

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL BARFORD PARISH MEETING HELD IN BARFORD MEMORIAL HALL ON 21ST JULY 2005

Chairman: J V Murphy
Present: 115 members of the public

Opening

1 The meeting opened at 7:36 pm. The Chairman welcomed those present.

Barford Parish Plan (BPP)

- 2 The Chairman introduced Peter Webb, the chairman of the BPP Committee who gave a brief history of the project.
- 3 The questionnaire, which had been circulated to all residents in Barford, had met with a most satisfactory response and had provided solid evidence of the views of residents. This had formed the basis of the deliberations and decisions by the BPP Committee.
- 4 It was now the turn of Ian Findlay to address the meeting to describe the many facets of the work of the BPP Committee. He listed:

General Overview

- Information: arrange for publication of village directory
- Police and crime: visible police presence; reinvigorate Neighbourhood Watch
- Village shop: provision of facility
- Recreation: expand provision
- Internet: provide internet café facilities
- Allotments: provide mains water; improve appearance; encourage uptake
- Village groups: Neighbourhood Watch; footpath development; Village Pride; shop/post office

Environment Overview

- Getting around: maintenance of footpaths; designate Wasperton and Hareway Lanes as "quiet lanes"
- Footpaths: better access to river; creation of walks in village
- Noise: campaign for quiet surfacing on M40 and A46
- Recycling: extend scope of WDC scheme to include plastics
- Flooding: prevent flooding by improving the drainage system in Wellesbourne Road and Bridge Street.
- Conservation: no infill housing by Barford Bypass; campaign for provision of recreational woodland

Transport Overview

- Community transport: publicity for Dial-a-Ride; campaign for taxi or bus service or both to Warwick Parkway
- Road safety: improve lighting; parking bays on Wasperton Lane and south end of Wellesbourne Road; 20mph speed limit on Hareway Lane, Wasperton Lane, Church Street, High Street
- Cyclists; cycleways

Housing Overview

- Affordable housing
- Development appropriate to need

- Maximize benefits to community by developers

Youth Overview

- Youth club
- Dial-a-ride for youth
- Recreational facilities

- 5 A paper was laid before the meeting with a summary of these points and comments invited. The response was wide-ranging and many good points were made which were recognized by BPP Committee members as valuable contributions to be taken fully into account.
- 6 Two specific recommendations were adopted on a show of hands. They were:
- That in the section “Conservation” the entry be amended to read “Demand that the land enclosed by the bypass is not developed for residential purposes”.
 - That in the section “Recycling” the wording be amended to read “Request that the current recycling scheme is extended to include plastics and cardboard”.
- 7 Some felt that the word “Demand” being used so frequently in the paper was too abrupt and likely to be counterproductive. The Chairman was however unwilling to allow time to be spent in debating the merits of the word wherever it occurred so instead sought, and was granted, the meeting’s consent to giving the BPP Committee discretion to alter the word where appropriate.
- 8 The Chairman moved that the Action Plan (as amended) shown at Annex A be adopted and incorporated into the Barford Parish Plan document for transmission to the appropriate Local Authorities and other relevant organizations. This was accepted by an overwhelming majority.
- 9 The Chairman further moved:
That the Barford Parish Plan Committee’s terms of reference be extended to include:
- Drafting a Village Design Statement;
 - Monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan (for the purpose of which the Committee should comprise a majority of non-Parish Council members);
 - Reporting on the Action Plan to the Annual Parish Meeting;
 - Review the Plan periodically and, if necessary, making recommendations to a Parish Meeting for its updating.
- This was approved nem con

Publicity for Barford Parish Meeting Minutes on the Website

- 10 RESOLVED: That these minutes and all other minutes of Barford Parish Meetings should be published on the website in draft as soon as they become available and not have to await formal acceptance before release.

Update on Barford Shop and Post Office

- 11 Mr and Mrs Bussey, the owners of the shop, addressed the meeting.
- 12 They announced:
- The shop will reopen on Monday 8th August 2005.
 - Contracts have been signed by both parties.
 - A five-year lease has been taken out by the new proprietor.
 - The shop will be open seven days a week and, it is hoped, for longer hours.
 - Newspapers will once again be available.
 - A license to run the Post Office had been applied for.
- 13 In addition, Mr and Mrs Bussey have asked for the comments relating to the shop from the Parish Plan questionnaire. They also asked for comments from those at the meeting.

Update on Planning Issues

- 14 Oldhams Transport Site. Although approval for the development of the site was granted by the local Planning Authority, no final decision can be assumed until the project is called in by ODPM.
- 15 20 Wellesbourne Road. The JPC had raised objections to the planning application for the demolition of the house at 20 Wellesbourne Road and the construction of nine new ones. CLERK'S AFTERNOTE: Planning permission has since been refused by Warwick District Council.
- 16 Glebe Hotel. It is not know if the refusal of planning permission for the development of the Glebe Hotel will be taken to appeal.
- 17 Warwick District Local Plan. The Plan has been further revised and the JPC invited to comment upon it.
- 18 Managing Housing Supply. Warwick District Council has revealed that Warwickshire is over-provided with housing in every category except affordable housing. It is likely therefore that planning permission will be granted in future only for new housing projects which are exclusively or predominantly for affordable housing.

Barford House Land – Proposals Update

- 19 Malcolm Hawksford had submitted a revised plan for the development of Barford House land.
- 20 A presentation was planned for 31st July from 9:30am to noon in the Barford Memorial Hall.
- 21 Opinion was divided over the desirability of supporting the scheme with one side arguing that the £1m+ planning gain available to the village would provide some of those missing facilities listed in the BPP Action Plan, and such sums were practically unobtainable elsewhere.
- 22 The contrary view was that the money on offer was little more than a bribe, and that the village would be well-advised to have nothing to do with the proposal.

Any Other Business

- 23 The Chairman reminded the meeting of the Barford Heritage Group exhibition the following weekend in the Barford Memorial Hall.
- 24 He invited anybody interested in the Village Liaison Officer Project to telephone the local contact on 01926 624178.
- 25 It was observed by one resident that the Skateboard facility, upon which much money had been spent, was little-used.
- 26 There being no other business the meeting was closed.

Action Plan for Barford

Subject	Action
Information	Arrange for a Village Directory to be published.
Police and Crime	Pressurize the Police to prevent illegal, inconsiderate and dangerous parking. Ensure regular, visible Police presence in the Village and swifter investigation of offences, especially speeding. Restart Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.
Village Shop	Initiate a campaign to reinstate a General Store I Post Office and encourage other retail services.
Recreation	Expand the provision of recreational and sporting facilities in the Village. E.g. Tennis, Bowls, Badminton etc.
Internet	Provide access to computers for all villagers who need it.
Allotments	Investigate cost of provision of mains supply of water to the allotments. Improve appearance of JPC allotments. Encourage uptake.
Village Groups	Set up the following Groups: Neighbourhood Watch, Footpath Development, Village Pride, Village Shop and Post Office.
Getting Around	Demand improved maintenance of pavements, kerbs, roads and designated footpaths. Request council authorities to designate Wasperton Lane and Hareway Lane as "Quiet Lanes".
Footpaths	Campaign for better access to the river and the provision of some more riverside walks. Explore the possibilities of providing further "Designated Footpaths" within the Village.
Noise	Demand that "Quiet Tarmac" is laid on the M40 and A46.
Recycling	Request that the current recycling scheme is extended to include plastics and cardboard.
Flooding	Demand better maintenance of drains and sewers on Wellesbourne Road.
Conservation	Demand that the land enclosed by the bypass is not developed for residential purposes. Open a dialogue with landowners to provide recreational woodland.
Community Transport	Inform Racing Club Warwick that more publicity for the Dial-a-ride service is required and on a more regular basis. Campaign for the introduction of a Warwick Parkway Taxi-Bus Service.
Road Safety	Provide improved street lighting in High Street and Wasperton Lane. Request Parking Bays in Wasperton Lane and in the service road at the South end of the Wellesbourne Road. Demand the establishment of a 20mph speed limit on Church Street, High Street and Wasperton Lane.
Cyclists	Demand the introduction of cycle ways to Sherbourne Corner (connect with existing way to Warwick) and Wellesbourne.
Housing	Encourage the provision of affordable housing within the village. Inform local housing authorities, including Warwickshire Rural Housing Association, of the need for sheltered housing within the Village.
Development	Ensure that any future development, e.g. the land behind Barford House and the Oldham's site, is appropriate to the needs of the village. Seek to work with potential developers to maximize the benefits for our community.
Youth	Investigate ways in which Barford could have its own Youth Club. Discuss with Dial-a-Ride possibilities of a regular minibus service to use facilities in Wellesbourne and Warwick Take action to provide further recreation facilities for youth and children