

BARFORD SHERBOURNE AND WASPERTON JOINT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Parish Council held at Wasperton Village Hall on Monday 10th November 2008

Present: Cllr J V Murphy (Chairman)
Cllrs: Mrs W Barlow, R Clay, Mrs D S Cobb, Mrs M A Hayward, R G Mulgrue, A B Rhead, W Worrall, Mrs A Gordon, Mrs P Johnston, Mrs P W Wilkinson, Dr M J Metcalfe, N F J Thurley, J T Wright,

Opening

- 223 The meeting opened at 7:30 pm
224 One member of the public was present.

Resignation

- 225 The Chairman reported the resignation of Cllr S G Starkey through ill health.
226 The Chairman undertook to write a letter of appreciation to him.

Presentation

- 227 The JPC received a 45 minute presentation (including questions) on Local Strategic Partnerships and their involvement in the new Localities scheme from Ms Liz Young WCC.
228 It took note, although members expressed disappointment that the presentation had been ponderous, repetitive and short on facts which would encourage the JPC to look forward to participating in Localities. The main factor to note was that the LSP was to act as a buffer between the Locality forums, the service providers and the main decision makers.

Representations by Members of the Public

- 229 Barford Village Shop.
229.1 Mrs Mary Peirson (a director of the Barford Village Shop CIC) addressed the JPC explaining how well the shop was progressing after a most successful opening. The catalyst for the decision to commit to the opening at that time had been the receipt of the grant from the JPC and, on behalf of the directors, shareholders and customers of the shop she wished to express their sincere thanks.
229.2 Cllr Mulgrue spoke for the JPC when he said that the success of the shop was due to the selfless dedication, enthusiasm and vision of the directors and he congratulated them. The Chairman drew further attention to the very large number of "others" who had also committed enormously to ensure that this project came successfully to fruition.

Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

- 230 Shown at the relevant minute.

Minutes of the Meeting of Council 13th October 2008

- 231 The minutes were approved as a true record.

Matters Arising

- 232 Minute 181. There had still been no progress on the development of a generic Section 106 agreement for Affordable Homes allocations. Cllr Rhead would expedite.
- 233 Minute 187. Cllr Rhead reported a meeting with Mr Sollis the contractor for the renovation of bus shelters. Much of the agreed remedial work had been done. The letter of guarantee for the roof of the Wasperton shelter had not been forthcoming but it was expected soon.
- 234 Minute 211. Cllr Mulgrue complained that he had still been unable to obtain details of progress on the s.106 funding, especially relating to the bus shelters, from the Oldham's development. Cllr Rhead to expedite.
- 235 Minute 211. Cllr Worrall said the malfunctioning street lights which had been reported at the last meeting remained without any remedial action. Cllr Rhead to expedite.
- 236 Minute 218. Cllr Wright had drawn attention to the need for repairs to the Wasperton war memorial. Cllr Rhead advised that a fully costed scheme should be presented to the JPC as soon as possible and application could be made to the WDC Rural Initiatives fund for funding.
- 237 Minute 219. Cllr Mrs Hayward's request that the stiles on the Saddler's footpath be replaced with a kissing gates had been dealt with by Cllr Rhead and should be implemented in December. He invited both Sherbourne and Wasperton representatives to let him have details of similar needs in their villages.
- 238 Minute 221. Cllr Mrs Johnston noted the last meeting had closed at 10:10pm and asked that more effort be made to reduce the duration of meetings to the recommended two hours.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee 6th October 2008

- 239 The minutes were approved as a true record. There were no matters arising.

Reports on Contacts with Other Bodies

- 240 The Chairman reported on the outcome of a meeting with Mr Hastie (WDC) convened to discuss the reinstatement of the lost hedge between the Barford playing fields and the cemetery and hoped that he and any other interested JPC members working with the Parochial Church Council would bring forward a scheme in the future.
- 241 The chairman reported attendance at the WALC AGM and gave details of Dr Graham Gardiner's commentary on the 2008 white paper "Communities in Control". Dr Gardiner had warned that more might be expected of parish and town councils and that unless PCs were pro-active they might find competition from others for powers devolved down from central government.

Cash Balances as at 31st October 2008

- 242 Members took note of the following cash balances:
- | | |
|----------------------|------------|
| HSBC | £ 3,221.51 |
| Alliance & Leicester | £42,677.62 |

Receipts and Payments

- 243 Members endorsed the following:

Date	Payee/er	Category	Sum
1 Oct 08	A&L	Bank Interest	90.84
5 Oct 08	J F Johnson	Postage	(16.02)
5 Oct 08	J F Johnson	Travel Expenses	(19.19)
5 Oct 08	Barford Village Shop CIC	Section 137	(666.00)
5 Oct 08	MFM Services	Mowing Charges	(198.00)

5 Oct 08	Central Networks	Wayleave	4.07
6 Oct 08	Regent	Printing and Stationery	(37.22)
10 Oct 08	WDC	Precept	13,987.00
31 Oct 08	HMRC	Employment Expenses	(467.38)
31 Oct 08	J F Johnson	Employment Expenses	(597.07)
31 Oct 08	J F Johnson	Office Accommodation	(48.25)

Management Accounts as at 31st October 2008

244 The JPC took note of the management accounts appended to these minutes.

Exit

245 Cllr Mrs Johnston left the meeting.

Review of Financial Regulations

246 The working party had not yet met. Its report would be presented to a later meeting of the JPC.

Byelaws

247 The JPC had appointed Cllrs Mulgrue and Murphy to consider the "Communities and Local Government" consultation paper "The making and enforcement of byelaws" and to report to the JPC.

248 The new process for making future byelaws is a simple and stepped process (rather than the prolonged and demanding involvement of the Secretary of State in confirming all new byelaws) and provides a remedy of Fixed-Penalty Notices or Magistrates Court hearings. It will not change existing byelaws. London Borough Councils already have powers to enforce byelaws through FPNs and may or may not change to the new regime.

249 It was recommended that the JPC should respond to the consultation by fully supporting the new proposals for making byelaws on a more local basis and furthermore it should indicate a preference for LBCs to be included in the same scheme. The JPC concurred.

Communities in Control: Real people, real power: Codes of conduct for local authority members and employees - A consultation.

250 The JPC has been asked to consider this paper and a response is required by 24th December 2008. This is an important consultation which impacts on all of the JPC's activities.

251 A working party was formed to formulate a response to be brought for approval to the December meeting. It comprises the following councillors:

- Mrs Gordon
- Metcalfe
- Mulgrue
- Murphy
- Rhead

Barford Village Green (RoSPA Inspection)

252 The RoSPA report has been received by the JPC, considered by the WP and a subsequent site meeting arranged with the RoSPA inspector. The Inspector fully apprised members of the RoSPA approach to risk evaluation and confirmed the assessment that the risk of fall from the Green was in fact very low and did not merit steps such as full railings along the frontage. In his opinion the main risk at the green location related to the traffic on Church Street and that risk was not changed in any way by the current changes. He affirmed that the main protection for very young children must be parental or adult supervision and direction. He also considered that the benefits of the facilities already and to be provided greatly outweighed any potential risk which might exist.

- 253 The WP recommendation that no further action was needed at present, but that the situation should continue to be monitored was accepted.

Barford Village Green (Improvements)

- 254 Cllr Clay declared a personal interest.
- 255 The Barford Gardening Club (with a grant via the WI) has completed the proposed planting around the new shop site. There is an area of the Green that borders Fairfax Close which they think would benefit from improvement. This would involve removing the two ornamental weeping pear trees, which have now become badly misshapen and are now poor specimens due to a much larger tree overshadowing them. The area would then be cleared of nettles etc and planted with the shrubs less in the shadow of the larger tree's canopy and along the Green/Fairfax boundary. Any costs and labour will be covered entirely by the Barford Gardening Club. WDC Conservation Area approval (nil charge) would be required for removal of the two trees and JPC would need to apply for this. The Barford Gardening Club requests JPC approval for their undertaking of this project, subject to the JPC gaining approval for tree removal. This was agreed.

Barford Relief in Need Charity (BRINC)

- 256 Cllr Mulgrue declared a prejudicial interest and left the meeting for the remainder of this agenda item.
- 257 The JPC recommended to the trustees of BRINC the appointment of the following as Nominative Trustees:
- Mr Phillip Swallow
 - Mr Ian Webster
- 258 The JPC praised Cllr Mulgrue for the great service he had rendered during his tenure as a Nominative Trustee.

Move of the Barford Sub-Post Office to the Barford Village Shop

- 259 Cllr Mulgrue presented the last report on the move of the Sub-Post Office to the Barford Village Shop.

Speed Limit on the Barford Bypass

- 260 There was uncertainty over the purpose of this agenda item. At the last meeting Cllr Mrs Cobb had spoken of recruiting wider support for a speed limit on the A429 and had asked for it to be included on this agenda.
- 261 Come the day, no approaches to third parties had been made so the item was held over to a later meeting.

Adopt a Kiosk

- 262 Cllr Mrs Hayward declared a personal interest in this item.
- 263 The JPC at its last meeting decided not to purchase either of the red telephone boxes in Barford and Wasperton under BT's "Adopt a Kiosk" scheme, with the caveat that should an interested party provide a guaranteed indemnity against all future costs of ownership, this decision would be reviewed.
- 264 The Barford Heritage Group is keen to retain the Barford kiosk and has lodged a bond of £500 with a commitment to provide a promissory note to maintain it at that level in real terms.
- 265 The JPC confirmed its acceptance of this offer and accordingly authorized the Chairman to execute the contract of sale subject only to confirmation that satisfactory legal advice on the contract terms had been sought.

Any Other Business

266 British Heart Foundation (BHF).

266.1 Cllr Rhead informed the meeting that the BHF would provide a defibrillator at a discounted price of £1,000.

266.2 It was agreed that this would be a useful public asset and that efforts should be made to obtain funding.

266.3 It was further agreed to apply for the £300 grant from WCC (vide Minute 220 of the JPC meeting of 13th October 2008) to contribute to this fund.

267 Best Village Competition. Cllr Mrs Barlow announced that Barford had come overall joint third in this competition for which there were 118 entries and had gained first place in four of the eight categories.

268 Joseph Arch Way Footpath.

268.1 Cllr Mrs Hayward briefed the meeting on proposals to reopen this footpath.

268.2 There was confusion over this proposal with some believing that it was already viable as a footpath and others believing that the responsibility for its upkeep was vested in the WCC.

268.3 She was invited to obtain further details and make a proposal to the JPC at some future meeting. It was also suggested that interested parties from all the involved parishes might come together to form a dedicated inter-parish group to support this project.

Closure

269 There being no other business the meeting closed at 9:45 pm.

Date of Next Meeting

270 The next special meeting of the JPC is on Monday 15th December 2008 at 7:30 pm in Wasperton Village Hall

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS
31 OCT 08

	Budget	YTD	FOO
RECEIPTS			
Allotments Rents	666	185	632
Allotments Water Charges		45	295
Bank Interest	783	599	783
Barford Playing Field Lettings	167	167	167
Barford Village Shop		1,734	1,734
Concurrent Services Contribution (WDC)	1,820	1,820	1,820
Precept (WDC)	27,974	27,974	27,974
VAT prior year (HMRC)	800	810	810
Wayleave	4	4	4
TOTAL RECEIPTS	32,214		34,218
PAYMENTS			
Allotments Hire of Land	(150)	(75)	(150)
Allotments Maintenance	(50)		(50)
Audit Fees	(395)	(395)	(395)
Bank Charges	(20)		(20)
Barford Parish Plan	(2,463)		
Barford Post Office	(1,670)	(700)	(5,900)
Barford Village Shop		(6,935)	(6,935)
Bus Shelters Maintenance	(465)	(1,435)	(1,600)
Chairman's Allowance	(379)		(379)
Dog Bins		(315)	(315)
Employment Expenses	(13,535)	(7,337)	(13,539)
Grants: Churchyard Maintenance	(1,113)		(1,113)
Grants: Village Halls	(2,735)		(2,735)
Insurance	(962)	(963)	(963)
Mowing Charges	(1,716)	(1,122)	(1,716)
Noticeboards	(50)		
Office Accommodation	(579)	(338)	(579)
Open Spaces Maintenance	(1,200)	(1,033)	(1,200)
Postage	(275)	(100)	(275)
Printing and Stationery	(777)	(274)	(777)
Section 137	(2,000)	(2,166)	(2,166)
Subs: Information Commissioner	(35)		(35)
Subs: SLCC	(135)		(135)
Subs: WALC	(373)	(390)	(390)
Training and Seminar Expenses	(50)	(30)	(50)
Travel Expenses	(393)	(193)	(393)
Venue Hire	(84)		(84)
TOTAL PAYMENTS	(31,605)		(41,894)
NET TOTALS	610		(7,676)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Opening Balance 1 Apr 08	36,362
Less Excess Expenditure over Income	<u>(7,676)</u>
Closing Balance 31 Mar 09	<u>28,686</u>
Designated Funds	
Election expenses (reserve for 2011)	2,000
Barford war memorial reserve	535
Barford Parish Plan	537
Barford Parish Directory (CVS)	83
Legal Fees (release from covenant)	<u>10,000</u>
Total Designated Funds	<u>13,155</u>
Unallocated Funds	<u>15,531</u>

Joint Parish Council Meeting on Monday 10th November 2008 at Wasperton Village Hall

Briefing note on Warwick District Local Strategic Partnership

WHAT IS THE LSP?

Local Strategic Partnerships have been in existence for approximately 8 years. They were established at the request of central government to support localities in the pursuit of community well being by providing a single strategic focus.

LSPs can take many different forms and reflect local circumstances. But generally their role is to:-

- Develop a sustainable community strategy
- Coordinate and rationalise the activities of other partnerships
- Provide a local forum for joint working
- Coordinate funding bids and pool resources
- Work together to meet local LAA targets

HOW IS IT CONSTITUTED?

The LSP comprises a core executive group called the Warwick Partnership Executive Group (WPEG). The members of this group are:-

Warwick District Council	Warwickshire County Council
Warwickshire Police	Warwickshire Primary Care Trust
WDC Councillors	WCC Councillors
Warwickshire CAVA (Community and Voluntary Action)	WALC

There are currently 5 district theme groups feeding into WPEG which are Community Safety, Health and Well Being, Culture, Housing and Community Learning. These groups in turn have their own sub structures and networks.

In addition there are a plethora of district wide groups and communities of interest such as the Faiths Forum, Policy for Older People, Children and Young People's Group, Black and Minority Ethnic Forum.

WHAT HAS IT ACHIEVED?

1. The LSP has produced 2 community plans and has been successful in achieving 85% of actions within those plans.
2. It has facilitated closer working between the main partner agencies which has resulted in the achievement of key projects e.g. one stop shops, benefits take up campaigns.
3. It has improved connectivity between district and county structures
4. It has helped to drive forward the localities agenda and facilitate closer working between the police and other agencies

WHAT IS THE CURRENT SITUATION?

The LSP has been fairly static over the last 12 months for several reasons:-

- Efforts have been channelled into developing Local Area Agreement (LAA) 2
- Key partners agencies have been undergoing major re-structures
- Lead officers of theme groups have left the area creating problems with servicing and support mainly in the areas of Environment and Economy

- The focus has been on developing a new sustainable community strategy (SCS) for the district which is nearing completion.
- Localities has been a major diversion

Now all the above issues are being addressed we are about to embark on a full review of the LSP to ensure it is fit for purpose to deliver on the new SCS and LAA and to meet the expectations of the new and emerging community forums.

LSPs AND LOCALITIES

The LSP is there to provide the 'local' perspective and point of contact for town and parish councils, community and voluntary organisations and neighbourhood based groups. Without the LSP groups such as these would have to make their way through the decision making minefield of all the statutory agencies and there would be a huge chasm between the locally based groups and the powers that be at the County level. The LSP is if you like 'the meat in the sandwich'.

The LSP is not a controlling body. However, the key statutory agencies that sit on WPEG have a 'duty to cooperate' in meeting local area agreement targets and sustainable community strategy aims and objectives.

The LSP is overseeing the roll out of locality working in Warwick District. The emerging issues coming out of these new community forums will be fed through to the LSP who will lobby on behalf of the forums and ensure appropriate actions are taken. The action plans from the forums, together with the relevant parish plans will form the totality of the Locality Action Plans which will sit within the framework of the District's new and emerging sustainable community strategy.

One of the key advantages of the community forums is that they will provide statutory agencies both individually and under the umbrella of the LSP with a formal structure to effectively consult and listen to local residents.

The review of the LSP will be looking to improve the links between all district wide groups and organisations with the LSP core group i.e. WPEG and in turn with the County Public Service Board with the aim of achieving a clear structure and clear channels of communication and decision making.

YOUR LSP – What's your view?

It is an opportune time for groups such as yourselves to input your expectations of the local strategic partnership and how best it can meet your needs in the future.

Liz Young
Community Partnership Team
10th November 2008