

BARROW PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Barrow Parish Council meeting held on
Monday 9th December 2023 at Barrow Village Hall

2023

Meeting started 7.30pm

Present	Cllr Paul Rossington (Chair)(PR) Cllr Janet Walsh (JW) Cllr John Okell (JO) Cllr Andy Porter (AP) Cllr David Cunningham (DC) Members of the Public 2 (MOP) Clerk – Tracey Whitlow (TW)	
23/78	Apologies for Absence were received from: Cllr Katie Jones (KJ) Cllr Julia Tillotson (JT)	
23/79	Declarations of Members’ Interests: Janet Walsh – bowling club 23/90 Paul Rossington – planning application 23/03867/CAT	
23/80	Public Participation: MOP who previously resided in the village to hand information to the PC for the history Group. PR thanked the MOP for bringing these documents.	
23/81	Approval of Minutes: The circulated minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 13 th November 2023 were approved & signed by the Chair	
23/82	Matters Arising – If not covered by agenda: Police Newsletter – AP asked TW to forward the PCSO newsletter to the Barrow News for inclusion of anything specific to Barrow. TW offered to put on the PC website going forward.	TW
23/83	Correspondence - Unless covered as an agenda item: Ward councillors – Members Budgets Cllr Margaret Parker & Cllr Graham Heatley have given the PC £250 for the Christmas activities and £520 for the flood protection activities from their Members Budget. Money yet to be received.	
23/84	Planning: 22/00591/LDC Pear Tree Cottage Barnhouse Lane Barrow Chester Cheshire CH3 7JY. Application seeks a Certificate of Lawfulness to confirm the lawful use of curtilage land for residential purposes- The appeal has been refused. 23/03867/CAT The Nook Mill Lane Barrow Chester CH3 7JF Proposal: 2x Hornbeams (T1 & T2) - Reduce crown by up to 4m. Cherry (T3) - Remove as tree is dead. Cherry (T4) - Reduce height by 4m, due to storm height. Resolved Reviewed with no objections.	
23/85	Accounts /Finance: 1. November cashbook & bank reconciliation approved & signed. Monies received: 2. BPPFF donation £1050 Payments ratified/approved & monies received: 3. November payroll ratified. 4. Refund clerk for sand £229.30 5. Refund clerk for sandbags £97.03 6. BPPFF room hire – police liaison £20.00 7. Refund AP – Xmas tree £195.00 8. Refund MOP for refreshments at tree lighting £69.73	

	<p>9. Grant to Barrow News approved £500</p> <p>Noted that TW has transferred money from the ordinary account to the deposit account. Discussion took place regarding having a building society account as opposed to the deposit account as the interest would be higher. JO to look into this but might be difficult as the bank requires 2 signatories, and would create more work for banking, transfers and monthly bank reconciliations, which may outweigh any financial benefit.</p>	JO
23/86	<p>Policy Review:</p> <p>TW circulated a policy review schedule, to have all policies reviewed by 31.01.24</p>	
23/87	<p>Highways:</p> <p>Still no report received from Highways as promised at their walkabout. TW to email – after this length of time this is unacceptable.</p> <p>AP brought to the PC's attention a new sign in a neighbouring village showing a speed camera on the 30 mph sign – TW to contact the clerk to establish how they have managed to get Highways to put this sign up.</p> <p>Current speed display signs are not always working – possibly due to hedges covering the solar panel.</p> <p>DC to send TW the exact locations of the SID's for TW to contact Highways.</p>	<p>TW</p> <p>TW</p> <p>DC</p> <p>TW</p>
23/88	<p>2024/25 Budget:</p> <p>Reviewed, will be resolved at the January meeting – current indications are that the precept will be in the region of £26K</p>	TW
23/89	<p>Asset Maintenance and Register:</p> <p>Grass Verges: to decide at the January meeting if money needs factoring into the budget for this.</p>	
23/90	<p>Barrow Bowling Club:</p> <p>Having declared an interest Cllr JW left the meeting.</p> <p>The Bowling club have agreed that any changes necessary to the lease will have to be paid for by the bowling club. The bowling club is currently seeking the views of neighbouring properties before submitting an application for flood lights.</p>	
23/91	<p>Freedom of Information Request:</p> <p>All questions from the FOI requester have been responded to and are available on the website.</p>	
23/92	<p>Working Groups & Sub Committees – updates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Footpaths: No meetings taken place. Flooding Working Group/Community Resilience Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members budget application for £520 was successful, this will go towards sandbags and a water pump that will be for general use of the parish, in the case of further flooding. Sand and bags are expected to be delivered tomorrow. TW to order the pump. Flood working group – AP reported that 2 landowners are working proactively to dredge the streams on their land, and have offered up land to be used for natural flooding. AP has a meeting tomorrow with another landowner. Environmental Agency want to lead on Barrow – All positive information. 	TW
23/93	<p>BPPFF – update:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Bowling club are looking at the possibility of erecting a small pavilion. The Parish council feel that they could be making more use of the Pavilion – JO to discuss this further. BPPFF are looking at replacing some of the playground equipment – this will require fundraising. 	
23/94	<p>Neighbourhood Development Plan:</p> <p>JT had circulated information to the PC regarding the options of whom to commission to take this forward. This was discussed and Resolved to appoint CNB Housing to take this forward.</p>	JT

23/95	Items for Next Meeting- 2024/25 Budget, Precept 2024-25, Noticeboards. NDP. Policy review.	
23/96	Date of next meeting – Monday 8 th January 2024 at 7.30pm	

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed

Date

DRAFT/UNSIGNED