

BARTON BENDISH PARISH COUNCIL

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th July 2019 commencing at 7.30pm in Barton Bendish Village Hall

Present:

Cllr W Chapman	Chairman
Cllr AV McAlister	Vice-Chairman
Cllr R Simon	
Cllr P Swallow	
Cllr A Wells	
Miss S J Thorpe	Parish Clerk
Cllr C Sampson (Borough Councillor)	
2 members of the public	

Cllr Sampson had asked before the start of the meeting if any matters affecting him could be dealt with as soon as possible as he had to leave early to attend another meeting. The Chairman had agreed that item 8d could be brought forward, as this was the only item which directly affected him.

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr J Richardson and Cllr P Stow.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Chapman and Simon declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 8a. Cllr Wells declared a pecuniary interest in item 10a.

8d. Complaints of dog fouling

Cllr McAlister had asked for this item to be placed on the agenda as she had received complaints that this was an issue in part of the village. Cllr Sampson advised that, further to information provided by him at the last meeting, he was now able to confirm that a new position for a Dog Warden was to be created by the Borough Council (BC). This person would need to cover the whole BC area but at least it was a start; the position should be ratified within a month.

Cllr McAlister arrived at this point giving her apologies for being late.

Cllr Sampson confirmed that PCs would be informed when the position was filled. The BC was aware of some issues surrounding dog waste bins, relating to the cost of the bins and emptying them, this would be a matter for the Warden to investigate. The Warden would be contracted to work flexible hours and a poster should be produced so that PCs could advise residents of the situation.

On a separate matter Cllr Sampson advised that "Alive Leisure" was being renamed to "Alive West Norfolk" as it was now to be brought "in house" by the BC due to changes in legislation meaning that BC were able to take advantage of the same status as a charity for this service.

Cllr Sampson left the meeting at this point.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual Meeting on 8th May 2019, having been circulated to all prior to the meeting, were agreed as correct and signed following a proposal from Cllr Simon, and seconded by Cllr McAlister.

4. Matters arising

- a. Proposal for a housing development in Beachamwell (3PL/2019/0345/O) – The Clerk advised that she had contacted Breckland DC to inform them the PC objected to any additional development in Beachamwell, if the sewerage was to be connected to the main sewerage system, as this was pumped to Barton Bendish and the system was

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already overloaded. Breckland DC had advised the application had been referred to their Planning Committee for decision, but the Planning Officer was recommending it for refusal. Cllr McAlister advised that she believed the application had been refused by the committee.

- b. Registration submitted to Norfolk County Council (NCC) for the formal restitution of Green Drove as a Restricted Byway – NCC had advised the application had been rejected as the drove was already a restricted byway. The applicant had been advised to contact the relevant highways maintenance team regarding the obstruction. The matter to be considered further by the PC if contact was received from the maintenance team.

5. Reports

- a. Village Hall Trustees Report: Mrs Mason, the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, read out her report. A copy of the report will be attached to these minutes.

6. Highways issues

The Highways Engineer, Andy Wallace, had responded to the issues discussed during his meeting with Cllr Richardson and Cllr Simon. He had advised the following:

- Hatherley Gardens – damaged kerbing to be repaired. It was reported that this had been repaired but that further damage had occurred since the repair.
- Church Road & Hatherley Gardens – 30mph signs could be removed if the PC felt they were not necessary. Mr Wallace had advised this could be done.
- Boughton Long Road – damage to trod to be repaired; wooden posts to be installed to prevent further damage; road to be widened; and further “slow” signs installed on road surface. Mr Wallace had advised that this work had been ordered and handed to the contractor for completion and should be done shortly except for the lines which have a longer period for completion. It was confirmed that the wooden posts had been installed.

Cllr Richardson had advised that the workmen erecting the posts had told him to inform the PC that it would be beneficial for another post to be erected to protect the kerb and drain. Cllr Wells had received a complaint from a resident that the posts were causing a problem for larger vehicles when they were turning the corner, and the Clerk advised that she had received an email from a resident expressing concerns that large vehicles were unable to pass on the corner. The resident had witnessed these vehicles backing around the blind bend to enable the other to vehicle to pass; they were concerned that a serious accident could occur. The Clerk advised that the advice from Highways would be that vehicles should drive to the conditions of the road and that large vehicles, who could not keep to their side of the road when driving around the corner, should be approaching the corner with caution, in case of oncoming vehicles. The issue was discussed, it was agreed that the primary reason for installing the trod, and getting the wooden posts installed was to protect the safety of pedestrians using the road, including school children walking to catch the school bus. If the posts were removed this would leave pedestrians vulnerable if vehicles drove across the trod, as had happened in the past. It was agreed that the best option was to ask for the other side of the road to be widened, which had been agreed by the Highways Engineer and then see if this helped to solve the problem; no additional post to be requested at the moment.

- Boughton Long Road – extension of 30mph speed limit. Mr Wallace had advised that a 30mph speed limit was not appropriate for this road but a 40mph could be, however funding was difficult to obtain, but he would try. Mr Wallace confirmed this was the situation.
- Beachamwell Road – Mr Wallace agreed to look at possibility of installing passing places and repair infill on sides of the road where there were pot holes. Mr Wallace had inspected the unofficial passing places and felt they were in reasonable order but they would continue to monitor on their regular inspections.
- White Road – Mr Wallace had agreed to repair the pot holes and this had been done.

New issues to be reported and old issues to be followed up:

- Eastmoor Road through Eastmoor – overhanging trees not cut back by farmer.

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7. Finance

a. Payments for authorisation: the following payments were due by cheque:

Miss S Thorpe	arrears/expenses June/July	£217.74
HMRC	Additional PAYE for July	£43.00
NPT&S	Councillor induction training	£55.00
Payments made by standing order/direct debit:		
HMRC	PAYE for May	£38.80
Miss S Thorpe	June salary	£155.66
HMRC	PAYE for June	£38.80
Miss S Thorpe	July salary	<u>£155.66</u>
		£704.66

It was agreed to authorise the cheque payments and the standing orders/direct debits, proposed by Cllr Simon, seconded by Cllr Chapman.

b. Cash Book reconciliation: The Cash Book had been reconciled to 30th June 2019 and the balance of the bank account was £8661.22 which was confirmed by sight of the bank statement to the Chairman. There were no unpresented cheques therefore this agreed to the balance in the Cash Book.

8. Parish Affairs

- a. Village Hall matters – Cllr Simon advised that the AGM had taken place in June and that all the officers had kept the same posts. The open gardens event had been a great success and broke records for attendance. The yard sale and car boot had raised £355 and thanks was expressed to Albanwise for the use of one of their fields for the event. The Arts & Craft Exhibition is planned for September.
- b. Attendance at the RAF Marham Friends and Family Day – The PC had been invited to nominate 10 residents to attend the event. Cllr McAlister had produced a list of nominees. It appeared that this was going to be an annual event now so Cllr McAlister suggested that if anyone was interested in attending in future, they should let her know.
- c. Re-consultation on the Breckland Local Plan & Policies Map - The PC had been re-consulted on the Local Plan. It was agreed that no comments would be submitted.
- d. This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting.
- e. Condition of Eastmoor telephone box – Cllr McAlister had received a complaint about the condition of the telephone box. The Clerk had received an email from a local heritage group called the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. They had advised that they would be interested in carrying out work on the telephone box and the surrounding area, which included the PC notice board, the Royal Mail post box and the small barn which incorporated the post box. They had suggested that they could draw up a schedule of works, which could be approved by the PC and other owners. The work would be carried out by qualified conservators and fully supervised volunteers free of charge. The society would be insured to carry out the work. A discussion took place on the offer, the telephone box and notice board belonged to the PC, but the small barn was privately owned and the post box was the property of Royal Mail. It was felt that the post box was in a good condition so would not need any work. Following a proposal by Cllr Chapman, seconded by Cllr Wells, it was agreed by all that the society should be advised that the PC was interested in them carrying out the project subject to a schedule of work being submitted to the PC for approval before any work was carried out. The society to be informed that they would also need the permission of the owner of the small barn and also asked if there would be the possibility of any local volunteers being involved in the project if they were interested.

9. Correspondence

The Clerk updated the Council with items of correspondence which had been received:

- Information from NCC on the Parish Partnership Scheme for 2020/21 – to be added to the agenda for the September PC meeting.
- Update on Norwich Western Link consultation.
- Clerks and Councils Direct Newsletter

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10. Planning

- a. Applications received since last meeting –
 - i. **19/00432/F Construction of new dwelling for essential rural worker (gamekeeper) at land at Hall Farm, Boughton Long Road.** The application had been received since the last meeting and members had the opportunity to consider the details of the application. Cllr Richardson and Cllr Wells had declared an interest and not taken part in the decision. Other members who had responded had agreed to SUPPORT the application.
- b. Decisions received from the Borough Council – none.

11. Public questions and comments

- a. A resident advised that the notice board which contained the footpath map was obscured by the plastic which had become damaged. It was agreed that this should be examined, and repairs carried out.
- b. An email had been received from the local branch of the Ramblers regarding the accuracy of a locally published book regarding walks in Norfolk. A member of the public had tried to follow the map provided in the book for a walk in the village and felt that the map was incorrect. It was agreed that Albanwise should be contacted about this to check on the accuracy of the publication so that a reply could be sent.
- c. The key to Eastmoor notice board which was held by Cllr Chapman was to be passed to Cllr Stow.
- d. It was reported that many of the road signs on the A1122 were obscured by overgrown vegetation and this was to be reported to Highways for action by the Rangers.
- e. Item to be added to the next agenda regarding pruning of the Lime tree near the telephone box on Church Road.

12. Date of next meeting

It was confirmed that the date of the next meeting would be Monday 23rd September.

The Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 8.35pm