

BARFORD SHERBOURNE & WASPERTON JOINT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Parish Council held at Wasperton Village Hall
on Mon 10 Nov 14

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| Present: | Cllr J V Murphy (Chairman) Cllr: Mrs W Barlow, R Clay, H Gadsden, Mrs A Gordon, J M Hawkesford, Mrs J L Longfield, T Merrygold, M J Metcalfe, Mrs R Newsome, A B Rhead, N F J Thurley, J T Wright |
| In Attendance: | Cllr: L Caborn (WCC) |

Opening

152 The meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

153 No apologies for absence had been received.

154 No members of the public were present.

Declarations of Disclosable Interests

155 None was declared.

Appointment of Co-opted Member for Barford

156 The Chairman reported that no certain progress had been made but that he was optimistic that one person had shown interest and he hoped this might result in a volunteer for cooption.

Public Participation

157 None.

WDC - New working arrangements for villages

158 The Chairman explained it had been hoped that Mr Martyn Stacey (WDC Contracts Officer) would attend the meeting to discuss possible new working arrangements for villages, but that family illness had prevented his attending. The Chairman, who had met him earlier, described the ways in which Mr Stacey's department would use its spare time to offer various maintenance services to villages. The offer was unconditional and free and it was to be hoped that the JPC could make good use of it.

Minutes of the Meeting of Council 13 Oct 14

159 The minutes were approved as a true record.

Matters arising

160 Minute 130. Cllr Metcalfe reported that he had obtained a decision from WDC on assets of community value in Wasperton; the allotments would be added to the list but the paddock would not because it was agricultural land in private ownership. Cllr Mrs Barlow had been unable to elicit a response on behalf of Sherbourne but she would continue her efforts and report any success directly to Cllr Mrs Gordon.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee 13 Oct 14

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

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee 27 Oct 14

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

Cash Book Balances as at 31 Oct 14

163 The JPC took note of the following cash balances

- HSBC £24,690.40
- Santander £57,844.04

Receipts and Payments

164 The JPC endorsed the following:

| Date | Payee/er | Category | Total |
|-----------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| 2 Oct 14 | W Barlow | Barford Neighbourhood Plan | (30.00) |
| 3 Oct 14 | Western Power Distribution | Wayleave | 4.75 |
| 6 Oct 14 | Kirkwells | Barford Neighbourhood Plan | (4,296.00) |
| 7 Oct 14 | Administration | Travel Expenses | (31.01) |
| 7 Oct 14 | MFM Services | Mowing Charges | (436.00) |
| 9 Oct 14 | W Barlow | Barford Neighbourhood Plan | (8.10) |
| 9 Oct 14 | R Mulgrue | Barford Neighbourhood Plan | (10.08) |
| 9 Oct 14 | Regent Lazerprint | Barford Neighbourhood Plan | (1,767.60) |
| 10 Oct 14 | HMRC | Employment Expenses | (588.03) |
| 11 Oct 14 | Toby Jones Ltd | Barford Neighbourhood Plan | (300.00) |
| 11 Oct 14 | HSBC | Bank Charges | (40.00) |
| 13 Oct 14 | Amazon.co.uk | Printing and Stationery | (46.80) |
| 15 Oct 14 | Verseatale | Barford Neighbourhood Plan | (150.00) |
| 16 Oct 14 | WDC | Grants: BLIS | 3,000.00 |
| 30 Oct 14 | Salaries | Employment Expenses | (758.04) |
| 30 Oct 14 | Administration | Office Accommodation | (58.03) |

Barford War Memorial

165 The agreement in principle having been reached at the last meeting of the JPC that Harry Conlon's name should be added to the Barford War Memorial subject to approval of the costs, the Clerk explained that the best quote was £4 per letter (£44) and £10 for overheads giving a total of £54 net of VAT. This was accepted by members.

Barford Leisure Improvement Scheme

166 The briefing paper distributed with the agenda for the meeting was considered in considerable detail by members giving rise to searching questions. The major points of note were:

- Drainage continues to be a concern (see Minute 140.2 of the last meeting), and whilst the identification and rectification of drainage problems outside the site are the responsibility of other agencies, it is evident that the JPC has been remiss in failing adequately to maintain watercourses within it and remedial works, at significant cost, are required.
- Notwithstanding the benefit of external funding the JPC will need to be seen to have put its shoulder to the financial wheel by providing funding from its own resources. To that end the Chairman suggested an entry in the draft budget for 2015-16 of £10k to £15k would be justified.
- Cllr Rhead thought that with a price tag of some £100k this project might be subject to EU procurement rules and undertook to find out.
- Cllr Hawkesford said that he encountered nothing but support for the scheme from residents and urged the JPC not to delay or diminish the project.
- Cllr Clay said that he is a member of the Working Party and plays a small part but this gives him first-hand knowledge of the other members and he is greatly impressed by the expertise, enthusiasm and hard work. He assured members that any proposal from them would be well researched and be competitive on price and quality.

167 The JPC authorized the Working Party to:

- Select Miracle Design & Play as "preferred supplier" of the play area installation and its associated surfacing, fencing and gates.
- Finalise details of the play scheme.
- Agree "Terms of Contract" for the scheme.
- Place the contract once adequate funding is secured to cover these elements of the scheme.
- Continue with research into and preliminary works on other elements of the overall scheme.

WDC New Local Plan

168 The Chairman stated the future of the Draft Local Plan depended upon the inclusion of allocations of land for Gypsy & Traveller Sites (see below) because without that matter being resolved to the satisfaction of the Inspector the Plan would be rejected leaving the district open to further unwanted development proposals exploiting the lack of a current plan and lack of a 5yr land supply.

Gypsy & Traveller Sites

169 The latest consultation closes on 12 Dec 14. It was necessitated by the inclusion of a site on the Stratford road which had not been included in the prior consultation. If as a result of this consultation the Stratford Road site is not approved then a wider hunt will be re-started with sites across the district, including, in and near Barford, once again under consideration

Barford Neighbourhood Development Plan

170 The consultation on the draft Plan closes on 17 Nov 14.

171 So far there have been seventeen comments.

Meeting Dates 2015-16

172 The JPC took note of the schedule below:

| Date | Event | Location |
|---------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Mon 13 Apr 15 | Annual Parish Meeting | Barford |
| Mon 20 Apr 15 | Annual Parish Meeting | Sherbourne |
| Mon 27 Apr 15 | Annual Parish Meeting | Wasperton |
| Mon 11 May 15 | JPC Annual Meeting | Barford |
| Mon 8 Jun 15 | JPC | Sherbourne |
| Mon 13 Jul 15 | JPC | Wasperton |
| Mon 7 Sep 15 | JPC | Barford |
| Mon 12 Oct 15 | JPC | Sherbourne |
| Mon 9 Nov 15 | JPC | Wasperton |
| Mon 11 Jan 16 | JPC | Barford |
| Mon 8 Feb 16 | JPC | Sherbourne |
| Mon 14 Mar 16 | JPC | Wasperton |

Any Other Business

173 Cllr Wright:

- Footpath W101 has been subject to a temporary closure because of damage to the decking and support timbers of a pedestrian bridge over a stream.
- It is likely to remain closed for a period of six months.
- Cllr Caborn said that the repair had been given priority in the maintenance schedules.

174 Cllr Mrs Gordon:

- She was dismayed by the inadequate consultation process for the revised Code of Conduct.
- She urged that WDC extend the closure date beyond 17 Nov 14 to allow the JPC to form a working party to deliberate on the proposals. *(Afternote: WDC refused the extension and therefore any working party would have inadequate time to contribute. On further checking it was found that the papers had been received by the Clerk and had been circulated to all members hence we could have little justifiable call on an extension to the consultation period. Members wishing to make comment were therefore urged to do so individually to meet the deadline.)*

175 Cllr Mrs Gordon:

- She was disturbed to learn that funding for "Live & Local" was to be withdrawn; it had been a boon to Sherbourne.

- Cllr Caborn said that the matter was subject to consultation and there was no certainty the funding would be withdrawn.

176 Cllr Clay:

- He lamented the lack of progress on improving broadband speeds in the area.
- Others complained about the mobile telephone coverage.
- Whilst members felt confused and powerless by the situation they were marginally cheered to hear that some improvements were already in train and the end results may be better than initially promised due to some modest extra funding availability via WCC.

Closure

177 There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:42pm.

Date of Next Meeting

178 The next meeting of the JPC is on Monday 12 Jan 15 at 7:30 pm in Barford Memorial Hall.