**BARNHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the Parish Council Meeting held on

Tuesday,14th March 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

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

Partly: Cllrs. Mrs. J. Spicer (Suffolk County Council) and A. Smith (St. Edmundsbury Borough Council) Reporting: Mrs. C. Dowson (Clerk).

1. **Apologies** for absence: Cllr. Alan Copeland
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday, 10th January 2017**. Cllr. Watson expressed her concern about the reporting of point 9.c. on the basis of emails sent by Cllr. Copeland to councillors about why he did not agree with a precept increase. However, it was noted that the minute referring to the precept application was accurate as it summarised the outcome of the discussion and noted that a vote had been taken. With the exception of Cllr. Watson, the minutes were agreed by all councillors present to be a true record. Proposed Cllr. Keast and seconded Cllr. Heading.
3. Matters arising from those minutes. None.
4. Declarations of Interest. None.
5. **Reports**
   1. **Suffolk County Council**

* The Parish Council would like to thank Cllr. Joanna Spicer for the grant of £300 from her Locality Budget towards the cost of partly resurfacing the play area.
* A lorry ban is being introduced on the road from Stanton to Garboldisham. Cllr. Spicer doesn’t think it will effect Barnham as there is already a lorry ban through the village, however, please let her know if a difference is noticed. As this is being monitored by the Police it would be good if the name of the company and lorry details were noted. The Chair noted lorries coming from the A11 are damaging Station Road verges.
* There is a 30 mph speed limit through Elveden and it’s been noticed that the speed van is often there, even though there is very little traffic. The Chair asked if the speed van could be redirected to Barnham. Cllr. Spicer will talk to the county councillor representing Elveden as this is not part of her area.
  1. **St Edmundsbury Borough Council**
* The Parish Council would like to thank Cllr. Andrew Smith for the grant of £400 from his Locality Budget towards the cost of partly resurfacing the play area.
* Cllr. Smith has invited parish councillors to an Energy from Waste Day event. Unfortunately, no-one able to attend.
* Boroughs and Districts within the county will be taking on civil parking within their remit.
* Cllr. Smith flagged the Masterplan for Bury St. Edmunds – the clerk has passed details on to parish councillors and posted information on the parish council Facebook page.
* Cllr. Smith has met with the Chair, Cllr. Wyer, and Andrew Smith, the enforcement officer, about the travellers’ in Station Road (Notice of Eviction has been served). The update is that legal matters are progressing. Cllr. Smith is suggesting that a meeting with the solicitor be held.
* Matthew Hancock (Minister of Digital and Culture) held a meeting at Bardwell and Parish Councillors from the area were invited. Cllr. Spicer would like to hear from people in Barnham that don’t have good broadband. It was noted that broadband is good in Barnham, but it isn’t known if Barnham Heath have good broadband (Cllr. Keast will find out). Both Cllrs. Spicer and Smith are keen to get a broader picture – especially about pockets that are not being serviced very well. Clerk will forward details to them about the group of businesses by West Farm.
* The Chair has recently attended a planning conference and he asked if any local parishes are setting up a Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr. Spicer is aware of Ixworth and Barningham starting this process. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting and, due to the special nature of Barnham village being surrounded by the Euston Estate, the Chair will have an initial conversation with the estate manager, Andrew Blenkiron, before the May meeting.

*Action: Cllr. Wyer*

* 1. **Village Hall**. Nothing to report.
  2. **RAF Honington**. Nothing to report.

1. **Resignation of Cllr. Ian Clark**

Cllr. Ian Clark has resigned from the Parish Council after more than 30 years’ service, many of those years he served as Chairman. (Letter dated 2nd February). The Parish Council would like to extend its thanks to Ian Clark for his dedicated contribution and support for the village.

Cllr. Clark’s resignation from the Parish Council has left four positions to be filled which were discussed:

1. **Co-option of new Councillor**. Charles Merrifield has volunteered to serve. His appointment was unanimously agreed. Proposed by Cllr. Wyer and seconded by Cllr. Keast.
2. **Signatory for cheques**. It was unanimously agreed that Cllr. Keast be returned to the mandate as a cheque signatory. Proposed by Cllr. Wyer and seconded by Cllr. Watson.
3. **New Vice-Chair**. There is no legal obligation to have a vice-chair and as no-one volunteered for this post, the Chair will nominate a councillor to Chair meetings in his absence.
4. **New member for planning committee**. Charles Merrifield was nominated and this was unanimously agreed. Proposed by Cllr. Wyer and seconded by Cllr. Heading.

*Action: Clerk*

1. **Planning**
   1. **Applications** – none received since the January meeting.
   2. **Appeals** – Enforcement Notice – Station Road - see point 5b above.
   3. **Adoption of Telephone Kiosk**. The clerk has signed the contract on the Parish Council’s behalf and the telephone has now been officially decommissioned. The clerk has met with Mrs. Paula Smith who, together with other local residents, is happy to look after the kiosk. As a first step Mrs. Smith would like some help with deciding what to use the kiosk for and she will place an article in “The Link” requesting ideas. (The installation of a defibrillator will involve considerable costs. Therefore, this will be something to perhaps consider for the future). Mrs. Smith will try to find someone in the village with the skills to paint the kiosk (the clerk has the BT’s paint kit ready for use).
   4. **Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) Barnham**.

Edmundsbury Borough Council have asked if the play area should be included as a dog excluded site in a new scheme they are introducing. There would be a £100 charge to cover administration and signage. It was unanimously agreed not to take part in this due to the expense involved and also there does not appear to be a problem within the play area as it is fenced.

*Action: Clerk*

* 1. **Ipswich Borough Council Local Plan**

This has been published. It was agreed that the parish council would like to remain involved in the future planning process. Clerk will inform Ipswich Borough Council.

*Action: Clerk*

1. **Play Park**

**Maintenance** – Cllr. Susan Watson reported that Cllr. Copeland (on his return) will be dealing with the outstanding maintenance issues (replacement fixings) and that he would like permission to source and fund fixings to deter pigeons in the play area – this was agreed. Cllr. Copeland will be making arrangements to meet with Timothy McGee, the play area inspector, to discuss the relevance of the “additional items” recorded in his annual report.

*Action: AC*

1. **Speed Watch update** – Cllr. Bauer reported that there had been several days of very successful monitoring outside the church. The highest speed recorded was 49mph from the Euston direction. It was agreed that a road sign that lights up indicating the speed of approaching cars or “slow down” might be a good idea. Cllr. Bauer will look into the cost for this.

*Action: JB*

1. **Finance**
   1. The Clerk’s report has been distributed to all councillors before the meeting and was noted.
   2. To note cheques/direct debit being issued:

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| Dir. Deb. | 16.1.17 | St. Edmundsbury BC (Emptying of litter bins) | £36.40 |
| Dir. Deb. | 23.1.17 | St.Edmunds BC (new bin for bus shelter) | £335.99 |
| 101025 | 20.2.17 | British Telecommunications plc (Adopt a Kiosk) | £1.00 |
| 101026 | 14.3.17 | Mrs. C. Dowson (Clerk Feb/Mar) | £351.78 |
| 101027 | 14.3.17 | SALC (Ed. Wyer Planning Conference attend.) | £75.00 |

* 1. **Parish Council website**. After discussion it was unanimously agreed that the “councillor page” would be enhanced if a short biography and photo for each councillor was added. Also, it was agreed that councillor addresses should be included. Councillors checked their “declaration of interest forms” which will be forwarded to the new monitoring officer to ensure that the Parish Councillor details are also accurate and up to date on the Borough Council website. Cllr. Copeland will need to complete a new form as he has moved house.

*Action: Clerk*

1. **Items for report or next agenda**

**Neighbourhood plan**. Cllr. Wyer will distribute details about this before the next meeting as it is a complicated process.

*Action: EW*

1. **Date of next meeting** - Tuesday, 9th May at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. This will be the Annual General Meetings.