

# GREAT BARROW PARISH COUNCIL

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 7.00 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

**CLERK:**            Vacant position    Members of the Public - 1

### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr Parker, Cllr Heatley and PCSO Netherton.

**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.

It was noted that planning applications 22/03655/CAT and 22/03656/CAT (Tree Works) were made by the Parish Council.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A resident expressed an interest in becoming a councillor and explained that she is interested in using her expertise in ecology to contribute to the NDP.

### **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED 22/074** the Chairman signed as a correct record the circulated Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022

### **COMMUNITY POLICING**

It was agreed that PCSO Netherton will be invited to a future meeting.

### **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

In response to a query about Remembrance Sunday, Cllr Tillotson confirmed that the council have a wreath for the War Memorial. Cllr Porter offered to put up the village lamppost poppies.

### **PLANNING**

The only new items this month were the council's own application for Tree Works on the playing field and Norman's Wood. These were recommended in the tree survey as necessary for safety.

### **ACCOUNTS**

Cllr Rossington has been managing accounts in the absence of a clerk. He noted that the only payment has been a PAYE and NI payment of £394.00

**RESOLVED 22/075** payment approved of PAYE and NI -£394.00

### **BANK RECONCILIATION**

**RESOLVED 22/076** That the bank reconciliation statement to the cashbook dated 18th October 2022 be approved

## **ASSET MAINTENANCE AND REGISTER**

### **Hedges and Verges**

Cllr Okell offered to follow up on maintenance work to Jubilee and Millennium footpath hedges. Norman's Wood work to be completed by the Chumpers.

It was noted that there was still confusion regarding the council's responsibilities.

It was agreed to collate information and enquire with CWaC regarding responsibility for the promenade footpath.

**ACTION:** Cllr Jones

**Wildflower planting.** Cllr Walsh conformed that she has now contacted the resident who had enquired about this and ask for sketch of suggested area.

**Tree Maintenance Work Update.** Planning Applications for the work have been made with Tree Survey attached. Norman's Wood Trees have Protection Orders so CWaC have indicated they allocate an officer and visit site.

Confirmation needs to go to selected contractor-Greenacre Landscaping (Chester) Ltd

**Action:** Cllr Rossington

### **Policies and Procedures**

Final Draft of Health and Safety Policy needs to be circulated with a view to formal approval at next meeting.

**Action:** Cllr Tillotson

## **WORKING GROUPS & SUB-COMMITTEES**

### **BPPFF**

Cllr Okell confirmed that the BPPFF are organising a Fireworks Event again and a Crowdfunding initiative is underway. The council is not in a position to underwrite the event this year and any profits will go to the BPPFF.

### **Flood Working Group**

Cllr Porter fed back that CWaC have published a Flood Plan and there are already some positive signs of action such as ditches being cleared in Heath Lane and Plemstall View.

The possibility of restoration of upstream storage may be worth exploring in the future.

The need for an emergency flood plan and importance of identification of vulnerable residents has been discussed in Flood Group.

### **Footpaths Committee**

Cllr Porter attended the last meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> October

**RESOLVED 22/077** that the Minutes of the Footpath Group held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October be received  
The Minutes have been posted on the council website.

A resident had enquired if the Parish Council had any information about the status of Ferma Lane and a historical bridlepath application. Cllr Rossington advised that the has not seen any correspondence to the council on this matter.

**RESOLVED 22/078** Council to make enquiry to CWaC regarding Ferma Lane Footpath Status:

**ACTION:** Cllr Walsh

## **CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS**

December 8<sup>th</sup> has been proposed as date for lighting of Christmas tree and Carols

An application will be forwarded to Ward Councillors Members Budget for new Christmas Tree Lights and refreshments.

**ACTION:** Cllr Porter

Barrow School will be approached regarding the most suitable format for the Christmas competition with the suggestion of a poetry competition.

**ACTION:** Cllr Jones

### **PAVILION and PLAYING FIELD**

Tree and Shrub Planting: There is a need to check if Urban Landscapes are still able to donate the trees and shrubs required.

**ACTION:** Cllr Porter to speak to Urban Landscapes

**Bat Boxes.** These still need citing.

**RESOLVED 22/079:** To enquire with Tree Maintenance Contractor whether they are able to do this at the same time as the tree works

**ACTION:** Cr Rossington

### **ENTRANCE WORKS**

Highways have offered to repair/raise the road over the drain at the pavilion car park entrance and it is hoped that this will help improve the issue for cars. However, there are still residual works to the entrance that need completing as part of planning conditions. Councillors agreed that improving access for disabled residents and users should also be investigated and this needs to be done before grants are sought.

**RESOLVED: 22/080** Contact CWAC to request advice regarding Disability Access

**ACTION** Cllr Walsh

### **COUNCIL VACANCY**

Resident Lou Martland confirmed her interest in joining council by co-option.

**RESOLVED: 22/081** That Lou Martland is co-opted on to Barrow Parish Council

Lou was welcomed by the Chair, Cllr Rossington and all the councillors.

Cllr Rossington will forward her the standard Declaration of Interest Forms for completion.

### **CLERK RECRUITMENT**

Cllrs Rossington, Jones and Walsh interviewed two candidates on 15<sup>th</sup> October. Both were good quality candidates and considered suitable, but the panel recommend offering the post to the candidate with current experience as a Parish Council Clerk to three other small councils. This was agreed by councillors

**RESOLVED.** Cllr Rossington to contact the preferred candidate and offer her the post of Clerk.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP)**

The first meeting of the Steering Group took place on 17<sup>th</sup> October and further meetings will be scheduled monthly. The next meeting was agreed as 21<sup>st</sup> November

Cllr Tillotson is drafting a letter to go out to residents. She also informed councillors that she would attend an online meeting with John Heselwood, regarding what Cheshire Action Group can offer and Housing Needs Surveys and all are welcome to join her.

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm. The date of the next meeting of the Parish Council will be decided in liaison with the new clerk.

Signed:.....

Dated:.....