**BARNHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Tuesday, 14th September 2021 at 7.00pm – Village Hall

**MINUTES**

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

(Partly) Suffolk County Cllr: Mrs. J. Spicer. West Suffolk District Councillor: A. Smith.

Three members of the public. Clerk: Mrs. C. Dowson.

1. **Apologies** were received from parish councillors: J. Bauer, M. Hawthorne and C. Merrifield. These were approved.
2. **Declaration of interests** and requests for dispensations. None received although Cllr. Keast noted that he is the church treasurer ref. point 7.d of the agenda.
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting** – Tuesday, 13th July 2021. These were unanimously agreed.
4. **Matters Arising**

* Purchase of a Defibrillator to be positioned at the village hall. It was unanimously agreed to purchase this from SP Services (£980.94 excl. VAT) – proposed EW and seconded IH. The parish council will be responsible for fixing this to the village hall. Both District Cllr. A. Smith and County Cllr. J. Spicer offered £500 each towards the cost from their locality budget.

Action: Clerk

1. **Public forum followed by reports regarding**:
   * 1. Public Forum. Mr. J. Blackburn asked if the parish council notice board on the village hall could be painted. The clerk reported that a quote has been received for this work.

Action: Clerk

* + 1. Suffolk County Council (County Cllr Spicer)
* **Consultation for SCC/0042/21SE and Re-Consultation for SCC/0095/20SE** - North Farm, Elveden Road, Barnham. It was clarified that these two consultations referred to an alternative access road (new application) and a right of way change following receipt of ecological reports (original application). It was agreed to object to both these applications, broadly based on the objections already made on the original 0095 application. Cllr. Spicer will also be objecting to these applications and she will also ask for a meeting with Mr. Gunby the planning officer.
* **Indigo Site** – Cllr. Spicer will write to the county planning officer to query whether the Conditions set are being adhered to.
* **Broadband reception in the village** – Cllr. Spicer noted that no-one has forwarded their personal details to her so that she can follow this up (even though they were requested).
* **Lorries through the village centre** – it was noted that agricultural lorries are driving through the main village. District Cllr. Smith will check the Conditions for the recent anaerobic digester planning application at Euston to see if vehicles connected with this are listed to drive through the village. Cllr. Smith will also ask who the agricultural vehicle permit holders are.
* **Boundary Commission** for England – Cllr. Spicer was pleased to report that Barnham (and also Euston and Fakenham Magna) will remain within “Blackburn”.
  + 1. West Suffolk District Council (District Cllr Smith)
* **Update on the gypsy site enforcement status**, Station Road and also the mobile home on Honeysuckle farm ref EN/21/0179. The District Council is still trying to contact the people at Honeysuckle Farm. Nothing to report at the moment regarding Station Road.
* **NRG Oil Storage Depot**, Station Road. The planning application has been approved with several Conditions. (There is a six month period to register an Appeal against the Conditions). Cllr. Smith noted that it would be good to keep a record of any breaches of Conditions. Cllr. Bauer has asked to record the parish council’s thanks to District Councillor Smith for his help and support with this application.
  + 1. Village Hall. Cllr. Hawthorne will be invited to future village hall meetings.
    2. RAF Honington - Cllr Heading outlined some of the flying manoeuvres in our area over the coming weeks.
    3. Play Park (Cllr Watson). It was unanimously agreed to accept the quote from a Suffolk company: Eastern Play Services - £540 for two areas of mulch that need repairing (highlighted in the Inspector’s report). Proposed: PK and seconded IH. (The original installers, Abacus, also submitted a quote, but this was for £1064 and the company is based in Kent). The clerk will ask for a formal quote from Eastern Play Services and place the order.

Action: Clerk/SW

* + 1. Speedwatch and Vehicle Activated Sign. Cllr. Bauer was unable to attend tonight’s meeting, but has forwarded copies of a quote for the long awaited Vehicle Activated Sign (to be positioned by the church). It was unanimously agreed to accept the quote for £3305 which has slightly larger lettering and to take up the warranty option. Proposed: PK and seconded IH.

Action: JB

* + 1. Lorry Watch Update (Cllr Wyer) – nothing to report.

1. **Planning Matters**
   1. Applications - After email consultation with parish councillors, two “no comment” responses were submitted as the consultation expiry date fell before the September meeting:

DC/21/1616/TCA – Trees in a conservation area notification – two yew trees – fell. Yew Tree House, The Street, Barnham IP24 2NF.

DC/21.1695/TCA – Trees in a conservation area notification – one silver birch overall crown reduction 30-50 percent and overall height reduction of 50 percent. Birchwood, Mill Lane, Barnham. IP24 2NH.

NRG Oil Retrospective Planning Application – see point 5.c. above.

1. **Financial Matters**
2. Clerk’s report – this was distributed to parish councillors before the meeting and was accepted.
3. Cheques for signature – these were unanimously approved:

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| 3.8.21 | 101132 | Grass - Jul - Mr. D. Thrower | £285.00 |
| 13.9.21 | 101133 | Grass - Aug - Mr. D. Thrower | £285.00 |
| 13.9.21 | 101134 | Clerk Aug/Sep - Caroline Dowson | £447.95 |
| 13.9.21 | 101135 | Business Services at CAS Ltd. | £456.19 |
| 13.9.21 | 101136 | RBLI – Remembrance Day Wreath | £50.00 |

1. Renewal of insurance. The premium for this year is £456.19.
2. Funding for Barnham church from April 2022:

**Grass cutting** – it was unanimously agreed that the parish council should adhere to the advice of SALC/NALC and no longer cut the church grass from 2022. This is because parish councils should not fund any “works” associated with the church. However, funding a grant for something not related to “works” is allowed. Cllr. Keast (who is the parochial church council’s treasurer) will look at the church expenses to suggest the cost of other items, such as insurance or electricity, that could be eligible for a grant from the parish council. At the January budget/precept meeting the parish council will decide the value and nature of such a grant.

Action: PK

**Clock contingency**. It was unanimously agreed that although there is no paperwork as such to prove the ownership of the clock, it is generally accepted by Barnham residents that the clock belongs to the village. Therefore, the parish council will “adopt” the clock and take care of it. The clerk will contact the insurance company regarding this and will also add it to the asset register.

Action: Clerk

1. **Correspondence**

Tree Warden. The parish council has been asked to help appoint a tree warden for Barnham. Mr. J. Blackburn expressed an interest to do this.

1. **Any Other Business**

Retirement of the clerk**.** The chair informed the meeting that the clerk would like to retire as soon as a replacement can be found. It was agreed that the clerk prepare an advert for The Link/SALC network.

Action: Clerk

1. **Date of Next Council Meeting** – Tuesday, 9th November 2021 at the Village Hall