

## **BARMING PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2018 at 7.30pm**

**AT THE PARISH HALL, TONBRIDGE ROAD.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Manser in Chair, Cllr Vizzard, Cllr Doe, Cllr Willson and Clerk Mrs N Attwood.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** One member of the public.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr Gooch
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)  
Cllr Doe declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 7.3 (cheques to be signed)
4. **MINUTES of the Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018**  
The minutes were **Agreed** as an accurate record and the Vice Chairman signed off the official copy
5. **RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT MATTERS**

#### **5.1 Remembrance Sunday Service Feedback**

Cllr Doe and Cllr Willson commented on how well the Remembrance Service went and what a good turnout of local residents there were. Cllr Manser mentioned the email that Cllr Gooch had circulated regarding the work schedule for the service and praised the huge amount of organising and preparation that goes into arranging the whole event. The Clerk informed members that the de-briefing meeting will take place on the 30<sup>th</sup> November at Fay's property where Sandra's comments will be discussed along with any other constructive feedback that is received.

#### **5.2 Parish Field Play Equipment Upgrade**

Unfortunately one of the companies did not get back to us with any plans or quotations so the Clerk approached a fourth company, as three quotations are needed. Cllr Gooch and Manser met with the representative and a provisional date of week commencing 26<sup>th</sup> November has been set for a return visit to view plans. The Clerk has received a telephone call from the first company who sent in their quote and has been informed that the prices may increase due to time frames; the Clerk will confirm the price once all of the other quotations have been received.

The Clerk suggested that an extra meeting is held to look at the plans to save time at the next full council meeting; this was agreed by all members.

#### **5.3 Heave Remedial Work, Car Park and Field Entrance**

All members agreed that an excellent job had been completed on the heave, car park and field entrance; the Clerk confirmed that the final payment had been sent to the contractor.

#### **5.4 National Non-Domestic Rates: Parish Hall & Pavilion**

The Clerk reported that on several occasions both her and the Chairman have been approached by a company claiming that they could arrange for the parish council to receive a refund from the non-domestic rates, but obviously for a charge. Cllr Gooch contacted MBC on behalf of BPC to investigate if we were due any kind of refund and £4,234.50 was refunded into the BPC account for 2012-2018. Unfortunately the investigation did bring up that BPC probably should have been paying some kind of rates on the pavilion; we are still waiting for confirmation of the amount which Cllr Gooch will be chasing so therefore we will keep the refund set aside until we receive further details.

**ACTION: Cllr Gooch**

#### **5.5 KCC Budget Consultation**

BPC will not be submitting any comments for the consultation.

#### **5.6 BPC Maintenance Cycle**

Cllr Manser asked the Clerk to arrange the clean down of the pavilion as it is due and informed members that one of the external slats on the pavilion is still loose (located on the North side underneath the window). The loose weatherboard is not causing an issue so members felt that it could be left until other jobs need to be completed down there. Members were happy with the updated maintenance cycle and did not have anything else to add. **ACTION: Clerk**

### 5.7 Information Board: Barming Bridge

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated quotations for replacement information boards. Due to the high cost of replacement, the Clerk went to view its actual condition. The frame is the only part that seems to have rotted and the bottom of the post is slightly damaged so it was suggested that a carpenter is contacted, possibly the gentleman who replaced the parish hall barge boards, to quote for repair rather than replace. Cllr Gooch had also sent the Clerk a photo of the Teston Parish Council board which has also just had the frame removed rather than the whole unit replaced – the Clerk would not like to see the hinges on the BPC board left accessible due to concerns of possible vandalism. Members all agreed for a carpenter to be contacted and Cllr Doe offered to obtain the quote; the Clerk will send Cllr Doe copies of the photographs so that he can show the carpenter. The Clerk also asked Cllr Doe to ask for a quote for the parish hall door to be fixed as it is still sticking.

### 5.8 BPC Future Projects List

Members were asked for suggestions of future projects that they wish to see completed around the parish. Cllr Gooch had sent in several suggestions to the Clerk which included replacement windows to the rear of the parish hall, kitchen replaced at the parish hall and flooring replaced throughout, flooring in the toilets and kitchen replaced at the pavilion, new railings at the parish hall (similar to the ones at the village hall) and enhance the grounds by adding planters as the hall is looking tired; we should take pride in the parish and strive to enhance it wherever possible. Cllr Manser would like to see a village clock installed somewhere in the parish. All other members agreed to send the Clerk any suggestions that they may have by the end of next week so that they can be considered in the budget process.

### 5.9 Kent Highways Parish seminar

Cllr Gooch attended the seminar on behalf of BPC and a report has been circulated to all members; copies of handouts from Highways are included in the correspondence envelope which must be returned to the Clerk.

### 5.10 Hermitage Quarry Management Advisory Group

Cllr Gooch has circulated her report from the advisory group to all members. Cllr Vizzard felt that it was a good meeting and quite informative. Unfortunately it was highlighted that a swathe of trees have been taken out that should not have been, it is on an area that will be quarried at some point and therefore reinstated; Gallaghers apologised and gave assurance it will not happen again.

## 6. PLANNING

### 6.1 Applications received prior to the meeting

No planning applications had been received.

## 7. FINANCE

### 7.1 Budget Monitoring

The Clerk circulated prior to the meeting.

### 7.2 Income received

Parish Hall Rent	£ 1,497.50
Pavilion Rent	£ 916.22
Natwest Interest	£ 16.85
BYFC Annual Fee	£ 725.00
Hall Deposit	£ 50.00
Barming News Adverts	£ 222.00
MBC Match Funding for play equipment project	£10,000.00
MBC PSS Payment	£ 1,772.48
EDF Refund	£ 126.83

### Confirmation of payments made

*To authorise the following payments, made since the last Meeting:*

DD – EDF Electric Pavilion	£ 58.00
DD – EDF Electric Parish Hall	£ 64.00
DD – Business Stream – Pavilion Water	£ 298.01
DD – Castle Water – Parish Hall	£ 10.89
DD – Castle Water – Allotments	£ 30.53

### 7.3 Cheques for signature

*To resolve that the following cheques in respect of payments due can be signed:*

3108 – Mrs F Gooch – Expenses	£ 65.83
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3109 – Dusters – Cleaning Services	£210.00
3110 – Mr A Doe – Tree Work @ Parish Field and Cedar Dr	£450.00
3111 – S Manser – Expenses	£ 51.48
3112 – Mrs N Attwood – Expenses	£ 63.13
3113/14 – Wages & Pension Payment	£ 1181.90

Cheques that have been written out to pay for authorised work between meetings:

3104 - £3,360.00	
3105 - £3,360.00	Whites Landscaping – Heave and Car park work
3107 - £3,492.00	
3106 – £ 815.00	G Lawrence – Water Heater, Taps, Valve and Pipework @ Pavilion.

## 8 MATTERS OF REPORT

### 8.1 County Councillor's Report

County Councillor Stockell was not present.

### 8.2 Borough Councillors/Chairman's Report

The BT phone kiosk at the bottom of North Street has recently been removed.

### 8.3 Individual Councillors Report

Cllr Doe reported that he had received a complaint regarding the bins by the river as they are overflowing regularly; the Clerk will contact MBC and request a larger bin.

Cllr Doe has also received a complaint about the vacant plots at the allotments which seem to be left wild; the Clerk will contact the allotment secretary to find out how many plots are vacant and Cllr Doe will visit the allotments to view the offending plots and report back to members.

**ACTION: Cllr Doe, Clerk**

Cllr Vizzard reported that one of the developments along Hermitage Lane has had its access denied by the planning department so it will now go to appeal.

Cllr Vizzard mentioned the concerns regarding access on Broomshaw Road to the Pea Field which has been voiced by the 'Save Barming Pea Field Group'; developers have confirmed that it will be for emergency vehicle access only. There have been further objections to the access from Fullingpits Avenue onto Hermitage Lane but Highways do not see it as an issue.

Cllr Vizzard asked if BPC would grant permission for the Rotary Club to plant crocus bulbs (approximately 1000) as they did last year, along the Tonbridge Road on the Parish owned land; members thought they looked lovely last year and were happy for them to be planted again this year.

Cllr Manser reminded members that at the previous full council meeting the cleaning of the roll of honour was discussed and she would be happy to clean it but would need a step ladder to do so; Cllr Doe said that he could provide the ladder and help. It was suggested that on the day that Cllr Doe and Manser meet, they could also do the annual walk around the parish field to look at the trees. There is no cause for concern regarding the trees, but it is good to actively keep on top any work that may need to be carried out.

**ACTION: Cllr Doe, Cllr Manser**

Cllr Manser reported that the outside drain from the pavilion kitchen sink has recently been unblocked by a local company. They will be installing an external leaf cover over it and a sink waste trap to the kitchen sink.

Cllr Manser informed members that residents have started to move into the new properties at Barming Rise.

### 8.4 Clerk's Report

Mucky Munchkins have been contacted by Cllr Gooch informing them that they are welcome to look for a metal storage solution for the group as BYFC have now installed their additional container. BPC would like the storage to go next to containers; unfortunately permission will not be given for any storage to be placed on the opposite side of the car park as BPC would have concerns that undesirable behaviour may take place behind any storage there.

The PCSO and a Councillor from another local parish have both contacted the Clerk to inform BPC of recent burglaries within the Maidstone and Barming areas. PCSO Pay reported that jewellery is the main item being targeted at present, particularly Asian gold; the police are working hard to catch the suspects. The Councillor (from a local parish) who informed the Clerk of the recent burglary believes that the suspect was not working alone as CCTV shows him speaking into a two way radio. The Clerk would like to remind all residents to be extra vigilant and ensure all doors and windows are locked when leaving your property.

The Clerk confirmed that Cllr Gooch, Willson and Vizzard cannot attend the December meeting so therefore BPC will not be quorate and the meeting will have to be cancelled; the Clerk will discuss the issue with the Chairman and keep members informed.

## 9 CORRESPONDENCE

LCR, Kent Voice and Handouts from Highways Seminar

**10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Full Council Meeting is to be confirmed.

The meeting was closed at 20.15pm

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