**BARNHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the meeting held on

Tuesday, 13th September, 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

**Present**: Cllrs. J. Bauer, I. Clark, A. Copeland, I. Heading, P. Keast, J. Spicer (Suffolk County Council) E. Wyer (Chair). Mrs. C. Dowson (Clerk)

1. **Apologies for absence** – Cllr. S. Watson
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting** held on 12th July 2016. These were agreed. Proposed by IC and seconded PK.
3. **Matters arising from those minutes** (for report and not on the agenda). Cllr. A. Copeland would like to see a copy of the email regarding the St. Thomas’ Trust Trustees referred to in point 11.b of the July minutes. Cllr. Wyer will give Cllr. Copeland a copy of this.

Action: EW

1. **Declarations of Interest**. None.
2. **Reports**
   1. **Suffolk County Council** – Cllr. J. Spicer.

* Cllr. Spicer apologised for her absence at the last meeting.
* Bus shelter – it was noted that the clerk has confirmed to Cllr. Spicer that no additional work is needed. It was also noted that the additional bus stop still hasn’t appeared and Cllr. Spicer has been trying to follow this up, however, as no complaints have been received from villagers, it was agreed that this does not need to be pursued.
* Indigo Waste Services Ltd. have heavy goods vehicles in Barnham and when exiting their premises onto Station Road they travel left which is not permitted. Cllr. Spicer suggested that the company should have an Exemption Certificate if they are doing this. Cllr. Clark knows the owner personally and so he will contact the company to check the situation.

Action: IC

* Cllr. Spicer informed the meeting that Rushford Parish Council has asked for a lorry ban through their village. It was noted that the alternative route would be up to Thetford and onto the 1088, so not actually affecting Barnham.
* No further solar farm application has been received.
* Cllr. J. Bauer updated Cllr. Spicer regarding the Speed Watch initiative in the village. There is one new member and one awaiting approval. Cllr. Bauer is hoping that the volunteers will work on their own soon.
* Noted that the school’s additional classroom is successfully in place.
* Noted that the Fete was a very successful day.
  1. **St Edmundsbury Borough Council** – Cllr. Wade
* Cllr. Spicer reported that Cllr. Wade (in her absence) has been trying to progress the Enforcement Notice for the Travellers on Station Road. Cllr. Wyer has also spoken to the Enforcement Officer regarding this.
  1. **Village Hall** – No report received.
  2. **RAF Honington** Cllr. Heading noted that the last meeting was on 10th May. There will be daytime flying activity (Griffin helicopters) from 3rd to 7th October. Cllr. Heading has asked that the sale of RAF Barnham be on the November agenda.

1. **Planning**

A “no objection” response has been submitted for the follow planning applications:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| DC/16/1290/LB | 5 Church Lane, Barnham, IP24 2NB | Application for listed building consent - replacement gates |
| DC/16/1645/TCA | The Old Bakery, Water Lane, Barnham, Thetford | Trees in conservation area - 1 no. holly - fell. |
| DC/16/1898/TCA | The Old Parsonage, Church Lane, Barnham, Thetford IP24 2NB | Trees in conservation area - reduce height, remove stem pushing against wall |

1. **Play Park update** – Cllr. Copeland reported that work should commence on Saturday to remove the existing bark. Work will commence week of 19th September to install the mulch flooring under the slide. The clerk will contact the “mole man” to try and remove the mole in the play area. The clerk will liaise with the village hall committee regarding this as it makes sense to try an clear the play area adjacent to the village hall at the same time. A budget of £120 was agreed. Proposed by IC and seconded by JB.

Action : Clerk

1. **Speed Watch update**. It was noted that information regarding results for this should be available on the Neighbourhood Watch site. The Clerk will look for a link and post this on the Parish Council website. Cllr. Bauer is trying to source a replacement for the broken battery, but it is proving more difficult than he thought.

Action : Clerk/JB

1. **Barnham Church Clock** – Cllr. Wyer explained that there could be a problem finding a volunteer to continue to manually wind the clock. Mr. K. Jordan has found a company that can install an automatic electric winding device (initial estimate in the region of £4,000), so funding is needed. It was agreed that the village would miss a working clock as it is a unique feature. The existing clock was gifted by the Duke of Grafton to the village. It was agreed in principle that the Parish Council would consider making a donation towards this providing there is a fixed quote and the clock has been confirmed to be in a good working order. It is unlikely that another volunteer to wind the clock can be found (although this could perhaps be advertised in “The Link”). The final decision will depend on the cost. Proposed by IC and seconded JB. Cllr. Keast will ensure the church clock is an agenda item for the Parochial Church Council meeting later in September. The clerk will write to Mr. Jordan and Cllr. Keast is happy to liaise with the different groups. An accurate estimate after inspection of the clock is needed. (It was noted that it would be very beneficial if Mr. Jordan would act as the project manager for this and Cllr. Keast will speak to him about this).

Action: PK and Clerk

1. **Barnham Bowls Club**. No representation has been received from the bowls club. The purchase of the freehold of the bowling green by the Parish Council was discussed (this refers to two emails received from Mr. Wilding. The freehold has been offered to the Parish Council for £10,000. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council does not have funds for this.
2. **St. Thomas Charity**. Cllr. Copeland has distributed various papers regarding this charity as he is concerned about the process to appoint Trustees. Cllr. Wyer informed the meeting that, having read the documentation, the Parish Council does not have any responsibility to manage this charity. The Charity’s Trustees appoint their own Trustees and there is no legal paper trail stating that the Parish Council should appoint Trustees. Cllr. Wyer noted that it is also not the Parish Council’s responsibility to query the Mandate. Cllr. Copeland informed the meeting that the Registration of the Charity was completed by the Parish Council, however, Cllr. Copeland has not provided any paperwork to endorse this. It was proposed and agreed that, if he so wishes, Cllr. Copeland should write to the Charity Commission expressing his concerns on a personal basis, however, not as a representative of the Parish Council.
3. **Resignation of Councillor**. Cllr. Copeland is moving out of the parish in September. It was noted that he is able to remain a councillor if he meets the various criteria. (Cllr. Copeland will not be able to stand again for election if he does not live in the parish or have any business connections).
4. **Finance**
   1. Clerk’s report
      1. The clerk has made an application for further funding to comply with the transparency fund regulations and maintaining a website (3 hours per month equalling £135).
      2. The clerk has submitted the “declaration of compliance” to the Pensions Regulator.
      3. The clerk has confirmed an order for mulch bond for the play park to the value of £3,800 plus VAT.
      4. Various correspondence providing information (mostly from Suffolk Association of Local Councils) has been forwarded to councillors.
   2. To note cheques being issued. Proposed by IC and seconded by PK.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cheque no. | Date | Name | Amount |
| 101016 | 13.9.16 | Mrs. C. Dowson (Clerk Aug/Sep) | £347.70 |
| 101017 | 13.9.16 | Mr. D. Thrower (Grass cutting Jul/Aug) | £460.00 |
| 101018 | 13.9.16 | Business Services at CAS (Insurance) | £568.24 |
|  |  |  | **£1375.94** |

* 1. To note and accept the annual audit return. Details of the audit are posted on the Parish Council’s website.

1. **Date of next meeting.**  Tuesday, 8th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.