

# BARMING PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE 117<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2016

### AT THE PARISH HALL, TONBRIDGE ROAD

**PRESENT:** Cllr F Gooch in the Chair, Cllr S Manser, Cllr V Hyndman, Cllr A Doe, Cllr B Vizzard, PCSO Maybank and Mrs Nicola Attwood

**IN ATTENDANCE:** 15 members of the public

**APOLOGIES:** A number of apologies had previously been received from local organisations who were unable to attend.

1.	<p><b>WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN</b></p> <p>Cllr Gooch welcomed all present and invited PCSO Maybank to report local crime figures.</p>
2.	<p><b>GUEST SPEAKER – MEDWAY VALLEY COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP</b></p> <p>Guy Schofield thanked Barming Parish Council for their continued financial support and gave a very informative talk explaining what the rail partnership does for the local area to promote smarter travel.</p> <p>Various events were discussed including cycling and organised walks from stations; also the ‘safety in action’ workshops that are held in schools to highlight the importance of rail safety.</p> <p>The signal boxes will be decommissioned along the line and as many local people see them as part of the local community, suggestions were given as to what some of them could be used for which included: coffee shops, radio stations, shelters or even libraries!</p>
3.	<p><b>KENT ASSOCIATION of LOCAL COUNCILS COMMUNITY AWARDS SCHEME 2016</b></p> <p>Cllr Gooch gave a short speech to thank the winner of this award, Barry Plummer, who has diligently looked after the allotments off North Pole Road for a considerable number of years at no cost to the Parish Council; a well-deserved award for all his dedicated work.</p> <p>A framed certificate was then presented to Barry and a photo for <i>Barming News</i> was taken.</p>
4.	<p><b>ANNUAL REPORT/ QUESTIONS &amp; ANSWERS</b></p> <p>Cllr Gooch reported on Parish Council achievements during the previous year including repointing at the parish hall, providing privacy curtains at the pavilion, organising the Annual Remembrance Service and dealing with various building and grounds maintenance issues.</p> <p>Residents were given the opportunity to ask questions.</p> <p>Challenging an article in <i>Barming News</i> about the need for a Community Centre with bowling facilities, parking etc., residents expressed satisfaction with various clubs and activities already taking place during the day and evenings, well within walking distance at the village hall, the parish hall, the church etc.</p> <p>Barming Youth Football Club expressed their long standing wish for a home ground, ideally in Barming, incorporating a Community Hall as a joint project with the Parish Council, and this will be discussed at the next parish council meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup> 2016.</p> <p>Cllr Gooch then concluded the formal part of the meeting for refreshments.</p>