

BARTON BENDISH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 14th July 2021 commencing at 7.30pm in Barton Bendish Village Hall

Present:

Cllr W Chapman	Chairman
Cllr P Swallow	Vice-Chairman
Cllr S Tilburn	
Cllr T Webster	
Cllr D Wells	
Miss S J Thorpe	Parish Clerk
Cllr C Sampson (Borough Councillor)	
No members of the public	

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Simon and Cllr A Wells.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Chapman declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual Meeting on 19th May 2021, having been circulated to all prior to the meeting, were agreed as correct and signed following a proposal from Cllr Swallow, and seconded by Cllr D Wells.

4. Matters arising

The PCs insurance broker had advised the following: *“whilst effectively there is no cover for the Council taking legal proceedings against another party, the included legal cover will provide relevant legal advice, free of charge in the first instance which usually assists greatly in the process and often means there is no need to go down the legal proceedings route. Insurance as a whole is generally there to provide defence assistance for Council-related matters, hence only defence situations being covered e.g. public liability for incidents that the Council are proven liable for etc. so this is industry standard, not just in the Not-for-Profit world.”*

5. Public forum for residents to comment on agenda items

No members of the public were present.

6. Report from Barton Bendish Village Hall

Copies of the report were given out to all councillors. Dr Webster (Chair of the Trustees for the Village Hall) answered some queries regarding the current term of the lease and the proposed new structure in relation to the Trust Deed.

7. Highways issues

New issues to be reported and update on old issues:

- Eastmoor Road – overhanging trees. Highways had reported they had met with the landowner and advised on what needed to be done and would be following this up.
- Boughton Long Road – “slow” sign on road surface. Highways had advised this would be done in the late summer.
- Eastmoor Road/Beachamwell Road junction – Highways had advised that the stop sign had now been repaired.
- Dead grass on the verges in Barton Bendish – Cllr Simon had contacted the Clerk to advise that weedkiller had been applied to a lot of the verges, particularly in Church Road. The Clerk had spoken to Highways who had claimed they did not apply weedkiller to these verges and that they thought it was just the dry weather which had caused the grass to die. This statement was

Chairman’s signature.....Date.....

disputed as it did appear that they had been sprayed. Cllr Sampson had also been involved in the discussions and advised that the BC had not applied any weedkiller to these verges. It was agreed that the Clerk would speak to Cllr Simon about arranging a meeting between him and Highways to discuss what weedkilling should be done in the village to ensure there were no future problems.

8. Finance

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

Miss S Thorpe	new laptop/expenses June/July	£330.44
Payments made by standing order/direct debit:		
HMRC	PAYE for May	£45.80
Miss S Thorpe	June salary	£183.13
HMRC	PAYE for June	£45.80
Miss S Thorpe	July salary	<u>£183.13</u>
		£788.30

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

- b. Cash Book reconciliation: The Cash Book had been reconciled to 30th June 2021 and the balance of the bank account was £11,065.12 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.

9. Parish Affairs

- a. Eastmoor Phone Box – the man from Oxborough had started by sanding down but was waiting for assistance from a helper. Paint had been supplied to him from a resident.
- b. Broadband service in the parish – Cllr Webster advised that Openreach had asked how many residents were interested and then they would be able to work out the cost. The matter was discussed. It was felt that part of the issue was that the cabinet was not large enough and many residents did not know when they would be able to get superfast broadband. It was agreed to put an item in the next Group 4 News asking for information from residents.
- c. Possible options for spending the Community Infrastructure Levy money – A discussion took place on options. It was agreed to put an item in the next Group 4 News asking for suggestions.

10. Correspondence

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

- the BC had now agreed to advise PCs when they receive an application for a Temporary Event Notice.

11. Planning

- a. Applications received since last meeting:
21/01385/F Change of use of former workshop/store (B8) to single office unit (use Class E) with associated works to building and adjoining land at land SE Holly House, Fincham Road. The application was discussed, and all agreed to SUPPORT the application.
- b. Decisions received from the Borough Council – there was no objection to the following application:
21/00052/HEDGE Hedgerows to be removed to incorporate two small field parcels unable to be efficiently managed with modern agricultural machinery into two existing larger field parcels at Hill Farm, Boughton Long Road.

12. Matters of concern and items for the next agenda

- a. Cllr Swallow asked about who was responsible for trimming the hedge adjacent to the footpath from Chapel Lane to Church Road. Cllr Chapman agreed to speak to Albanwise to see if they could advise.

13. Date of next meeting

It was agreed that meetings 8th September,

The Chairman declared the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting closed at 8.20pm

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