

**BARFORD SHERBOURNE & WASPERTON JOINT
PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Joint Parish Council
held in Barford Memorial Hall on Mon 10 Jul 23

Present:	Chairman: Cllr J V Murphy Cllr: J T Barrott, J D Billingham, R Clay, H Gadsden, J M Hawkesford, G Jackson, T Merrygold, Mrs R Newsome, P B Phillips, B Ranner, M J Sheard, Mrs L A Wallis
Apologies:	Cllr: Mrs S Jarratt, Mrs K E Thomson,

Opening

41 The meeting opened at 7:30 pm

42 No members of the public were present.

Declarations of Disclosable Interests

43 None was declared.

Public Participation

44 There was none.

Minutes of the Meeting of Council on 12 Jun 23

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

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee on 12 Jun 23

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

Financial Report

47 Cash Book Balances as at 30 Jun 23

- HSBC £157,956.61
- Santander £75,524.68

The JPC took note.

48 Receipts and Payments

Date	Payee	Category	Total
01 Jun 23	R J Hartwell	Open Spaces Maintenance	(6,958.94)
01 Jun 23	Santander	Interest	44.87
01 Jun 23	Stripe	BLIS:BSC	80.41
02 Jun 23	Frank Mann Farmers	BLIS:KGF	(356.99)
02 Jun 23	Frank Mann Farmers	Open Spaces Maintenance	(211.68)
07 Jun 23	BMH Management Committee	BLIS:KGF	(103.05)
20 Jun 23	J T Windows	Bus Shelter Maintenance	(60.00)
21 Jun 23	HSBC	Bank Charges	(8.00)
21 Jun 23	Pestforce	Rodent Control	(114.00)
23 Jun 23	Pestforce	Rodent Control	(96.00)
26 Jun 23	Administration	Office Accommodation	(75.00)
28 Jun 23	Barford Netball	BLIS:BSC	60.00
28 Jun 23	Countryside Services	War Memorial Wasperton	(30.00)
28 Jun 23	Online Playgrounds (JVM)	Open Spaces Maintenance	(82.00)
29 Jun 23	Salaries	Employment Expenses	(931.34)
29 Jun 23	WALC	Training	(60.00)

The JPC endorsed the payments.

Dignity at Work Policy

49 The JPC adopted the Dignity at Work Policy.

Civility & Respect Pledge

50 The JPC signed the Civility & Respect Pledge.

Wilding and Wildflowers

51 The Working Party had met on site and co-opted Ms Kirsty Healey to represent Bar Zero. The

whole site had been walked and it was agreed to place new hedging along the cemetery boundary of KLGf, to infill deficits on the southern/Hadley boundary, to create a new hedge alongside the track, to create new hedges at either end of the Rectory Paddock, and to infill deficits in the paddock hedging. It was also agreed to create wildflower areas as a “central reservation” in the paddock and alongside the new fence, adjacent to the allotment path, on the NE section of the JPC allotments. Hadley landowner permission had been granted. Diocesan consent was awaited before final instruction to Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. Work was anticipated in Winter 2023/early spring 2024.

Barford Neighbourhood Development Plan (BNDP)

- 52 The Chairman summarized the outcome of the BNDP Review Working Party’s deliberations:
- BNDP is still relevant and fit for purpose.
 - It is to issue a formal review statement but delay a full rewrite until the South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP) is drafted.
 - The JPC is to mandate the Working Party to liaise with WDC in the production of the SWLP so as to increase NDP influence and weight in decision making.
 - The current Housing Needs Surveys requires updating (early next year) to include types of houses, especially with reference to Age Appropriate Accommodation. This would inform the prospects of development on Land around Barford House and also potentially provide some defence against excessive development coming to our parishes from the SWLP.

S106 Works

- 53 With regards to the Barford Village Green and Barford Memorial Hall wall (brought forward from the previous meeting); Cllr Clay reported that three quotes had been received; one for £35k, another for £7k, and a third yet to be quantified. Cllr Sheard reported on prospects to repair the damaged BVS/BMH car park wall – detail and costings would be awaited, with if need be a special meeting being called to authorize works and budget.

Water Safety

- 54 Barford School pupils had received water safety lessons as part of the Royal Life Saving Society’s Drowning Prevention Week and Year 6 had had a field trip to the river to carry out a river safety audit and to put what they had learned in the classroom into practice . They visited the river at its access point from Hewitt Road (river area under Barford Bypass) where they had been invited to think of ways of making the area safer for the residents and came up with some sensible ideas:
- To have a lifebuoy ring in the area for use in emergency
 - To have signs displaying the water safety code in the river side area so families and children walking by the river have a safety reminder.
 - To put up a warning sign of the strong current and danger of entering the water.
 - To have a sign giving the exact location in case an emergency call needed to be made. The children suggested an address with the nearest access point or the What3words for the location.
- 55 The JPC took note and resolved to investigate signage to be deployed at suitable locations including that visited by the school. It was thought that life rings and floatv aid would be problematic and would therefore not be taken forward. The chairman would update the school.

WDC Monitoring Officer’s Statement

- 56 For the purpose of creating a permanent record, the statement is reproduced in full at Page 4

Any Other Business

- 57 Cllr Gadsden stimulated a discussion about placing security cameras on KGF, in order to perhaps reduce vandalism and anti-social behaviour and undertook to provide an analysis to the JPC at its next meeting.

Closure

- 58 There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:30pm

Date of Next Meeting
59 Mon 11 Sep 23

MONITORING OFFICER'S STATEMENT

Dear James

You will be aware that last year, Councillor Merrygold submitted a complaint to me alleging that the behaviour of Councillor Clay had breached the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council.

Having received this complaint, the District Council's own procedures require me, as the Council's Monitoring Officer, to try and resolve this matter at the lowest possible level, specifically to avoid an investigation which can be lengthy, costly to the taxpayer and potentially create acrimony on the Council.

Following discussions involving the two Councillors and with the input of the District Council's Independent Person, Councillors Merrygold and Clay agreed to meet me to try and resolve the matter through mediation.

We had what turned out to be a productive meeting where Councillor Clay recognised that the approach he takes to Council business could be perceived by some Councillors to be outside the bounds of courteous engagement, although Councillor Clay was clear to say that he certainly does not intend to upset anyone and if this has been the outcome he is sorry for that.

Both Councillors recognised that the way Council meetings were conducted could probably do with some review and that it would also be helpful if the Council was to have a broader discussion about how matters such as Committee memberships and appointment of the Chair are conducted as this would further improve the governance of the Council.

Furthermore, I understand that the Civility & Respect Pledge was recently debated by the Council and that Councillor Clay made a contribution to the discussion. It is my understanding that all Councillors endorsed the Pledge which is obviously very positive.

I hope you find this feedback useful. I'm more than happy to discuss it further with you and both Councillors have agreed that my correspondence with you could be shared with all Councillors.

Kind Regards

Andrew Jones
Deputy Chief Executive & Monitoring Officer Warwick District Council