

BARFORD SHERBOURNE & WASPERTON JOINT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Joint Parish Council
held at Wasperton Village Hall
on Mon 9 Mar 20

Present:	Cllr T Merrygold, (Chairman) Cllr: Mrs W Barlow, R Clay, H Gadsden, Mrs K E Thomson, J M Hawkesford, Mrs D E Haynes, Mrs V Hunt, G Jackson, M J Metcalfe, M J Sheard, N F J Thurley, J T Wright
Apologies:	Cllr: Mrs L M Jones, J V Murphy,
In Attendance:	Cllr: G Illingworth (WDC), A Rhead (WDC), J Matecki (WDC), L Caborn (WCC)

Opening

154 The meeting opened at 7:30 pm

155 The Chairman welcomed Councillor George Illingworth TD, Chairman Warwick District Council to the meeting

156 Four members of the public were present.

157 The "Protocol for the Reporting at Meetings of the Council or Committees" was taken as read by members of the JPC and drawn to the attention of the public attending this meeting by means of printed leaflets.

Declarations of Disclosable Interests

158 None was declared.

Public Participation

159 A representative of the Sand and Gravel Action Group gave a situation report which included the fact that it had reached the target needed for funds to cover expert advice at the public enquiry.

Minutes of the Meeting of Council on 10 Feb 20

160 The minutes were approved as a true record.

Matters Arising

161 Minute 147. Barford Bypass Northern Junction.

- Cllr Rhead considered the design to be unsafe.
- Cllr Mrs Newsome had been told by the drivers that vehicles with trailers would find the turn difficult.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee on 10 Feb 20

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

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee on 24 Feb 20

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

Cash Book Balances as at 29 Feb 20

164 The JPC took note of the following cash balances

HSBC(1)	£39,207.54
HSBC(2)	£20,148.85
Santander	£52,093.65

Receipts and Payments

165 The JPC endorsed the following:

Date	Payee	Category	Total
1 Feb 20	Bank Interest	Bank Interest	26.47
3 Feb 20	J R Turpin	Bus Shelters Maintenance	(55.00)
4 Feb 20	Hiscox	Insurance Claim	8,498.00
10 Feb 20	HMRC	Employment Expenses	(660.00)
11 Feb 20	HMRC	VAT	902.01
19 Feb 20	Viking	Printing and Stationery	(54.55)
23 Feb 20	E.on	Open Spaces Maintenance	(179.06)
25 Feb 20	Leslie C Wright	Bus Shelters Reinstatement	(3,448.00)
25 Feb 20	Allotment Tenants	Allotments Rents	173.81
25 Feb 20	Administration	Office Accommodation	(64.93)
25 Feb 20	Salaries	Employment Expenses	(845.00)
27 Feb 20	BYCC	Allotments Water Charges	(120.67)

Barford Youth and Community Centre

166 Cllr Mrs Barlow gave a progress report. Members took note. There were no matters arising.

Sand and Gravel Action Group (SAGAG)

167 SAGAG's fundraising has secured sufficient income to cover all anticipated outgoings without appealing to the JPC for help.

168 Cllr Merrygold agreed to speak at the hearings on 3-4 Jun 20.

Pedestrian Crossing, Wellesbourne Road, Barford

169 Cllr Caborn reiterated that surveys have shown Wellesbourne Road's grading to be only 1% of that required to justify a pedestrian crossing, without which WCC will not allow an installation, however funded.

170 At Cllr Rhead's suggestion; the Chairman will write to WCC accepting the inevitable whilst making it plain that the JPC remains strongly in favour of a pedestrian crossing, without which there is the potential of a future fatality on that stretch of road. [The text of letter is at Annex A]

Social Media

171 The JPC discussed the best methods of increasing engagement with local residents. It already publishes meeting dates and minutes on the Barford.org website but does not have a Facebook page and currently has no plans for such a page. Where items that may involve the JPC are posted on the Barford Community Facebook Page the Moderator already suggests the person concerned contacts the JPC directly. It was agreed to publish a list of Councillors and contact details in Village Voices followed by a series of short bios on the councillors. There was some support for the idea of holding "surgeries" and it was agreed that the Chairman would include this idea in his report to the Annual Parish Meetings to gauge the need.

Closure

172 There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9:28pm.

Date of Next Meeting

173 The next meeting of the JPC is the Annual Meeting on Mon 4 May 20 at 7:30 pm in Barford Memorial Hall.

Philippa Young
Strategy and Commissioning Manager,
Warwickshire County Council
Shire Hall, Market Place
Warwick
CV34 4RL

Re: Requirement for Pedestrian Crossing in Barford

Dear Philippa,

I am aware that you have been in discussion with Cllr Caborn about the JPC's request to install a pedestrian crossing in Barford to replace the light-controlled crossing which has now come to the 'end of its life' and is in the process of being removed. He reported the latest position back to our last JPC meeting.

I am sure you know the background but as a brief reminder - prior to the construction of the Barford Bypass, traffic now using it used to pass through Barford along the Wellesbourne Road. In the interests of safety, one light-controlled pedestrian crossing was installed in the village. With the traffic volume reduced by the bypass, that crossing no longer meets the criteria justifying its existence and WCC have decided to remove it, which will leave no pedestrian crossing over Wellesbourne Road.

The years since the bypass opened have seen a prodigious growth in the number of new houses built in Barford and a concomitant increase in the number of residents (many with children) and motor vehicles necessarily in Barford.

It so happens that the new housing developments are all on the west side of Wellesbourne Road but the facilities (community shop, school, King George's Field playground and sports-field, and church), to which the residents require access, are **all** on the other side; so the road safety problem has returned.

In addition to this, the huge increase in houses built in Wellesbourne and the increased workplaces south of Leamington, particularly around Warwick Technology Park and Heathcote Industrial Estate have generated additional traffic along Wellesbourne Road as people drive through Barford on their commute to/from work.

Cllr Caborn has been tireless in attempting to respond to the village's request for at least one crossing to be retained or a new one installed south of the mini- roundabout, nearer the new housing, but to no avail. According to the criteria used, the PV2 number generated does not justify the installation of a replacement crossing. The JPC fully understand that WCC have limited funds and cannot meet all residents' requirements and have indicated that we regard a crossing as so important that we are willing to make a contribution to the cost. In addition to this the Barford Community Charity has indicated that they would be willing to make a contribution. At this stage we cannot commit to cover the costs completely as we have been given no indication of the total cost.

While the JPC understands that WCC needs to follow a formulaic approach to assessing such requirements we are under quite justified pressure from residents, both elderly and parents of young children, to install a crossing for their safety. I don't want to be the local councillor that has to explain to a resident, or relative of a resident, injured on Wellesbourne Road, that we didn't have a crossing due to either a rigid formula or a lack of funds.

Is there any way in which the formula for assessing the needs can be flexed somewhat if between us we can reach a position that minimises the cost to WCC?