

BARFORD SHERBOURNE & WASPERTON JOINT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Joint Parish Council held in Barford Memorial Hall on Mon 10 Jun 24

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

Opening

32 The meeting opened at 7:30 pm

Declarations of Disclosable Interests

33 None was made

Personnel

34 Helen Dexter (Clerk/RFO designate) was warmly welcomed to the meeting.

Public Participation

35 No members of the public attended the meeting.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council on 13 May 24

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

Financial Report

37.1 Cash Book Balances as at 31 May 24

- HSBC £150,050.34
- Santander £76,097.41

The JPC took note

37.2 Receipts and Payments

Date	Payee	Category	Total
02 Apr 24	Stripe	BSC	105.29
03 Apr 24	Warwick Road Shell (JVM)	KGF	(17.54)
03 Apr 24	JVM	Venue hire	(23.00)
03 Apr 24	Stratford News & Media	Subsidiary Powers LGA72 s111	(407.52)
04 Apr 24	Plot 20-3	Allotments	33.28
05 Apr 24	Plot 6c	Allotments	39.00
09 Apr 24	WALC	Subs: WALC	(735.80)
15 Apr 24	JT Window Cleaners	Bus Shelters	(60.00)
16 Apr 24	Plot 3	Allotments	39.00
16 Apr 24	Plot 14	Allotments	39.00
21 Apr 24	HSBC	Bank Charges	(11.00)
22 Apr 24	Employment Expenses	Employment Expenses Salaries	(978.58)
22 Apr 24	Plot 5	Allotments	39.00
22 Apr 24	Employment Expenses	Employment Expenses HMRC 23-24	(2,317.66)
24 Apr 24	WDC	Precept	33,482.00
25 Apr 24	JPC Office	JPC Office	(80.00)
30 Apr 24	Booker (JVM)	KGF	(102.53)
01 May 24	Louise Best	Audit Fees	(400.00)
01 May 24	Stripe	BSC	176.57
02 May 24	BYCC	Grant	(20,000.00)
03 May 24	Frank Mann Farmers	KGF	(597.10)
09 May 24	SRS Ltd	Bus shelter refurb	(1,080.00)
12 May 24	St Peter's Barford	Newsletter	(3,200.00)
15 May 24	JT Window Cleaners	Bus Shelters	(60.00)
21 May 24	E.on	KGF	(140.85)
21 May 24	HMRC	VAT Prior year	7,130.49
21 May 24	JPC Office	JPC Office	(80.00)
28 May 24	HSBC	Bank charges	(8.00)
28 May 24	Employment Expenses	Employment Expenses Salaries	(978.18)
29 May 24	BMH	KGF	(234.00)

The JPC endorsed these transactions

New Model Financial Regulations

- 38 NALC's new Model Financial Regulations are available. It is necessary therefore to review them to set JPC specific detail and limits. It is proposed to establish a WP comprising the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, standing RFO and RFO-elect for what should be a brief, but very important task of tailoring the model. The JPC amended version will be brought to a future meeting for adoption. Other JPC members were invited to participate in the review. None volunteered
The JPC endorsed the course of action proposed.

Insurance for Allotment Holders

- 39 The JPC considered the option of joining the National Allotment Society on behalf of its tenants to address the identified risk of the gap in liability insurance between corporate liability for public areas and the liability of harm on an individual plot. There are other benefits which can be taken by plot holders, but this is secondary to the advantages of the liability insurance. The liability insurance product is purchased by the National Allotment Society (NAS) but designed to provide liability cover protection to member plot-holders and leisure gardeners accused of accidentally causing injury or damaging property, in their personal capacity. Work/Business related claims are not insured. The benefit is worth up to £5m and will pay for defence costs and the cost of any award made. As a member a plot-holder would be protected not only at the allotment plot but also if attending shows or events which are allotment related. The benefit forms part of the subscription of the above and to be enrolled into this benefit the member must advise of enrolment and provide the NAS with all contact details of those enrolled and keep those details up to date.
Membership costs £3 per plot holder, and with 41 plots this would cost £124pa
The JPC approved this scheme in principle and debated how best to recover the costs. The rents for 2024-25 have been collected already, so what could be seen as a surcharge would be unpopular with allotment holders, and to spend more than £2 on postage, stationery and time to collect £3 is a non-starter, so it was decided to bear the cost centrally for the current year and collect it annually as an addition to the rent for 2025-26 and the years thereafter.

King George's Field and CCTV

- 40 There had been another episode of vandalism at KGF. A very young person was caught on CCTV opening the door to the lavatory. The inside of the door was clearly visible and clean before it closed. As it opened again for them to leave it was seen to have been smeared with faeces
The individual's identity was known and the event was reported to the police.
The police interviewed the parents who wrote to the JPC Chair to apologise for their child's behaviour. Due to the culprit's age further details could not be disclosed.
The Chairman will add this his Councillor Chatter piece in Village Voices to make the deterrent effect of the CCTV fully to a wider audience. All detected cases of vandalism and antisocial behaviour captured on CCTV would be reported directly to police.

Bus Shelters

- 41 Cllr Sheard gave a progress report on the renovation of the Barford bus shelter. There would be further delays pending gaining highway scaffold permissions and appropriate insurance covers.
- 42 There had been a preliminary inspection of the Sherbourne bus shelter which, although it had a sound roof, was in sore need of repairs to its lower levels. A full inspection will be made and proposals for its renovation will be submitted to the JPC in the near future

Barford Youth & Community Centre (BYCC)

- 43 The Chairman gave a progress report. The salient points:
- The contract was running on schedule, and possibly even ahead of it
 - The opening, an open day and Promises Auction is planned for 21 Sep 24
 - The Chairman will press BYCC to abandon its proposal to fill the gap which had been made in the surrounding hedge with whips and use instead more mature specimens.
 - There remained a shortfall in funding but projects were in hand to bridge this gap.

Closure

44 There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:25pm.

Date of Next Meeting

45 Mon 8 Jul 24