**BARNHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 9th January 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

**MINUTES**

**Present**: Parish Cllrs. P. Keast, S. Watson, E. Wyer (chair). Borough Cllr. A. Smith. County Cllr. J. Spicer. Clerk - C. Dowson (reporting)

Two members of the public: Mr. Watson and Mr. Law

1. **Apologies**: Cllrs. J. Bauer, I. Copeland, I. Heading, C. Merrifield
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting** held on 14th November 2017 – agreed.
3. **Matters arising** from those minutes (for report and not on the agenda):
4. **Enforcement issue - Old Forge/Blacksmith Lane**. The chair has the name and address of the owner and he will write to him to see if the area can be cleared.

Action: EW

1. **Missing street name sign Mill Lane**. Someone from the Borough Council is coming out to check street name signage.
2. **Overgrown footpath in St. Martin’s Lane** (left hand side approaching the traffic lights). Mr. Law informed the meeting that the area has been cleared, although not that well. He has contacted the council and they will tidy this some more.
3. **Declarations of Interest** – none.
4. **Public Forum**
   1. **Parking on village green**. Mr. Law has been trying to find out who owns the village green – it isn’t Euston Estate, so presumably it’s the Borough Council. The Chair noted that the parish council doesn’t own any land in the village. Mr. Law is happy to put chain link fencing around the area, if perhaps the parish council could supply the materials. As a first step Mr. Law is going to write to the Borough Council to see if they own the land. If the Borough Council owns the land and is happy for a fence to be installed, Mr. Law will prepare a quotation for the materials - to be discussed at a later meeting.
5. **Reports**
   1. Suffolk County Council – Cllr. J. Spicer.

**Update on Minerals and Waste Consultation**. Cllr. Spicer thanked the parish council and members of the public for taking the time to respond to the consultation. There will be a further consultation period in May/June and then a public enquiry by the Inspector at the end of the year at the earliest. Cllr. Spicer suggests that if Barnham is not taken off the list by the May/June consultation, then a strategy needs compiling and a specialist would need to be appointed to represent the case with the best arguments for the public enquiry. This could incur a large cost. The hope is that Barnham will be taken off the list before May/June.

**Broadband**. West Farm and New Zealand Cottages are setting up an owner partnership with BT. Government and County Council grants may be able to help with funding.

**School Transport**. The consultation is running until the end of February. Cllr. Spicer will be writing to schools.

**Right of Way – from Industrial Estate on Station Road to Deuchar Ride**.Cllr Spicer was asked if the county council might be able to help with the very poor condition of this private road (damage is being caused by lorries). The Elveden estate owns the access road and land and Indigo (Waste Management) are the tenants. Cllr. Spicer will follow this up with the Rights of Way Officer.

* 1. St Edmundsbury Borough Council

**New West Suffolk Operational Hub – Hollow Road, Bury St. Edmunds**. Cllr. Smith reported that planning permission has been granted and this is planned to be completed by August 2019.

**Bury Town Centre Master Plan** has been adopted as a planning document.

**Planning Application, Gypsy Site** – Station Road. Cllr. Smith has contacted Ms. Penny Mills, the officer concerned, about lack of progress. She has given the agent of the occupiers until the end of January to respond regarding technical matters. If she approves the site, it will still need to be reviewed by the Development Control Committee. (This could go to Appeal again).

**Planning Application, Industrial Unit at Station Road** – this will be going to the Development Control Committee and a decision is pending. Increased traffic is a worry. The chair noted that he is talking with Trading Standards people about lorries on the A663 going the wrong way.

* 1. Village Hall – Cllr. Wyer will represent the parish council on the Village Hall committee in the interim. The clerk will ask the village hall secretary about the covenant regarding a parish councillor being a member of the committee.
  2. RAF Honington – Cllr Heading wasn’t able to attend the last meeting, but he has asked for a copy of the minutes.

1. **Planning**
   1. Applications – see point 6(b) above.
   2. Neighbourhood Plan – the Chair and Cllrs. Merrifield and Watson hope to set up a meeting with the Borough Council regarding this.

Action: CM

* 1. Suffolk County Council Minerals and Waste Consultation – see point 6(a) above.

1. **Play Park** – Cllrs. Copeland and Merrifield not in attendance.
2. **Speed Watch update** – Cllr Bauer not in attendance.
3. **Finance**
   1. **Clerk’s report**

**Dog waste bin for Water Lane** – it was agreed not to pursue this. There is a significant cost involved and the placement of the bin would be a problem. The parish council is not aware of a dog fouling problem in the village.

**Donation of cricket club money - £759.16** – there have been no applications to use this money for a project within the village. The clerk will transfer this amount to the savings account.

**Beacon – celebration of end of WWI** – the clerk has asked for a quotation for the new beacon from Euston Estate. It was noted that there are also plans to knit/make thousands of poppies to decorate the village in November. It was agreed that other items needed for this project can be purchased (eg. flyers, posters) within the £700 maximum figure.

* 1. Budget and precept 2018/2019 – The budget figure and precept application of £7,600 was unanimously agreed. (Noted there is no increase in the precept application for 2018/2019).
  2. Re-adoption of financial regulations. These were unanimously agreed.
  3. To note cheques being issued:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Mrs. C. Dowson - Clerk's pay Dec/Jan | £361.04 |
| SALC - underpayment for training (VAT omitted) | £20.00 |
| St. Edmundsbury BC - emptying bin | £36.40 |

1. Items for report from Parish Councillors:

**Footpath between village and Barnham Heath**. Cllr. Merrifield has reported that this is very overgrown (the grass cutter strims this path at the start and end of the grass cutting season). It was agreed that the grass cutter will be asked to clear this path as a one off as soon as possible.

**Action**: Clerk

1. **Date of next meeting: Full Council Meeting** – Tuesday, 13th March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.