

GREAT BARROW PARISH COUNCIL

Tuesday 8th November 2022 at 7.30 pm, at Barrow Village Hall

MINUTES

PRESENT: Cllr P Rossington – Chairperson Cllr A Porter – Vice Chair
 Cllr J Walsh Cllr J Okell
 Cllr J Tillotson Cllr K Jones
 Cllr Louise Martland

CLERK: Vacant position Members of the Public - 1

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Parker.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS - Cllr Rossington and Cllr Jones declared pecuniary interests as a Members of the Allotment Association. Cllr Okell recorded a non-pecuniary interest as a Trustee of the BPPFF.

Cr Rossington reported that he had agreed to act a trustee of Barrow School, alongside Cllr Tillotson.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident attended and offered to liaise with Cllr Tillotson regarding the NDP due to his experience in another Parish

MINUTES

RESOLVED 22/082 the Chairman signed as a correct record the circulated Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th October 2022

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Cllr Jones reported that she had had verbal communication from a resident who noted that a CWaC road sweeper appeared to spend a significant amount of time sweeping a limited stretch of the main road outside Barrow School. Cllr Jones offered to query this at Highways at CWaC.

Chair Rossington reported that he had received an invitation to attend the induction for the new vicar Revd. Julian Osborne on Wednesday 16th November 2022 which he had accepted.

Resolved 22/083 The Parish Council confirmed that they wish to offer a warm welcome to Reverend Osborne.

PLANNING

22/03526/FUL

Detached Garage and Footpath Diversion

Council agreed they did not need to comment but that Cllr Walsh will communicate with Footpaths Committee so they are aware of the application.

ACCOUNTS

Cllr Rossington has been managing accounts in the absence of a clerk.

RESOLVED 22/084 To approve the October Cashbook/Out-turn

RESOLVED 22/085 To note payments : Payroll October £156

Cllr Rossington reported that in the absence of a clerk he had possession of the cash sum from footpath booklet sales which councillors agreed he could pay in to the council account.

RESOLVED 22/086

That the bank reconciliation statement to the cashbook dated 12 October 2022 be approved. The bank reconciliation from 12 October showed a difference due to the dormant account claim of £48.23

Budget 2023/24

Councillors had preliminary discussions regarding next years budget.

-Caretaker: Given the limited use of the pavilion, councillors thought the current caretaker hours will be sufficient for next year and this view was shared by Cllr Okell, the PC representative on the BPPFF. However, to fulfil the employment conditions of the EU grant for the pavilion build, the council has to increase the budget for pavilion staff next year to £4,800. Following a discussion regarding unmet need in the village, councillors agreed with a suggestion to explore options such as employment of a youth worker to run a summer holiday club in the pavilion for youth in the village. Any other suggestions from residents would also be considered and discussed with the BPPFF.

Resolved 22/087 To allocate £4,800 of budget for Pavilion Employees to meet the EU grant employment condition.

The following costs were also agreed provisionally:

Pavilion costs including entrance additional £4,000 over and above what still remains for this year

Tree maintenance £1,000

Election £1,000

NDP £1,000 (in addition to grant application)

It was agreed that Cllr Rossington will draft a more detailed budget with these figures for the December Meeting.

Action: Cllr Rossington

ASSET MAINTENANCE AND REGISTER

Hedges and Verges

Cllr Okell confirmed that he is liaising with Charles Law regarding maintenance work to Jubilee and Millennium footpath hedges and obtaining a definitive quote. Cllr Porter confirmed that a date has been set for Barrow 'Chumper' Volunteers to trim Norman's Wood

Wildflower planting. Cllr Walsh confirmed that she has contacted the resident who had enquired about this and ask for sketch of suggested area. Given Cllr Martland's experience in Environmental issues it was agreed that she will lead for the Council on Wild- Flower planting in verges and Cllr Martland offered to liaise with the interested resident.

Action Cllr Martland

Tree Maintenance Work Update.

The council will contact the council for an update on planning applications for maintenance (safety) tree works (22/03655/CAT and 22/03656/TPO).

Action: Cllr Walsh

Fire Safety in Pavilion: Smoke/Fire Alarm Checks are now due (recommended every 6 months). Councillors agreed that we should get three quotes for an annual maintenance contract, including Dee Fire who installed the alarm system and the company that checks the Village Hall Fire Prevention System

Action Cllr Jones

Policies and Procedures

Cllr Tillotson thanked councillors for suggested amendments to the Health and Safety Policy. A councillor queried the need for Display Screen Equipment Assessments which Cllr Tillotson offered to check. The amended policy will be circulated again and brought back to the December meeting for approval.

Action: Cllr Tillotson

WORKING GROUPS & SUB-COMMITTEES

BPPFF

Cllr Okell confirmed that the Fireworks Event organised by the BPPFF was successful again and raised £1,200 for BPPFF funds. This figure was not as high as last year, but nevertheless a significant amount. A big Thank you for all those who donated through Crowdfunding and the Bucket Collection.

Flood Working Group

Cllr Porter fed back that the possibility of restoring the Old Mill Pond is in the early stages of being explored, including communications with Cheshire Wildlife trust and informal discussions with the owner of the site.

Footpaths Committee

Ferma Lane

Cllr Walsh confirmed that she had emailed a query concerning the status of the Ferma Lane footpath and historic bridle path application but not yet had a reply. She will chase this up.

It was noted that the Earmarked fund for Footpaths Committee, from the sale of footpath booklets needs updating, including some monies from 2021-2022 as well as this year's sales.

ACTION When the new clerk starts, the council will ask her to check the figures received from footpath sales and earmark the correct figure accordingly.

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS

December 8th was confirmed as date for lighting of Christmas Tree and Carols, with the child who wins the Christmas poetry competition switching on the lights

Cllr Porter reported that our ward councillors Cllr Parker and Cllr Heatley had agreed to the council's application to the member's budget for £500 for a set of Christmas lights for the tree and refreshments for the lighting event.

Parish Councillors want to communicate a big **THANK YOU to** Katharine Runciman for organising the Mince Pies and Mulled Wine for the community Tree Lighting Event, this year (and recent years) and to our ward councillors Margaret Parker and Graham Heatley for funding the event and replacement Christmas tree Lights from their Members Budget

PAVILION and PLAYING FIELD

Urban Landscapes have confirmed that they are still able to provide the required trees and Shrubs and will check their current stock.

Action Cllr Porter to check the planning requirements and follow up

ENTRANCE WORKS

Highways work on the road has been completed and this has made a significant improvement to the 'bottoming' of cars.

Cllr Walsh fed back that she contacted Cllr Parker regarding the Disability aspect of the access and she has been helpful in contacting Highways.

ACTION Cllr Walsh to follow up with Highways. If no response it was suggested that a resident with past experience in this filed may be able to offer some guidance.

CLERK RECRUITMENT

Cllrs Rossington advised that he is very pleased that the chosen applicant had accepted the position and is due to start at the beginning of December. The council will need to meet on a different day to fit around the clerk's other parish council commitments

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP)

Cllr Tillotson has circulated minutes from October's NDP Strategy Meeting. She has also attended a video consultation with John Heselwood on 1st November which she will feedback at the next NDP strategy group. A housing needs survey could cost in the region of £5000 which the council would expect to fund out of an NDP grant.

Date of next NDP Meeting 21st November 2022 at 7pm

Knitted Poppy Display. The Parish Council also wish to thank Marjorie Rigby, the mother of a resident, for knitting over a thousand poppies and creating such a wonderful display and memorial in the village on Remembrance Sunday.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm. The date of the next meeting of the Parish Council Monday 12th December 2022 7.30pm

Signed:.....

Dated:.....