**BARNHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Tuesday, 9th November 2021 at 7.00pm – Village Hall

**MINUTES**

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

Suffolk County Cllr: Mrs. J. Spicer. West Suffolk District Councillor: A. Smith. Clerk: Mrs. C. Dowson. Ten members of the public.

1. **Apologies** were received from Cllr. Matthew Hawthorn and these were approved.

The Chair informed the meeting that sadly Cllr. Charles Merrifield has resigned as a parish councillor due to health reasons. Therefore, there is now a vacancy for a parish councillor. The clerk will check the procedure for co-opting a new parish councillor.

Action: Clerk

1. **Declaration of interests** – none received.
2. **Minutes** of the meeting held on Tuesday, 14th September 2021 were unanimously agreed to be a true record.
3. **Matters Arising** from those minutes. There is one applicant for the position of clerk (C. Dowson will retire 31.1.2022). The chair and clerk will informally meet with the candidate and keep parish councillors informed of progress.

Action: Chair/clerk

1. **Public Forum and Reports**

a. Public forum

The Chair welcomed ten members of the public who were in attendance to voice their concern regarding the increased number of large agricultural vehicles driving through the village. There seems to be a particular increase since the introduction of the anaerobic digester at Euston. After a wide ranging discussion, it was agreed that County Cllr. Spicer will request a public meeting for parish council members and Barnham residents to express their concerns to the Euston Estate. The anaerobic digester operator will also be asked to attend. Hopefully, by working together a solution may be found. (The surrounding villages, Honnington and Sapiston, are also concerned about the increase in agricultural traffic).

County Cllr. Spicer noted that there were only a few agricultural permits authorised for the village and she will check if agricultural vehicles are exempt from the lorry ban through the village. Cllr. Spicer will forward a link to the planning permission for the anaerobic digester as this may be of interest to some residents to ascertain whether all environmental statements are being adhered to. Concerns voiced covered: the volume and speed of the agricultural traffic; danger to residents; damage to property due to vibrations; damage to roads and curbs (the road isn’t wide enough for a tractor and car to pass); also, why the village is being used when the Estate has access to Dukes Ride.

In the meantime, the Chair encouraged residents to report lorries/large tractors to Suffolk County Council via their website. If vehicles in excess of 7.5 tonnes are driving through the village this is a breach of the existing Traffic Restriction Order. Also, he noted that the lorry watch in place at the moment actually refers to the lorries on the C633 (Station Road) and not the C634 (main village) so extending this is something that could be looked into.

b. Suffolk County Council

i. **Lorry map review in Suffolk**. It was agreed that the parish council should respond to this survey. (County Cllr. Spicer noted that members of the public may also respond).

**ii. Repairs to C633/temporary road closure**. The Chair and Cllr. Bauer will update County Cllr. Spicer regarding what repairs have been made when the repair period has finished.

Action: Chair/JB

**iii. Elveden Estate (Mick George) Quarry Application**. County Cllr. Spicer explained that the original application has been revised with three major changes which will have an impact for Barnham residents: the site has been enlarged, quarry traffic to use the C633 to the A134 (not across country), whole year working (not 6 months). There will be a site meeting in December and County Cllr. Spicer asked that someone from the parish council be present.

c. West Suffolk District Council – See Planning Enforcement below.

d. Village Hall – nothing to report.

e. RAF Honington – nothing to report. Cllr. Heading reported that he would try to obtain more information for the future from other RAF sources.

Action: IH

f. Play Park – Cllr. Watson reported that repairs to the surface area will be completed next week. The clerk will inform the school

Action: SW/Clerk

g. Speedwatch. Sadly, Cllr. Bauer reported that he is no longer able to commit to running the speedwatch as he is often working away from Barnham. Two members of the public agreed to speak to Cllr. Bauer after the meeting. Cllr. Bauer has ordered the vehicle activated sign. He is just checking some measurements of the pole and then installation should begin.

Action: JB

1. **Planning Matters**
   1. Applications received for comment:

* **DC/21/1853/HH**. Single storey rear extension (following removal of conservatory). Yew Tree House, The Street, Barnham. After email consultation with parish councillors, a “no comment” response was submitted as the consultation expiry date fell before the November meeting.
* **DC/21.1695/TCA** – Trees in a conservation area notification –Barnham. IP24 2NH. It was unanimously agreed to submit a “no comment” response.
* **DC/21/2046/FUL** – installation of a nitrogen storage tank, associated infrastructure and ancillary works (following demolition of existing shed and storage tank). Cryoserve Air Product Plc, Station Road, Barnham. It was unanimously agreed to submit a “no comment” response.
  1. Enforcement issues
* **Gypsy site, Station Road** – District Cllr. Smith reported that there is no further update at the moment.
* **Honeysuckle Farm, siting of caravan**. The clerk will write to the enforcement officer to ensure that the parish council receives any correspondence regarding this (previous correspondence has been addressed to the Chair at his home address). District Cllr. Smith reported that the enforcement officer has visited the site on several occasions, but no-one has been on the site.
* **NRG Oil, Station Road**. District Cllr. Smith reported that there are already some breach of conditions and these will be monitored.

1. **Financial Matters**
2. Clerk’s report – this had been previously distributed to councillors and was accepted.
3. Cheques for signature were approved.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 29.9.21 | 101137 | SP Services (defib) | £1,177.13 |
| 9.10.21 | 101138 | Grass - Sep - Mr. D. Thrower | £285.00 |
| 19.10.21 | 101139 | SP Services (defib cabinet) | £588.00 |
| 9.11.21 | 101140 | C. Dowson (refund for CAS website host) | £60.00 |
| 9.11.21 | 101141 | Grass - Oct - D. Thrower | £285.00 |
| 9.11.21 | 101142 | E2E  (bus shelter/notice board refurb) | £730.00 |
| 9.11.21 | 101143 | Clerk Oct/Nov - Caroline Dowson | £500.93 |
| 9.11.21 | 101144 | West Suffolk DC – new bin | 367.19 |
| 9.11.21 | 101145 | Peter King Electrical | 276.00 |

Bank Balances**:** Current account (29.10.21) £18,115.90. Savings account (29.10.21) £4,923.40.

1. Grass cutting tender. It was agreed to send out an invitation to tender to three companies. With the exception of the churchyard, this will be on the same basis as currently, although six cuts instead of seven as the first cut hasn’t been happening until May due to the quantity of spring bulbs in the village.

Action: Clerk

1. **Correspondence - Draft Police & Crime Plan 2022-2025.** The clerk will complete this survey on behalf of the parish council.

Action: Clerk

1. **Any Other Business/Issues from Parish Councillors**
   1. **Defibrillator** is now in place at the village hall. Total cost including installation was £1700 excl. VAT. Thanks to our county councillor and district councillor for each giving £500 towards this cost.
   2. **Bus Shelter**. During refurbishment it was noted that there is a considerable amount of rubble behind the bus shelter which will cause damage in the future. A budget of £500 for clearing this was unanimously agreed. Mr. Paul Woollard will be asked for a quote and it is noted that a skip (approx. £120) will need to be ordered.

Action: Clerk

* 1. **State of pathways**. A member of the public asked if a “pavement study” has ever taken place in the village. As a wheelchair user it is very difficult and frightening to travel around the village. The Chair explained that the county council is responsible for pavements in the village, no one is aware of a study taking place. County Cllr. Spicer encouraged residents to report any damage to pavements to the county council via the website. The clerk, on behalf of the parish council ,would be happy to endorse a request from a resident for a pavement study.

1. **Date of Next Council Meeting** – Tuesday, 11th January 2022 at the Village Hall