

**BARNHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES**

Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7.00pm using “zoom”

**Present:** Parish Cllrs: J. Bauer, I. Heading, P. Keast, Mrs. S. Watson, E. Wyer (Chair). Suffolk County Cllr: Mrs. J. Spicer. District Councillor: A. Smith. Member of the public: Mr. A. Blenkins. Clerk: Mrs. C. Dowson.

1. **Apologies for absence** received from Cllr. C. Merrifield – these were approved. (Apologies also received for Cllr. Hawthorn, but not noted at the meeting). No declaration of interests or requests for dispensations made.
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting** – Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020. These were unanimously agreed.
3. **Matters Arising from those minutes** – none.

4. **REPORTS/UPDATES:**

a. Public forum – nothing to report.

b. Suffolk County Council (County Cllr. Spicer)

- **Update on Contravention of Lorry Management Plan (TPO C633 – Station Road).**

Cllr. Spicer is worried about the complexity of the task to re-write this plan. Cllr. Wyer suggested that robust enforcement of conditions issued on recent planning applications is needed – not a re-write as such. Cllr. Spicer offered to help finance new signage on the C6333 when you leave the NRG/Indigo sites, however, the conditions for these sites are not yet finalised.

Cllr. Wyer asked about the status of the widening of the road when entering the new, still vacant, storage/distribution site. The clerk will write to Sam Bye to ask about this.

Action: clerk

It was agreed to hold a special meeting to discuss the expected planning application for the proposed quarry site (which will affect traffic on the C633).

Action: clerk

**Electoral Review of Suffolk** – draft recommendations. Consultation 15<sup>th</sup> September to 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Cllr. Spicer explained that within the proposals Barnham, Euston and Fakenham Magna will be moved from Blackbourn to Brandon. Cllr. Spicer explained that the situation is complicated by having the RAF base (with large resident numbers) within this area. However, Cllr. Spicer will be objecting and requesting that the three villages remain in the Blackbourn ward. It was unanimously agreed that the parish council should also write against the proposal. The same reasons submitted for the new West Suffolk District Council should be given:

Historically, socially and culturally Barnham is strongly linked to the Blackbourn area. Barnham church is a member of the Deanery based at Ickworth and the catchment senior school is also at Ickworth. There are strong connections to all villages connected to the Euston Estate. The village has no connection with Brandon, indeed the A11 divides the area.

Action: clerk

c. **West Suffolk District Council** (District Cllr. Smith)

- **Update on NRG Oil Depot retrospective planning application.** Cllr. Smith has spoken to the case officer and she is still waiting the environmental investigative report and the hedge line/acoustic fence details from the agent. Cllr. Smith will continue to monitor this. (It is thought the recently approved Tree Preservation Order (no. 004) is in connection with this application).

- **Update on gypsy site** – West Suffolk are continuing to research what legal options are open to them.

d. **Village Hall** – remains closed due to the Covid pandemic.

e. **RAF Honington** - Cllr. Spicer mentioned that the RAF information officer was present at the Honington parish council meeting and there will some apache helicopter training flights over

our area soon. It would appear that local parish councils were not directly informed about this.

- f. **Play Area** - Cllr. Merrifield has received a quotation from Goddards Building Contractors to carry out small remedial repairs as noted in the inspection report (quote no. 0042 for £611 plus VAT). It was unanimously agreed to commission this work.
- g. **Speedwatch - VAS sign**. Cllr. Bauer reported that there is still no news from the county council regarding the pole installation for the sign. Cllr. Bauer will again forward information about the VAS sign to Cllr. Spicer so that she can try to move this forward.

Action: JB

Despite a recent request for volunteers to help with the speedwatch group, none have been forthcoming. It was noted that the speedwatch isn't able to work at the moment due to the lock down.

**Lorry watch** – no further update.

## 5. PLANNING MATTERS

- a. Applications received for comment since September meeting:

DC/20/1426/HH	2 Water Lane, Barnham. IP24 2NA	Porch to eastern elevation and insertion of door. Removal of existing door and infill on north elevation. Replacement and repairing fenestration to external elevations	No comment submitted after consultation via email.
TPO/004(2020)	Confirmed: Tree preservation Order	Station Yard, Station Road, Barnham	

- b. **New Local Plan “issues and options”**. **Consultation 13 October – 22 December 2020**.

After a wide ranging discussion, it was unanimously agreed that the parish council should make a submission regarding aspirations for the future of the village within the Local Plan. Cllr. Wyer asked all councillors to review the local plan on line and email him with ideas, comments or concerns. The parish council will hold a special meeting on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss a proposal which will then be communicated to the village via the website, social media and The Link. Andrew Blenkiron from the Euston Estate to be invited to the meeting.

Action: All councillors/clerk

- c. **Enforcement issues** – Gypsy site, Station Road – see point 4.c. above.

## 6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a. **Clerk’s 2020/2021 salary and homeworking allowance** (as per NALC paycales – scale SCP 6). This was unanimous agreed.

- b. **Cheques for signature** – these were approved:

Mrs. C. Dowson	£592.43	Clerk Oct/Nov (includes CAS website hosting fee of £60)
Mr. D. Thrower	£285.00	Grass cutting
SALC	£30.00	Budget training for Cllr. Merrifield
Royal British Legion	£50.00	Wreath/donation – S.137 payment

- c. **Bank Balances** – Statement dated 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Current Account: £16,424.47 and Savings Account: £4,922.92.

- d. **Clerk’s report** – this was previously distributed to councillors and was accepted with no queries.

**7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

a. **Correspondence.** The following two documents were noted. It was unanimously agreed that no comment is necessary from the parish council.

- i. consultation leaflet about proposed Euston Solar PV – no comment needed. (Andrew reported that no responses had been received regarding this).
- ii. consultation leaflet about proposed Sunnica Energy Farm – no comment needed from the parish council.

**b. Items from Parish Councillors**

- i. Cllr. Bauer – concern that the planting to shield the warehouse (one of the conditions of the planning application) is dying. The clerk will write to the planning department regarding this.

Action: Clerk

- ii. No other points raised by parish councillors.

8. **DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.00pm. This will include setting the budget/precept application for 2021/2022.