

Barton Mills Parish Council

Clerk to the Council:

James Bercovici
Barton Coach House
The Street
Barton Mills
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP28 6AA

Clerk: James Bercovici
Home (01638) 510803

Chairman: Mrs M. Davis
Home (01638) 515526

Minutes of the Meeting of Barton Mills Parish Council

Held in the Village Hall on Friday 12th September 2014 at 7.00 pm.

Attendance: Cllr Robert Lewis (Chairman)
Cllr Amin Harji (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Kay Blanchard
Cllr Pamela Boura
Cllr Garry Flack
Cllr Frances Lewis
District Cllr Tim Huggan
James Bercovici (Clerk)

0. **Opportunity for members of the Public to speak (3 minute limit, not statutory part of meeting).**
None present

1. **Courtesies. Apologies and Signing of the Register. Declarations of Interest.**

Apologies: Cllr Keith Fuller, Cllr Steve Mullender, Cllr Charlie Peachey, County Cllr James Waters, PCSO Tristan Askew

Declarations of interest: Cllr Boura (6g), Cllr Blanchard (7e)

2. **Police Matters**

Report received from PCSO Askew outlining two crimes in the village. Cllr F Lewis asked about the location of one of the crimes. Cllr R Lewis said a white van is often parked outside the vicarage; he considered this an accident waiting to happen. Cllr F Lewis said the tenant had been offered use of the church car park and felt it would be better if the police or Parish Council approached the tenant about this. Cllr Harji pointed out that parking on a junction is not permitted.

3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 11th July 2014 and 15th August 2014**

Cllr Boura proposed agreeing the July minutes: all in favour. Cllr Harji proposed agreeing the August minutes: all in favour.

4. **Matters arising and pending**

a. Field and car parking. The matting has now been laid. The soakaway and memorial bench have been installed. Cllr F Lewis suggested it would be helpful if someone would take responsibility for regular emptying of the soakaway. Cllr Boura offered to do this. Cllr Harji thanked Cllrs Boura and Flack for laying the matting.

Cllr R Lewis said only the entrance to the field remained outstanding. He reminded councillors that a low quote had been followed by two higher quotes from Mark Hayward. He suggested this should be an agenda item for October. Cllr Flack thought it would be better to obtain the necessary three quotes and proceed; Cllr R Lewis asked if councillors would delegate this to himself, Cllr Boura and the Clerk. Cllr F Lewis proposed this course of action adding that, once quotes had been received and considered, instructions should be given to proceed with the work: all in favour.

Cllr Boura said there were other issues with the field such as dead branches in the trees at the far end of the field along Grange Lane. The Clerk said he would obtain quotes. Cllr F Lewis said she had received enquiries about installing a memorial bench on the far side of the field. The Clerk advised that he could provide the necessary information. Cllr Flack suggested the nettles on the far side of the field should be removed but Cllr Boura thought they should be preserved as a nature belt. Cllr Boura said more topsoil is needed for the field; Cllr Flack said that Colin Bailey may have some available. Cllr R Lewis said he would ask Mark Hayward who has a motorised wheelbarrow.

Cllr Boura said Rita Wilson has complained about litter after football training. Cllr Boura agreed that she had picked up blue tape after training sessions. Cllr R Lewis enquired about the cost of installing a litter bin and having it emptied regularly.

- b. Footpath. Glyn French of Suffolk CC has advised that a boardwalk is considered to be the only real practical long term solution but it is relatively expensive and therefore dependent on funding. He has secured some funding from Quality of Life budgets, enough to complete the boardwalk (but not enough for all the desired works such as clearing vegetation and relaying the surface). He hopes the work will be able to take place in early October.

Cllr R Lewis compared this with the plan put forward by the Parish Council and agreed this was a more permanent solution. He reported that the flooding had worsened and that the landowner had said he would check the valve again.

- c. Standing Orders. Cllr R Lewis said he had been unable to progress this and suggested it could be deferred.
- d. Church Lane Close development. Lee Webster of Flagship has provided an update, advising that the displaced parking will take in the region of 20 weeks and, once this has been signed off, work will begin on the dwellings. The units are not prioritised, but Flagship would welcome locals applying. In regards to letting, interested parties should contact Home Link on 01638 719000.

Cllr R Lewis said he continues to find Flagship unhelpful with communication poor and progress very slow. Cllr F Lewis said the promised residents liaison was simply not taking place although Cllr R Lewis said Lee Webster insists it is. Cllr R Lewis proposed to request a schedule of works. In terms of who will live there, he reported that Lee Webster had said it will be normal housing needs with no priority for local need. Cllr Huggan said FHDC cannot impose conditions as Flagship owns the land but that a local connection could help applicants. He said he would discuss with the planning department whether normal conditions could be waived, giving priority to local applicants.

- e. SALC report. Cllr F Lewis had attended the recent meeting and presented her report (filed with the minutes).

5. Reports from the District and County Councillors

Cllr Waters asked the Clerk to relay his thanks to the Parish for allowing him to officially open the affordable housing development in Church Lane.

Cllr Huggan presented his report (filed with the minutes). In particular, he advised there were plans to incorporate a policy, DM32, to prevent visually important gaps (such as the field between Bridge Farm Close and the boundary with Worlington) from being filled in. Cllr Boura said that this application had been discussed at the FHDC Development Control Committee in August and they had agreed in principle to support the application. However, the granting of outline permission would depend on the successful conclusion of the s106 agreement. It was noted that the proposed agreement included 30% affordable housing and other contributions included a sum for Public Open Space. As it was proposed that formal play facilities should be provided off site, the Clerk was asked to liaise with Cllr Huggan in enquiring if there was any possibility of obtaining funding for some climbing equipment for under sevens on Barton Mills playing field.

6. Finance - Standard Payments for approval (inc. VAT)

- a. £588.00 Clerk's net salary (July and August 2014) – chq. 1300
- b. £147.00 HMRC (PAYE July and August 2014) – chq.
- c. £35.16 Clerk's expenses (July and August 2014) - chq. 1300

Cllr Boura proposed agreeing the standard payments: all in favour.

Special Payments for approval (inc. VAT)

- d. £200 Matt Wilson (memorial bench installation) - chq. 1301
- e. £950 Hayward Building (drain and soakaway installation) - chq. 1302
- f. £67.50 Barton Mills Village Hall (hall hire April-June) - chq. 1303
- g. £22.40 Pamela Boura (expenses) - chq. 1304
- h. £726.24 Sure Green (grass matting and pegs - paid to the Clerk) - chq. 1299
- i. £337.50 OPGS (grass cutting June/July) - chq. 1305
- j. £110 Rainbow Club (donation - from February 2014) - chq. 1306
- k. £94.50 Pearce & Kemp (adjust car park light) - chq. 1307
- l. £4165.42 Pearce & Kemp (UKPN mains service works) - chq. 1308

Cllr Boura queried item l and suggested this should be deferred. Cllr R Lewis proposed agreeing the special payments except item l: all in favour (Cllr Boura abstained).

7. **Planning.**

Note - *ITALICS: Parish Council comments passed to Forest Heath DC.* **Bold: Forest Heath DC decision**

General and for consideration:

Awaiting Forest Heath decisions and pending appeals

- a. F/2014/Variation of Condition 2, 9 and 10 of Planning Permission F/2011/0278 - Barton Mills Chalk Quarry, Chalk Hill.
- b. DC/13/0927/OUT - Land South Of Worlington Road: Outline application - residential development of up to 78 dwellings with creation of new vehicular access (Major Development and Departure from the Development Plan). *Cllrs F Lewis and R Lewis declared interests. Cllr Boura proposed that the Parish Council objects to the application on the grounds that it would create a suburb of Mildenhall within Barton Mills, it would link Barton Mills to Worlington, there would be considerable issues with both traffic and pedestrian access and it is outside the development line: all in favour.*

Forest Heath Decisions

- c. DC/14/1088/HH - Puffin Lodge Station Road: Erection of single storey rear extension. **APPROVED**
- d. AP/14/0014/REF APPEAL AGAINST REFUSAL Ref. DC/14/0146/FUL - 36 Mildenhall Road: Erection of a one-and-a-half storey dwelling and alterations to vehicular access. Previously, Cllr Boura thought this overdevelopment of the site. Cllr F Lewis agreed. Cllr R Lewis decided to declare an interest; Cllr F Lewis followed suit. *Cllr Boura proposed objecting on the grounds of overdevelopment of the site and because the layout is not in keeping with the rest of Mildenhall Road: three in favour, two against. REFUSED. Cllr Boura proposed no changes: all in favour (Cllrs Mullender and F Lewis abstained).*

APPEAL DISMISSED

- e. DC/14/1071/FUL - Development Site Bridge Farm Close: 6no. two bedroom apartments. *The Parish Council was unanimous in supporting local residents who attended the August meeting and agreed unanimously to object to this planning application because:*
 - *The proposed building is too high and out of scale with existing development fronting Worlington Road. It would have a visual impact on the Mildenhall Conservation Area.*
 - *There would be a net loss of much needed parking space.*
 - *Overlooking and loss of light would affect neighbouring properties.*

APPLICATION REFUSED

8. **Any other business (with consent of the Chairman)**

- a. Car boot sales 2015 - Cllr Flack asked when the meeting would be. It was agreed to hold it in the Church Room on 13th October at 7pm.
- b. Cllr R Lewis had received a request for help with books for a resident going to university. he said it was inappropriate for the Parish Council to assist but asked if anyone could think of another organisation for this.
- c. Flagship had suggested that the Parish Council might like to be involved in naming the garages site, reported Cllr R Lewis but he said he would seek clarification on this before any time was spent on it.

9. **Date of next meeting:** 10th October 2014. Cllr Boura tendered her apologies; Cllr Blanchard tendered hers for the next two meetings.