

BARNHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 9th June 2020 using “Zoom” – virtual meeting

Present: Parish Cllrs: J. Bauer, M. Hawthorne, I. Heading, C. Merrifield, P. Keast, E. Wyer (Chair), Mrs. S. Watson. Suffolk County Cllr: Mrs. J. Spicer. West Suffolk District Cllr: A. Smith. Clerk: Mrs. C. Dowson

1. **Apologies** and approval for absences. None.
2. **Chair and Vice-Chair.** As it has not been possible to hold the Annual Meeting (due to the Covid 19 situation), it was agreed and noted that the Chair and Vice Chair will remain in office until there is an opportunity to hold an Annual Meeting. Other responsibilities within the parish council will also remain.
3. **Declaration of interests** and dispensations. None.
4. **Minutes of the previous meeting** – Tuesday, 10th March 2020. These were agreed.
5. **Matters Arising** from those minutes. As this parish council meeting was called to approve the annual accounts, it was noted that these minutes will be reviewed in July.
6. **Clerk’s May report** (which included details about cheques raised and responses to planning applications) was noted.
7. **Community grant** for £200 for cake making initiative. Sincere thanks to Cllr. Andrew Smith, our District Councillor, who is funding this from his locality budget. (Small amendments to the 2020/2021 budget headings were noted: S.137 expenditure increased to £360 and Other Expenditure (VE event) decreased to £190)
8. **Annual accounts** and associated paperwork for the external audit were noted. These will be signed by the chair and clerk (as responsible financial officer):
 - a. Annual governance statement – agreed.
 - b. Application for an exemption certificate – agreed to submit this.
 - c. Accounting statements – agreed and noted. (Balance c/f £16,825.43)
9. **Any other items**
 - a. **Items from Cllr. J. Spicer**
 - i. Boundary Committee for England. Proposals are now ready, but no consultation is able to take place due to the Covid 19 situation, so this is deferred until next year. It looks like Barnham will stay within Blackbourn.
 - ii. Indigo planning application. Both the Environment Agency and “Rights of Way” have made comments. Cllr. Spicer will attend the meeting at County Council if it goes ahead on 14th July.

- iii. Cllr. Spicer congratulated the village of Barnham for coping so well during the difficult climate.
 - iv. VAS Sign. Cllr. Spicer will try to find out why it is taking so long for the Highways Department to approve and install the poles for the VAS sign. Cllr. Spicer is happy to help with further funding for this. Cllr. Bauer will send details to Cllr. Spicer of who he has been contacted within the County Council.
- Action: JB
- v. Speed Cameras on the A134. Cllr. Spicer will request a report regarding the first six months after their installation.
 - vi. Minor repairs – C633. Cllr. Wyer informed the meeting that these haven't worked very well following the recent rain.

b. Items from Cllr. A. Smith

- i. Cllr. Smith tendered his apologies for the July meeting.
- ii. NRG Oil retrospective planning application, Station Road. The Development Control Meeting is scheduled for 5th August – subject to receipt of investigations from the Environment Agency.

c. Items from Parish Councillors

- i. Speeding through village. It was felt that during the Covid 19 lock-down there has been increased speeding through the village. Speed Watch isn't taking place at the moment. Cllr. Bauer will check if speed watch signs could be left out – even though they aren't taking place – so this may deter speeding.

Action: JB

- d. **New bench on green**. Thanks to Cllr. Hawthorne and the Euston Estate for organising this. Cllr. Merrifield is looking to source a plaque (brass or copper) or an engraving direct on the bench. The text has been agreed: "In grateful thanks to all those who served in WW2 and to commemorate the 75th anniversaries of VE and VJ day"

10. Date of next "virtual" Parish Council Meeting - Tuesday, 14th July 2020 at 7.00pm