

# BARNBY IN THE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES FROM THE ONLINE (Zoom) PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 14<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021 at 7:00pm

Attendees: Cllr Janette Barlow, Cllr Jackie Parker, Cllr Carina Jukes, Cllr Karin Chaplin, Cllr Carol Speakman, Cllr Graham Bett, Helen Cowlan (Clerk)

Public: None

### 1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Powell; Cllr Brooks; Cllr Lee; Cllr Dobson

### 2. Declarations of interest

None

### 3. Contributions from the public, District and County Councillors

- i) *Easy Fundraising* - Derick Parker advised he has administrator access for Easy Fundraising which is an opportunity for funds to be raised for the Village Hall through online shopping. **Action: DP to send a link with details to circulate and HC to find out more about how funds are received.**
- ii) *Potholes* – the number of potholes is increasing (new and deteriorated). **Action: all Cllrs to update Clerk with issues to be collated and logged to make it easier to track.**
- iii) *Vaccinations* - Cllr Dobson has confirmed that vaccinations start on Saturday (16<sup>th</sup>) and GPs should start notifying those who are eligible.
- iv) *Trees* - Cllr Powell enquired what had happened to the free trees from early 2020. There was little uptake at the time but this could be revisited in the future.
- v) *Cattle Market* – Cllr Bett feels that support should be shown for reinstating the Cattle Market in Newark and suggested a letter be sent on behalf of the PC – proposed Cllr Bett, seconded Cllr Chaplin. **Action – Clerk to draft and circulate before sending.**

### 4. Approval of minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020 (online) were approved as being a true record of the meeting – proposed Cllr Jukes, seconded Cllr Speakman.

### 5. Matters arising from the minutes

SSE meter readings – a refund has been granted of approx. £195. **Action – Clerk to add a calendar reminder for more regular readings to be taken.**

### 6. Actions list (HC)

- i) HC gave an overview of the status of current actions – some have been ‘closed’ and some marked as ‘pending’ to be reviewed as COVID restrictions start to ease – see action log for details/updates.
- ii) The 30mph sign that was recently damaged by a large vehicle is still unstable. **Action – Clerk to follow up with NCC Highways (MK).**
- iii) Formal thanks were given to residents Lee and Steve who have made improvements to the area near the Church / bridge including the cleaning of the bridge, and repairing of the stile – very much appreciated.

### 7. Finance (HC)

#### a) Payments made since last meeting (Nov):

- CHT annual service package £151.20 (HC added to diary to review 2021).
- CHUBB £178.93 (annual service £58.88 and replacement fire extinguisher £120.05).

#### b) Payments upcoming:

- Newsletter – printing costs £39.60.
- NSDC Events License £70. **Action – Clerk to enquire about the charging process in case it is possible to get a refund for 2021-21 and/or defer charges for 2021-22.**
- Wilkins £342 (annual fire alarm check £288 and annual PAT £54) – HC to chase invoice.

All payments were agreed and authorised – proposed Cllr Parker, seconded Cllr Chaplin (unanimous).

c) *Accounts update:*

- Reserves account £9100.15 - inc £6000 grant/funding.
- Parish Council account £3227.47.
- Village Hall account £5156.55 - inc £4000.00 grant/funding and £395.86 projects leaving adjusted total £760.96).

It was unanimously agreed that updates on account balance be given every 6months during lockdown (unless there are any issues that need addressing). Clerk will monitor funds and make request to do transfers between accounts if balances get too low.

d) *Budget and annual precept:*

- Clerk gave an overview of income and expenditure year-to-date, and that expected for the rest of the year, to give an expected overall income and expenditure breakdown for 2020-21. Explanations for variations were reviewed and accepted, and proposals for the budget for 2021-22 were unanimously agreed by the whole Parish Council.
- Due to the uncertainty of the current climate, and how long it will continue, it was felt that the annual precept should be increased to allow a buffer for Parish Council expenses (as opposed to Village Hall expenses which are accounted for separately). This will enable the Parish Council to continue to build reserves towards the recommended target of holding 1.5 times the annual precept in reserve. It was proposed that an increase of £330 be requested (from £3300 to £3630) which equates to £35.13 for an average Band D property – an increase of £3.19 (10%). Votes: for 5, against 1 – motion carried. **Action – Clerk to inform NSDC of requirements.**
- It was unanimously agreed to maintain the Caretaker's pay at £250.00 (net) for 2021-22, and to review it again once more is known about when normal activities can be resumed, or at the next annual budget review at the latest.
- Additionally, Clerk to contact:
  - PPSPRS to see if the fee for 2020-21 can be refunded, and the fee for 2021-22 can be deferred.
  - NSDC to see if fees for refuse collection can be refunded and/or deferred.
  - NSDC to review Licensing requirements and fees.

8. **Planning matters (HC):**

- 20/02401/HOUSE – Elmwood, 21 Front Street – *proposed detached single storey garden room / office in rear garden.* **OUTCOME:** for 6, against 0. **ACTION – Clerk to submit response to NSDC.**
- 20/02059/HOUSE - Moor Farm, Newark Rd – Proposed single story detached garden room. **OUTCOME – application granted.**  
Concerns have been raised that the boundaries shown on plans don't appear to match works completed, and that there may have been encroachment onto other land. There appears to be an extension at the back of the barn but it is not known whether or not this falls under permitted development criteria, and whether or not footprints have been created for future development. **ACTION – Clerk to contact Planning Dept to check understanding of guidelines.**
- 20/02043/FUL – Barnby Grange, Back Lane – *erection of a new dwelling.* **OUTCOME: permission refused.**

Information has been received about a planning application for Chestnut Lodge (21/00027/FUL) which falls under Balderton's boundary. It outlines a request for change of use of the land for the siting of caravans for residential purposes – for 2 gypsy pitches and hardstanding. It is not known if nearby businesses / residences have been consulted. **ACTION – Clerk to find, and circulate, details for comment.**

9. **Barnby Watch (JB)**

The scheme is being set up but has had a low uptake. Cllrs Chaplin and Parker offered to assist by going door-to-door to take details if residents wish to sign up.

**10. Polling Station May2021 (HC)**

NSDC have provisionally requested to hire the Hall as a Polling Station for the local elections in May (if they go ahead). Unanimously supported (proposed JB, seconded GB). A polite request was made that notices are not put up on internal walls due to the marks that can be left behind.

**11. Village Support (HC)**

It was felt that residents are not in need of specific/additional support at the moment but this will, of course, be reviewed regularly and assistance offered as required.

**12. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting - 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7pm.**

*Please note that in line with Government guidelines, annual meetings have been suspended until 2021. Future meetings will return to being bi-monthly on the second Thursday of each month apart from Aug/Dec (unless otherwise stated). As restrictions ease, the Parish Council will assess when meetings can return to normal.*

*...Helen Cowlan.....*Parish Clerk

Meeting ended 20.55pm