

Barton Mills Parish Council

Clerk to the Council:

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Minutes of the Barton Mills Annual Parish Meeting 2016

Held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 20th April at 7.30 pm.

There were 18 electors and 3 others present at the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Harji and Cllr Dawson. (The attendance list to be filed with the minutes.)

The chairman, Cllr Boura, presented her annual report (filed with these minutes) and the clerk presented a summary of the finances for the year 15/16.

- **Current Consultation on Development and Settlement Boundaries – Forest Heath Local Plan**

Cllr Boura outlined the proposals for development in the Forest Heath District, and in Mildenhall in particular, for the period to 2031. The extra development proposed for Mildenhall could be expected to impact Barton Mills with extra traffic, especially in Worlington Road. She explained that Barton Mills was classified as a secondary village, so no growth was proposed here, but that some small adjustments to the settlement boundary were being proposed to include areas where development had already taken place.

District Cllr Harvey confirmed USAF stated they intend to leave Mildenhall in 2020-2022 and the statement in Parliament that 4,500 dwellings will be built, is not the only plan.

Robert Lewis (as a member of the public) queried if the proposed Barton Mills settlement boundary should be challenged as the existing boundary was set in a historical context in 1985. He suggested that no opportunity for growth at all was not good for the community. Mr Lewis explained that he owned an area of land just outside the settlement boundary that he thought should be included within it. Mr Lewis also declared a personal interest although acting as a parishioner.

Mr S Mullender proposed "to request a review of the proposed new settlement boundary to include some areas suitable for small scale development of up to 5 houses", 16 in favour, 2 abstentions.

- **Planning application for 78 new homes at Worlington Road**

It was recognised that the development was of low density compared to these in the recent past. Many expressed concerns regarding the speed of traffic on Worlington Road. It was noted that a condition of the existing Outline Planning Permission was the provision of a "Gateway Feature" at the 30 mph signs and also a pedestrian crossing.

- **Footpath to Mildenhall**

Following the promise of a grant of £2000 from our County Councillor's locality budget, the Parish Council now has £3000 available towards the cost of re-surfacing the path and will be obtaining quotes for this work.

- **Affordable Housing**

Pippa Poitras would oppose any further housing of this type in Church Lane.

- **Proposed Defibrillator**

Mr Waters declared that a fund from the late Barton Mills resident Tony Morley would fully assist in financing this project – on the condition a photo of Tony Morley was mounted as an

Signed (Chairman).....*Pamela Boura*

Date: 17th May 2017

acknowledgement of this generous donation. This announcement was met with much appreciation by all and it was agreed, with one abstention, to proceed with this project.

- **Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations**

Cllr Boura told the meeting about the new picnic area which will be our legacy project and about the Cream Tea to be organised by the Coffee Caravan. This will be held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 17th May. Cllr F Lewis updated the meeting on the ongoing preparations for the parish council event to be held on 12th June. She requested for volunteers to assist in planning and on the day of celebrations.

- **Any other business**

It was highlighted the kerb stones at the end of Church Lane needed attention.

Rodney Knight requested that options should be explored for re-enforcing the local "Good Neighbour" scheme currently run by the Church.

DRAFT