

BARFORD, SHERBOURNE AND WASPERTON JOINT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on Monday, 13 May 2002 at Barford
Memorial Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr J V Murphy (Chairman)

Cllrs M P Byerley, R Clay, Mrs A Gordon, G P Grima, Mrs M Hayward, K S Hope,
D H Hunt, Mrs J Jackson, G G Morris, R G Mulgrue, M Peters, A Roberts,
W Worrall, J T Wright.

In attendance: Cllrs Mrs J Compton (WCC), Mrs M B Haywood (WCC), R Tamlin (WDC),
PC R French.

1. Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr R G Butler (WDC).
2. Election of Chairman of the Council for 2002/2003
Cllr J V Murphy was elected Chairman of the Council for 2002/2003 and duly signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
3. Election of Vice-Chairman of the Council for 2002/2003
Cllr D H Hunt was elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for 2002/2003.
4. Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests
Interests in items on the agenda were declared in accordance with the Parish Councils (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2001 Sections 7 and 9 prior to their discussion as follows:

Cllr Mrs M Hayward – Item 15 Barford Community Website – Personal (Member of Organising Group)

Cllr K Hope – Item 9a Barford Memorial Hall Management Committee – Personal.

Cllr J V Murphy – Item 9a - Barford Memorial Hall Management Committee – Personal (Member of Hall Management Committee;

Item 12 Chairmans Allowance – Personal and Prejudicial;

Item 17 Wellesbourne Road/Bridge Street, Barford – Puffin Crossing – Personal (Owner of a property close to WCC proposed alternative location).

Cllr A Roberts – Item 19 Wall at Vicarage Lane, Sherbourne and Cedar Tree, 1 Wellesbourne Road, Barford – Personal (Owner of a listed building)

Cllr W Worrall – Item 9a - Barford Memorial Hall Management Committee – Personal (Member of Hall Management Committee).

5. Representations by Members of the Public
Mrs M Healey of High Street, Barford expressed her concern that in view of the damage caused to Barford Memorial Hall by young people using skateboards that the Council was now proposing to spend a large amount of public money on providing a skateboard facility on the playing field.

The Chairman replied that by providing a purpose built facility ‘it was hoped that ownership’ would promote a more responsible attitude and remove the nuisance and disturbance caused to residents in certain parts of the village.

Mr Wilde of Bank House, Bridge Street, Barford expressed his concern at the expenditure incurred in providing the traffic calming measures in Church/Bridge Street, Barford when priority provision was required to reduce speed of vehicles

using Bridge Street and Wellesbourne Road. He said that he considered the measures provided to be ineffective.

Other residents expressed their concern regarding the delay in completing the work and said that they too considered the measures ineffective. The raised areas created additional noise without any reduction in speed and the choice of colour of the surface finish was not in keeping with the area.

The Chairman replied that representatives of Warwickshire County Council Traffic Group would attend the June meeting of the Council when concerns regarding the provision would be discussed with them.

6. Matters for the Constabulary

PC French reported that he was pleased to inform Members that he had no crime incidents to report on.

He reported on action taken to overcome the problems caused by vehicles parking on footpaths and was requested to keep the matter under review.

Thanks were expressed to him for his attendance and reports submitted to the respective Annual Parish Meetings.

7. Minutes

The minutes of the following meetings were confirmed:

Planning Committee	26 March 2002
Council	8 April 2002
Planning Committee	25 April 2002

8. Appointment of Planning Committee for 2002/2003

It was resolved that the following be appointed to serve on the Planning Committee for 2002/2003.

Barford - Cllrs M P Byerley, R Clay, R G Mulgrue, W Worrall.
Sherbourne - Cllrs Mrs A Gordon, G P Grima.
Wasperton - Cllrs D H Hunt, J T Wright
Cllr J V Murphy, Chairman of the Council ex-officio

9. Appointment of representatives to other bodies 2002/2003

It was resolved that the following be appointed:

- a) Barford Memorial Hall Management Committee – Cllr K S Hope.
- b) Warwick District Council Planning Forum – Cllrs R Clay and Mrs A Gordon.
- c) Warwickshire Association of Local Councils – Cllr Mrs J Jackson.
- d) Warwickshire Police Consultative Committee – Cllr M Peters.

10. Appointment of Consultative Committee for 2002/2003

In accordance with Standing Order No.17 it was resolved that the Consultative Committee for 2002/2003 comprise:

Cllr J V Murphy, Cllr D H Hunt, Cllr G G Morris

11. Reports from representatives appointed to serve on other bodies

Cllr R Mulgrue reported on his attendance as the Councils representative at the site meeting held by Warwick District Council's Planning Committee on 27 April 2002 in connection with the application to develop the Oldhams Transport site for housing.

Cllr Mulgrue also reported that he had attended the following meeting of the District Councils Planning Committee at which the application was considered. Members had agreed to defer a decision pending discussions with the applicant on certain matters including the 'Affordable' homes provision.

12. Chairmans Allowance for 2002/2003

It was resolved that an allowance of £310 be paid to Cllr J V Murphy Chairman of the Council.

13. Annual Parish Meetings

Reports were submitted on the Annual Parish Meetings held during April 2002. Principal items discussed related to:

Barford – Concern regarding the delay in completing and effectiveness of the traffic calming measures.

Sherbourne – The meeting expressed disappointment that the Council had not agreed to the request made at last years meeting for a referendum to establish support for Barford Bypass. In view of this the meeting had resolved to call a parish meeting to consider the matter when a new planning application was made.

Wasperton – Support was expressed for the establishment of Wasperton village as a Conservation Area. Proposals to improve the signing at the A429 Wasperton turn were also welcomed.

14. External Audit Arrangements from April 2002

It was reported that the Audit Commission had introduced what they described as a new 'lighter touch' audit regime for Local Councils from 1 April 2002. The new approach would take effect from the audit of the 2001/02 accounts.

One of the Commissions key statutory responsibilities was the independent appointment of external auditors to local government. The Commission was also required to consult with any local government body before appointing its external auditor.

Following a competitive tendering exercise the Commission proposed to appoint Clement Keys as this Councils appointed auditor from 1 April 2002. In addition District Audit would jointly be appointed to all local councils in England and Wales.

Regulation 5 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 1996 as amended imposed a duty on local councils to maintain an adequate and effective system of internal audit of their accounting records and control systems. In order to comply with this requirement it was necessary for the Council to appoint an independent person to undertake the role of internal auditor.

The Warwickshire Association of Local Councils had made arrangements for a training seminar on the new regime to be held on Thursday 16 May at Shire Hall, Warwick at 7.30 pm. Delegates fee £5. The Chairman and Clerk had arranged to attend.

It was resolved:

- a) To note the new audit regime for local councils;
- b) That no objections be raised to the appointment of Clement Keys as this Councils appointed auditor;

- c) The Clerk and Chairman endeavour to appoint an independent internal auditor;
- d) That approval be given to payment of delegates fees of £10 in respect of attendance by the Chairman and Clerk at the WALC training event on 16 May 2002.

15. Barford Community Website

It was reported that the Website for Barford was launched on 1 May 2002. It was suggested that the Council may wish to place agendas and minutes of its meetings together with a list of its Councillors and their address and telephone numbers on the site.

It was resolved:

That the Councils Minutes and Agendas be placed on the Website together with a list of Councillors and their contact information.

16. The New Code of Conduct

- a) The Clerk reported that all Members had now completed Declarations of Acceptance of Office and provided Form 1 Notification of Financial and Other Interests.
- b) It was reported that Warwick District Council had arranged a further training session for Parish and Town Councillors which would be held on Wednesday 29 May 2002 at the Town Hall, Leamington Spa commencing at 7.00pm. Members wishing to attend were asked to inform the Clerk..
- c) It was reported that WALC had arranged for Paul Hoey, Head of Policy and Guidance at the Standards board for England to discuss the work of the Board and address any concerns and questions from Members and Clerks. The meeting was arranged for Monday 27 May 2002 at 7.30pm at Shire Hall, Warwick. Members wishing to attend were requested to inform the Clerk.

It was resolved to note the reports.

17. Wellesbourne Road/Bridge Street, Barford – Puffin Crossing

It was reported that Warwickshire County Council had advised that in total it had received 25 responses to its initial consultation with residents to establish preference for the location of the Puffin Crossing. 13 households objected and 12 households were in support.

The County Council also advised that it had extended the deadline for receipt of objections to 31 May 2002. Representatives of the Traffic Group had indicated that they would like to discuss the final results with Members in June with a view to presenting the matter to their own Committee in July.

It was resolved to note the report and arrangements be made to meet with representatives of the County Council in June 2002.

18. Multi-Sports Surface, Shelter and Skateboard Ramp at Barford Playing Field

It was reported that Warwick District Council had advised that it would make a contribution of £7500 towards the cost of providing the above project. It had also undertaken to provide a further contribution of up to £15000 in the event that grants to this amount were not forthcoming from Warwickshire County Council or South Warwickshire PIE.

The District Councils contribution and underwriting of the balance of cost now meant that with some self help for construction of the shelter sufficient funds were available to enable the project to proceed.

The Chairman reported that together with the Clerk discussions had been held with representatives of Warwick District Council Amenities and Leisure Department and Skateboard manufactures in order to establish the most suitable equipment. An important factor in the final choice would be future maintenance costs.

Warwick District Council Planning Department had advised that the project would require planning approval.

Whilst tenders for the installation of the Multi-Sports Surface could be invited on the basis of a standard specification this would not be possible for the provision of the skateboard equipment as each manufacturer had their own special features. Authority was therefore requested to waive standing orders to enable purchase of the most suitable equipment.

This project had run with some urgency since last summer when complaints were received regarding the behaviour and activity of young people. The intention was therefore to have the facility available for this summer. If this was to be achieved it would require the Council to delegate final layout design, acceptance of tenders and purchase of equipment. It was suggested that final layout design be delegated to the Chairman and Clerk and other decisions to Members of the Councils Consultative Committee.

It was resolved:

- a) That authority be given for the scheme to proceed including expenditure of the sum of £3500 included in the 2001/2002 and 2002/2003 estimates in respect of the project;
- b) Final layout design be delegated to the Chairman and Clerk;
- c) Approval be given to the submission of a planning application for the project and payment of the appropriate fee and subject to the granting of permission;
- d) Standing Orders be waived in respect of the purchase of skateboard equipment to enable purchase of the most suitable equipment;
- e) Authority delegated to Members of the Councils Consultative Committee to:
accept the most suitable tender for the installation of the Multi-Sport Surface and select and purchase the most suitable Skateboard Equipment.

19. Applications for Grant

The following applications for grant assistance were considered:

- a) Repairs to Wall at Vicarage Lane, Sherbourne
- b) Work to Cedar Tree at 1 Wellesbourne Road, Barford (Barford Post Office and Stores)

It was resolved that no grants be awarded.

Cllr Mrs A Gordon declared a Personal Interest in item 19(a).

20. County Service to Celebrate Her Majesty's Golden Jubilee
 It was reported that an invitation to send representatives to attend a County Service to Celebrate Her Majesty's Golden Jubilee had been received from Martin Dunne Lord-Lieutenant of Warwickshire. The service would be held at the Collegiate Church of St Mary, Old Square, Warwick at 11 am on Sunday 2 June.

It was resolved that Cllr G G Morris should attend to represent the Council.

21. Bank Balances

The following were noted: As at 3 May 2002

	£
Bank Account	9899.68
Building Society Deposit Account	17961.17
11.4.02 Allotment Rents received	54.50
30.4.02 Received from Warwick DC	
- 50% Precept	7450.00
- Concurrent Services Contributions	
On account 2002/2003	2000.00
27.3.02 Transfer from Building Society Account to Bank Account	800.00

22. Payment of Accounts

a) The cheque signatories action in making payment of the following accounts since the last meeting was approved:

	£
WALC – Delegates fees re New Audit Regime Seminar	10.00
Powergen Retail Ltd – Electricity supply to Barford Bus Shelter	17.62
Barford Memorial Hall Management Trust –Use of hall for disco re Kool Kidz	50.00

b) Payment of the following was approved:

Cornhill Insurance – Renewal Insurance premium	461.83
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