

BARNBY IN THE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 9th NOVEMBER 2023 at 7.00pm.

Attendees: Cllr Graham Bett (Chair), Cllr Jackie Parker (Vice-Chair), Cllr Keith Stanton, Cllr Derick Parker, Cllr Ben Powell, Cllr Neil Gribby.

Public: members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from District Cllrs John Lee and Emma Oldham due to attending a Planning Committee meeting. Apologies also received from Helen Cowlan (Clerk) who was unable to attend – Cllr Stanton took on role of note taker.

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Contributions from the public, District and County Councillors

There were no District or County Councillors present due to Planning Committee demands. Cllr Lee has written to ask if there is a time when he could meet the residents. It was suggested he attend the Carol Service.

Mrs Carol Speakman (member of the public raised the following points:

1. If there is to be a drop-in session by any of the County or District Councillors in future, it needs to be advertised more widely within the community. This was agreed by all present.
2. She questioned the need to print the newsletter on glossy paper considering the extra cost this would involve. The Chair pointed out that the printing is down to the Editor, who invoices the Parish Council separately and that there is no additional cost to the Parish.
3. With regards to the managing of the Village Hall accounts, she offered her services to join the Village Hall committee, purely to run the management accounts. See Agenda Item 8
4. She wished the council to be aware she thought the replacement of the village hall gates was a good thing. See Agenda Item 12.
5. Reference the planning application for Manor Farm, she stated that she felt that there had been activity with regards to the operations at the farm prior to any planning application approval and wished to draw the council's attention to the matter. See Agenda Item 14.

Cllr D Parker requested that the Parish Council request for a top up of grit prior to the winter months. The Chairman agreed to follow this up.

4. Approval of minutes

The minutes of previous meeting held on 14th September 2023 were approved as being a true record - proposed Cllr Stanton, seconded D Parker.

5. Matters arising from the minutes

- a) Chestnut Lodge: The matter is closed. To be monitored.
- b) Closing of Bank Accounts: It was reported that forms are required by HSBC. Cllr Stanton did remind the PC that this was originally requested in May. The Chair and Vice Chair (co-signatories) will look into this further.
- c) Fire Inspection – see Agenda Item 13
- d) BBQ expenses discrepancy – see Agenda Item 7
- e) Newsletter – Cllr Stanton asked if the PC has invoiced Cllr Lee and the pub yet. Awaiting report back from Clerk.
- f) Website: See Agenda Item 6(d).
- g) Food Business Change of Ownership: Cllr Stanton confirmed that this has been actioned and confirmation received from NSDC.
- h) Village Hall Gates: See Agenda Item 12
- i) Dog Fouling Signs: No action taken to date. To be carried forward.

BARNBY IN THE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL

- j) First Aid Sessions in Village Hall: Cllr Gribby gave feedback. Although turnout was disappointing the session was well received by all who attended. The next class is on Monday and will be advertised on WhatsApp group.
- k) Newark Hospital Reviews: Actioned and completed.

6. Finance

- a) Payments made since last meeting (Sept) and since agenda circulated:
Village Hall –
SSE £208.42
Water Plus (supply) £24.19
Payments acknowledged by Council.
- b) Payments upcoming:
 - Chubb Fire safety equipment servicing / testing – invoice received and payment authorised.
 - Fire Alarm and PAT testing – Cllr D Parker stressed the urgency for this to take place as wef 9 Dec the kitchen will no longer be able to be used in accordance with risk assessments. Authorised to proceed.
 - Newsletter: Cllr Stanton has an invoice ready to submit for the annual charge. Next due Apr 2024.
- c) Income received - Held over as Clerk not present.
- d) Website provider - Cllr Stanton had investigated the market and can report that the fee to be charged by Hugo Fox is fair and proportionate. Agreed to pay monthly charge.
- e) Pre-budget information – No action, for consideration.

7. Village Committee Report

Cllr Stanton confirmed the last two events were a success, though the Escape Room had suffered 16 cancellations due to poor weather. That event raised £73 and the Ladies Lunch £120. Future events are:

- Wreathmaking 9 Dec
- Burns Night Supper 26 Jan
- Edwina Hayes Music Night 17 Feb
- Local produce event due to be held in spring was beginning to take shape and looks exciting for the village.

a) request approval for holding petty cash - A formal request was made for the Village Hall Committee to hold a float of up to £50 for future events. The small change has been retained from previous events – this will avoid bank charges for collecting the change – to be used for running bars and raffles and will be fully accounted for. Cllr Gribby proposed and Cllr D Parker seconded. Motion passed.

b) Christmas gifts - Cllr Stanton requested funds to be allocated to him as Village Hall Committee Chair to purchase token Christmas gifts for the members of the committee. After a passionate and reasoned debate the motion was rejected by a majority vote. No further action.

8. Village Hall Committee Accounts

Cllr Stanton stated that Cllr D Parker had been providing some very useful assistance with the accounts and that Cllr D Parker had volunteered to join the Committee with a specific role to manage the event accounting. The Village Hall committee members have been approached and all were in favour. Proposed by Cllr Gribby and seconded by Cllr G Bett. *After note: as this had already been agreed Cllr Stanton visited Mrs Speakman after the meeting thanking her for her kind volunteering, but that the position she had requested had already been filled.*

9. Meeting length

Information only item. Cllr Gribby drew the Councils attention to the fact that the maximum length of meetings should be 2 hours and that as a Council we needed to be more disciplined. All agreed to be mindful.

BARNBY IN THE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL

10. Footpath stiles

Cllr Gribby requested that the council request that the footpaths officer visit the footpath to the west of the village (Mr T Clipsham's property) and look to repair the stiles. **Action: Parish Clerk to submit formal request to NSDC. Cllr Gribby to follow up.**

11. Neighbourhood Plans

Cllr Stanton requested that the Council investigate the feasibility of the Parish Council putting in place a formal Neighbourhood Plan. Reservations were aired, but it was unanimously agreed that the council would investigate. **Cllr Stanton to action.**

12. New fence & gate at Village Hall

A number of quotes had been obtained. Cllr Stanton raised the question over the need for a gate, and it was agreed that this was not necessary. The fencing however will need replacing and Cllr Betts and Cllr D Parker would investigate new designs and costings for metal fencing. Cllr Gribby suggested the fencing should carry some reference to the legacy which funded the repairs. **Action Cllrs Bett / D. Parker.**

13. Fire Inspection

Cllr D Parker had done a mock inspection along with Mr A Rowling. A couple of issues were found, notably the gas bottles needed to be chained to the outside wall. This will be actioned.

14. Planning matters

- a) 23/00828/FUL – Parish Church of All Saints, Front Street – installation of an outdoor Kazuba2 waterless toilet. **Outcome – permission granted (info only) – passed by the Council due to the assistance of Cllr Oldham who had 'called it in'.**
- b) The situation at Manor Farm was discussed and it was agreed that no action needs be taken whilst the planning process is underway. Parish Council objections have been registered.

15. Correspondence

None received.

Any Other Business:

It was requested that the Parish Clerk chase up the request for the 30mph sign on Long Lane to be replaced as at present the speed restriction is unenforceable.

A speed board has been installed by the County Council on Front Street. Cllrs would appreciate it if it could be found out how long we might have it?

16. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting – 11th January 2024 at 7pm.

.....Chair

.....Date

Parish Clerk: Mrs Helen Cowlan Tel: 07905 787086

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