

Barnham Parish Council

Chair: Cllr John Bauer. Vice Chair: Cllr Ed Wyer

Minutes of the meeting of Barnham Parish Council, held on Tuesday 9th July 2024, commencing at 7.00pm Venue: Barnham Village Hall, Mill Lane, Barnham IP24 2NG

In attendance: Cllr John Bauer (Chair), Cllr Ed Wyer (Vice Chair), Cllr Martin Belsham, Cllr Matthew Hawthorn, West Suffolk District Cllr Andrew Smith
Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer: Pauline Smith. Members of the public: 0

1. **Apologies for** absence were received and approved from Cllr Susan Watson, Cllr Adrian Webb.
Apologies were also received from Suffolk County Cllr Joanna Spicer.
2. **Declarations of interest:** None
3. Approval of the minutes of the meetings held on:
 - 3.1 14th May 2024: Annual Meeting of the Parish Council
 - 3.2 14th May 2024: Annual Parish Meeting
 - 3.3 28th May 2024: Finance: Extra ordinary meeting: Finance:

No issues were questions were raised.

A Proposal to approve the three sets of minutes was made by Cllr Hawthorn
Seconded by Cllr Belsham Unanimously agreed.
Each set of Minutes was duly signed as an accurate record by the Chair

4. **Public Forum:** No members of the public were present.

5. **To receive reports:**

- 5.1 Suffolk County Councillor, Joanna Spicer MBE – written report received:

The A1088 south of Ixworth will close for 22 weeks from July 22nd

I will make a grant of £500 towards the church clock if the PC go ahead – however – I would like to know what has happened to the 16% increase in parish council tax in 2017 which was ring fenced for the church clock.

Response to be provided to Cllr Spicer with details of reserve funds currently held.
Action Clerk

SCC have advised that the planning conditions put on the ~~E633~~ site North Farm Quarry site mean that the bund cannot be removed until October. They will action that, and re-instatement, with Elveden Estate, in the autumn. They have visited recently.

The next 10 year minerals and waste plan will start its process (call for sites and public consultation) in about 12 months' time

No complaints about countryside recycling at present

- 5.2 West Suffolk District Councillor, Andrew Smith
NRG Appeal: No start date has been set as yet.

Gerda: West Suffolk Council is currently in discussions with Gerda's planning agent over the use of the building. It is believed a change of use required. If a planning application is submitted, then the plant which has been installed outside of the unit could be added to that application. Cllr Smith will continue to monitor the situation.

Honeysuckle Farm: Suffolk County Council has not objected to the application. The Parish Council continues to be concerned about the Highways access/egress and asked that the case office requests Suffolk County Council Highways to review their recommendation.

Simpler Recycling: There is to be a single standard for recycling across the country resulting in additional bins for food waste collection and roadside glass collections.

Currently many village halls have glass collecting banks on their grounds which provides valuable income throughout the year. Roadside glass collections would remove this income. Cllr Smith is continuing to raise this concern with West Suffolk Officers.

6. Planning Matters: New planning applications

DC/24/0481/FUL Honey Suckle Farm, Thetford Road, Barnham IP24 2PA Planning application – change of use of land from agricultural land to storage and distribution (Class B8) associated with planning permission DC/34/0445/FUL

Councillors discussed this application and their continued concerns about the dangers resulting from the increase in movement of large vehicles onto the A134.

Councillors also queried the use of the land compared to the details provided within the application. Action: Cllr Smith will make enquiries with WSC Planning

Cllrs noted that Cllr Webb had advised by email that he had no objections to the application and his reasons (copy attached).

After due consideration all councillors present unanimously voted to object to the application: Proposed: Cllr Hawthorn. Seconded: Cllr Belsham.

For information: Consultation response submitted to WSC 10th July 2024:

Barnham Parish Council Objects to this Application.

The Parish Council is extremely concerned at the anticipated increase in vehicle movements associated with this Class B8 application particularly with regards to road safety/A134.

The Parish Council considers that a traffic management plan is required, to include details relating to:

Number of vehicle movements to/from site;
Vehicle weight/type, e.g. Commercial/LGV/HGV.

7. Planning matters: other

7.1 To note any decisions made by West Suffolk council since the previous meeting held 14th May 2024: None reported

- 7.2 To receive updates, if available, regarding other outstanding planning issues: See 5.2 West Suffolk Cllrs report.
- 7.3 Cllr Wyer raised a concern regarding requesting an extension of time to respond to planning applications, when deadlines fall between meetings. The Clerk advised that Officers always state if a request is not feasible, in which case an extra meeting would be called if considered necessary.

8. Highways

The traffic lights at Barnham continue to be reported as a concern for motorists Crossing from the Barnham village side across the A134. Clerk will raise again with the Contractor but will also request input from Cllr Spicer as the situation has been ongoing in excess of 18 months.

9. Councillor Reports

- 9.1 **Chair's Report:** Cllr Bauer reported that Radio Suffolk would be coming to Barnham church to 'do' a live report about the clock refurbishment project on the day after the meeting.
- 9.2 **Cllr Beck reported on the successful D-Day** collaboration which had involved the parish council (funding provided for fish and chip supper, wool and /associated items required for the knitted servicemen and women displayed in the church) school, church and residents.

Thanks were expressed to the school who had had provided a wonderful and thought provoking display during the evening event, where a fish and chip supper was provided (thanks to the school cook), the Beacon was lit (with thanks to Cllr Hawthorn) and the international Tribute was read by the Chair, Cllr Bauer. The school display was later moved to the church where a detailed display of intricately knitted servicemen and women (thanks to Mrs Wilkinson and her team) and women was also on view.

Gratitude is expressed to Cllr Beck for liaising with all involved.

- 9.3 **Suffolk association of Local Councils AGM:** Cllr Beck attended this meeting - as did the Clerk - which was held on-line. Following the standard business Carol Eagles, Chief Executive Officer, provided an interesting presentation about the history and work of Citizens Advice.
SALC Board: There are 16 members of the SALC board and currently 2 vacancies.
President: Sir Edward Greenwell, Bart.
Vice Presidents: Terri Waite OBE and Lady Euston, Lord Lieutenant.
- 9.4 **Police Liaison:** Cllr Belsham reported that antisocial behaviour surveys have been provided by the police to residents in an area of St Martin's Lane. It is understood that one of the concerns raised relates to quad bikes being ridden erratically in the area.
It is hoped to arrange a pop-up surgery in Barnham: Suggested dates have been passed to PCSO Amanda Dodds (7, 8, 28,29 September).
The antisocial behaviour/removal of hand grips from climbing wall at the play area will be reported to the police.

- 9.5 **Barnham Village Hall:** Cllr Hawthorn reported concerns from the village hall committee about broken glass around the glass banks. Village Hall committee appear to consider this to be a parish council responsibility. Cllr Hawthorn said that he would clear the glass away. Village Hall bookings continue to be satisfactory.
- 9.6 **Barnham Primary School:** Cllr Hawthorn reported that the SATS results were pleasing.
- 9.7 **Barnham Play Area:** Clerk reported that person or persons unknown had removed a number of hand/foot grips and associated fixings from the climbing wall. Several of the items had been found by a resident scattered around the play area and have been passed to Cllr Wyer. Clerk to identify availability of missing items and contact Vertas regarding replacement costs.
- 9.8 **RAF Liaison:** Cllr Wyer advised that Wing Cdr Sqn Ldr Dave Williams will be pleased to attend meetings if he has anything to report.
Action: Clerk to provide meeting dates. (Actioned).

10. **Clerk's report:** nothing further to report

11. **Financial report and invoices for payment**

The Clerk provided a financial report, bank reconciliation and details of invoices for together with invoices for approval/payment.

Councillors agreed that the full reimbursement costs of the knitted solders created for the D-day commemoration and displayed in the church should be met, therefore the original £60 sum shown on the transaction list (9th July) was changed to £136.46.(Updated list 10July refers)

Invoices for payment totalling £846.12 were unanimously approved for payment.

The Clerk/RFO advised that Barnham Parish Council now has a card from Barclays Bank for the sole purpose of paying cash into the current bank account via the post office if the need arises.

This does not act as either a credit or debit card.

12. **Financial Regulations:**

A proposal to adopt and approve the new financial regulations as updated by the Clerk/RFO was made by **Cllr Beck**

Seconded: Cllr Hawthorne **Unanimously agreed/approved**

13. **Standing Orders**

A proposal to adopt and approve the Standing Orders as updated by the Clerk **was made by Cllr Hawthorn**

Seconded by Cllr Wyer: Unanimously agreed/approved

14. **Village Clock Progress Report**

It is hoped that it will be possible to progress the work with an alternative supplier: Cumbria Clock company have provided a significantly lower quote than previously received. Advice is currently being sought as to the potential to change suppliers now that the Faculty has been received plus to establish why there is such a significant difference in cost.

Clerk is currently following this up and is hoping for advice from the appropriate person at the Diocese.

If it transpires that the work included in the quote from Cumbria clock company is comparable to that provided by the originally accepted quote then due to funding already received or pledged, and subject to it not being necessary to seek an amendment to the Faculty or to submit a new application, it should be possible to place an order for the work in the near future.

The Faculty currently extends to March 2025. It is believed that this date can be extended if necessary.

15. Elveden Estate: Woodland Management in the Parish

(Details previously circulated)

Councillors have no concerns or additional comments to make about the outlined proposed plans which appear to be appropriate for the circumstances and conditions described.

Action: Clerk to respond/Actioned.

16. Any other correspondence requiring attention: None

17. Items for inclusion on next agenda

Budget considerations for 2025/26

**18. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 10th September 2024, 7pm
Barnham Village Hall, Mill Lane, Barnham. IP24 2NG**

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Minutes signed as an accurate record by

Cllr John Bauer, Chair

Date 10th September 2024