

**Minutes of the Barlaston Parish Council Meeting-
Held on Tuesday November 3rd. 2015.**

Present: – Gareth Jones
Chairman

Paul Fisher	Ian Macmillan
Patrick Linehan	Max Robinson
Steve Hall	

Apologies: Viv O'Dunne, Sarah Broome, Elaine Philpott, Andy Gent & Tony Dodd

In attendance: Maurice Clarke, Dave Connell, George Powell.

Open Forum

190. Dave Connell presented the meeting with 2 articles that identified concerns with the use of Roundup weed killer (glyphosate); it was noted that there was growing evidence on the dangers of the effects of the weed killer and might be regarded as carcinogenic.

191. George Powell pointed out to the Council in his professional opinion many of the Rowan trees planted on the Village Green were too close to each other. The Clerk explained they had been planted a few years back by the Countryside Volunteers and could be thinned out. Mr. Powell was concerned of the possible damage to the older pear trees nearby.

192. Maurice Clarke asked for the support of the Council to oppose the appeal to build a bungalow on land to the rear of 35 Old Road Barlaston. The Chairman outlined the detail of the objection that would be submitted. He and other neighbours were encouraged to submit an objection as well.

Minutes of the meeting held on October 6th. 2015

193. RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on October 6 th . 2015 be approved and signed by the Chairman.
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Matters arising

194. Re. Minute 161: There was to be a report commissioned into the drainage issues before a planning application was produced.

195. Re. Minute 162: It was expected that the Wedgwood Memorial College would be identified as a community asset.

196. Re. Minute 185: It was agreed to employ Malcolm Moorehead as a part-time litter picker working mainly on the canal between bridges 102 to 104.

Report by Chairman & Borough Councillor

197. He reported on the current local planning issues relating to the issues discussed at the earlier planning meeting.

198. The Borough was undertaking a review of leisure provision. He also noted concerns over local roads.

Report by County Councillor

199. No report

Finance Report

200. The Following items were considered and agreed.

	NET	VAT	Total Cost
a.) N. Hemmings-allowance	£48.00		£48.00
b.) Sympathy Card	£1.50		£1.50
c.) PJS Landscapes-monthly Cemetery Maintenance	£246.00	£49.20	£295.20
d.) Greenfingers-Grass cutting & work on Village Green	£1065.68	£213.14	£1278.82
e.) Town & country Services-grass cutting Flaxman Close	£90.00	£18.00	£108.00
f.) Staffordshire Reels on Wheels- film hire	£337.00	£67.40	£404.40
g.) British Gas-Village Hall –gas supply	£138.03	£6.90	£144.93
h.) Stafford B.C.- Civic Amenity visit	£130.83	£26.17	£157.00

i.) British Gas – electricity at the Village Hall	£287.29	£14.36	£301.65
j.) Biffa Waste Services- Cricket Club	£59.77	£11.95	

k) The October salaries for the Clerk, Transport Co-ordinator and litter picker have been met.

l.) The Royal British Legion had thanked the Council for their recent donation.

m.) Following a discussion over likely increases in costs and demands on the 2016/17 budget it appeared that a rise in the Annual Precept would be recommended. In principle it was agreed to consider:

- Raise the monthly payment to the Voluntary Transport Coordinator.
- Employ a litter picker for the canal.
- Make restoration repairs to the War Memorial but also to seek grant aid. Estimates were to be obtained by Councillor Fisher.
- To consider a bus shelter on Wedgwood Drive.
- To consider a payment for the upkeep of the 16 planters in the village and the hanging baskets.
- To focus on eyesore areas in relation to the BKV competition
- To consider more picnic tables around the Village Green
- To support the Village Hall Committee by ensuring that they don't make a loss on the show and supporting the cost of the Marquee if no other support is available.

Voluntary Transport Scheme

201. There had been 20 lifts in September.

Planning Update

202. The Planning Committee had met earlier and comments would be submitted on applications received.

Neighbourhood Plan

203. The Clerk reported upon the two recently held Housing Needs Site Assessment meetings and the agreed criteria. It was noted that the sites would be assessed on November 27th.

Barlaston Community Group

204. A further film night was planned.

Remembrance Sunday arrangements

205. These were in hand and the police had been requested to support the procession.

Matters arising from the Open Forum

206. No further actions needed

Correspondence and Clerk's Report

207. The Clerk's actions from his report were noted and agreed.

208. The progress with the Community Speedwatch Scheme was noted. Three further residents had been trained for Speedwatch a further four residents were interested taking the group total to ten.

209. The dates of meetings for 2016 were agreed.

210. It was agreed not to participate in liaison meetings with Stone Town Council.

Any other business – Agenda items for the Parish Meeting to be held on Tuesday December 8th. 2015.

211. None.

Note by Clerk

212. The Parish Council meeting closed and members re-convened as the Village Hall Trustees.

Village Hall Committee Report

213. The Clerk was asked to write to the owner of Babbacombe Cottage re. outstanding wayleave rent.

214. The outside clock had been repaired and the stage lighting had been fitted.

Chairman

