

# BARFORD SHERBOURNE AND WASPERTON JOINT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Parish Council held at Sherbourne Village Hall on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2005

**Present:** Cllr J V Murphy (Chairman)  
Cllr M P Byerley, Cllr R Clay, Cllr K S Hope, Cllr R G Mulgrue, Cllr S G Starkey, Cllr W Worrall, Cllr Mrs A Gordon, Cllr G P Grima, Cllr G F Smith, Cllr J T Wright, Cllr L Caborn

**Apologies:** Cllr Mrs M A Hayward, Cllr Mrs J A Jackson, Cllr Dr M J Metcalfe, Cllr R G Butler

## Opening

- 157 The meeting opened at 7:30 pm
- 158 Apologies for absence were noted.

## Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

- 159 Cllr Mulgrue declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the agenda item on the Barford Relief in Need Charity and absented himself during its discussion.

## Representations by Members of the Public

- 160 No members of the public were present.

## Matters for the Constabulary

- 161 In the absence of the CBO there was no report on constabulary matters.

## Minutes of the Meeting of Council 20<sup>th</sup> September 2005

- 162 Subject to minor text amendments the minutes were accepted as a true record.

## Matters Arising

- 163 Minute 129. The question of planning permission for notice boards for the byelaws was raised.
- 164 Minute 151. It was agreed that the CBO should be invited to investigate this problem.
- 165 Minute 153. Nothing further having been heard on this matter, it was agreed that the WCC should be asked to clarify what, if anything, the JPC was required to do.

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee 20<sup>th</sup> September 2005

- 166 The minutes were accepted as a true record. There were no matters arising.

## Reports from Representatives Appointed to Serve on Other Bodies

- 167 Cllr Byerley briefed the JPC on a symposium he had attended on 12<sup>th</sup> October on the subject of Home Choice, a scheme to increase housing association and local authority lettings by matching a tenant to the available dwelling.
- 168 Cllr Mulgrue gave a synopsis of the Bishop's Tachbrook Electoral Divisional Panel Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> October.
- 169 Cllr Clay gave an overview of the format and conclusions of a two-day meeting of the Warwick Town Traffic Forum.

## Cash Balances as at 17<sup>th</sup> October 2005

170 Members took note of the following cash balances:

	Reconciled	Cash Book
<b>HSBC</b>	£3,911.67	£10,837.76
<b>Alliance &amp; Leicester</b>	£20,109.51	£20,163.65
<b>Total</b>	£24,021.18	£31,001.41

## Receipts and Payments

171 Members endorsed the following:

Date	Cheque	Payee	Category	HSBC		Alliance & Leicester	
				Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit
31 Aug 05		Alliance & Leicester	09 Interest				56.12
8 Sep 05	101495	S&D Window Cleaners	02 Repairs and maintenance	45.00			
14 Sep 05		Warwickshire Trg Partnership	08 Training and Seminar Expenses		20.00		
19 Sep 05		HSBC	09 Interest		0.36		
20 Sep 05	101496	Viking Direct	08 Printing and stationery	161.84			
22 Sep 05		Norton Lindsey JFC	01 Barford playing field lettings		150.00		
30 Sep 05	SO	Inland Revenue	08 Employment Expenses	304.77			
30 Sep 05	SO	J F Johnson	08 Employment Expenses	633.24			
30 Sep 05	SO	J F Johnson	08 Office Accommodation	42.95			
17 Oct 05	101497	MFM Services	01 Mowing charges	165.00			
17 Oct 05	101498	Prontaprint	08 Printing and stationery	65.64			
17 Oct 05	101499	Playground Management Ltd	01 General repairs and maintenance	152.75			
17 Oct 05	101500	S&D Window Cleaners	02 Repairs and maintenance	60.00			
17 Oct 05	101501	J F Johnson	08 Travel	27.61			
17 Oct 05	101502	J F Johnson	08 Postage	33.61			
18 Oct 05		WDC	09 Precept		8,633.50		
18 Oct 05		Alliance & Leicester	09 Interest				54.14

## Barford Relief in Need Charity

172 The Charity's governing document delegates authority for nominating trustees to the JPC. The recent death of Mr Peter Webb creates a vacancy on the board.

173 RESOLVED: That Mr Ian Webster be appointed a Nominative Trustee of the Charity with a term of office equivalent to the residue of the tenure of the late Mr Peter Webb.

## Local Works

174 The literature for "Local Works" (a campaign for the sustainable communities bill) having been circulated to members for consideration, it was agreed that the JPC should not join the campaign.

## Coventry Airport

175 On a show of hands the JPC decided not to join the protest against the proposal for a new terminal and new car parking facilities at the airport led by Baginton Parish Council.

## **Barford Store and Post Office**

176 Cllr Hope, representing the Contact Group, briefed the JPC on progress. His notes are at Annex A to these minutes.

## **Any Other Business**

### 177 Barford Playing Fields

177.1 The Clerk reported Cllr Mrs Hayward's concern over the condition of the facilities at the playing fields.

177.2 The Chairman stated that he was attempting to employ a jobbing contractor to replace the timber surrounds to the slide and swing areas. There was strong support for the concept of having such a service on call for this and other miscellaneous small tasks.

177.3 The Clerk went on to say that a suitable source of bark chippings had been identified and details would be brought to the next meeting of the JPC.

### 178 Work Days

178.1 Cllr Mrs Hayward was also keen to reintroduce Work Days, particularly with reference to tidying the playing fields.

178.2 The Chairman was not sanguine that this was achievable. Recent experience was that few people turned out for work and little tangible benefit was achieved.

178.3 It was suggested that the Barford Parish Plan might embrace such community works.

179 Barford Memorial Hall. In response to a comment that the acoustics in the hall for major activities were poor, Cllr Smith offered the use of some of his own equipment to solve the problem

180 There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9:32 pm

## **Date of Next Meeting**

181 The next meeting of Council is on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2005 at 7:30 pm in Wasperton Village Hall.

**ANNEX A  
TO BS&W JPC  
MINUTES OF  
18 OCT 05**

**NOTES ON 'POST-OFFICE' WORKING PARTY ACTIONS 16 SEPTEMBER -18 OCTOBER 2005**

We (Councillors Mulgrue, Worrall and Hope) were asked to try to determine

- \* the likelihood of the Post Office being re-opened on the Wellesbourne Road,
- \* the likely timescales and
- \* the likelihood of the business surviving.

Subsequently Chairman Murphy suggested that Councillor Mrs Hayward joined the group because she had discovered a potential supplier for the shop though this was not part of the brief from the JPC.

Meeting to discuss objectives and approach. 3 October

All four members were present

1 It was agreed that the prime discussion with Mr Stott would be to understand the status of the Post Office application. Discussion also ranged over the supply of newspapers and the importance of informing the villagers on the status and plans for the shop. Clearly our visit must not be seen as an attempt to tell him how to run his business.

2 It was agreed that Councillors Hope and Hayward would make the call. There was difficulty in finding a date that both could make the call at a time suitable to Mr Stott. As the result Councillor Hope made the main visit on his own and Councillor Hayward called on him on her own to further emphasise the possibility for him to become an additional outlet for the Snitterfield Organic Shop.

Visit to Mark Stott by Cllr Hope on 5 October

Mr Stott stated information about his present commitments:- He is currently 'chef' in his pub in South Oxfordshire on six evenings a week. He decided that he has had enough of the unsociable hours of a pub and decided to move to a business which involves working for a maximum of 5- 6 days a week. He has found a buyer for the pub and it is going through the legal bit now but no end date was volunteered. In the meantime he has to leave Barford in time for the opening of his restaurant.

1 The progress of the P0.

He has had visits from and discussions with Nick Collings, P0 Rural Manager. They have agreed (a) what would be required in the way of fittings etc and (b) opening hours of 25 hours a week to start with (probably full days on Monday and Thursday and probably three part days). Application forms are in progress.

Still to do: vetting by P0 (3 weeks) , Interview (3 weeks) , grant application and approval (3 weeks), making and fitting 'counter' (?weeks) , Installation of equipment (?weeks), Installation of line (8weeks?) Training (?weeks).

The Project is progressing but the tasks seem to be run one at a time rather than overlapping them. He is not expecting to be 'ready for opening' until February (pessimistic but perhaps realistic).

2 Commitment to success of shop and post office.

Mr Stott's initial offer for the lease made early in 2005 was rejected because of a potential outright sale of the premises that was in place around that time. After this fell through he was re-contacted around mid-year. He then signed a formal 5 year contract for the whole

premises with an option to renew which he expected he would be taking up when the time came.

### 3 Future plans for the shop

Much of the downstairs area is now used for the shop and many of the lines that Kay sold are still stocked but because they are spread into more rooms they appear less. He is about to open one of the back rooms as a cafe to encourage it as a meeting place for village people - to restore that side effect of the old shop. He has plans of making use of most of the downstairs space for retail as well as converting the three storage places in the back yard for other retail uses. He has a number of ideas for setting up new lines but they will depend on the demand from villagers.

### 4 Promotional Opportunities

(a) He was very keen to come and talk to a JPC meeting with the public present, as a means of communicating with the village. Unfortunately he will not be able to do that until he has handed over the pub - so it will not be until early next year at the earliest.

(b) I suggested that he might like to have entries in Plurality and on the Barford Website. We agreed that he might (i) write an article to explain his plans and timetable and (ii) put in an advert when space becomes available. I gave him cut-off dates and he felt that he might be able to put something together for the December issue. I explained that anything written for Plurality could also be put on the website including an advert.

### 5 Newspapers

He will not be able to cope with delivering morning papers until he has his own contract with the distributors and until he is able to do early mornings. I explained that for quite a lot of the village the present arrangement with Mr Ladwa of Smith Street Warwick seems very satisfactory. He understands that he it may be difficult to recover morning deliveries in the short term but he is interested in stocking papers and magazines for 'off the counter' sales. In the short term there apparently is a problem with setting up a contract with the distributors.

### 6 Councillor Hayward's contact.

I explained that Councillor Hayward had met Mr Adrian Ross of the Snitterfield Farm Organic Shop who had stated that he was looking for an outlet which had good visibility. Mr Stott picked up on it straight away and said that he would make contact with him. I explained that this was outside of the brief of the JPC which would not wish to influence Mr Stott in any way on this matter. Councillor Hayward visited him with more details on 6 October.

### 7 Contact

The premises do not yet have a land line phone. Mr Stott's mobile phone number is 07900005504.