

Minutes of the Barton Parish Council Meeting  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.30pm  
Barton Village Hall

**1. Apologies for non-attendance**

Cllr Sue Whittam

**2. Approval of the Minutes of Barton Parish Council Meeting held on 3 September 2019**

Approved as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr Tomlinson and seconded by Cllr Sharples.

**3. Declaration of personal and prejudicial interests – Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal/prejudicial or disclosable interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda. If the personal interest is a prejudicial interest or there is a disclosable pecuniary interest, then the individual member should not participate in a discussion or vote on the matter.**

Cllr Tomlinson declared an interest in any discussions taking place in relation to the Village Hall for which he is a trustee or Barton St Lawrence School for which he is a Governor.

**4. Parish Lengthsman – Greg Robinson**

Greg Robinson had attended the meeting to talk through his role as Barton Parish Lengthsman. Recent work carried out by Greg included carrying out extensive public right of ways surveys which he has since sent through to LCC, de silting of drains around the parish, improvements to footpaths around the village in particular along the A6, trimming back of hedges where they are causing an obstruction to the highway or footpaths and moving the Speed Indicator device around the village and collecting the data stored within it.

Parish Councillors thanked Greg for his hardwork in the village which is really making a difference.

**5. Financial Report & Accounts for payment**

The Parish Council's account balances as at 8th November 2019 were as follows:

Current Account:       **£57,727.24**

NS & I:                   **£7743.10**

Payments made since the last meeting include :

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| • Barton War Memorial Contribution                     | £255      |
| • Neighbourhood Plan Kirkwells                         | £1176     |
| • St Mary & St Andrews CIL contribution (part payment) | £10186.80 |

The External auditors had concluded their audit and have found no issues and the Parish Council approved payment of the requested audit fee of £360.

## **6. Planning Applications & planning issues**

Prior to the Parish Council full meeting, Councillors and a representative from Myerscough and Bilsborrow Parish Council had met with Seddon Homes and PWA planning as their agent, to discuss issues surrounding a proposed development of up to 105 houses in Bilsborrow which falls within Barton Parish.

Both Parish Councils discussed their concerns with the development, in particular the proposed access to the site.

It was agreed that a meeting would be arranged with both parish councils and LCC to discuss the potential for an improved access arrangement off the A6. PWA informed the meeting that the planning application has now been submitted to Preston City Council for consideration. Councillors present agreed that an objection to the application would be submitted in line with the application response timescales.

The application for up to 125 house on Land North of Jepps Lane (Story Homes) had been deferred at November planning committee pending a request for further information from Natural England. We now expect this application to go to December committee.

We now await a reserved matters application for Cardwell Farm following the recent recommendation for approval of housing.

## **7. Neighbourhood Plan Update**

Kirkwells have been employed to help progress the Barton neighbourhood Plan to the next stage. A draft consultation document is due out for consultation in the New Year and will be sent to all interested parties including businesses, community groups and residents of the parish once ready (Preston & Wyre) to ask them to provide feedback on its content to inform next steps.

It is important that the consultation is legitimate and useful as it will form the basis of a combined document to be sent to PCC and Wyre hopefully by the end of June 2020 with the hope that we will have a plan that is ready to go out at the end of the year to a referendum and vote. If everything proceeds as hoped then a working plan could be in place ready to use in early 2021.

Cllr Parker reiterated the importance of the Neighbourhood Plan for Barton and urged everyone to have their say when the consultation begins and to become involved in the creation of the plan.

## **8. Public Participation**

A detailed discussion took place over the various applications for housing developments in the village. Parishioners expressed their concerns and views on these.

It was agreed the Parish Council will continue to engage with LCC over CIL funding and how this can be best spent in the village to bring forward better infrastructure to help support any future housing developments.

It was agreed that everyone would still like to see the Former Boars Head Public House and associated land utilised for community use where possible but understood that this was difficult as the site is in private ownership. The Barton Heritage Group continue to meet to look at ways forward.

The issue of the possibility of a new doctor's surgery in the village was raised once again. Cllr Parker informed everyone present that this had been brought up previously and unfortunately to even be able to begin discussions on a new surgery in the local area it would require 5000 people to be without a doctor or we would need over 3000 in a certain demographic, neither apply to Barton or the surrounding area.

The issue of a vote of no confidence being lodged against PCC was raised again by an attending parishioner. Barton Parish Council confirmed once again that they do not intend to submit a vote of no confidence against PCC and instead wish to continue to work with them to achieve what is best for the village.

It was agreed that as a parish we do need to lobby the Government for change and this can be done by the Parish Council or individual parishioners. As soon as the election is decided then we can look to lobby our local MP on all matters of concern.

At this stage Joan Levey offered her thanks and support to the Parish Councillors, who are volunteers, for their continued work in the village.

The possibility of additional sports facilities being provided in the village was raised and Cllr Parker updated parishioners and Councillors on a conversation that he had had with Michael O'Neill who is keen to improve facilities for sport in the village starting with Station Lane.

The Clerk had contacted PCC who had indicated that to install appropriate drainage at Station Lane Playing Fields would cost in the region of £50,000 and PCC did not have the budget to pay for this so the parish would need to look at alternative sources of funding such as CIL.

Cllr Sue Whittam has offered to provide advice and support on how Grimsargh achieved this for their playing fields. The clerk and Cllr Parker to meet with Sue to gather the initial information to see how feasible this project might be.

The parish council will also continue to work with PCC to put Station Lane playing fields in trust then further discussions can be held as to how the parish council can support, through CIL, the possible provision of additional open space, leisure/sporting facilities and improvements in the village.

## **9 AOB – that arises after the agenda is issued**

The tennis club expressed a desire to submit an application to the Parish Council for CIL funding towards improved facilities at the Tennis Club. The Clerk will send a copy of the form through to the tennis club to enable them to enquire.

## **10. Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020, 7.30pm , Barton Village Hall

