

BARFORD SHERBOURNE AND WASPERTON JOINT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Parish Council held at Wasperton Village Hall on Monday 11 November 2009

Present: Cllr J V Murphy (Chairman)
Cllr: Mrs W Barlow*, Mrs D S Cobb, Mrs M A Hayward, D C Morrow, R G Mulgrue, Mrs A Gordon, Dr M J Metcalfe, N F J Thurley, J T Wright,
Apologies: Cllr: R Clay, A B Rhead, W Worrall, Mrs P Johnston, Mrs P W Wilkinson,
In Attendance: Cllr: L Caborn*, Mrs C Sawdon*
*Joined the meeting late

Opening

- 246 The meeting opened at 7:30 pm
- 247 No members of the public were present.
- 248 Apologies for absence were noted.

Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

- 249 Cllr Mrs Cobb declared a personal interest in the agenda item on allotments because she is an allotment holder.

Minutes of the Meeting of Council 12 October 2009

- 250 The minutes were approved as a true record.

Matters Arising

- 251 Minute 240.1.2. Cllr Mulgrue reported progress on the formal recognition of Parish Plans and Village Design Statements. They were to be included on the following agendas:
- Area Committee 17 Nov 09
 - WDC Planning Committee 17 Nov 09
- [Cllr Mrs Sawdon joined the meeting]
- 252 Minute 242. Cllr Mulgrue informed the meeting that Cllr Caborn had assured him that the WDC Travel Tokens scheme was to be reviewed and that Barford would be included in the list of eligible villages.
- 253 Minute 243.
- 253.1 Cllr Mulgrue briefed the meeting on the latest correspondence he had received in the Bus Services Review. In summary it made no promises for lack of finance although there was a suggestion that the matter of the unreliability of the last bus from Warwick would be examined.
- 253.2 It was stated that lay-by bus stops in Sherbourne and Wasperton were too costly to construct.
- 253.3 Cllr Mrs Gordon doubted the prices being quoted and suggested that the budget for the whole bus operation should be examined to ensure that the correct priority was being given in the allocation of funds.

253.4 It was agreed that since this was a matter for Sherbourne and Wasperton they should campaign individually and enlist the support of Cllr Caborn.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee 12 October 2009

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

Cash Balances as at 31 October 2009

255 The JPC took note of the following cash balances
HSBC £ 4,426.51
Alliance & Leicester £38,237.79

Receipts and Payments

256 The JPC endorsed the following:

| Date | Payee | Category | Total |
|-----------|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| 4 Oct 09 | WDC | Precept | 14,636.46 |
| 4 Oct 09 | J V Murphy | Open Spaces Maintenance | (24.56) |
| 4 Oct 09 | MFM Services | Mowing Charges | (207.00) |
| 4 Oct 09 | S&D Window Cleaners | Bus Shelters Maintenance | (45.00) |
| 4 Oct 09 | J F Johnson | Travel Expenses | (16.59) |
| 4 Oct 09 | J F Johnson | Postage | (24.59) |
| 4 Oct 09 | Central Networks | Wayleave | 4.17 |
| 7 Oct 09 | A&L | Bank Interest | 1.86 |
| 10 Oct 09 | Regent | Printing and Stationery | (34.96) |
| 15 Oct 09 | Hadley | Allotments Hire of Land | (37.50) |
| 15 Oct 09 | Smith | Allotments Hire of Land | (37.50) |
| 15 Oct 09 | J V Murphy | Chairman's Allowance | (398.00) |
| 19 Oct 09 | S&D Window Cleaners | Bus Shelters Maintenance | (60.00) |
| 20 Oct 09 | The Glebe At Barford | Section 137 | (188.25) |
| 28 Oct 09 | HMRC | Employment Expenses | (507.40) |
| 28 Oct 09 | J F Johnson | Employment Expenses | (653.72) |
| 28 Oct 09 | J F Johnson | Office Accommodation | (50.67) |

Management Accounts

257 The JPC took note of the management accounts as at 31 October 2009.

Renewal of Mowing Contract 2010

258 The JPC has a running contract with MFM Services for grass cutting.

259 The contract for 2009 was priced at £1,794 (for 26 cuts) That for 2010 is priced at £1,562 (for 22 cuts). The change results from a £1.00 increase for each mowing and a decrease in the total number of mowings.

260 On a like-for-like basis the proposed price is an increase of 3% which the contractor justifies on the grounds that fuel costs are amongst his major outgoings. This represents good value for money and it is unlikely that a competitive tender would better the offer.

261 In reaching its decision the JPC was aware:

- The existing contract was let following full competition in accordance with Standing Orders and was competitively awarded
- The new work is identical in nature and extent;
- The rates for the new work are directly based on the existing contract
- The likely benefit of further competition would be outweighed by the administrative cost or delay or both involved; and the interests of the Council will not be compromised by the negotiation.

262 The JPC approved the continuation of the contract on these terms

Children's Play Area Safety Surfacing

263 The safety surfacing was last maintained in November 2005 and now requires refurbishment with the addition of some 5m³ of Playgrade Bark. Quotes are:

| Supplier | Volume (m³) | Cost incl VAT |
|------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| cpa-horticulture | 5.6 | £447.58 |
| M&B | 5.0 | £695.00 |
| Rolawn | 5.0 | £505.71 |
| Pitchcare | 5.6 | £456.55 |

264 The JPC approved purchase from cpa-horticulture, the original suppliers.

[Cllr Caborn joined the meeting]

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Authority Improvement Plan Consultation

265 The JPC had been invited to comment, but a wide ranging discussion revealed that members felt they had too little information and background knowledge to make a useful contribution. They decided therefore to ask Cllr Caborn to investigate and to seek answers to three questions:

- Which station provided the most support to Barford, Sherbourne and Wasperton.
- What were the target response times for the three villages.
- How would these response times be affected by any changes arising from the consultation.

266 Based upon the answers to these questions a decision on whether to offer further comment would be made.

267 There was to be a public presentation on the consultation on 17 November 2009 in either Kineton or Wellesbourne.

Barford Allotment Gardens

268 The costs for 2010-11 have been approved by the JPC and are (for a standard 150m² plot): Rent £15.68; Water £3.50.

269 The JPC agreed that for 2011-12 the 2010-11 costs should be amalgamated and indexed to RPI.

Sharba Homes/Barford House Land Scheme

270 The Chairman gave an update – in his capacity as Chairman of Barford Parish Meeting he had received copies of the crude data collected by the recent consultation and had been informed that a summary/report would be circulated in the near future when he anticipated that it would be appropriate to call a further Barford Parish Meeting to consider any parish response.

271 Cllr Mrs Gordon cautioned against too close an involvement with the consultation process by members of the JPC for the reasons given in Minute 229 from the last meeting of the JPC (reproduced below) and this matter should not appear on future JPC agendas.

"229 In recognition of the danger of too close a role in the negotiations creating a prejudicial interest, individual members of the JPC agreed to maintain a watching brief and not to become identified with either of the opposing factions in the village."

Barford Signage

272 The Chairman reported there had been no progress on this matter to date but that Cllr Caborn is to arrange a meeting with appropriate WCC officers.

Glebe Hotel Cedar Tree

- 273 Cllr Mrs Hayward gave a progress report.
- 274 The recommended remedial works had now been instructed but grant assistance from the Rural Initiative Fund had been refused.
- 275 Other sources of grant funding were being explored.
- 276 The JPC took note.

Reports on Contact with Other Bodies

- 277 Community Forum.
- 277.1 Cllr Mrs Gordon had attended a meeting of the Community Forum at which the subject of sites for travellers was discussed. She was disturbed to find that this matter was the responsibility of the WDC's Overview and Scrutiny Committee which was negotiating only with travellers' representatives. She demanded that this negotiation be broadened to include those villages earmarked as potential locations for sites.
- 277.2 She was dismayed to learn that the potential site at Sherbourne, which had been a late addition to the list (Aug 09), was now the preferred option; and all this had taken place without WDC informing those most affected by the proposals.
- 277.3 She urged Cllr Mrs Sawdon to intervene to ensure that Sherbourne's legitimate concerns were made known before any irrevocable decisions were made.
- 278 WDC Housing Policy. Cllr Mulgrue had attended a meeting with WDC to discuss the draft letting policy (upon which the model s106 agreement will be based). The significant change was that single people and pairs without children would be allowed to apply for two-bed roomed dwellings if smaller units were not included in any development.

[Cllr Mrs Barlow joined the meeting]

- 279 Oakley Woods.
- 279.1 Cllr Mrs Barlow reported that the published vision for Oakley woods had received wide support.
- 279.2 The proposed thinning would be in one operation to start in August-September 2010; public access would be restricted over two to three months.

Any Other Business

- 280 The Chairman reported:
- Further speed monitoring had taken place in Barford
 - There had been another successful "Wild Play Day" held in October
 - The WI had planted a Lime tree on the southern end of the bypass to commemorate its 90th anniversary.
- 281 Cllr Mrs Hayward reported that a contract had been let for the refurbishment of the Barford telephone kiosk.

Closure

- 282 There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:45.

Date of Next Meeting

- 283 The next meeting of Council is on Monday 11 January 2010 at 7:30 pm in the Barford Memorial Hall.