cheques to be issued 4th December 2017

Chq. no./DD	To	Detail	NET	VAT	TOTAL	Cum.
2566	Viking	Ink cartridges and postage stamps	£95.98	£8.00	£103.98	
2567	Green Bean	Annual Garden maintenance			£470.00	
2568	A Jones	Clerks wages & expenses			£713.26	
2569	HMRC				£315.69	
2543	A Preston	Gratuity			£981.27	

APPENDIX B

Barlow Parish Council Working Group Meeting Thursday 30th November 2017 at Barlow Village Hall

Councillors Present: Cllrs Mrs J. Brougham, T. Crowley, D. Curtis, Mrs J. Hunter, J. Rushby, Mrs. J. Siddall and S. Woodhouse.

Also in Attendance: Lee Rowley M.P., County Councillor Mrs A. Foster, Mrs A. Jones (Clerk)

1. Apologies had been received from Cllr B. Allcock and District Cllr Mrs. C. Huckerby.
2. The Chair welcomed Lee and Angelique to the meeting and the Parish Councillors and Clerk introduced themselves.
3. The Clerk outlined that the format of this meeting would be as a working group, which meant that there was no formal public agenda, there was no allocated time for public participation, and that the meeting had no decision-making powers. If any members of the public were to attend, it would be in the capacity of observers. There were no members of the public present.
4. The purpose of the meeting was to explore issues of concern to the Parish Council and for Lee and Angelique to advise where they would be able to offer support.
Also for Lee and Angelique to advise on any wider issues which they felt may be of concern or interest to Barlow Parish Council.
5. A report of the meeting would be presented to the Barlow Parish Council meeting on Monday 4th December and the Parish Council would then decide on any actions to come out of the discussion.
6. The Chair explained that BPC had recently begun a survey of Barlow residents to ask for feedback on issues of concern. Twelve responses had already been received, and two recurring themes were parking and speeding through the village. This was much as Councillors would have predicted, as both issues are long standing, and both are getting noticeably worse.
7. PARKING
Councillors gave a detailed background of action the Parish Council has taken over parking problems in recent years. A public meeting had been held at the hall which was very well attended. The most serious complaints were of parking across residents' driveways, parking both sides of the road to make access for larger vehicles, particularly farm vehicles impossible and pedestrians crossing at risk through no visibility. There had been meetings and correspondence with Derbyshire County Council where various proposals had been put by BPC for possible parking restrictions to alleviate the situation, such as double yellow lines on one side of the road, restrictions where the road narrows at the top of Hackney Lane, 'H' lines across residents' driveways (which residents themselves were prepared to pay for). BPC had put signs advising of alternative parking at the village hall, and had leafleted unsociably parked cars, also, photographs of bad parking had been sent to the police and DCC, but these actions have been largely ineffective.
It was noted that part of the issue is the success of Hackney House and The Peacock, and that BPC wouldn't want to discourage these businesses, but that there needed to be compromise for it to be workable. Cars parking around the tree outside Hackney House were parked illegally, and blocking the left-hand lane out of Wilkin Hill making turning dangerous. The café needed to do more to encourage their customers to park

sensibly. However, it was recognised that customers wanted to park as close as possible to the café, and it is difficult for a business to discourage customers from parking.

The current state of play is that DCC have advised they have no resources, and while technically BPCs proposals are still under consideration, there has been no action for over 12 months, and as any changes would take at least 12 months to put in place, there is no prospect of any resolution on the horizon. It was commented that the Public Rights of Way department has virtually 'closed down' and local government generally is restricting itself to only carrying out activities which it has a legal obligation to fulfil.

The police are not interested in parking issues unless there is an actual obstruction or illegal parking, and they have a view that congestion in itself is not such a problem, as it in fact helps to slow traffic down, thereby helping with the other concern of speeding.

From the residents' point of view, it is unsatisfactory that the proposals which were put to DCC haven't really had any response as to why these cannot be put in place. BPC understands that DCC no longer put in 'H' lines, but DCC have not explained why this is the case. Better communication would at least make residents feel that their problems had been listened to and considered.

County Cllr Foster agreed to follow up on these points with DCC and communicate back on the outcome. The Clerk will copy C. Cllr Foster in on any relevant future correspondence on these matters. Whilst Lee Rowley supports BPC's position, there is nothing in practical terms he can do, and BPC recognises that it is the government's finance policy which has reduced DCC's resources.

Residents will be encouraged to send in photographs of bad parking to the police.

8. SPEEDING

Cllrs commented that, likely due to sat navs, Barlow is increasingly a through route for HGVs going to Sheffield etc, which exceed the 7.5 tonnes weight restriction on the B6051. A lot more faster traffic is also coming through. Across the front of Rutland Terrace there seems to be an almost constant flow of traffic exceeding the 30 mph, and it is even common to be overtaken by cars on that stretch, doing well over the limit. Barlow has a number of real danger points for pedestrians crossing where there are bends and poor visibility, and the speeding cars do not allow for the possibility of encountering a pedestrian crossing the road.

BPC has asked police to bring speed cameras on numerous occasions but again there do not seem to be the resources.

Lee advised that he has met with the new commander and there are 8 new PCSOs just starting in the region, so things should improve. He will be meeting with the commander on a regular basis and will follow up on BPCs concerns. County Cllr Foster gave advice about how a voluntary speed watch group could purchase a hand-held speed gun for around £300 and work with the police in a monitored and regulated way, such that reports of speeding vehicles would be followed up by the police, with letters, visits, and ultimately prosecutions for repeated offences. It would rely on enough volunteers, who would be trained by the police. This would involve vetting and being registered, but once the system was in place, Barlow residents would at least have the opportunity to impact on the problem. Holmesfield and Unstone are known to have bought their own speed cameras and reports are positive. This will be

taken to the BPC meeting for further consideration and a decision as to whether BPC will initiate a voluntary speed watch group.

9. PLANNING & NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

It was noted that NEDDC Planning Department is not performing to the required standard and is at imminent risk of being put on special measures designation. Lee advised that BPC should not take for granted that the green belt status was a given for the long term, and for Councillors to be aware of the wider issues. Councillors observed that the drawing up of a Neighbourhood Plan had been considered in the past but that the undertaking was a massive one, and it was not clear how much benefit a Neighbourhood Plan would really bring. County Councillor Foster commented that there are grants available and various bodies offer support to the drawing up of a plan, and in some circumstances a Neighbourhood Plan could provide some extra protection against unwanted development. The Chair observed that the feedback from the Village Survey might give BPC a steer on residents' views and this should be borne in mind for the review meeting in January.

10. FRACKING

Lee Rowley gave the meeting a detailed update on what the implications of the current fracking proposals would mean for Barlow. We need to be clear that government policy supports fracking in principle as a safe source of fuel from the direct health perspective, but the inevitable industrialisation of the landscape could be even worse potential damage for residents' lifestyles and wellbeing. The fact that this whole area is likely to be affected, and that land values for fracking sites far exceed values for farm land, could put Barlow's currently essentially rural nature very much at risk. Whilst there is nothing directly affecting Barlow imminent, BPC will need to keep aware of developments and be prepared to respond as needed to protect the interests of the parish.

Lee will be happy to advise and support BPC in this.

11. SUMMARY

The Chair observed that it had been a very useful and informative meeting. Whilst BPC understand the limitations on County Councillors and MPs, it is still useful to know that support, information and advice is available ongoing. It was agreed that it would be useful to have a meeting of this type on perhaps an annual basis.

This report to be circulated to BPCs for review at the meeting on 4th December 2017.