

Barton Mills Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Judi Coe clerk@bartonmills.net 07724 737841

Chairman: Mr N. Horne 07590 672963

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Barton Mills

held in the village hall on Tuesday 6th September 2022 at 7:30pm

In attendance: Parish Council Chairman Cllr N Horne, Vice Chairman Cllr C Miller, Cllr M Colsey, Cllr, K Fuller, Cllr T Newman, Cllr A Potts, Cllr R Lewis, Cllr S Mullender, District Cllr B Harvey, the clerk Judi Coe, Inspector Connor Lyon and 8 members off the public

Public Forum:

-A member of the public raised his concerns that some properties in the village were untidy, e.g., overgrown hedges, he gave his opinion that he would like to see to the gaps on the A11 remain open as he has concerns that people wouldn't be able to access the village as easily. He also suggested a reduction to the speed limit on Newmarket Road. Cllr N Horne confirmed that the speed limit on Newmarket is being addressed and that traffic data collectors had recently been installed.

-A member of the public commented that she welcomed Highways proposals to close the A11 gaps as this would help to reduce non-local traffic on Mildenhall Road.

-A member of the public voiced their concerns on the state of the Football Club pavilion and lack of use by football teams, and the state of the building

It was confirmed that the youth teams that have permission to use the field have access to the toilet facilities.

It was also confirmed that the Football Club had been given money to carry out some works including the electrics and hot water system and that this work has been carried out. Cllr R Lewis and Cllr S Mullender to access the pavilion to see what other works are required.

22/09/01 Accept and receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr R Oke

22/09/02 Declarations of members interests

None

22/09/03 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting dated 5th July 2022 were proposed and agreed as a true record of the meeting held.

22/09/04 Police Reports

Inspector Connor Lyon was in attendance and reported on crimes and policing in the area including:

- crime in Barton Mills is minimal, and rarely are there any serious issues
- he is aware speeding is a problem and is aware of the proposal to close the A11 gaps
- there was a very high demand for police assistance in Forest Heath in the summer months
- a recent report published by HMRC shows that Mildenhall Police was under performing in responding to victims, but this is already being addressed
- the ASB problems in Mildenhall have been dealt with and there are now very few issues
- Karl Benton remains the Sargent in the area and is available to attend future Parish Council meetings
- Mildenhall Police increased staffing levels at the start of the year
- the upcoming PCC public meeting is due to be held on 18th October at 6:30pm at Mildenhall Hub
- he would ask an experienced SNT to look at the traffic and speeding issues in hope to carry out more speed checks and put more awareness on social media.

22/09/05 County and District Councillors report

Cllr L Stanbury sent his apologies.

Cllr B Harvey reported on the following:

- the recently published environmental report
- County Lines
- parks in the area being given green flags
- Sunnica's proposals including that the consultation period begins again on 28th September.
- the recent traffic survey results

The clerk to obtain the traffic survey results.

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22/09/06 Planning and Environment

General & For Consideration:

DC/22/0709/FUL Re-consultation - a. reconfiguration of vehicular parking; b. one vehicular and one pedestrian ramp; c. vehicle wash bay following demolition of existing; d. storage building; e. roller shutter doors to south-west elevation; f. entrance door to south-east elevation g. electric vehicle charging points h. roof mounted solar PV panels on south-west elevation i. substation and low voltage switch room at East of England Ambulance Service, Fiveways, Barton Mills, Suffolk, IP28 6AE

It was proposed and agreed that previous comments agreed still stood and that the clerk is to inform West Suffolk Council.

Tree Applications (for information only):

DC/22/1482/TCA – fell two cypress trees in conservation area at 59 The Street, Barton Mills

DC/22/1431/TCA – fell one ash and crown reduction on one honey locust in conservation area at The Gables, Station Road, Barton Mills

Applications awaiting West Suffolk decision and pending appeals:

DC/22/0222/ADV – one internally illuminated totem sign at Barton Mills Service Station, IP28 6AE – *pending at 31.8.22*

DC/21/2285/FUL – 15 dwellings with associated landscaping, highways and engineering works at land used for car boot sale, Newmarket Road, Barton Mills – *pending at 31.8.22*

Decided/approved (for information only):

DC/22/0931/FUL – change of use of garage to salon at 22A Worlington Road, Barton Mills, IP28 7DY – *approved 22.7.22*

DC/22/0820/HH – two storey side extension at 12 Church Meadow, Barton Mills, IP28 6AT – *approved 4.7.22*

DC/22/0021/HH – a. two storey front extension; b. two storey side extension; c. one and half storey side and rear extensions; (following demolition of existing side extension and garage) d. first floor balcony to the side elevation; e. two bay cart lodge with first floor room at The Croft Mildenhall Road Barton Mills IP28 6BD – *approved 7.7.22*

Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr N Horne confirmed that the next stage would be to form a steering group to take the Plan forward.

It was agreed an advert would be put in the Barton Miller asking residents to come forward ensuring they know that the Plan cannot be used to stop all development and of the commitment required.

Proposal to close gaps in the A11 central reservation

Highways have advised of their proposal to close the three gaps in the A11 central reservation between Red Lodge and Fiveways to improve safety. Highways are asking for comments before 12th September; however, they have confirmed this is not the closing date for formal objections and this does not form part of the statutory consultation. The formal consultation period is expected mid-October. A Highways representative is hoped to attend the October meeting.

Councillors and members of the public gave their views and alternative suggestions on the proposals:

- action welcomed to improve safety and decrease accidents
- reduce non-local traffic on Mildenhall Road
- increase of local traffic on Mildenhall Road
- prevent the many vehicles doing U-turns on the A11
- inconvenience to residents
- increase travel time and costs to residents
- push the traffic into other areas
- to close all junctions with the exception of the Bull junction, would still reduce accidents but wouldn't be an inconvenience to residents
- a no left turn on the Newmarket Road junction
- could the proposals be a temporary solution prior to a bypass at Fiveways
- if speeding was enforced this would help prevent accidents without the need to close the gaps i.e., a fixed camera

It was agreed to make comments on the pros and cons of the proposals and to also contact Tuddenham Parish Council to find out their views.

21/09/07 Clerk's Report, Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Last Meeting and Correspondence

James Brokenshire-Dyke has sent a briefing document which covers what was presented to the Parish Council. This document is available for public viewing as is now available on the Parish Council website.

Email correspondence from resident who was querying why the Parish Council appeared to be so keen in developing the land on Mildenhall Road. The resident's queries have been answered.

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21/09/08 Parish Matters

1. Update on exception site at Newmarket Road update

Havebury have confirmed that the architect has been responding to consultation responses and officer comments. An extension of time has been agreed until 10th September so it is hoped the officer will make a decision by that date. RSPB and Natural England are still issuing blanket objections on all developments with the Stone Curlew buffer zone, so Havebury are waiting on revised comments following the issue of the HIA report.

2. Maintenance of Assets

a - Lighting

No lighting issues to report.

Cllr R Lewis suggested that the Parish Council ask residents if they feel there are any areas in the village that require lighting improvements

b - Play park

The recent park report showed some low-risk items including the matting, wooden posts and a bench showing signs of deterioration.

It was agreed to obtain quotes for this work. Cllr N Horne to contact Eastern Play Services.

3. SID incl rota

The rota has been agreed for September and October.

One volunteer has confirmed he is no longer able to help with moving the SID due to ill-health. The clerk has thanked him for his time and efforts over the years.

It was agreed to ask for more volunteers.

Cllr M Colsey reported that moving the SID to Worlington Road was becoming more difficult.

It was agreed to gather recent data from the SID to determine whether the SID could remain at Worlington Road at all times and to also look at costs of a solar powered battery for the SID.

4. Old Mill Lane railings update

Permission needs to be granted from Suffolk Highways but they will only do so once the work is approved by the Environment Agency and Suffolk's Flood Team. Suffolk Flood Team have confirmed they have no issues but the Environment Agency have some further questions for the contractors before agreeing the works can be carried out.

5. Highways issues

Issues addressed within other agenda items

6. Island at Chestnut Close

Robert Ayers has quoted £250-£300 to install some drought resistant plants to break up the area, and/or £290 for 1 tonne (approx. 45) 200mm-300mm boulders and/or £290 for 8-10 300mm-600mm boulders.

Robert also reported that it appears a tractor has already gone over the island damaging the edge, however he has repaired this the best he can.

A resident has offered to contribute towards the island works on the island as long as there is some planting to bring in contrast and sensitivity.

It was agreed to ask the contractor for pictures of the suggested drought resistant plants and ask if he can get some larger boulders of 600mm plus round.

It was also agreed to ask S Limmer whether she would be able to maintain the island as part of her weekly hours.

Cllr N Horne confirmed that the sign should be ready by the end of October.

7. Queens Jubilee funds

The Parish Council received a total of £1,150 from WSC and SCC to use for the Queens Jubilee weekend. (received £375 from WSC; £500 from SCC; £135 from WSC; £140 from SCC)

Cllr C Miller reported on the money raised over the weekend and the clerk reported that these funds should be paid into the Parish Council account. Cllr K Fuller requested that this money is be ring-fenced for future community events.

The clerk confirmed that any money received from SCC and WSC that exceeded the total expense would need to be returned.

Item to be brought forward to next meeting.

8. Queens Jubilee photo book

Cllr C Miller confirmed that the estimated costs of a 20page A4 photo book is £29. It was agreed to purchase several books to be stored in various places, e.g., village hall, church rooms

9. RIS3

A letter dated 19th July was received by residents in Barton Mills and Mildenhall from Matt Hancock in regard to the volume of traffic in town and Fiveways roundabout. The letter describes that he is pushing for a proper 'grade separated' junction at Fiveways with a flyover. Matt has asked for thoughts on this subject.

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10. Balmforth Drone Imagery offer

Cllr R Lewis asked if the Parish Council would like copies of Balmforth's drone images and video footage to be used on the Parish Council website, all that Balmforth would then ask that there is a paragraph along the lines of "Drone imagery provided by Balmforth Estate Agents www.balmforth.co.uk" (which will contain a link to their web site) The videos are professionally produced and Balmforth are fully licenced and insured. It was agreed to have the images and video footage on the website.

21/09/09 Finance & Policies

1. Parish Council Bank Balances and Reconciliation from list of Payments and Receipts

The clerk reported that at date £4,059 was held in the £4,059 current account and £33,701 in the deposit account

2. Approve and authorise payment of invoices

The following invoices were approved for payment:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Gross</u>
30-Jul	J Coe	Salary	269.08	0.00	269.08
30-Jul	J Coe	Clerk expenses	27.50	0.00	27.50
30-Aug	J Coe	Salary	269.28	0.00	269.28
30-Aug	J Coe	Clerk expenses	23.50	0.00	23.50
30-Jul	R Lewis	Barton Miller printing	26.16	0.00	26.16
27-Jul	SALC	Cllr training	52.00	10.40	62.40
30-Jul	RH Landscapes	Grass and hedge cutting	200.00	40.00	240.00
31-Aug	RH Landscapes	Grass and hedge cutting	100.00	20.00	120.00
08-Aug	SCC	Traffic surveys	194.00	38.80	232.80
14-Jul	Sarah Limmer	Gardening	30.00	0.00	30.00
01-Sep	Sarah Limmer	Gardening	45.00	0.00	45.00
09-Aug	PKF	External Audit fee	200.00	40.00	240.00
01-Aug	Aim Pest Control	Annual charge	100.00	20.00	120.00
13-Aug	RA Gardens	Island work	1,150.00	0.00	1,150.00
01-Aug	West Suffolk Council	Emptying dog bins	27.73	0.00	27.73
01-Sep	West Suffolk Council	Emptying dog bins	27.73	0.00	27.73
25-Aug	Community Heartbeat	Defib annual rental	60.00	12.00	72.00
01-Sep	Community Heartbeat	Defib annual support	126.00	25.20	151.20
			2,927.98	206.40	3,134.38

3. Notice of conclusion of audit

The external auditors, PKF Littlejohn have now concluded their audit, and confirm that in their opinion the information in sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR are in accordance with proper practises and no matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern.

The Notice of Conclusion of audit gives parishioners the right to view the AGAR by contacting the clerk. It was agreed to not charge parishioners who request a copy as in previous years.

The clerk to publish section 3 of the AGAR and Notice of Conclusion of the Audit.

4. Clerk hourly pay rate

The clerk reported that in April 2020 it was agreed to place her on SPC 22 and her hourly rate was set as per the guidelines published by SALC. SALC have since published new pay guidelines from April 2021. The clerk asked if her hourly rate could be increased by 25p as per the guidelines. It was agreed to bring this item forward to the next meeting.

21/09/10 Parish Councillors reports (for information only)

It was asked whether the Parish Council should look into a weight restriction on Mildenhall Road.

Members confirmed that that it is very costly and lots of research is required to do this.

21/09/11 Barton Miller


Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group; SID volunteer; A11 gaps; Cost of living crisis help

21/09/12 Items for future agendas

Football Club usage; traffic survey results; clerks pay; SID; island works; google drive

The date if the next meeting was confirmed as 4th October 2022

The meeting closed at 9:35pm

 J. Coe Clerk