

BARNACK PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Robin Morrison
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Minutes of a Meeting of Barnack Parish Council held in
The Village Hall, Barnack, on Monday 14th October 2013 at 7.30 pm

Draft Minutes for approval at next Meeting

- 1 To record Members present. **David Roxburgh, Chairman; Harry Brassey, Vice Chairman; Eddie Barker; Ivor Crowson; David Laycock; Margaret Palmer; David Over, Ward Councillor and four Residents.**
- 2 To record Apologies for Absence. **Phil Broughton.**
- 3 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:
 - a. To receive Declarations of Interest from Councillors on items on the Agenda. **Ivor Crowson item 12.a.8.3rd.**
 - b. To receive written requests for Dispensations for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. **None.**
 - c. To grant any requests for Dispensation as appropriate. **None.**
- 4 To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 9th September 2013. **Confirmed and Signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Ivor Crowson. Seconded by Margaret Palmer.**
- 5 Open Forum. (*Residents' questions in grey*)
 - a. *What is progress on the Multi-Use Games Area?*
Report by Harry Brassey:
 - i. **Mr Derby Dennis has marked out an area on his land that he is prepared to use for a Parish recreational facility**
 - ii. **The Committee will now decide on a draft plan of amenities (to be drawn up by Victoria Tyers) and obtain three quotations.**
 - iii. **The funds needed for such a project would be substantial and it may be more effective to use a professional fund raiser.**
 - iv. **It is intended to have a booking system which could be accessed via the internet and mobile phone.**
 - v. **If the project does go ahead there will be an area of grass around the play areas which will need mowing and maintaining, will the Parish Council be prepared to pay for this?**
 - b. *Paynes Field, Wildlife Corridor what is happening?*
Report by David Roxburgh:
 - i. **Peterborough City Council has now inspected the site and come to the conclusion that it has been set up incorrectly, with hedging which should form a barrier between Resident's gardens and the Wildlife Corridor being planted so that there is a gap between the hedge and the gardens.**
 - ii. **Planners are to decide on the choice of remedy which could be: an extra hedge planted on the correct line, next to the wire strand fence and the existing hedge to be left in place. Or, dig up the hedge and put one in the right place.**
 - c. *Bus shelter adjacent to the Terrace, will it be replaced?*
Removed by PCC as it was hazardous but no funding is available for a new one.
- 6 Police Report. **No report received or Police Officer in attendance.**
- 7 Ward Councillor's Report.
 - a. **PCC has implemented redundancies equivalent to 40% of employees during past three years.**
 - b. **Cost cutting continues, with privatisation of services in an efficiency drive.**
 - c. **Currently there is more activity in parish councils than in the city council.**

- d. Annual Parish Assistance reduced over the past three years may disappear altogether.*
- e. PCC say, it is reasonable for Parishes to increase their annual income by putting up Residents' Council Tax to cover operational costs.*
- f. PCC income from Council Tax and Central Government is being consumed by spending on adult social care and it is planned to raise money by other means such as solar farms.*
- g. The drive to reduce spending could also mean PCC examining Parish Councils' accounts and refusing contributions if financial reserves are judged to be too high.*

8 Matters Arising.

- a. Barnack School premises: out of hours use.

- i. Report on School Governor's meeting by the Clerk.*

I attended the School Governors meeting on 19th September and read the following to them:

Inappropriate use of School grounds

Although there has been much gratitude expressed for the amenity that the School continues to share with the village, the Parish Council wishes to bring to the School Governors' attention the strength of feeling amongst local residents and reflect their views which have been forcibly put at recent meetings.

Use of the School grounds after the 9.30pm closing time has been persistent and disturbing for nearby residents with 'visitors' being present well into the night and on some occasions causing no small amount of nuisance.

Residents with properties adjacent to the School premises feel that the present rules are not being enforced and despite contacting the police using the 101 service number on many occasions, there has been little or no attempt to stop after hours occupancy.

The Governors were pleased that someone from the Council had attended and responded as follows:

1. They were unable to enforce the rules.
2. It was an open site and difficult to protect.
3. They were not able to 'police' the site.
4. It was not the Caretakers job to police the grounds.
5. They were open to suggestions.
6. What about Neighbourhood Watch patrols?

I said I would report back to the Council and promised to stay in touch to update them on any ideas.

ii. Bainton Road Resident's letter:

29th September 2013

Dear Sir

Re; Use of Barnack CE Primary School grounds after hours

I am writing in connection with the item 'Barnack school field, out of hours usage' mentioned in the Parish Council Reports section of the Parish News. I have been reading the minutes regularly and since the early days of our arrival into the village I have been perplexed at the repetition of the discussion on late after hours usage and anti-social behaviour. I live opposite the rear entrance to the school grounds and would like to share my view.

I regularly use the facility after school hours with my three young children and have encountered several groups of teenagers. My experience differs greatly from those described in your minutes. I have yet to see smoking, alcohol consumption or hear swearing. In fact these groups are often highly amused when my two year old twins introduce themselves into their football match!

Barnack does not have a facility specifically for teenagers or young adults and the school grounds is a safe environment for them to relax with their peers.

I have yet to be disturbed by "late evening noise" as described in your minutes. I have also walked through the school grounds several times in the late evening and have neither felt threatened, un comfortable or seen evidence of anti-social behaviour. I felt compelled to write simply to balance the dialogue that I felt was being skewed and was unfair.

Yours faithfully

- iii. The Council is disappointed with School's response and that they are not taking any steps to protect their property and would suggest that the gates are locked at night and new signage be erected to emphasise the rules.*

iv. *Further, the Council wishes to find answers to the following questions: How much inappropriate behaviour is there? And what can we do about it?*

b. 101 services: letter to Police and Crime Commissioner. *His assistant thanked us for drawing his attention to the matter. And said they will liaise with relevant members of the Constabulary to assess the extent of this issue and what can be done to address it.*

He also said he will keep us fully updated, if in the meantime, residents experience any difficulties, he asked that we keep a note of the dates and times that calls to the 101 service were made and the duration of time we were kept waiting following the initial assessment made by the operator and then let the know.

A second letter received last week: stated; Sir Graham has raised the issue regarding the 101 service with the Chief Constable and a team is currently looking in to this matter further.

c. A1/Green Drift junction. *Letter to Highway's agent for the region has not been acknowledged. Clerk is to pursue the matter at a more senior level.*

d. Weighbridge Office at Station Yard. *Owner does not seem to be keen to discuss the matter. It was agreed that the building was an important part of the village's heritage and should be preserved if possible. Brian Palmer has agreed to propose a plan of action for maintaining the building. Any scheme would stress that the owner need not be involved and that all work would be carried out by volunteers.*

e. Post Office and General Store: *Meeting with Everards Brewery. Report by David Roxburgh, who suggested that the Council wants to promote the idea of the business continuing in situ or recommencing in a new location. Everards stated that they viewed situation with interest and would consider their options.*

f. Litter Bins. *The Clerk reported the missing bin from Stamford Road lay by to PCC and also requested a new, additional bin at be installed near an entrance to the Hills & Holes reserve adjacent to the junction of Wittering Ford Road and Heath Road.*

9 Correspondence: *Noted by Councillors.*

a. David Over: Anti-Social Behaviour notes.

b. Police Alerts

i. Powers to reduce Anti-Social Behaviour in Peterborough.

ii. Pick Pocketing.

iii. Theft of Tractor equipment.

iv. Police Panel meeting 14/10/13.

v. Rural crime, good news.

vi. Police and Crime Commissioner: *Neighbourhood Alerts is a new system being used to re-launch the eCops service. Residents may register to receive email bulletins according to their interests at: www.ecops.org.uk Councillors were asked by the Chairman to enrol individually. It was agreed that the Clerk is to write and say, 'that although we approve of your motives, the 101 service is not working properly and alerts may not be accurate.*

c. Bus Service notes. *Discussion on letter by Jane Franks, Bainton regarding new travel arrangements for Kings School pupils. The 401 service has ceased and Delaine has commenced an alternative service. Parents are concerned that children have to walk from the school to Peterborough Bus station to make the journey home and that any delay at the Helpston railway crossing may cause the bus to arrive too late for children to be on time for starting the school day.*

d. Zero Carbon: Energy efficiency in older properties.

e. DIS 817 & 818.

f. SLCC September News Bulletin.

g. Heritage October Bulletin.

h. Register of Electors – Amendment.

10 Planning:

a. Glebe House, Stamford Road, Fell one Sycamore. *No comments.*

b. 13/01249/CTR, Manor Stone House, Station Road, Trees work. Permitted. *Noted.*

c. Paynes Field meeting on 26/09/13. *As item 5.b. above.*

11 Cemetery Matters

- a. Maintenance plan. **Action plan needed for capital expenditure items.**
- b. Bench for Mr Armstrong. **The Clerk explained that a teak bench had been sourced from Helpston Garden Centre and a contractor had been found to carry out the installation.**

12 Financial

- a. To approve payment of outstanding accounts: **Agreed. Proposed by David Laycock. Seconded by Harry Brassey.**
 - i. £430.09, Robin Morrison: Clerk's salary and expenses for September 2013.
 - ii. £82.80, Hmrc: Clerk's tax for September 2013.
 - iii. £234.00, Scribe 2000 Ltd: Accounts Software licence for one year.
 - iv. £870.00, Scribe 2000 Ltd: Cemetery Software purchase.
 - v. £240.00, PKF Littlejohn: External Audit for 2012/13. (last year £726.60)
 - vi. £54.64, Margaret Palmer: Pilsgate Path expenses.
 - vii. £52.28, Ufford Parish Council: SLCC subscription share (17/7 of £127.00)
 - viii. Pilsgate Path: the following payments are to be made, subject to confirmation by David Roxburgh and Margaret Palmer, that they are satisfied with the work as per the Budget and Plan Agreed in Minute 09.09.13.11.d.ii.
 1. RHAB: Fencing & Gates, £11,785.20. (£11,500.20 already paid)
 2. Ringway: Construction and Project Management, £17,551.12.
 3. Stamford Stone: Supply of Stone, £7,200.
 4. Community Payback: Groundwork, £600.00.
 5. Boston Seeds: Grass seed mix, £109.99.
 6. Burghley Estate: Facilitation Payment, £500.00.
 7. Mark Bland: Coach hire, £270.00.
 8. Burghley Director of Education: School Talk, £100.00.
- b. To Note monies received:
 - i. £487.50, PCC: repayment of Pilsgate Path Planning Fee.
 - ii. £6,993.00, PCC: second half of Precept.
 - iii. £50.00, J.G. Cross: Mr & Mrs Betts Memorial fee.
 - iv. £50.00, Anglia Memorials: Mr & Mrs Keen Memorial fee.
- c. To approve reports: **Agreed. Proposed by Harry Brassey. Seconded by Margaret Palmer.**
 - i. Annual Accounts: Audit concluded satisfactorily.
 - ii. Bank Reconciliation & Budget Control.
 - iii. Pilsgate Path.

13 Reports from Meetings Attended.

- a. Ward Boundary changes meeting 2/10/13. **Attended by Gillian Beasley, Chief Exec. of PCC.**
 - i. **A discussion took place on the future of Barnack Ward and a desire by parishes to maintain the unique character of the Ward.**
 - ii. **PCC officers expressed support for the Ward's view.**
 - iii. **David Over, Ward Councillor sent the following email to all Ward parishes and City Councillors and Officers:** Last night the Barnack Ward Group Boundary Working Party met with Gillian Beasley. On her advice I propose to write to the boundary commission with the following comment:

The Barnack Ward Group supports the proposal of a 60 member council but reserves the right to propose a 61 member council. Detailed support for a single councillor Barnack Ward will be sent early in the New Year. If there are any objections to this please contact me as soon as possible
 - iv. **Next step is response by Boundary Commission in January 2014.**
- b. **Meeting with Ben Middleton of Peterborough Environment City Trust:**
 - i. **Tree planting plan for verge at Whitman Close will be implemented by PECT free of charge but the Trust asks for some assistance from volunteers on 23rd November.**
 - ii. **The Trust has also offered free fruit trees for the verge at end of Orchard Road. Margaret Palmer is to ask PCC for permission to plant the trees on the verge and consult on the scheme with local residents.**

c. Bat Boxes. Margaret Palmer had a meeting with Tony Mould of the Bat Conservation Trust to decide on the best location for some boxes. The boxes cost 31.00 each. The Council approved the purchase of some boxes on condition that a £225.00 grant is received from PCC. Tony Mould would install and revisit to monitor the boxes. Proposed by Harry Brassey. Seconded by Eddie Barker.

14 Highways and Village Matters - For Clerk to address issues raised by the Councillors.

a. Bishops Walk, pine needles likely to block drains and need sweeping

b. Millstone Lane, footpath littered with leaves, twigs and conkers and needs sweeping

c. Orchard Road, new build detached house is for sale; are there any outstanding issues regarding finishing of site? None that needed Council action.

15 Pilsgate Footpath update.

i. Work should be finished by 16th October

ii. Meeting of key organisations involved takes place 17th October.

iii. Community Payback have worked well and completed their task.

iv. It was agreed to have a plaque made at a cost not to exceed £100.00 mentioning the organisations that contributed to the project. Proposed by David Laycock. Seconded by Eddie Barker.

v. Opening is on 25th October with tape cutting by Miranda Rock at 1pm.

vi. Aerial photography has been arranged subject to weather conditions.

vii. Local press have been invited.

viii. Verge between pump station and approach to path entrance on opposite side of road was planned to be grassed but it is hoped to make a more substantial surface.

ix. The Council thanked Margaret Palmer for her outstanding efforts in managing the project. Thanks were also expressed to Burghley Estate, Stamford Stone, Ringway Group, RHAB Fencing and Community Payback. Proposed by David Laycock. Seconded by Eddie Barker.

16 Draft Traffic Calming Plan. Report by David Roxburgh: *A costed plan has been received and will be circulated after the meeting.*

17 War Memorial Road Junction. *See item 18 below.*

a. PCC options plan.

b. Charles Clark's notes.

18 Open Forum.

a. The British Legion has held a meeting to discuss any movement of the War Memorial. Discussion on merits of options and problems of existing junction. Suggestions included:

i. The Give Way sign be changed to a Stop sign.

ii. Can road markings be improved?

iii. What minor changes can be made to road layout?

iv. Should slip road be closed, if so then left turn from Bainton Road into Stamford Road must be altered?

v. David Roxburgh is to discuss further options with PCC.

b. School Field out of hours use: are we falling into two camps? Could we form a committee or working group to make the situation manageable?

c. Bat Boxes, are trees bordering school grounds on Bainton road suitable?

d. Cemetery taps, need attention.

e. Cemetery back gates are they ok?

19 Date of Next Meeting: Monday 11th November 2013 at 7.30 pm.

20 Meeting closed at 9.55pm.