

BARMING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 2016

AT THE PARISH HALL, TONBRIDGE ROAD

PRESENT: Cllr Gooch in Chair, Cllr Manser, Cllr Hyndman, Cllr Doe, Cllr Vizzard, Cllr Greenwood and Clerk Mrs N Attwood.

IN ATTENDANCE: No members of the public were present.

1. **APOLOGIES:** None
2. **NOTIFICATION TO BE RECEIVED FOR INTENT TO FILM, PHOTOGRAPH OR RECORD ANY ITEMS.**
No intent declared
3. **COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS**
Cllr Manser declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 9.3 (cheques to be signed)
Cllr Gooch declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 7.11 (Remembrance Sunday arrangements) and agenda item 9.3 (cheques to be signed)
4. **MINUTES of the Meeting held on 13th July 2016**
The minutes were Agreed as an accurate record and the Chairman signed off the official copies.
5. **MINUTES of the Extra-Ordinary Planning Meeting held on 2nd August 2016**
The minutes were Agreed as an accurate record and the Chairman signed off the official copies.
6. **POLICE MATTERS**
No PCSO's present
7. **RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT MATTERS**

7.1 Supergoal and Rebound Fencing Project

Previous funding proof has now been sent to Playinnovation demonstrating interest in the parish and our commitment to the project; we will now wait for an update from the company.

7.2 Barming Youth Football Club Annual Meeting

The annual meeting was held on 6th July 2016 and the minutes were circulated to all members. The football club are still looking at availability of suitable land for a permanent home ground and will continue to do so. It was also discussed that the corners of the parish field, by the container and in the carpark, will be included as part of the boundary maintenance programme.

7.3 Barming Youth Football Club Hiring Fee for Presentation Event 23rd July 2016

At the previous meeting it was agreed to hire the pavilion and parish field to the football club for their annual presentation so that issues regarding parking did not occur. Cllr Manser reported that they did not use the field or much of the carpark and felt that it was inappropriate to charge them for spaces that are available for members of the public. It was agreed, with all in favour to waive the charge due to lack of use.

7.4 Clerk's overtime and hours

As agreed at the last meeting the overtime hours had been paid, the Clerk provided a breakdown of the hours worked and all members authorised the cheque to be signed. The management of the new pension scheme will add extra time to working hours but this cannot be evaluated until we are fully compliant and it has been running for a few months; the Clerk will report back to the council regarding this in December.

ACTION: Clerk

7.5 Ash Tree Die Back by Bull Orchard and Hall Place

Cllr Gooch had a local resident bring to her attention the trees between Bull Orchard and Hall Place as there were concerns that certain trees were suffering from die back. Cllr Doe kindly took a look at the trees and confirmed that there

is no die back and is happy to discuss the matter with anyone with concerns. Cllr Gooch has also reported the matter to Maidstone Borough Council and to Kent County Council as part land owners.

7.6 Parish Field Northern Boundary

Cllr Gooch visited the property of the resident who had attended the July meeting and reported overgrown brambles encroaching his property. There are concerns over the height of the boundary, which has increased at a rapid rate due to recent weather conditions and members agreed that the hedge needs to be cut back and lowered to 6ft. The Clerk will contact Landscape Services and arrange for the winter cut of the hedge to be brought forward to early November; this will ensure the whole northern boundary from each corner will be brought down in height. **ACTION: Clerk**

7.7 Future grounds, boundary and tree maintenance

Nigel Gibson from 'Inside Out' had provided a written quote for the exterior maintenance of the hardstanding area and perimeter of the pavilion which was presented by the clerk. Cllr Manser had also received a verbal quote from a local resident which was cheaper. Although members appreciated the resident's offer and their community spirit, they felt that as the individual did not have public liability insurance their quote could not be taken forward. It was agreed to accept Nigel Gibson's quote with five members in favour and Cllr Manser against.

The clearance of the weeds by Matterdale Gardens was completed on the 14th August and members agreed for Cllr Doe to contact Mr King for another quote to continue clearing back the weeds running along the rest of this boundary between North Street and Cedar Drive.

Members discussed the boundaries of the parish field. It was confirmed that the west and north sides of the field are cut back every year but there is no arrangement in place for the Southern side. Members agreed that all areas need to be maintained to deter nuisance behaviour. Cllr Doe has offered to view the southern boundary of the parish field, including the corners by the container and far end of carpark so that he can advise the parish council on the amount of work that is needed; the Clerk will then obtain three quotes for a permanent contract for the work to be carried out.

Cllr Gooch voiced her concerns regarding the trees by the play area and also on the land at Cedar Drive as the branches are hanging extremely low. Members agreed for Cllr Doe to view all of the trees and quote for work that is required, ready for the next meeting. Cllr Greenwood said he will look into what other parishes have in place with regards to annual tree maintenance and report back at the October meeting. **ACTION: Cllr Doe, Cllr Greenwood, Clerk**

7.8 'Involve' Older Peoples Services

Cllr Vizzard refrained from commenting on this item due to his connections with Age Concern UK.

A majority of members agreed to donate £25.00 towards the services offered to the local residents of Barming and the cheque was signed.

7.9 MBC Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Consultation

Members have no comments to submit.

7.10 Kent County Council Local Transport Plan Consultation

The Chairman was delegated by members to complete the survey for this consultation.

7.11 Remembrance Sunday Arrangements

Cllr Gooch refrained from commenting due to a pecuniary interest in this item.

Members agreed, with all in favour, to continue to rent the road sign equipment from Peter Gooch, to donate £50 to the Royal British Legion for the wreath and to pay £30 towards the cost of printing 300 service sheets.

All members will be available to help on the day with various duties.

7.12 Kent Highways Meetings with Parish Councils

Cllr Gooch highlighted concerns from the recent meeting and informed members of the remedial works; these included the new signs at the zebra crossing and the 'no entry' sign being slightly re-positioned at the war memorial. The notes of the meeting will be circulated and also featured in the Barming News. The meetings have been set up to foster good relationships with KCC and discuss issues, it also gave BPC the opportunity to pass on complaints regarding signage issues and parking problems. **ACTION: Cllr Gooch**

7.13 Distribution of Barming News

It was agreed by all members to reduce the distribution down Farleigh Lane as this area is too far beyond Barming Parish. Cllr Greenwood suggested publishing the newsletter on the website but there were concerns regarding residents not having regular access to the internet; members agreed to bear this in mind for the future. Cllr Gooch will highlight the parish boundary for residents' information in the next issue of the Barming News. **ACTION: Cllr Gooch**

7.14 Future BPC Projects

Cllr Manser updated members regarding the fault with the water heater at the pavilion; an engineer will be coming to look at the heater free of charge.

It was agreed for the Clerk to contact Gavin Lawrence for advice regarding the purchase and installation of a new kitchen in the pavilion. **ACTION: Clerk**

8 PLANNING.

8.1 Planning applications received prior to the meeting

No other applications received.

8.2 16/503786 – Water Tower, Rede Wood Road – additional information re acoustic fencing

MBC's Planning Committee will consider this application at its meeting on the 15th September 2016 - Cllr Manser and Cllr Gooch confirmed that they will be attending.

8.3 16/501727/FULL – 76 North Street: External materials re replacement dwelling – No objections, with all in favour.

8.4 16/506292/FULL – The Farleigh, Farleigh Bridge ME16 9NB: Conversion of loft – No objections, with all in favour.

9 FINANCE

9.1 Budget Monitoring

The Clerk circulated the monitoring sheet to all members prior to the meeting.

9.2 Income received

The following payments received since the last meeting were noted:

Parish Hall Rent	£ 717.50
Pavilion Rent	£ 903.00
Barming News Income	£ 124.00
Natwest Interest	£ 3.55
VAT Refund Payment	£ 755.82

Confirmation of payments made

The Clerk informed members that the direct debits for South East Water will be increasing. The Clerk and Chairman will be investigating the increased consumption at the pavilion once the location of the meter can be confirmed by the water company.

The following payments were agreed

DD - South East Water – Pavilion	£ 15.00
DD - South East Water – Parish Hall	£ 2.00
DD – EDF Electric Pavilion	£ 53.00
DD – EDF Electric Pavilion debit on account	£ 77.80
DD – EDF Electric Parish Hall	£ 73.00
DD – NEST Pension Payment August Pay	£ 10.76
DD – NEST Pension Payment Sept Pay	£ 15.71

9.3 Cheques for signature

All Councillors were in favour “that the Council approve the following payments”. This was **Agreed** and the following cheques were signed.

2828 – S Manser – Expenses	£ 35.45
2829 – Dusters – Cleaning Services	£ 168.00
2830 – Commercial Services – grounds maintenance	£ 584.96
2831 – Mrs E Whitehouse – gate duties	£ 60.00
2832 – Mrs N Attwood – salary & office allowance	£1210.48
2833 – Dusters – cleaning services	£ 210.00
2834 – Mrs F Gooch – Expenses	£ 5.80
2835 – Southern Water – Hall Waste	£ 64.03

2836 – Southern Water – Pavilion Waste	£ 237.15
2837 – S Manser – Expenses	£ 6.60
2838 – Nigel Gibson – Hall Maintenance Visit	£ 80.00
2839 – PKF Littlejohn LLP – Annual Return Audit	£ 360.00
2840 – Post Office Ltd – HMRC Payment	£ 630.78
2841 – Craigdene Ltd – Playground inspection	£ 114.00
2842 – W.A King & Son – Weed Clearance	£ 300.00
2843 – Mrs N Attwood – Expenses	£ 41.64

10 MATTERS OF REPORT

10.1 County Councillor's Report

County Councillor Stockell was not present.

10.2 Borough Councillors/Chairman's Report

Cllr Gooch reported that the bins have not been collected regularly at Barnjet layby, but added that this was not down to the catering van as they tend to keep the area nice and clean.

MBC are being extremely strict regarding where they collect fly tipping from, this is due to diminishing government funding and the need to review services provide; the parish council will need to keep this in mind when completing the budget as no news has been received regarding any Parish Service Scheme funding for future years.

Cllr Gooch was pleased to confirm new bins will be installed by MBC at the parish field and at the bottom of South Street.

Cllr Gooch informed members of a complaint received regarding the accumulation of rubbish and over grown foliage surrounding the post office and shop on Bull Orchard; Cllr Doe will try and obtain contact details so that a letter can be sent to the owner of the property.

There are continuing talks with East Farleigh, Teston and Highways concerning the width restrictions on the ancient bridge and it has been confirmed that Highways will not install traffic lights at Farleigh Bridge for safety reasons. Cllr Gooch will include the matter in the next Barming News.

Cllr Gooch noted that the new fencing recently installed at the parish boundary by the corner property at Cedar Drive has been completed with little disturbance to parish council land.

It was agreed that whilst Cllr Gooch is unavailable, Cllr Manser will move the black bin and black sacks from the car park to the entrance of the parish field ready for the fortnightly collection.

10.3 Individual Councillors Report

Cllr Doe reported a complaint received regarding the over grown foliage by Beverley Road shops and it was confirmed that Highways do cut this area back once a year.

Cllr Manser reported that the Barmara Group booked the hall but then informed her that they no longer require it. It was agreed by all members to refund the original hire charge.

A local resident has requested larger signage at the parish field to remind people to clear up any excrement that is left after walking their dogs. Members were against installing new signs as they felt the ones that are there are sufficient and dog owners know that they are responsible for their own mess.

10.4 Clerk's Reports

The Clerk informed members that the annual playground inspection had been completed by Craigdene Ltd and all areas that were mentioned on the report were low risk or to be monitored.

11 CORRESPONDENCE

Country Side Voice – Summer 2016
 NHS Connected – Summer 2016
 Arbor – Summer 2016
 CPRE Field Work – Summer 2016
 LCR – Autumn 2016

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Full Meeting of the Council will be held on **Wednesday 12th October 2016 at 7.30pm** in the Parish Hall, Tonbridge Road.

With nothing further to be discussed, the meeting was closed at 9.36pm