

# BARFORD SHERBOURNE AND WASPERTON JOINT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Parish Council  
held at Barford Memorial Hall on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2008

**Present:** R G Mulgrue, (Chairman)  
Cllrs: Mrs P W Barlow, M P Byerley, R Clay, Mrs D S Cobb, Mrs M A Hayward,  
S G Starkey, W Worrall, Mrs A Gordon, Mrs P L Johnston, Mrs P W Wilkinson,  
N F J Thurley, J T Wright,  
**Apologies:** Cllrs: Cllr J V Murphy, A B Rhead, Dr M J Metcalfe,  
**In Attendance:** Cllr L Caborn

## Opening

- 265 The meeting opened at 7:30 pm
- 266 Four members of the public were present.
- 267 In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman the meeting appointed Cllr Mulgrue to the chair.
- 268 The Chairman welcomed the Chairman of Warwick District Council (Cllr Les Caborn) to the meeting.
- 269 Apologies for absence were noted.
- 270 Cllr Mrs Barlow joined the meeting at 7:55 pm and apologized for being unavoidably delayed.

## Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

- 271 The following declarations were made:
- 271.1 Agenda Item 8 Bus Shelters:
- Cllr Byerley, Personal and Prejudicial
  - Cllr Mulgrue, Personal and Prejudicial
- 271.2 Agenda Item 11 Barford Parish Plan:
- Cllr Mrs Cobb, Personal
  - Cllr Mrs Hayward, Personal
  - Cllr Worrall, Personal
- 271.3 Agenda Item 13 Barford Allotments:
- Cllr Byerley, Personal
- 271.4 Agenda Item 14 Green Issues:
- Cllr Clay Personal
  - Cllr Mrs Hayward Personal
- 271.5 Agenda Item 15 Grants for Village Halls:
- Cllr Clay Personal
- 271.6 Agenda Item 16 Grants for Churchyard Maintenance:
- Cllr Mrs Hayward Personal
  - Cllr Mrs Wilkinson Personal

271.7 Agenda item 17 Grant of Lease to Barford Village Shop CIC:

- Cllr Mrs Hayward Personal
- Cllr Mulgrue Personal
- Cllr Worrall Personal
- Cllr Mrs Johnston Personal

**Minutes of the Meeting of Council 12<sup>th</sup> November 2007**

272 The minutes were approved as a true record.

273 Matters Arising:

273.1 Minute 225: Cllr Caborn reported that with reference to Oakley Wood, matters were proceeding in a manner which would meet the JPC's approval.

273.2 Minute 227: Rights of way in Barford (Mill Lane) and Wasperton are to be included in the next agenda.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Council 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2008**

274 The minutes were approved as a true record.

275 Matters Arising:

275.1 Minute 260: Cllr Caborn informed the meeting that Option 2 of the Core Strategy was not acceptable and would not be pursued.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee 12<sup>th</sup> November 2007**

276 The minutes were approved as a true record.

276.1 Matters Arising: None.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2008**

277 The minutes were approved as a true record.

278 Matters Arising: None.

**Police Matters**

279 Cllr Worrall reminded the meeting that the next Safer Neighbourhoods meeting was in Lapworth on 24<sup>th</sup> January.

280 Cllr Caborn reported that the team was to be reduced from three to two constables and increased from two to three PSOs, and that in future it would share a sergeant.

281 A fund of £8k was available for safety enhancements and it was proposed that it should be used in part to finance:

- Improved street lighting in Barford
- A feasibility study on speed restrictions in Sherbourne.

**Reports from Representatives Appointed to Serve on Other Bodies**

282 Cllr Mrs Gordon reported her attendance on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2007 at a briefing by WDC entitled "Delivering the Rural Excellence Programme in Warwick". The title was a misnomer and her attendance a waste of time.

### Cash Balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007

283 Members took note of the following cash balances:

HSBC	£ 2,141.98
Alliance & Leicester	£28,848.31
TOTAL	£30,990.29

### Receipts and Payments

284 Members endorsed the following:

Date	Payee	Category	Sum
1 Nov 07	HSBC	Bank Interest	1.15
2 Nov 07	MFM Services	Mowing Charges	(126.00)
2 Nov 07	J F Johnson	Postage	(22.14)
2 Nov 07	J F Johnson	Travel Expenses	(41.24)
3 Nov 07	Alliance & Leicester	Bank Interest	77.36
16 Nov 07	HMRC	Employment Expenses	(458.19)
30 Nov 07	J F Johnson	Employment Expenses	(673.23)
30 Nov 07	J F Johnson	Office Accommodation	(46.25)
20 Nov 07	Screwfix	Skate Board Ramp	(40.28)
20 Nov 07	Jewson	Skate Board Ramp	(203.83)
20 Nov 07	J V Murphy	Skate Board Ramp	(5.58)
20 Nov 07	J V Murphy	Section 137	(20.00)
30 Nov 07	S-o-A District Council	Barford Parish Plan	(88.43)
4 Dec 07	J F Johnson	Postage	(22.57)
4 Dec 07	J F Johnson	Travel Expenses	(47.54)
4 Dec 07	SLCC	Subs: SLCC	(129.00)
5 Dec 07	S&D Window Cleaners	Bus Shelters Maintenance	(45.00)
6 Dec 07	Prontaprint	Printing and Stationery	(43.57)
7 Dec 07	BMHMC	Barford Post Office	(380.00)
7 Dec 07	Alliance & Leicester	Bank Interest	97.52
16 Dec 07	HMRC	Employment Expenses	(458.19)
18 Dec 07	T Love	Allotments Rents	3.52
18 Dec 07	T Love	Allotments Water Charges	3.11
31 Dec 07	J F Johnson	Postage	(7.38)
31 Dec 07	J F Johnson	Travel Expenses	(9.88)
31 Dec 07	J F Johnson	Employment Expenses	(673.23)
31 Dec 07	J F Johnson	Office Accommodation	(46.25)

### Bus Shelters

285 The response to the invitation to tender for the refurbishment of the brick bus shelters had been disappointing with only one contractor offering to meet the full specification and another (whose submission arrived only four days before the meeting) quoting for only part of it.

286 It was agreed that a working party should be convened to compare these quotes and place the order. Its composition to be:

- Cllr Murphy
- Cllr Rhead
- Cllr Thurley
- Clerk

287 The meeting was informed that the proposed Barford to Warwick cycle way might necessitate the relocation of the Sherbourne bus shelter and the working part should remain cognizant of that.

### **Affordable Housing Allocation**

- 288 The Chairman brought the JPC up to date on issues regarding the housing on the former Oldham's site. He listed achievements to date and elaborated upon the conversion of shared ownership housing to rented accommodation.
- 289 Cllr Byerley briefed members upon back-filling vacant council housing and the efforts to ensure that the 1997 agreement that people with local connections should have priority in filling them (observed in practice if not enshrined in writing) remained in force.
- 290 It was acknowledged that there was a need for a new housing needs survey in Barford.
- 291 Discussion turned to putting a case to the Local Government Ombudsman against WDC's handling of the allocations and its apparently cavalier disregard of the intention of the Section 106 agreement. It transpires that this route is not available; the Ombudsman cannot consider complaints mad by one council against another.
- 292 The WDC had made claims that case law prevented the implementation of some of the provisions of the Section 106 agreement. Requests for details of this evidence had been ignored. (Cllr Caborn took note for action).
- 293 Cllr Clay articulated the mood of the meeting in congratulating Cllrs Byerley and Mulgrue for their diligence in researching this matter and the truly exemplary performance in bringing it to the JPC's attention.
- 294 On that note, Cllr Mrs Cobb urged that a full record be made and archived for future reference so that this valuable knowledge was not lost. Cllr Mulgrue undertook, upon successful completion of the project, to write a case history for storing in the County Archives.

### **WDC Planning Application Validation Checklist (1APP)**

- 295 Members took note of the comments upon the WDC's Planning Application Validation Checklist which had been submitted by the Working Party and which had been well received.

### **Barford Parish Plan**

- 296 The Chairman reported progress on those items of the Plan yet to be completed which were:
- Ensure regular, visible Police presence in the Village and swifter investigation of offences, especially speeding.
  - Initiate a campaign to reinstate a General Store/Post Office and encourage other retail services.
  - Request Local Authorities to designate Wasperton Lane and Hareway Lane as "Quiet Lanes".
  - Explore the possibilities of providing further "Designated Footpaths" within the village.
  - Request that the current recycling scheme is extended to include plastics and cardboard.
  - Request parking bays in Wasperton Lane and in the service road at the south end of Wellesbourne Road.
  - Promote the establishment of a 20 mph speed limit on Church Street & High Street and on Wasperton Lane.
  - Request the introduction of cycle ways to Sherbourne Corner (connecting with the existing way to Warwick) and to Wellesbourne.
  - Take action to provide further recreation facilities for youth and children.
- 297 The JPC approved the report for transmission to the Parish Plan Committee.

### **Renewal of Mowing Contract for 2008**

298 The JPC approved as a single tender the renewal of the mowing contract with MFM Services for 2008 for the sum of £1,716.

299 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 sufficiently similar in nature and extent;
- The majority of the rates for the new work are directly based on the existing contract
- The likely benefit of further competition would be outweighed by the administrative cost or delay or both involved; and the interests of the Council will not be compromised by the negotiation.

### **Barford Allotments**

300 The JPC fixed the rent for the Barford Allotment Gardens for 2009-10 at the 2008-9 rate (£0.10/m<sup>2</sup>) increased by RPI + 1%.

301 The water charges are to remain unaltered.

### **Green Issues**

302 The JPC had been asked to support the Objectives and Opportunities set out in "Objectives and Opportunities Plan (November 2007 Final Version 1)" published by Reland.

303 A working party was convened to formulate the JPC's response. After careful consideration it recommended the following reply:

304 "Barford Sherbourne and Wasperton Joint Parish Council acknowledge the importance of Warwick Castle Park to Warwick and the surrounding area and supports the following objectives subject to the recognition that public access was an overriding priority:

- 4.1.1. Objective 1- Restoration, preservation and maintenance of the historic designed landscape including landscaping, structures (Leafields Bridge in particular), pathways and views.
- 4.1.2 Objective 2 - Protection of the archaeological interest.
- 4.1.3. Objective 3- Restoration, conservation and maintenance of the ecological interest, woodland and plantings."

### **Grants for Village Halls**

305 The JPC awarded the following grants to village halls:

- Sherbourne £1,250
- Wasperton £1,370

### **Grants for Churchyard Maintenance**

306 The JPC awarded the following grants for churchyard maintenance:

- Barford £355
- Sherbourne £355
- Wasperton £355

### **Grant of Lease to Barford Village Shop Community Interest Company**

307 The Clerk delivered the following report:

- 307.1 The Deed of Variation to the conveyance removing the obstacle of the restrictive covenant to the granting of a lease to the Shop Group is ready for signature by the Chairman and Clerk.
- 307.2 A consideration of £15k will be paid to the Vendor in three equal tranches in May 2008, May 2009 and May 2010.
- 307.3 The Shop Group has made a donation of £15k to the JPC to defray the cost.
- 307.4 The risk of third party claimants to the benefit of the restrictive covenant has been covered by insurance for £250k, the premium being paid by the Vendor.
- 307.5 The lease is in the final stages of preparation and will be available for execution soon.
- 307.6 It is recommended that the JPC forms a working party to examine the lease as part of its due diligence.
- 307.7 The shop will require access to shared services, the use of the bin area and passage across and use of the parking area. These are in the gift of the Trustees of the Barford Memorial Hall. Once permission is given, a Grant of a Lease of Rights will be executed and remain in force for the life time of the main lease.
- 308 With regards to Minute 307.6, the following volunteered and were appointed to a working party:
- Cllr Clay
  - Cllr Mrs Gordon
  - Cllr Mulgrue
- 309 The working party was tasked with examining both the Deed of Variation and the Lease and to act with the delegated authority of the JPC and approve them, unless it was subsequently shown that a working party could not act upon such delegated authority, whereupon it would assume the status of a committee of the JPC and conduct its business at a properly convened public meeting.

#### **Graffiti**

- 310 Cllr Worrall reported the successful removal of the graffiti in Barford.

#### **Barford House Boundary Wall**

- 311 Safety concerns were expressed over the condition of this wall. They would be relayed to WDC.

#### **Closure**

- 312 There being no other business the meeting closed at 10:00 pm.

#### **Date of Next Meeting**

- 313 The next ordinary meeting of Council is on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at 7:30 pm in Sherbourne Village Hall.