**BARNHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES

Tuesday, 10th January 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

**Present**: Cllrs. J. Bauer, I. Clark, A. Copeland, I. Heading, P. Keast, E. Wyer (Chair) and Mrs. S. Watson.

Partly: Cllrs. Mrs. J. Spicer (Suffolk County Council) and A. Smith (St. Edmundsbury Borough Council) and Const. Mark Ellis – Safer Neighbourhood Team, Suffolk Police

Reporting: Mrs. C. Dowson (Clerk).

1. Apologies for absence - none
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting** held on Tuesday, 8th November 2016 were agreed. Proposed – Cllr. Keast and seconded Cllr. Clark.
3. **Matters arising from those minutes**
	1. **Purchase of new bin** at the bus stop in front of the school. The clerk has ordered the bin and there will be no charge for bi-weekly emptying.
	2. **Church clock**. Cllr. Keast reported that volunteers have come forward to take over the winding of the church clock. Therefore, the purchase of a winding mechanism is on hold at the moment.
	3. **Moles in play area**. Cllr. Wyer asked Cllr. Copeland if the moles were causing a problem for the newly installed surface under the slide. It was confirmed that there appears to be no problem at the moment.
4. Declarations of Interest – none.
5. Reports
	1. **Suffolk County Council**
6. Cllr. Spicer would be interested to see some details about the speed watch, for example regarding how many people (generally) speed and whether the scheme is working. Cllr. Bauer noted that we don’t know how many people have received a letter and so he will raise this question.

Action: JB

1. Cllr. Spicer (and possibly) Cllr. Smith may be able to help with a donation towards the re-surfacing in the play area (bonded rubber mulch). The clerk will send a copy of the invoice.

Action: Clerk

1. Cllr. Watson mentioned potholes in the road and overgrown vegetation at the traffic lights. The Clerk will report these and also place an article in “The Link” and advertise self-reporting of potholes and other concerns as the County Council website is extremely easy to use for reporting problems.

Action: Clerk

1. Cllr. Spicer has received an email from Guy Smith the Area Surveyor regarding speeding on the A134 opposite RAF Barnham. Speeds of between 40-60 mph (60% from the Thetford direction) were noted. There has been a meeting on site and new signage is being suggested. Cllr. Spicer will respond that this is very positive, but that any additional signage needs to be effective.
	1. **St Edmundsbury Borough Council**
2. Cllr. Smith has had a tour of the village including to look at the two outstanding Appeals. He has spoken to the Appeals Officer, (also named) Andrew Smith, regarding the travellers’ site on Station Road and compliance of their Notice is due the weekend of 14th January. Regarding an older site opposite RAF Honington, this is not an eviction priority for the planning office as such and they are awaiting an application. Cllr. Smith has a meeting with Cllr. Stephen Wood and both these issues will be raised.
3. Barnham RAF base. Cllr. Smith has received information about this site and it is not likely to become a residential site (contamination of site). The stone curlew has also made an appearance on the site. In the short term it will become an annex to Honington as a training facility. Cllr. Smith asked what the parish councillors thoughts were regarding this site and it was noted that there is concern that the village would be fragmented if additional housing was built there and there would be access issues. The village is familiar with the RAF site and, therefore, the suggestions that things stay the same is acceptable.
4. Cllr. Smith has sent the clerk information from UK Power regarding a register of vulnerable people which would be helpful should there be a power cut. The clerk will publicise this information via the website and face book.
5. Cllr. Smith noted that towns and parishes would not be subject to a referendum should precept applications exceed 2%.
	1. **Suffolk Police -** Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Mark Ellis – reported on the crime figures for last year and it was concluded that Barnham has one of the lowest in the area (31 reported crimes were reported).

* 1. **Village Hall**
		1. Cllr. Watson reported that the village hall would welcome a new bin in the play area. However, it was noted that in the monthly inspection reports this is an area that is not highlighted as a problem.
		2. Cllr. Watson enquired who owns the hedge along the village hall car park adjacent to the road. Cllr. Wyer suggested that Cllr. Watson contacted the county council regarding this.
	2. **RAF Honington** – Cllr Heading reported that there are some day light flying exercises taking place in January and February (helicopters). There will be some building works at the Honington site shortly which may need access via the Rymer gate.
1. **Planning**
	1. **Applications**

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| DC/16/2656/FULHill View, Euston Road, Barnham, Suffolk1 no. detached dwelling | Applicant:Mr and Mrs R Aitken | A “no objection” response has been submitted (handled by Planning Committee) |
| DC/16/2712/TCACargill House, The Street, Barnham Trees in a Conservation Area - reduce height of mature beech and sub dominant beech | Applicant:Mr Barett |  Clerk will submit a “no objection” response. |

* 1. **Appeals**

See notes above – point 5(b)i.

* 1. **Adoption of Telephone Kiosk**. A contract has been received from BT. Cllr. Keast agreed to act as project leader and he will check the contract so that any necessary queries can be addressed (eg. regarding electricity, lead paint, etc). It was agreed to sign the contract subject to any necessary points being clarified. Proposed: Cllr. Bauer and seconded Cllr. Clark. After the contract has been signed, a use for the kiosk will be determined. Noted that local residents have shown an interest in looking after the kiosk.

Action: PK and Clerk

1. **Play Park.** Cllr. Copeland confirmed that areas highlighted as needing attention in the annual inspection report are in hand. It was noted that there are no major issues. Cllr. Copeland agreed that he is able to continue to look after any maintenance issues for the play park.

Action: AC

1. **Speed Watch update.**  Cllr. Bauer reported that there has not been very much surveying over the Christmas period. There is a new volunteer on the team and everyone will meet in the New Year to organise a schedule.
2. **Finance**
	1. **Clerk’s report**. This was distributed to councillors at the beginning of January and outlines correspondence and issues dealt with since the previous meeting.
	2. **To note cheques being issued**:

no. 101024 dated 10.1.17 for Mrs. C. Dowson (Clerk Dec/Jan) - £363.38.

* 1. **Precept application 2016/2017**. After discussion it was agreed to submit a request for £7,600 (last year it was £7,000). Proposed: Cllr. Clark and seconded Cllr. Keast. A vote was taken five in favour and two against (Cllrs. Copeland and Watson).
1. **Date of next meeting**: Full Council Meeting on Tuesday, 14th March at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

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