

## BARMING PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> JULY 2021 at 7.30pm

AT THE PARISH HALL, TONBRIDGE ROAD

**PRESENT:** Cllr Vizzard in Chair, Cllr Manser, Cllr Doe and Cllr Williams.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** One member of the public attending for co-option.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Cllr Gooch and the Clerk

**2. NOTIFICATION TO BE RECEIVED FOR INTENT TO FILM, PHOTOGRAPH OR RECORD ANY ITEMS.**

No intent to record any items.

**3. COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS**

Cllr Manser declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 7.3 (cheques to be signed).

**4. MINUTES of the Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

The minutes were **Agreed** as an accurate record by all members. Proposed by Cllr Doe and seconded by Cllr Williams with all members in favour.

**5. CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR**

Mr Chris Passmore was co-opted as a Councillor on to Barming Parish Council this was proposed by Cllr Doe and seconded by Cllr Manser with all members in favour. The Clerk will arrange all relevant paperwork to be sent to Mr Passmore.

**ACTION: Clerk**

**6. RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT MATTERS**

**6.1 Reopening of Halls**

The Clerk had informed members prior to the meeting that three plumbing companies had been approached for quotations. Unfortunately, although two of them have been to look at the halls, no quotations have been submitted to the Clerk. Members agreed for the Clerk to continue to contact plumbers for further quotations and to liaise with members as to getting the work carried out over the summer. Costings for the work will be authorised via email and ratified at the September meeting.

Three companies had been approached for quotations to clean the exterior of the pavilion but unfortunately, only one had submitted a quotation. Members were all in favour of accepting the quotation for £350+vat to clean the windows, fascia/soffits and the exterior cladding of the building. Cllr Manser will attempt to deal with the weeds herself by using domestic weed killer before an outsourcing decision is made.

**ACTION: Cllr Manser, Clerk**

**6.2 Speed Watch Project**

Cllr Williams reported that two of the volunteers have now dropped out leaving only herself and Cllr Vizzard trained. One volunteer has not been successful in completing the online training therefore, Cllr Williams is contacting the police to enquire if road side training is available. Cllr Williams suggested that another call for volunteers is advertised in the next Barming News as three volunteers will not be sufficient to perform a rotational watch. Tonbridge Road, Heath Road and Beverley Road will be the considered sites for the speed watch.

**ACTION: Cllr Williams, Cllr Gooch**

**6.3 Future Tree Inspection**

The Clerk has contacted three tree surgeons and the responses were as follows:

Contractor A: "£395+vat for 30 trees. This would be to inspect them, plot them and suggest works if required. "There is not any law on surveys so the frequency is up to you. Some schools, for example, choose annual surveys and others bi annual or longer (especially if they have a competent person checking the trees – which is what the Forestry Commission suggest) Some sites also stagger their surveys. I think it would be a case of having the first inspection done and going from there."

Contractor B: Does not carry out tree reports but has sent me details of a company in Yalding who do. The Clerk has now contacted the other company.

Contractor C: No response yet.

The Clerk has also contacted Darren Rouse and Andrew Williams at MBC for some advice on tree reports. Unfortunately, MBC do not offer inspections 'in house' they use a specialist consultancy service and would not be able to extend this service to other clients. Andrew agrees that the current regime that we have in place, is perfectly adequate. MBC inspect all of their trees for safety on a 3–4-year rotation.

Members were all in favour to proceed with Contractor A; the Clerk will be asked to arrange the inspection.

**Cllr Doe and Cllr Vizzard have contacted the Clerk to say that members agreed to proceed with Qualitrees – who were contractor A – Please confirm at the September meeting as this was not on the meeting notes from Cllr Williams.**

#### **6.4 Boundary Commission Consultation**

Members declined to comment on this consultation.

#### **6.5 Worldy Wise Event**

Due to limited resources members of Barming Parish Council declined to be involved with this future event.

#### **6.6 Apollo Window Quotation**

The Clerk had previously circulated the quotation to replace the misted glass units at the parish hall. Cllr Manser proposed to proceed with the work, this was seconded by Cllr Doe with all members in favour.

#### **6.7 Play Area Inspection Update**

The Clerk has sent copies of the play equipment inspection over to Creative Play who have agreed to carry out remedial work under warranty. Unfortunately, as they only installed grass matting, they would have to charge to replace the rubber mulch flooring around the posts that need re-concreting. This work would cost £110.00 per post. The Clerk has emailed the original company who installed the rubber mulch and they have informed her that they would anticipate it costing approximately £800.00.

Members were in favour of proceeding with the remedial work and paying for Creative Play to replace the rubber mulch whilst on site.

#### **6.8 Maidstone Borough Council Affordable Housing Survey**

The Clerk circulated the survey prior to the meeting so responses can be discussed and collated ready to be submitted by 15<sup>th</sup> August 2021. Members declined to complete the survey.

#### **6.9 Society of Local Council Clerks: Annual Subscription**

All members were in favour of authorising the annual subscription payment.

#### **6.10 Requests to hold BBQs at the Parish Field**

Cllr Manser has received numerous requests to hold BBQs at the parish field and asked that the item was placed on the July agenda for a vote. In March 2021 BPC adopted the revised terms and conditions of hiring which state "BBQs are not permitted anywhere on the premises, on the tarmac, on the field or in the car park" Members were concerned regarding fire safety and the condition of the grass etc if we were to allow BBQs and also the amount of litter that they could potentially create; BPC previously voted against them being allowed.

Members are asked to discuss whether anyone wishes for this matter to be revisited as our Standing Order 7 states "a resolution shall not be reversed within six months except either by special motion, which requires written notice by at least 4 councillors to be given to the Proper Officer"

Therefore, either a) a further 3 members wish to reverse the decision not to allow BBQs and write accordingly to the Clerk for it to be placed on the next available agenda for voting on; or b) the item is placed on the agenda 6 months from March for consideration. In the meantime, the revised terms and conditions stand as agreed.

Cllr Manser wishes to see large signage installed on the gate and fence to deter BBQs by the pavilion and requests that the Clerk looks into quotes.

**ACTION: Clerk**

## **7 FINANCES**

### **7.1 To note Monitoring Report to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

The Clerk circulated all the finance documentation to all members prior to the meeting.

## 7.2 To note income received and report any unpaid invoices

None to report.

### Income received

The following payments received since the last meeting were noted:

Natwest Interest	£	0.41
Allotment Rent	£	25.00
Pavilion Rent	£	117.60
Parish Hall Rent	£	148.90

### Confirmation of payments made

The following payments were agreed

DD – MBC Field Bin	£	19.50
DD – EDF Electric Pavilion	£	19.00
DD – EDF Electric Parish Hall	£	66.00
DD – BT Wifi Monthly Payment	£	28.15
DD – MBC Rates	£	264.00
DD – Business Stream water	£	16.09
DD – Unity Trust	£	22.50

## 7.3 Cheques and Online Payments

A list of online payments was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Online: Mrs N Attwood – expenses 48.82

Marmax – Bench 412.80

Dusters – Cleaning 252.00

Employer/Employee payments – 1559.31

Cheque payments: 3432 S Manser – expenses 1.50

3431 Hadlum Printers – Barming News 275.00

## 8 PLANNING

Any planning matters received prior to the meeting

**21/503423LAWPRO Broadlands North Pole Road** – Lawful development certificate for the proposed loft conversion (21/502848PNEXT no objections at June meeting) – BPC has no objections to this planning application.

**21/503544/SUB Beckets Place Rectory Lane** – Submission of Details to Discharge Condition 6 (Full Details and Schedule of Works) Subject to 18/502156/LBC – BPC has no objections to this planning application.

## 9 MATTERS OF REPORT

### 9.1 County Councillor's Report

Cllr Webb did not attend the meeting.

### 9.2 Borough Councillors Report

Cllr Gooch did not attend the meeting.

### 9.3 Individual Councillors Report

Cllr Passmore shared updated maps of the Pea Field development with proposed footpaths and bridleways. Cllr Vizzard suggested that Cllr Passmore continues to keep BPC informed on future progress. **ACTION: Cllr Passmore**

Cllr Manser reported that a black BMW vehicle is constantly parking in the parish hall car park. The registration was checked and the vehicle is taxed. Members requested for the PCSO to be contacted so that the owner can be requested to move the vehicle. **ACTION: Clerk**

Cllr Manser informed members that she had been asked whether a hirer could show the upcoming rugby match at the pavilion on a big screen. Members suggested that the Clerk contact the relevant department regarding licensing and report the outcome to members. **ACTION: Clerk**

### 9.4 Clerk's Reports

The Clerk did not attend the meeting but had sent in a report prior to the meeting.

The Clerk has sent out the usual letter to the residents of South Street to remind them that access to the field (via their garden gates) is not a legal right of access but a grace and favour arrangement. Also, in the letter it was mentioned that residents are legally entitled to cut back over hanging vegetation up to the boundary and that no cuttings should be thrown back into the field as this will be seen as fly-tipping.

The Clerk has received two responses which have been circulated to members and is now asking Cllr Doe to take a look at the boundary and advise BPC what work is required. Once Cllr Doe informs BPC of the work needed, the Clerk will respond to the residents.

PCSO Report: "I have spoken to a few owners of vehicles in the Church car park and the Car park with the park on it also down Church Lane. I have not had any suspicions that these drivers are up to no good as of yet but I will continue to look out for suspicious vehicles going to these car parks. There have been reports of nuisance bikes down North Pole Road which I am regularly patrolling and keeping a look out for. Unfortunately, I have not seen these bikes or heard them since I have been aware of this but I have been in contact with one of the residents regarding this matter."

## **10 CORRESPONDENCE**

None

## **11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Full Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021** at **7.30pm** in the Parish Hall, Tonbridge Road.

The meeting was closed at 20.30pm.

DRAFT