

# **BARTON BENDISH PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of an Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 commencing at 7.30pm**

This meeting was held virtually in accordance with The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

**Present:**

Cllr W Chapman	Chairman
Cllr P Swallow	Vice-Chairman
Cllr R Simon	
Cllr T Webster	
Cllr A Wells	
Cllr D Wells	
Cllr B Long	County Councillor
Cllr C Sampson	Borough Councillor
Miss S J Thorpe	Parish Clerk

Mr Stephen Tilburn was the only member of the public present.

Cllr Chapman had asked Cllr Swallow to Chair the meeting due to a health issue.

**1. Apologies**

No apologies had been received.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs Chapman, Simon & Webster declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 9a. Cllr Chapman also declared an interest in item 11a(ii) and would not take part in the discussion or decision on this item.

**3. Minutes**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020, having been circulated to all prior to the meeting, were agreed as correct following a proposal from Cllr Chapman, and seconded by Cllr Webster.

**4. Matters arising**

The Clerk advised that she was still looking at getting the old minutes on the website and hoped to get this done but had not yet had time to action this matter.

**5. Public forum**

No matters were raised by residents.

Cllr Long provided an update on the Covid 19 pandemic in Norfolk and the BC area. He asked residents to be vigilant and report any issues of rule breaking so that a Covid Marshall could be sent out to speak to persons involved.

**6. Highways issues**

Outstanding issues to be chased up:

- Eastmoor Road – overhanging trees had still not been cut. Highways had advised that they had provided a plan of hedges which needed to be cut to the landowner. It was reported that the hedges had not yet been cut.

Cllr Swallow asked about who could use the salt in the grit bins and was advised that anyone could spread the salt on the roads/footpaths.

**7. Internal Affairs**

- a. Co-option to fill vacancy for one Parish Councillor – Mr Stephen Tilburn had attended the meeting and was putting himself forward to be co-opted as a Parish Councillor. Following a proposal by Cllr Webster, seconded by Cllr D Wells, it was agreed by all to co-opt Mr Stephen Tilburn onto the Parish Council to fill the vacancy.

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

**8. Finance**

- a. Payments for authorisation: the following payment was due by cheque:

Miss S Thorpe	expenses/admin etc Dec/Jan	£102.16
Payments made by standing order/direct debit:		
HMRC	PAYE for Nov	£44.80
Miss S Thorpe	Dec salary	£183.13
HMRC	PAYE for Dec	£45.80
Miss S Thorpe	Jan salary	<u>£183.13</u>
	Total	£559.02

It was agreed to authorise the cheque payment and the standing orders, proposed by Cllr Swallow seconded by Cllr Simon.

- b. Cash Book reconciliation: The Clerk advised that the Cash Book had been reconciled to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 and the balance of the bank account was £6206.54, which was confirmed by a copy of the bank statement being given to all councillors. There were no unrepresented cheques.
- c. Budget and Precept for 2021/22: The Clerk had circulated a budget to all Councillors. The budget was briefly discussed. The Clerk advised that the budget would balance without the need for the Precept to be increased above the level which would represent a zero percent increase to residents. Following a proposal by Cllr Swallow, seconded by Cllr D Wells, it was agreed by all to set the Precept at £4904 which would be a zero percent increase to residents.

**9. Parish Affairs**

- a. Village Hall matters – Cllr Simon advised that the floor was now in place and that all work was completed apart from some finishing touches. They were still hoping to get a few more grants to provide some extra facilities. The project was still on budget. The additional insulation was proving to be very efficient.
- b. Eastmoor Phone Box – Cllr Chapman was planning to speak to the man from Oxborough before the next PC meeting. Item to be carried forward.
- c. Broadband service in the parish – the Clerk reported that she had received four responses from residents regarding the speed of their broadband service. Cllr D Wells advised that the issue with her own service had finally been resolved. A discussion took place on options to improve broadband speed for more remote parts of the parish. Cllr Webster agreed to look into one option and Clerk to put an item in the next Group 4 News to update residents.
- d. Response to complaint about excessive noise from planes – RAF Marham had provided a response about the excessive noise and low flying over the village before the November PC meeting. The response advised that it was probably the result of flying 4-ship formations on departure. This was the first time that they had flown them in earnest since the new aircraft arrived but unfortunately, this is the type of operations that the aircraft were designed for, which meant that this type of activity was likely to increase in the future with the arrival of further aircraft. However, they would look to see if it was possible to deviate a little further away when they carried this out, but this is extremely difficult due to the proximity/distance of Barton Bendish to the runway. It is possible that these changes may not be immediately apparent when viewed from the ground. They asked for residents to keep a note of exact time, number of aircraft and direction of flight if there were further complaints. Clerk to provide details of response in next issue of Group 4 News.

**10. Correspondence**

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

- Letter from Barton Bendish Parochial Church Council taking the PC for the donation towards the ground maintenance in the churchyard which was especially welcome this year when fund raising had been a particular challenge.
- Clerks and Councils Direct Newsletter.

**11. Planning**

- a. Applications received since last meeting –
  - i. 20/01992/O Outline application for proposed residential development at Land S of Victory Lodge, Eastmoor Road. The application was discussed. Following a proposal by Cllr Webster, seconded by Cllr Simon, the PC agreed to SUPPORT the application.
  - ii. 20/01941/F Two storey extension to existing dwelling at 74 Stoke Ferry Road, Eastmoor. Cllr Chapman had declared an interest so did not taken part in the discussion or decision. The application was discussed. Following a proposal by Cllr Simon, seconded by Cllr Webster, the PC agreed to SUPPORT the application.
- b. Decisions received from the Borough Council – the following had been approved:
  - i. 20/01525/F Single storey side extension at 4 Hall Farm Cottages, Boughton Long Road.

**12. Matters of concern and items for the next agenda**

- Clerk to speak to the Trustees of the Poors Charity regarding the winter fuel payments for 2020.

**13. Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021. This meeting would be taking place virtually. The Annual Parish Meeting, which usually took place before this meeting, would be delayed, and hopefully take place before the PC meeting in May 2021.

The Vice-Chairman advised that Cllr Tilburn would be formally welcomed at the next PC meeting and then declared the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting closed at 8.20pm