

# BARFORD SHERBOURNE AND WASPERTON JOINT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Parish Council held at Wasperton Village Hall  
on Mon 11 Jul 11

<b>Present:</b>	Cllr J V Murphy,(Chairman) Cllr: Mrs W Barlow, R Clay, S J McVeigh*, D C Morrow, A B Rhead, R A Shotton-Oza, Mrs A Gordon, Mrs R Newsome, M J Metcalfe, N F J Thurley, J T Wright
<b>In Attendance:</b>	Cllr: Mrs F Bunker (Chairman WDC)
<b>Apologies:</b>	Cllr: J M Hawkesford, Mrs J L Longfield, P A P Morris,

\*arrived late by arrangement

## Opening

- 73 The meeting opened at 7:30 pm
- 74 Three members of the public were present.
- 75 Apologies for absence were noted.
- 76 The Chairman welcomed Cllr Mrs Felicity Bunker (Chairman WDC) to the meeting

## Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

- 77 None was declared

## Public Participation

- 78 A member of the public expressed a wish for the play equipment on Barford Village Green to be improved. The Chairman was sympathetic to the notion and explained that the play areas were under constant review with frequent requests for residents to make suggestions but few had been forthcoming. He asked her to submit specific comments and proposals for consideration at a future meeting of the JPC.

## Minutes of the Meeting of Council 13 Jun 11

- 79 The minutes were approved as a true record subject to the addition of the words " noting the need for secure garaging when it was not in use." at the end of Minute 50.

## Matters Arising

- 80 Minute 59. Relaxation of Planning Requirements. The JPC had responded to the invitation from the Department of Communities and Local Government to comment upon the relaxation of planning rules for change of use from commercial to residential and stated its broad support for the concept always provided the planning consent and building regulations regime was maintained at a standard sufficient to ensure the integrity of the converted buildings. It was now understood however that the guidance was incorrect and the change does not relate to retail premises.
- 81 Minute 66. WDC New Local Plan. Cllr Rhead announced an extension of the consultation period to Fri 15 Jul 11.
- 82 Minute 67. Traffic in Barford. The Chairman reported the it had been confirmed that traffic entering Barford in the morning from the Longbridge roundabout and heading towards Warwick

up Church Street did indeed include forty-seater coaches taking employees to work at National Grid. Parking for cars at National Grid was at a premium and the use of coaches to transport employees not only eased this problem but also had the environmental benefit of having fewer cars on the roads. It seemed that however undesirable they were the coaches would continue to exercise the legal right of access to the highway but it might be possible to make discrete enquiries to establish the savings in journey times which were being achieved by their routing through Barford.

83 Minute 68. Parking in Bremridge Close. The Chairman reported that preliminary markings for the proposed yellow lines had now been painted on the roads at Bremridge Close, Wasperton Lane and Sandy Way.

84 Minute 69. Footpaths. Cllr Metcalfe reported that the footpath beyond Seven Elms was found to be blocked and he had drawn this to the attention of the local authority which in turn had written to the landowner requiring a remedy.

### **Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee 13 Jun 11**

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

### **Cash Balances as at 30 Jun 11**

86 The JPC took note of the following cash balances

- HSBC £ 5,745.33
- Santander £35,903.50

### **Receipts and Payments**

87 The JPC endorsed the following:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Total</b>
2 Jun 11	MFM Services	Mowing Charges	(219.00)
2 Jun 11	J F Johnson	Postage	(26.14)
2 Jun 11	J F Johnson	Travel Expenses	(28.99)
6 Jun 11	WTP	Training and Seminar Expenses	(50.00)
7 Jun 11	WTP	Training and Seminar Expenses	(50.00)
9 Jun 11	TPC	Printing and Stationery	(33.60)
9 Jun 11	Allotments	Allotments Rents	53.33
11 Jun 11	HMRC	Employment Expenses	(542.92)
17 Jun 11	S&D Window Cleaners	Bus Shelters Maintenance	(60.00)
27 Jun 11	BS&GSG	Allotments Water Charges	(104.41)
28 Jun 11		Employment Expenses	(696.92)
28 Jun 11	J F Johnson	Office Accommodation	(52.00)
29 Jun 11	SutcliffePlay	Open Spaces Maintenance	(2,808.00)

### **Management Accounts as at 30 Jun 11**

88 The JPC took note of the Management Accounts at Annex A to these minutes. Members congratulated the Clerk/RFO on the clarity of his explanation of the financial situation and agreed the inclusion of a new "contingency" reserve given the general fiscal situation.

### **Barford Village Show 28-29 Aug 11**

89 Last year the JPC (under the Local Government Act 1972 s 145) effectively underwrote the finances of the Barford Village Show by making available a grant of up to £298. In the event the show was in profit and the grant was not claimed.

90 The request has been repeated for this year's show; this time for £350 to cover Hall hire and essential printing costs.

- 91 Some members were disappointed that part of the profit from the last show had not been retained to underwrite the costs of the next and there was reluctance to agree to the grant.
- 92 Others took the view that the original show was not intended to be repeated so there was no reason to retain profits for the next; such events as this were very good for the community spirit; "well-meaning amateurs" should not be discouraged.
- 93 The compromise reached was:
- To underwrite the show by offering a grant up to a maximum of £350
  - Any claim made should be supported by detailed costings and full accounts for the event.
  - This offer was to be the last. Any future show had to plan to be independent of JPC finances.
  - If the JPC received similar requests the one-off nature should be made clear.

### **Change to Barford-Wasperton Inter-Parish Boundary (Progress Report)**

- 94 WDC has made considerable progress in bringing the proposed boundary change to fruition and notices of the Community Governance Review have been placed on village notice boards.
- 95 The timetable is shown in Table 1 below:

<b>Action</b>	<b>Timetable</b>	<b>Date</b>
Terms of reference are published		11 Jul 11
Initial consultation exercise commences - submissions are invited	One month	11 Jul 11
End of consultation period		8 Aug 11
Regulatory Committee considers submissions and makes recommendation(s) with reasons and gives authority for recommendations to be confirmed if no comments are received		15 Aug 11
Recommendations published and circulated	One month	19 Aug 11
End of period for comments on recommendations		16 Sep 11
Recommendation(s) confirmed if no comments received		19 Sep 11
Regulatory Committee considers recommendations if any comments received and makes a final decision		4 Oct 11
Decision and reasons for the decision published and circulated		11 Oct 11
Order made		12 Oct 11
Council carry out the necessary transitional and consequential matters		By Mar 12
Implementation of any changes agreed		1 Apr 12

**Table 1**

### **Purchase of Riverside Land**

- 96 The Deed of Transfer has still not been presented for engrossment because the question of whether the land or part of the land is still public highway has yet to be resolved within WCC.
- 97 The JPC greeted this some concern because of the implication that if it is public highway it may not be available for purchase.
- 98 Cllr Mrs Barlow reported a meeting with Mr Gareth Davies of LEADER the holder of the £5k grant to be received by the JPC in which, inter alia, details of the community orchard were agreed.
- 99 The LEADER funding ends in Mar 12 and it is necessary for the JPC to have obtained its grant by late Dec 11. There is a requirement for matched funding and whether this is cash or in kind is to be determined.
- 100 Cllr Mrs Barlow drew attention to the need for a management plan for the project. This it was agreed should be drawn up by the working party consisting of both JPC members and non-members, and brought to the JPC for ratification.
- 101 Cllr Mrs Newsome expressed concern about the safety of pedestrians crossing the Barford Bypass to get to the land but was given reassurance that this had been taken fully into account.

### **New Play Equipment at Barford Playing Fields.**

- 102 The three new items of play equipment for children have been installed. There has been a mixed response including some adverse comment on the types and design of the items and on the location from a visual and auditory perspective. Attention has been drawn to the fact that some older individuals are using the equipment after the dusk/22.00hrs byelaws curfew which is disturbing some residents. The chairman will draw attention to this situation in Plurality and also liaise with the Safer Neighbourhoods Team to attempt to minimize any impact on nearby residents.
- 103 The premium for adding these items [capital value £9,294] to the JPC's insurance policy is £42.36 (with a £250 excess). The JPC decided not to add these items to the insurance policy but to self-insure.

### **Playing Fields/Cemetery Boundary Fence**

- 104 The Chairman reported the successful completion of the installation of the fence and kissing gate and Cllr Mrs Barlow commented favourably on its aesthetic appeal.

### **Affordable Housing**

- 105 Detailed plans will soon be available for consultation. WRHA officer Sarah Brooke-Taylor will present them to the JPC Affordable Housing Working Party for initial comment prior to bringing them to the whole JPC or moving forward to public consultation or both. The prospective date is probably 27-29 Jul 11.

### **Any Other Business**

- 106 Cllr Wright/Cllr Mrs Gordon. They reported that the bus shelters in Wasperton and Sherbourne were litter-strewn. The Clerk to speak to the contractor.
- 107 Cllr Wright.
- 107.1 He referred to a planning application (to be considered by the Planning Committee that night) for the construction of a small boat slipway on the north bank of the Avon adjacent to the Warwick University boat house. Whilst he did not wish to comment upon the merits of the application he did wish to report he had been made aware that some of the residents in the area were anxious that such projects as this had the potential to alter the pattern of usage of the river contrary to that established by WCC some years ago.
- 107.2 This matter being introduced under Any Other Business, no action (financial or policy) could be taken upon it, but the Chairman undertook that if the JPC were informed of any proposed change to the status quo it would be debated in the JPC as a full agenda item.
- 108 Cllr Rhead. As a member of the WDC Planning Committee he reported that notwithstanding the JPC's objection to the planning application for changes to 9 Church Lane Barford:  
*This building lies within a group of dwellings constructed in the 1960s which, whilst not identical, are of a type. The Barford Village Design Statement says that in these circumstances "The starting point for an extension should be the overall form and individual components of the original dwelling. It should follow the established character of the original dwelling, any properties in the immediate vicinity and the zone in which it is found. Large scale extensions are likely to harm the character and appearance of the area and should be avoided." The design and appearance of the development violate this principle.*  
it received a recommendation for approval by the officers, but the recommendation was rejected by the committee and permission refused on the strength of the argument of the BVDS. This he said gave that document a much more powerful influence on future decisions by officers.
- 109 Cllr Mrs Gordon. She has been appointed a member of the WDC Standards Committee.
- 110 Cllr Mrs Barlow. She wondered how a householder adjacent to the public road could be persuaded to keep paths and alleys running onto the road weed and litter free. Cllr Mrs Bunker's advice was to have a quiet "parish councillor" word with the offender and if that did not produce

the required result then the Warwick District Council had the power to have essential work done and to send the householder the bill.

### **Closure**

111 Cllr Mrs Bunker addressed the JPC:

- She thanked the JPC for the invitation to attend the meeting.
- She congratulated the JPC for the BVDS saying it was and excellent, well researched document which was a model for others to copy.
- She was encouraged by the enthusiasm of JPC members and their evident concern for their electorate.

112 There being no other business the meeting closed at 9:10 pm.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

113 The next meeting of the JPC is on Mon 5 Sep 11 at 7:30 pm in Barford Memorial Hall.

## MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS AS AT 30 JUN 11

	Budget 2011-12	YTD	FOO	Diff
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Allotments Rents	889	889	889	
Bank Interest	20	4	20	
Concurrent Services Contribution (WDC)	2,530	2,530	2,530	
Precept (WDC)	30,100	15,050	30,100	
VAT prior year (HMRC)	600	670	670	70
Wayleave	4		4	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>34,143</b>	<b>19,143</b>	<b>34,213</b>	
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Allotments Hire of Land	150		150	
Allotments Maintenance	150		150	
Allotments Water Charges	150	104	150	
Audit Fees	410	75	410	
Bank Charges	20		20	
Bus Shelters Maintenance	465	165	465	
Chairman's Allowance	410		410	
Election Expenses	3,000			3,000
Employment Expenses	14,906	3,720	14,906	
Grants: Churchyard Maintenance	1,188		1,188	
Grants: Village Halls	2,964		2,964	
Insurance	1,026	776	776	250
Legal Fees (WCC)			800	(800)
Mowing Charges	1,606	438	1,606	
Office Accommodation	628	156	628	
Open Spaces Maintenance	500	3,367	964	(464)
Postage	200	36	200	
Printing and Stationery	600	356	800	(200)
Section 137	20		2,170	(2,150)
Subs: Information Commissioner	35		35	
Subs: SLCC	135		135	
Subs: WALC	448		448	
Training and Seminar Expenses	150	200	350	(200)
Travel Expenses	387	102	387	
Venue Hire	180	45	180	
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>29,729</b>	<b>9,541</b>	<b>30,293</b>	
<b>NET TOTALS</b>	<b>4,414</b>		<b>3,920</b>	

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Opening Balance 1 Apr 11	31,348
Add Excess Income over Expenditure	<u>3,920</u>
Closing Balance 31 Mar 12	<u><b>35,268</b></u>

Designated Funds	
Barford Parish Directory (CVS)	83
Barford Telephone Kiosk	200
Barford War Memorial	<u>535</u>
Total Designated Funds	<u><b>818</b></u>

Total Reserve **34,450**

Contingency (10% of Expenditure) **3,029**

Risk Management Reserve **11,651**

Discretionary Reserve **19,770**