

BARFORD SHERBOURNE AND WASPERTON JOINT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Parish Council
held in Wasperton Village Hall
on Mon 12 Nov 12

Present: Cllr J V Murphy,(Chairman)
Cllr: Mrs W Barlow, R Clay, J M Hawkesford, 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

Apologies: Cllr: S J McVeigh, Mrs P K Payne,

Opening

166 The meeting opened at 7:30 pm

167 No members of the public were present.

Declarations of Interests

168 None was declared .

Public Participation

169 There was no public participation.

Minutes of the Meeting of Council 8 Oct 12

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

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee 8 Oct 12

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

Cash Balances as at 31 Oct 12

172 The JPC took note of the following cash balances:

- HSBC £ 9,084.35
- Santander £46,123.64

Receipts and Payments

173 The JPC endorsed the following:

Date	Payee/er	Category	Total
1 Oct 12	WDC	Precept	14,987.50
1 Oct 12	R J Smith	Allotments Hire of Land	(37.50)
1 Oct 12	D M Hadley	Allotments Hire of Land	(37.50)
4 Oct 12	Santander	Bank Interest	3.10
4 Oct 12	Santander	Bank Interest	2.47
4 Oct 12	MFM Services	Mowing Charges	(245.00)
4 Oct 12	Western Power Distribution	Wayleave	4.51
8 Oct 12	S&D Window Cleaners	Bus Shelters Maintenance	(45.00)

10 Oct 12	HMRC	Employment Expenses	(551.45)
18 Oct 12	Playsafety Ltd	Open Spaces Maintenance	(262.80)
19 Oct 12	WTP	Training Expenses	(70.00)
28 Oct 12	Salaries	Employment Expenses	(711.24)
28 Oct 12	Administration	Office Accommodation	(54.92)

Renewal of Mowing Contract 2013

174 The JPC let the contract for mowing to MFM Services on the following terms:

Barford Playing Field	£34/mow
Barford Village Green	£20/mow
Play Area	£27/mow
TOTAL	£1,782*

* For 22 mows

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 either the administrative cost or the delay or both and the interests of the Council will not be compromised by the negotiation.

Mowing Contract for Riverside Land

175 The JPC let a new contract for mowing the riverside land to MFM Services on the following terms:

Specification

- Mow River Walk, three times per month in the months of April to October inclusive (total 21 mows)
- Mow Wildlife Areas and collect cuttings once per month in July and October (total 2 mows)

Rates

River Walk	£48/mow
Wildlife Areas	£95/mow
TOTAL	£1,198

Coronation Oak

176 The JPC granted a request from Mrs Tallis of Hampton on the Hill that the oak tree on Barford Playing Field commemorating the Queen's coronation should have suitable identification. It had been planted by Barford Village School at which Mrs Tallis was then a pupil.

177 Cllr Mrs Barlow informed the meeting that the Barford Heritage Group would fund the project and that she would be responsible for confirming the final details.

[Cllr Thurley joined the meeting]

Community Emergency Plan

178 At an earlier meeting the JPC had authorized the purchase of lockable boxes of about 200 litres capacity at a total net cost not exceeding £150. It had been agreed to discuss the location of these boxes at this meeting but clearance with the owners of the village halls in Wasperton and Sherbourne to store them there had not been obtained so the decision was postponed.

Proposed Development Off Wasperton Lane Barford

179 The report by WRCC on a public consultation on this proposal held on 26 Sep 12 has been circulated to members of the JPC.

- 180 The JPC was invited to respond and to consider:
- Giving “in principle” support to the project,
 - Requesting WRCC/WRHA to continue discussions/investigations relating to preparing a planning application for such a scheme and to keep the JPC fully informed of any changes and progress with the scheme.
- 181 The Chairman explained that without the JPC's support the project would be aborted and even with it the funding would remain in place for only a limited but not defined period.
- 182 A motion to suspend further discussion until the constraints listed in Minute 181 above had been confirmed in writing was defeated.

[Cllr Rhead joined the meeting]

- 183 There followed a wide-ranging debate. Uppermost in many minds was the fact that neither the Sharba Homes development around Barford House nor the Taylor Wimpey development on the Sherbourne Nursery site had reached the end of the planning process and there was a possibility that either or both could gain planning consent which, with this third development, would result in an over-provision of affordable housing in Barford. Assurances were sought that in indicating "in principle" support now the JPC was not committing itself irrevocably to the project in all circumstances.
- 184 Several ways of achieving this safeguard were mooted until finally an amalgam of ideas produced the solution of prefacing the resolution to achieve the aims of Minute 180 with the caveat: *"Always provided the JPC retains the unfettered right to withdraw its support for this project at any time in the light of progress achieved by the two proposed developments in Barford, and the evolution of the New Local Plan....."*
- 185 This was put to the vote and passed (Cllr Mrs Gordon dissenting).
- 186 Cllr Rhead abstained so as to avoid prejudicing his position in the Warwick District Planning Committee.

Survey of Sport and Recreational Facilities

- 187 The Working Party tabled a report which received criticism for its format and late delivery.
- 188 Responding, the Chairman stated:
It was never meant to be a definitive report, merely a statement of what has been learned so far - along with a suggestion that we restrict the scope of the proposals in the light of information so far gained, with a view on taking refined proposals out to public consultation early next year.
- I offer sincere apologies that the document was not as clear as it might have been and was not available in advance.*
- In brief the project is being approached from a fairly blank sheet, along the lines of finding out from “industry professionals” what is POSSIBLE on our site with a view to taking this to the public consultation to discover their preferences and priorities. This can all then be reviewed in the light of costs and funding availability.*
- Please be aware that we have struggled to get this far – few members have committed to support this project – we have struggled to set meeting dates, even fewer have actually attended set dates. There has needed to be a lot of commitment to attending PlayFair, meeting prospective suppliers and attempting to collate materials received. There will be a lot more work to be done once we start to firm up proposals and go to public consultation.*
- 189 The JPC instructed the WP to pursue further more specific quotes/proposals from selected contractors, in line with the findings so far, with a view to staging a public consultation early in 2013
- 190 Cllr Rhead agreed to join the WP and gives the project his full support..

Neighbourhood Plans

- 191 Details of an introductory symposium on Neighbourhood Plans conducted by CPRE had been circulated to members.
- 192 At this meeting it was intended to establish:
- The level of interest in creating a plan
 - Whether there should be one for all three parishes combined or one for each parish
 - Volunteers to attend the symposium/workshops on 6 Feb 12
- 193 The Chairman advised that the anticipated time to produce a plan was up to three years at an estimated total cost of £20k-30k and that a Neighbourhood Plan must not conflict with a New Local Plan which, in Warwick's case, was only slowly emerging. The funding issue remains unclear and indeed different authorities are managing the situation in various ways. Some funding assistance may be available from WDC and some of the cost elements might well be the responsibility of others. It was currently unclear what proportion of cost would need to be found by the JPC.
- 194 With this advice in mind members agreed that at this stage their activities should be restricted to gathering information and, without prejudice, the answers to the questions in Minute 192 were:
- Both Barford and Sherbourne had an interest but in Wasperton it was minimal.
 - There should be an individual plan for each village adopting one.
 - The Chairman and Clerk had already committed to attending the workshops. Other volunteers were Cllrs Mrs Barlow and Clay for Barford and Cllrs Mrs Gordon and Mrs Newsome for Sherbourne. NB: As this event is externally funded the JPC would not operate a limit on delegates, and others were invited to volunteer, although ultimately place availability may be limited by the organizers and the venue.

Local Government Boundary Committee

- 195 Details of the proposed changes in Warwick District ward boundaries had been circulated to members for information. No changes are planned for Budbrooke Ward. The JPC took note.

Code of Conduct - Dispensations

- 196 The JPC as a body corporate has a legal obligation to set a Precept and it is the only body corporate (meeting in plenary session) with the power to do so. Yet its individual members are subject to the Code of Conduct which appears to prohibit them from debating and setting a Precept because it is a tax which each will have to pay. How to resolve this paradox?
- 197 Different monitoring officers interpret the rules differently with some saying no dispensation is required whilst others claim it is. Warwick's Monitoring Officer is one of the latter.
- 198 The JPC proposed to deal with this "in-house", which is to say the JPC, as a body corporate, will consider written applications from its members and grant dispensations on a case by case basis to allow each to take part in the debate and vote on setting the Precept at the January meeting.

Any Other Business

- 199 The Chairman advised that whilst carrying out clearance of vegetation and gutters at the Sherbourne bus shelter he had noted that the bench therein had deteriorated and was potentially dangerous. He invited Sherbourne members to consider how they would like this to be remedied, eg replacement, repair or removal.

Closure

- 200 There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:00pm

Date of Next Meeting

- 201 The next meeting of the JPC is on Mon 14 Jan 13 at 7:30 pm in Barford Memorial Hall.