**BARNHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Meeting held on Tuesday,14th November 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

**MINUTES**

**Present**: Parish Councillors J. Bauer, I. Heading, P. Keast, C. Merrifield, E. Wyer (Chair). Borough Councillor: A. Smith. County Councillor: J. Spicer. C. Dowson (Clerk)

Ten members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence**: Cllr’s. A. Copeland and S. Watson
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th September 2017** were agreed and signed by the Chair.
3. **Matters arising from those minutes**. The re-adoption of Standing Orders was agreed as distributed to the parish councillors. A copy will be placed on the website. Proposed: JB/Seconded: IH.
4. **Declarations of Interest** – none.
5. **Reports**
   1. **Suffolk County Council** (Cllr. Spicer)

* **School Transport**. Cllr. Spicer reported that the consultation regarding this has been delayed, but should take place around Christmas and the New Year. This will affect Barnham children who attend Thurston. Cllr. Spicer will be able to give more details in January.
* **Reporting of faults to the SCC helpdesk** and the delay in getting outstanding work completed – the clerk will liaise with Cllr. Spicer regarding these items.

Action : Clerk

* **Minerals and Waste Local Plan – Preferred Options Consultation.** Suffolk County Council held a briefing session in the village hall on 6th November. Cllr. Spicer briefed the parish council meeting about this and a discussion, with comments from the public, took place. Cllr. Spicer will be making objections – particularly regarding the consultation process. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council would object to the proposals for Barnham. The Chair thanked members of the public for attending the meeting and noted that comments will be taken into account when the planning committee prepares its response to the consultation. The Chair encouraged as many people as possible to submit a response to the consultation and it was noted that any comments need to be submitted to the county council by 11th December 2017. The clerk has included details about this on the website and will prepare a notice for “The Link” and the noticeboard.

Action: Planning Committee

* 1. **St Edmundsbury Borough Council** (Cllr. Smith)
* **Enforcement and proposed planning application for travellers’ site, Station Road**. A meeting is planned with Cllr’s Smith and Wyer with the planning officer. Refusal of the current planning application will be requested.
* **Storage Depot**, Station Road. It was noted that the Parish Council has objected to this application. Should this application be approved, Cllr.Smith is willing to talk to the planning department to have this referred to further committees if the parish council request this.
* **Enforcement Issue – The Old Forge, Blacksmith Lane**. This area – which is very untidy – will be discussed with the enforcement officer next week by Cllrs. Smith and Wyer.
* **Village Hall**  (Cllr Watson).
  + **Cllr. Watson has resigned from the village hall committee**. A new representative for the parish council is now needed.
  + **Request for funding for car park works**. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council will fund the second phase of village hall car park works (re-siting of the recycling bin area) - quotation received £859. The first phase (new fencing adjacent to the village hall) has been paid for by the village hall. Proposed by IH and seconded PK.
  1. **RAF Honington** (Cllr Heading). The November meeting has been postponed until 27th November.

1. **Planning**
   1. **Applications:**

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| DC/17/1817/HH  Hobbiton, 8 Water Lane, Barnham, IP24 2NA | Extension to existing dormer on south elevation for D. McConnell | “No objection” response submitted |
| DC/17/1487/FUL  Station Yard, Station Road, Barnham, Suffolk | 1no. industrial building for Paul Rackham Ltd. | Objection (Letter detailing causes for concern submitted on 17.10.17) |

* 1. **Appeals/Enforcement issues** – see point 5.b. above.
  2. **Minerals and Waste Local Plan** – Preferred Options Consultation – see point 5.1. above.
  3. **Neighbourhood Plan** – Cllrs. Merrifield and Wyer will re-arrange their meeting with the Borough Council regarding this (original meeting planned was cancelled).

Action: ED/CM

1. **Play Park** – Cllr. Merrifield has visited the play area and all recommendations detailed in the recent inspection report have been implemented. Cllr. Merrfield will monitor the rope on one of the items of equipment.

Action: CM

1. **Data Protection**. Cllr. Merrfield recently attended a briefing meeting held by the Suffolk Association of Councils. Cllr. Keast is familiar with data protection legislation and is happy to represent the council regarding this the clerk will forward him information received from SALC to date.

Action: PK/Clerk

1. **Speed Watch update** – Cllr. Bauer reported that regular surveys are being held. He expressed thanks to volunteers and, in particular, Mr. R. Aitken who stores equipment and often steps in at short notice. Cllr. Bauer will liaise with the clerk regarding some forms that need printing.

Action: JB

1. **Finance**
   1. **Grass cutting contract**. After a short discussion it was agreed that the current contractor should continue to fulfil this contract and that it was not necessary to put this work out to tender. The clerk will check with Mr. Thrower the cost for next year and whether he would be able to perhaps increase the frequency of cuts during the summer months as once a month is sometimes not enough.

Action: Clerk

* 1. **Village Cricket Club** - Cheque received for £759.16. The funds from the dissolved cricket club have been given to the Parish Council to use for the village. It was agreed that the clerk should put an advert in “The Link” to see if there are any specific community projects that could put this money to good use. This will be an agenda item for the January 2017 meeting if responses/applications have been received.

Action: Clerk

* 1. **Clerk’s report –** the clerk had distributed her report prior to the meeting.

**Beacon for Battle's Over - A Nation's Tribute 11th November 2018.** It was noted that the Rev’d Sue Nutt is liaising with the Euston Estate regarding a beacon. Cllr. Heading is willing to represent the council regarding activities planned for 2018.

Action: IH

* 1. **Cheques for signature**

The insurance premium and schedule was accepted and it was also unanimously agreed to give a donation to the Royal British Legion of £50 (budget heading S137) which includes the purchase of a wreath for remembrance day. Proposed: IH/seconded: PK.

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| Royal British Legion | £50.00 |
| SALC (data protection/chair courses) | £126.40 |
| Mr. D. Thrower | £215.00 |
| Community Action Suffolk - Insurance | £594.17 |
| Community Action Suffolk - website hosting | £60.00 |
| Mrs. C. Dowson | £375.60 |
| Mr. E. Wyer (travel expenses for course) | £65.16 |

1. **Public Forum**
   1. **Signage**. When the new houses were built opposite the village hall the “Mill Lane” sign was never replaced. It was agreed that the clerk will request a sign for both ends of this street. Also noted that “The Street” and “Euston Road” are also not marked.

Action: Clerk

* 1. **Pavement on south side of St. Martin’s Lane** – between war memorial and traffic lights. Noted that this was maintained by Highways Dept., but hasn’t been maintained for quite some time. The clerk will query this with the County Council.

Action: Clerk.

* 1. **Parking on village green**. Parents/carers are parking on the village green and causing damage when picking up and dropping off children. The clerk will prepare a note for “The Link”. There is no objection to a local resident placing a “do not park on the green” sign. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

* 1. **Mobile phone reception.**  Thanks to Alex Watson who has received responses from 17 individuals regarding poor mobile phone reception in the village. O2 and Vodaphone are the worst network providers in the village. It was agreed that any lobbying regarding this is welcomed by the parish council.
  2. **Dog waste bins**. Cllr. Heading has been asked why there are now two dog waste bins by the village green/bus stop and there isn’t a dog waste bin at the other end of the village (Water Lane). The clerk explained that the new bin by the bus stop was not purchased as a dog waste bin, but all bins are now provided as such. The clerk will check options and costs for another dog waste bin for Water Lane.

Action: Clerk

1. **Date of next meeting**: Full Council Meeting – Tuesday, 9th January 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.