

BARTON BENDISH PARISH COUNCIL

**Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th March 2020
commencing at 7.31pm in Barton Bendish Village Hall**

Present:

Cllr W Chapman Chairman
Cllr J Richardson
Cllr R Simon
Cllr P Stow
Cllr P Swallow
Cllr A Wells

Miss S J Thorpe Parish Clerk

Cllr C Sampson (Borough Councillor)

8 members of the public

1. Apologies

None.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Chapman and Simon declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 9a and Cllr Wells declared a pecuniary interest in item 11a(i).

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on 23rd January, having been circulated to all prior to the meeting, were agreed as correct and signed following a proposal from Cllr Richardson, and seconded by Cllr Swallow.

4. Matters arising

None.

5. Response from Albanwise regarding complaint about noise pollution

The Farm Manager had attended the meeting to provide a response to the letter sent from the PC after the last meeting, in relation to noise emitted by the corn drier at Hill Farm. He advised that Albanwise always try to limit the impact for residents and that the corn is stored at two sites. He advised that the previous Farm Manager did not always ensure the drier was switched off overnight, and in fact had installed louder fans which he believed were the main problem. Trees had been planted to help reduce the sound and bales were also to be installed to further help reduce the noise of the fans. The level of noise emitted was to be tested next week to ensure it did not exceed guidelines. Unfortunately, sometimes there was no other option than to have the drier running at night, due to the cooler temperatures, or during early morning or late evenings. In December it had been necessary to have it running for 3 days due to the weather conditions. The use of the drier was dependant on the weather, in 2018 there was less need but 2019 had required more drying. Albanwise would continue to monitor the situation but believed that it was the cooling fans which were the main problem and bales would be placed around the noisiest fans. It was suggested that residents or the Parish Council contact them again if we have any further issues.

6. Internal Affairs

- a. Co-option to fill casual vacancy for Parish Councillor: Ms Debbie Wells and Dr Tim Webster had expressed an interest in the vacancy. Both candidates were given the opportunity to briefly speak about themselves. A vote took place and Ms Wells received the most votes, so she was co-opted onto the PC; the Chairman invited her to join the other Councillors and the declaration of acceptance of office was signed.
- b. Appointment of Vice-Chair for the Parish Council: Cllr Swallow was proposed by Cllr Richardson and seconded by Cllr Stow. No further proposals were made. A vote took

Chairman's signature.....Date.....

place, and all were in favour of the proposal. Cllr Swallow advised that he was willing to accept the role and signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

- c. Appointment of Internal Auditor for 2019/20: Mrs Christine Hurley from Fincham had advised that she was willing to continue in the role for the current year. Following a proposal by Cllr Chapman, seconded by Cllr Richardson, it was agreed by all to appoint Mrs Hurley as the Internal Auditor for 2019/20.

7. Highways issues

The Clerk advised that Highways had responded regarding the request for additional posts around the corner of the trod on Boughton Long Road. They had advised that 3 additional posts would be installed in April/May when the resurfacing was carried out.

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

- Boughton Long Road (opposite Hill Farm) – side of road broken up.
- Beachamwell Road/Boughton Long Road/Fincham Road – grips to be reinstated.
- Eastmoor Road/Stoke Road – overhanging trees/hedges still not trimmed. To be referred to Highways and Cllr Long copied into correspondence.
- Eastmoor Road – side of road broken up.
- Boughton Long Road – slopes towards left and dip in road.

8. Finance

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

Miss S Thorpe	Clerks expenses/admin	£51.45
SLCC Enterprises Ltd	Practitioners conference	£88.00
Earth Anchors Ltd	Purchase of notice board	£344.40
Starboard Systems Ltd	Software licence	£116.10
Mr J P Webb	Tree pruning	£180.00
BB Village Hall	Hire of hall	£40.00
Payments made by standing order/direct debit:		
ICO	Data protection fee	£35.00
HMRC	PAYE for January	£44.80
Miss S Thorpe	February salary	£178.58
HMRC	PAYE for February	£44.80
Miss S Thorpe	March salary	<u>£178.58</u>
		£1301.71

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

- b. Cash Book reconciliation: The Cash Book had been reconciled to 29th February 2020 and the balance of the bank account was £5887.47, which was confirmed by sight of the bank statement to the Chairman. There were no unrepresented cheques therefore this agreed to the balance in the Cash Book.

9. Parish Affairs

- a. Village Hall matters – Cllr Simon expressed thanks to Mr & Mrs Mason for all the help they had given to the Village Hall over many years. Dr Webster had taken over as Chairman of the trustees until the AGM. The contracts with the builders had been signed for the refurbishments and work would be commencing on 23rd March. The site would be fenced off with no public access. A public information evening was scheduled for Friday 20th March. There had been over 50 sessions booked at the hall in the last calendar year. Over £250k had been raised for the refurbishment project, which was a great achievement, but they were still accepting donations as there was currently a shortfall of £10k for completion of the entire project. Some minor items and decorating had been removed to help with this and a loan could be taken out but the trustees were hoping to avoid this. Cllr Sampson asked if the BC had been approached for funding and Cllr Simon confirmed that they had provided some funding, Cllr Sampson suggested trying them again to see if further help could be provided. The Chairman advised that he felt the trustees had done very well to raise the funding they had.

An email had been received from the trustees asking the PC to consider making a further donation to help with the shortfall in funding. The email was read out by the Clerk. The matter was discussed with differing views being expressed. It was agreed by a majority, following a proposal by Cllr A Wells, seconded by Cllr Stow, that a donation of £500 should be made to the Village Hall.

- b. Repairs to the map board on Church Road – Cllr Simon advised that the best option to repair the problem was a new piece of Perspex which would cost approximately £20. Following a proposal by Cllr Swallow, seconded by Cllr Chapman, it was agreed by all that Cllr Simon should go ahead with the repairs and reclaim the cost of the Perspex.
- c. Replacement of Eastmoor Notice Board – Cllr Chapman had accepted delivery of the board and he would arrange for installation as soon as possible. The Clerk had contacted the owner of the barn to thank them for allowing the board to be installed on the side of the barn.

10. Correspondence

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

- Email from East Anglia’s Children’s Hospices advising of their service and asking for a donation.
- Information from RAF Marham on a new dental practice which would shortly be opening in Marham.
- Clerks and Councils Direct Newsletter

11. Planning

a. Applications received since last meeting –

- i. **19/01789/F Alterations, conversion and extensions to existing barns to create new wedding events venue with associated parking at Abbey Farm, Chapel Lane.** The PC had been reconsulted as amendments had been submitted which included a new access to the site from Beachamwell Road, which would prevent traffic using Chapel Lane to access the site, and a rolled metal roof instead of a thatched roof. The application was discussed, and various views were expressed. It was agreed that the PC would respond to SUPPORT the application as long as appropriate conditions were placed on any approval, to mitigate residents’ concerns about noise levels and hours of operation.

Cllr A Wells remained in the room for the above item but did not take part in the discussion or decision.

- ii. **3PL/2020/0205/O Outline planning permission for 5 dwellings with all matters reserved except access at site to the rear of 1-10 The Street, Beachamwell.** The application was discussed, and it was agreed that the PC would OBJECT to the application due to concerns over capacity of physical infrastructure in relation to the already overloaded sewerage system.
- iii. **3PL/2020/0154/F Conversion and enlargement of the existing barn structure to form a new residential dwelling with new access, formation of rubble spits and extension of the Oxborough Lakes Management Plan to 2036 at Oxborough Lakes House, Oxborough Lakes, Oxborough Road, Oxborough.** The application was discussed, and it was agreed that the PC would OBJECT to the application due to adverse impact on nature conservation interests and biodiversity opportunities and that it was not a sustainable development.

b. Decisions received from the Borough Council – none.

12. Public questions and comments

- a. A resident asked a question about how matters could be raised with the PC. Information was provided from the Clerk and the Chairman.
- b. A query was raised regarding a tree from a property owned by Albanwise which was overhanging a footpath on Chapel Lane. Cllr A Wells advised that as it was from a residence it was up to the tenants to trim rather than Albanwise. Concern was expressed that it could affect the BT cables and the resident was informed that BT would be monitoring the situation.

Chairman’s signature.....Date.....

13. Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting would be 13th May 2020 at 7.30pm for the Annual Parish Council Meeting in Beachamwell Village Hall.

The Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 8.45pm