

BARFORD SHERBOURNE AND WASPERTON JOINT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Parish Council held at Sherbourne Village Hall on Monday 18th October 2004.

Present: Cllr J V Murphy (Chairman)
Cllr R Clay, Cllr Mrs S Dean, Cllr Mrs A Gordon, Cllr G P Grima, Cllr Mrs M A Hayward, Cllr K S Hope, Cllr Mrs J A Jackson, Cllr Dr M J Metcalfe, Cllr G G Morris, Cllr R G Mulgrue, Cllr S G Starkey, Cllr W Worrall, Cllr J T Wright

In Attendance Cllr Mrs M B Haywood

Apologies: Cllr M P Byerley, Cllr R G Butler, Cllr Mrs C Sawdon

Visitors

147 The Chairman introduced Councillor Chris Davis, Chair Warwick District Council, who addressed the meeting.

Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

148 None was made

Representations by Members of the Public

149 Mr Elliott informed the meeting that James Plaskitt MP had been lobbying on behalf of Rowington, Shrewley and Lapworth for a quieter road surface on the M40 motorway in the vicinity of those villages. The Highways Agency had stated that the surface is scheduled for replacement in the next five to six years. Not content with this the MP has urged the Department of Transport to expedite the work. Mr Elliott suggested that the Council might profitably approach Mr Plaskitt to ask that the stretch of motorway closest to Barford, Sherbourne and Wasperton be added to this project.

Matters for the Constabulary

150 The CBO, PC Caswell, reported that there had been isolated incidents involving the "itinerant community". Of particular note was sighting of a suspicious vehicle in Wasperton. It was a white Landrover Defender MX 03 RGY with the logo "Martian Landscapes"

151 A vehicle had been attacked in Church Road, Barford.

152 Vehicles parked in Wellesbourne Road continued to give cause for concern.

153 The builders' vehicle parked in Bridge Street was a particular cause of congestion and he invited any suggestions to alleviate the problem.

154 Asked to whom messages should be addressed whilst he was on leave, the CBO stated that there was a system for diverting calls and for redeploying resources to give the villages adequate cover.

155 Reminded that drugs were a problem with some of the youths in Barford, the CBO acknowledged the fact and stated that he intended to employ all the powers of his office to eliminate this nuisance. He promised more details later.

156 On 21st July the then Clerk had written to Chief Inspector Woodcock to seek reassurance that the CBO would concentrate more of his efforts on Barford, Sherbourne and Wasperton. The letter was not seen by the addressee but he did respond to a reminder from the present Clerk. For technical reasons the text was unavailable to table at the meeting but it is reproduced here:

“Dear James

I have now read the Council's letter which I have no record of previously having received and in the interests of expediency will respond as follows:

Dear Councillors

Thank you for your letter of 21st July ref your CBO, Scott Caswell. I am pleased that you are impressed by his pro-active work and I assure you that I too am impressed by his enthusiasm, commitment and tenacity.

Scott is dedicated to the villages of Barford, Bishops Tachbrook, Sherbourne and Wasperton and these will always be his main focus. He does of course have Rest Days each month and occasional training days. Like all Community Beat Officers, he is required to work two evenings every fourth week to support our 'Enhanced Policing Initiative' focused on Public Disorder in Town Centres on weekend evenings. Additionally he will on very rare occasions be required to back fill sickness absences on the regular Reactive Shifts or assist in special operations.

As an organisation, Warwickshire Police support and value direct community contact through the CBO format and I can offer my assurance that Scott will not be abstracted from his beat any more than is absolutely necessary.

Yours sincerely

Richard Woodcock.”

Minutes of the Meeting of Council 6th September 2004

157 The minutes were approved as a true record.

Matters Arising

158 Minute 110. Cllr Mulgrue reported that all timetables had been changed with one exception and he was corresponding with Stagecoach to have it changed too.

159 Minute 130. Cllr Metcalfe reported that an Air Ambulance Landing Site had been identified in Wasperton but a precondition of its use was that the Warwickshire Air Ambulance should undertake never to use it except in emergencies and at its own risk.

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council 23rd September 2004

160 The minutes were approved as a true record subject to the correction of one typographical error.

Matters Arising

161 Minute 143.3. It was stated that the run-off from Junction 15 of the M40 motorway did not enter Sherbourne Brook.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee 30th September 2004

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

Reports from Representatives Appointed to Serve on Other Bodies

163 Warwick District Council. Cllrs Wright and Metcalfe reported that, in connection with planning application W04/1201, they had attended a further meeting at Warwick District Council.

Cash Balances as at 18th October 2004

164	It was reported that cash balances stood at:	
a	HSBC Current Account	£ 3,849.63
b	Halifax Savings Account	£29,345.81

Payment of Accounts

165	Council approved the payments of:	
	• Prontaprint - Photocopying August	£87.73
	• Clerk's travel expenses August	£23.03
	• Clerk's postal expenses August	£39.80
	• MFM Services – Mowing August	£165.00
	• George Worrall Ltd – skateboard area works	£76.38
	• T Offiler – Telephone expenses July	£17.71
	• Central Networks – disconnection bus shelter	£211.50
166	Council took note of the following contractual or statutory payments which have been made since the last meeting:	
	• Inland Revenue - PAYE July	£ 57.42
	• Inland Revenue – PAYE August	£135.79

Planning Appeal Notification Glebe Hotel W20040408LB

167 Council resolved not to modify or withdraw the comments it had already made in this planning matter but to reinforce its objections to the proposal.

Planning Application Decision Making Process

168 There was a consensus that the new limitations on site meetings constituted a substantial defect because they denied the inspectors the opportunity to gather all the available information germane to the application. Without this input of local knowledge the whole planning process would prove deficient and the subsequent decisions would be based on inadequate intelligence. Members urged that this decision be reconsidered and revoked.

Street Lighting in Barford

169	Council took note of the following dates for the start of work on street lights:	
	• Wellesbourne Road	18 th October
	• Wasperton Lane	26 th October

Byelaws in Barford

170 The PCC and Diocese have agreed to byelaws on their areas of land and the final legal position is awaited from ODPM. Council took note.

Enmainment of Sherbourne Brook

- 171 Members reaction to the response from the Environment Agency (EA) was sharply divided. One faction argued that notwithstanding the assertion at the special meeting of Council that Snitterfield had no history of flooding, it had in fact had significant floods in the recent past, and that Council should no longer seek to impede the EA in the performance of its statutory duty but withdraw its objection to the enmainment.
- 172 The contrary view was expressed by the opposing faction which argued that the EA submission was woefully imprecise and raised more questions than it answered and that until these were resolved the objection should stand.
- 173 Put to the vote, those wishing to maintain the objections won by six to four
- 174 The EA was to be apprised of the situation.

Land Around Barford House Wellesbourne Road

- 175 Arrangements have been made for a special meeting of Council on 25th October 2004 for members of the Council and public to receive a briefing from the developer on the proposal.

Any Other Business

- 176 Noise Mitigation Works on the A46 near Sherbourne. Council took note that Amey Mouchel (the Managing Agent Contractor for the Highways agency) will start these works in March 2005.
- 177 Photographs of Members. It was agreed that arrangements should be made to photograph all members of the Council for inclusion in the JPC section of the Barford community website. Cllr Worrall offered to assist with digital photography.
- 178 Gullies in High Street Barford. Comment was made on the satisfactory quality of repair although some lengths of gully still needed attention.
- 179 Pothole in Surface of Barford Bridge. This was reported for onward transmission to Severn Trent for action.
- 180 Use of Sherbourne Fruit Farm. Members continued to express concern that despite planning permission (W20040400) for a change of use to a coach distribution centre having been refused, it was abundantly clear that the decision was being ignored. Previous enquiries to the Appeals and Enforcement department of Warwick District Council had elicited only holding replies. Now Sherbourne members demanded sight of the enforcement notice.

Date of Next Meeting

- 181 The next ordinary meeting of Council is on Monday 15th November 2004 at 7:30 pm in Wasperton Village Hall.