

# BARFORD SHERBOURNE & WASPERTON JOINT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the special meeting of the Joint Parish Council held at Wasperton Village Hall  
on Tue 15 Aug 17

<b>Present:</b>	Cllr T Merrygold, (Chairman) Cllr: R Clay, J M Hawkesford, M J Metcalfe, J V Murphy, A B Rhead, Mrs K E Thomson, N F J Thurley, J T Wright
<b>Apologies:</b>	Cllr: Mrs W Barlow, Mrs A Gordon, S Morgan, Mrs R Newsome,

## Opening

- 89 The meeting opened at 7:30 pm
- 90 No members of the public were present.

## Declarations of Disclosable Interests

- 91 None was declared.

## Public Participation

- 92 There was none.

## Special Business - Use of King George's Field beyond "dawn till dusk":

### 93 BACKGROUND

- 93.1 When the Barford Byelaws were introduced, the formal use of Barford Playing Fields was minimal and the JPC elected to set "opening times" as dawn-till-dusk" or 10pm where dusk was later. Since the renovation of KGF, in the late autumn and winter months the early dusk effectively renders the KGF facilities redundant for much of the day. The success of the KGF project has produced several very active groups and teams which are keen to meet and train through the winter months but the early dusk is so constraining that the groups are in danger of collapsing or having to relocate to lit facilities, at considerable expense. Barford Sports Club (BSC, a committee of JPC) is keen to support these groups and has acquired battery powered "training lamps" for use of the netball group which, to date, has relocated to the Barford School for winter sessions. These lamps are adequate for various training purposes and would also be suitable for use on KGF itself. The lamps are less than 3m high with low power, and should not be confused with permanently installed, high-powered flood lighting as seen at many sports grounds. It is envisaged that such use would be mostly late afternoon and early evening and in no case later than 21.00hrs. The lights would not be available to casual users and would be kept locked in the KGF storage building. Immediate neighbours have been circulated with details of our proposals.
- 93.2 The Byelaws are a generic format and do not state specific times but simply refer to an "Opening Times notice" to be sited near the entrance to the facility. As such no change to the byelaws is needed and it is simply necessary to adjust the "opening times"
- 93.3 Letters had been delivered to the four dwellings adjoining KGF, to seven other houses in Church Lane and to the one in Dugard Place, closest to the MUGA. In response, there was one letter and two verbal indications of support. There were no responses opposing the proposal, although concern had been raised about further development of the lighting concept and the impact of such use on Church Lane.
- 93.4 The groups currently desirous of extended facilities included football, netball, tennis and keep kit all of which were currently operational within the Byelaws limitations and all of which understood the requirements to minimize impact on nearby residents, in particular by avoiding parking in Church Lane, and indeed arrangements were already in place for some to use the school for parking.

### 94 DECISION

- 94.1 After wide-ranging discussion it was resolved to permit use beyond dusk subject to the following conditions:

- All such use to be approved and authorized by BSC/JPC

- All such use to be by organized teams/clubs/groups
- All such use to be for training/fitness purposes only, that is no “matches”.
- No such use permissible beyond 21.00hrs
- Lighting to be of a portable/temporary style, limited to 3.5m maximum height

95 ADDITIONALLY

95.1 It was clear that the JPC did not see this facility as the start of a more general intensification of “out of hours use” and specifically did not see it leading to “permanent floodlight style” lighting installations, noting that any such consideration would require full consultation and a full Planning Application process.

95.2 In order to make matters clear to the general public, the “Opening Times Notice” referred to in the Barford Byelaws would be modified by the addition of the words “except by specific advance arrangement with Barford Sports Club/Joint Parish Council” (Example at Annex A)

**Closure**

96 There being no further business the meeting closed at 7:46pm.

**Date of Next Meeting**

97 The next ordinary meeting of the JPC is on Mon 4 Sep 17 at 7:30 pm in Barford Memorial Hall.

# King George's Field **OPENING TIMES**

**As fixed under Barford Local  
ByeLaws**

**OPEN: Dawn until  
Dusk**

**(“Civil Dusk” or 10.00pm  
whichever is earlier)**

*NB: Civil Dusk is officially 30 minutes after sunset*  
**STRICTLY NO ACCESS OR ACTIVITIES  
ON THIS FIELD OUTSIDE OPEN HOURS**  
*except by specific advance arrangement with Barford  
Sports Club/Joint Parish Council*

By Order of the Joint Parish Council:



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James Johnson, Clerk