

BARNBY IN THE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 20th JULY 2023 at 7.00pm.

Attendees: Cllr Graham Bett, Cllr Jackie Parker, Cllr Keith Stanton, Cllr Carina Jukes, Cllr Derick Parker, Cllr Ben Powell, Cllr Emma Oldham, Cllr John Lee, Helen Cowlan (Clerk)

Public: 7 members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from County Cllr Debbie Darby due to prior commitments (emailed update received).

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Contributions from the public, District and County Councillors

Planning request (waterless toilet / Church) – representatives from the Church gave an overview of the proposals and answered questions. Hedges will be used to mitigate visual impacts, and the facility will be fully accessible as well as being open at all times for everyone to use. Usage will be monitored to ensure it is suitably maintained.

Village updates – Cllr Oldham advised that hedgerows have been cutback to improve footpath accessibility. After feedback about cars and parking, she will contact the owners of The Willow Tree pub to better understand the situation and options. Cllr Oldham will be working with / on biodiversity and environmental services portfolios, within which will be funding for tree planting and maintenance – contact her for help with any climate-related issues or projects.

Chestnut Lodge – a resident in attendance advised they were interested in the Parish Council's views on the new proposals due to them mitigating previous reason for objection. The initial proposals had been objected to on Highways grounds but it was felt that there was a discrepancy now that Highways weren't objecting (and yet the site was increasing). It was felt that the review didn't take into account other sites in the locality, and that allowing a property to be built on the site could set a precedent for future applications. Cllr Lee advised the proposals are likely to be reviewed at the August Planning Committee meeting. It is difficult to know to what degree previous information and concerns will be taken into account. Cllr Oldham confirmed that Cllr Darby is trying to liaise with Highways. Cllr Stanton suggested that greater visibility of emails being sent would show support being given / work being done behind the scenes. The Parish Council will request that all previous updates are circulated to all Planning Committee members for review before the meeting to make sure they understand the background as well as current concerns.

Hollowdyke Lane – Cllr Lee confirmed that Hollowdyke Lane will not be reopening. County Council are moving offices. Concerns about local antisocial behaviours and grass biking have been raised.

4. Approval of minutes

The minutes of previous meeting(s) held on 22nd June 2023 were approved as being a true record - prop Cllr Stanton, sec Cllr J Parker (unanimously agreed).

5. Matters arising from the minutes

Planting – formal thanks were given to Cllr J Parker for planting which looks great.

Induction pans – request for donation drafted for newsletter but may purchase new.

Grass cutting on footpaths – one stretch has not been completed due to the landowner being restricted for timings.

Invoicing and bank account closures – Clerk to follow up / chase.

Bees – research has established that it is illegal to destroy the nest (which is not a desired option anyway) and that unless there is evidence of there being a real menace, little can be done. The bees are unlikely to damage the structure of the building, and they are normally only in there for a short time. Cllr Stanton to update the resident who raised the query. The issue will be monitored.

Pub car parking – Cllr J Parker has spoken to the owners of The Willow Tree who will provide gentle reminders for considerate parking (Cllr Oldham will also liaise). Cllr D Parker will try and find out more about what concerns have been raised so attempts can be made to resolve issues where possible.

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NOTE - It was unanimously agreed to move agenda item 13 (Planning) to be reviewed here. As a result, the number order or other items has moved down a place.

6. Planning Matters

- a) 23/00828/FUL – Parish Church of All Saints, Front Street – *installation of an outdoor Kazuba2 waterless toilet*. **OUTCOME – no objection to proposals – Clerk to submit decision to NSDC.**
- b) Appleby Lodge – application has been approved.
- c) Chestnut Lodge – draft letter to MP Robert Jenrick was approved and will be sent. It was unanimously agreed that the new proposals would be reviewed at this meeting as there were no material changes and there were no new issues – proposals for the amended plans will be objected to in line with previous comments. It was felt that that due consideration and process had been inconsistent e.g., NSDC and Highways had raised objections when there were two caravans but not now that there were 19. The issue of the increasing number of sites in the surrounding area was also discussed. It was also acknowledged that a balanced view should be given as some residents may not feel strongly / want to object. Residents would be made aware they are welcome to attend the Committee Meetings.
- d) Updates on Planning Processes – information and updates from NSDC to be circulated by email

7. Finance

- a) Payments made since last meeting (June):
HMRC payments (tax) have been made
Parish Council -
Newsletter £68.95
Village Hall –
SSE £180.62
Newark Advertiser (Licensing) - £342.36
Food Hygiene Certification (KS) £12.00
- b) Payments upcoming:
Reimbursement costs for BBQ – receipts being reviewed approx. £863.82
NSDC Licensing application – approx. £123 (pending receipt)
ICO £35.00 (Direct Debit)
Food Hygiene Certification (DP) – Cllr D Parker advised there would be no charge for this.
Payments were unanimously approved – proposed Cllr Parker, seconded Cllr Powell.
- c) Income received – income received from Village BBQ.
- d) Insurance – Zurich Insurance have confirmed assets and content that are insured – cover will be provided even if allocated to the wrong category – reallocating may help to speed up processes in the event of a claim, so this will be reviewed once there has been an audit of what is held. The wording of the policy with regard to electrics was confirmed as meaning that in the event of a claim, servicing of / certification for electrics must be up to date – it was confirmed that this is the case with the next service period being planned for.
- e) Servicing of electrics – quotes will be needed for when the electrical service is due and this may give potential to tie in PAT testing. Suggestions were made and Cllrs will think of others. **Action – Clerk to get quotes for comparison.**
- f) Training – a course will be available relating to CIL funding and processes (now full) – any resources that become available will be circulated.

8. Village Committee Report

An overview of recent and planned events was given. Lots of tickets have been sold for the summer lunch (TEN approved). The licensing application is being processed and it is hoped it will be in place for 4th August. The BBQ Event went well with positive feedback received. Left over stock will generate revenue for future events. Thanks were given to Cllr D Parker and Howard for help with cooking. Planning has started for the Horticultural Show, and a summary of ideas for future events was given.

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KS proposed that the status of 'food business' be moved so responsibility lies with the Parish Council rather than the Committee – it is important that any stipulations don't risk the ability to run events so a balanced view will need to be taken. There were mixed views about food hygiene requirements so NSDC Officer (BB) may be invited to attend a meeting to share information and help develop a plan. It was suggested that there should be a maximum number of Committee members (agreed at 12) but that other volunteers could, of course get involved for events.

9. Approval of Formal Documents

All formal documents (including policies, regulations and standing orders) were approved as being satisfactory, and that future reviews will be staggered, but the next review being in approx. 2 years times (unless legislative / procedural change requires sooner). Proposed Cllr Parker, seconded Cllr Stanton.

10. Councillor responsibilities

It was agreed that while responsibility for tasks should be shared, it didn't mean that all associated work had to be completed by that person, but more that they co-ordinate tasks being done when needed e.g., volunteers and working groups can help. During the conversation it was established that National Grid had to remove the fencing and noticeboard outside the Hall to replace an electricity pole, however, it had not all been returned to its original state. **Action – Clerk to write to them to see what they propose to do to help. Action – Cllr Parker to write up the list of who is responsible for which tasks.**

11. Footpath

Feedback has been received that the footpath near the Hall can become difficult to use when muddy. Discussions considered the amount of use against the problems caused and it was felt that no further action would be taken at this point.

12. Grant Funding

Cllr D Parker has reviewed a number of options and summarised that many would require a level of 'match-funding' e.g., 40/60 split. Ideas for future projects included a secondary glazing system and a new heating system. **Action - it was unanimously agreed that Cllr D Parker would do further research into these areas.**

13. Internet Facilities

There were mixed views about the benefits that internet / wi-fi would bring. **Action – Clerk to establish potential costs before reviewing further.**

14. Correspondence

- a) NALC Constitution – no further action required at this point.
- b) Tour of Britain – route will come through the area (including Coddington) on 6th Sept which may affect travel due to road closures and diversions.

15. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting – 14th September 2023 at 7pm.

Meeting ended at 21.35

.....Chair

.....Date

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