

Minutes of the Barlaston Parish Council Meeting Held on Tuesday 2 October 2018

Present:

Cllr G Jones (Chairman)
Cllr P Fisher
Cllr I Moran
Cllr S Tudor
Cllr C Hurst

Cllr S Hall
Cllr D Norman
Cllr E Philpott

In attendance: Mrs K St Leger (Clerk)

7:15 – 7:30 Public Open Forum

- 365 Apologies** – Cllrs Westwood, McMillan and O’Dunne sent their apologies, it was resolved to accept these.
- 366 Declarations of Interest.** There were no declarations of interest.
- 367 Written applications for dispensations under the Localism Act 2011.** There were no written applications for dispensation.
- 368 To approve minutes of full Council meeting of 4 September 2018.** A resolution under item 9 was omitted. Clerk to update details.
- 369 Matters arising from the meeting of 4 September 2018 and not otherwise on the agenda**
- 357 Parking issues at Orchard Place.** Stafford & Rural Homes (SRH) responded to the complaints received, they were sympathetic however had no powers to act. There was an option to offer the Parish Council ownership of the car park, however this would be an asset which would need maintaining and could prove difficult to police. It was resolved for the Clerk to approach SRH to request the installation of notices limiting the period cars can park for a 2 hour period.
- 370 Key themes 2018**
- 574 Draft Neighbourhood Plan update**
- Stafford Borough Council (SBC) concluded the consultation for Regulation 15. No responses were received from the repository boxes situated in Barlaston. SBC received 13 responses. We are now awaiting receipt of the external examiner CV’s from SBC before we can proceed to the next phase, anticipated receipt to be within a 4-5 week time frame.
- Concerns were raised regarding the May 2019 time frame for the conclusion of the Neighbourhood Plan. It was noted the May date was not fixed and if the plan was ready to proceed before then, the time table would be moved. The delays in progressing the plan was still a concern, Cllr Jones to liaise with SBC to clarify the position.

Campaigns 2018

- 9 Speed Watch campaign update** Cllr Norman submitted his report:

‘2 sessions per week being maintained by hardcore of 10 volunteers.

Latest Stats to 18th September show 572 vehicles reported since we started early May – average 15 per session – 7% of overall traffic flow (down from previous 8% & only 6% in last month). Hopefully, we are making a difference. 37 have now had a 2nd letter and 4 have had a 3rd so receiving/received a Police visit. 28% of reported drivers @ 40 mph or more including 4 @ 50mph+. Postcode analysis shows 20% from ST12 locally in Barlaston with another 38% split fairly evenly between adjoining ST3/ST4/ST15.

Grant Application submitted – outcome should be known in December. If successful in gaining full £5k it’s hoped that will actually be sufficient to cover cost of Community Speed Watch signs plus 2 ground screws in Meaford Road & Old Road and Speed Indication Display that can be moved between the 2 sites. In addition to the obvious

visibility benefit, the SID will provide really useful data to help plan future sessions by monitoring traffic volume & speed when teams not there.

Just a shame we've got to wait till next year. Richard Rayson at SCC very supportive. I've also recently been in touch with David Price, Chairman of Seighford PC and I'm going over to see their new signs in action this month.'

A quotation for a third ground screw to be installed was requested, Cllr Norman to address.

485 Dog Foul Campaign update

SBC continue to work with the PC to monitor the situation and assess if additional bins are required. Posters have been issued to Barlaston Park.

182 MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) update

We are still awaiting a date for the welding to take place; the volunteer has confirmed he is still prepared to undertake the works. Clerk to monitor.

193 Cricket Club Lease update

Progress regarding the Lease will be determined at the Joint Playing Field Committee meeting which has been postponed until 13 October 2018.

195 WWI Commemorations update:

1. War Memorial repairs

The Memorial repairs have been completed, the Parish Council were happy with the standard of work undertaken. It was resolved to remove this from the agenda.

3. Commemoration event

a. Village Hall afternoon tea

The Community Champion from Tesco's at Longton were happy to support the event with the provision of sandwich fillers/rolls and cakes. These will need to be collected on 9 November between 2pm – 6pm. 100 people will be invited, details to be confirmed with Tesco.

100 tickets will be issued to various organisations including 20 tickets to be allocated to individuals in the Village who contribute to the community. 22 - Parish Councillors (and partners), the balance to community organisations.

The programme will include poetry readings and music, Cllr Jones to approach the Proscenium Players to see if they would undertake a sketch.

b. Memorial Bench The bench is on order, estimated delivery w/c 29 October.

c. Poppy hero stickers Information is required regarding the location of the fallen heroes who lived in Barlaston.

256 Grounds maintenance issues update

Cllr Hurst has agreed to Chair the Environmental Group, terms of reference / scope to be agreed and budget.

A request for the Wildlife Trust to visit the village for a day to highlight the works required at a cost £250 was proposed. The recommended plants and trees would cost approximately £725. Grit is required for the car park by the Upper House, full costings to be confirmed. 5 replacement planters are required, it is recommended these are of a self-watering design to assist with future maintenance. It was resolved Cllr Hurst would bring the costs to the November meeting for consideration.

The wet patch on the village green is due to be looked at to ascertain what works are required and the costs associated.

The School has received a donated greenhouse and wish to be involved with the wildlife area and are planning to grow seedlings and plant them.

Changing the planters to the self-watering type would assist with the annual maintenance of the planters. Volunteers will be needed to maintain planters moving forwards.

It was noted a member of the public had cut back the bushes on Station Road and the cuttings/branches were left. It was reiterated they were not covered by the PC insurance. It is causing issues with Highways as they were assigned the job of undertaking the works. The lighting is obscured by bushes which is a health and safety risk. It was resolved to address this issue to the County Councillor.

Overgrown trees on Village Green Awaiting quotation from Street Scene which is due to take place in mid October.

Grass cutting at Barlaston Park / MUGA

The Clerk visited the site to inspect the quality of the grass cutting on the MUGA, it was noted the quality was poor, the findings were reported to Perennial Landscapes to address. Two patches of land between Jasper Close, Portland Place and Etruscan Walk had not been cut for some time, it was not clear who owned the land. Clerk to look into the issue.

The Environmental Group would be well placed to encompass all visual areas of the village including footpath adoption, grounds maintenance issues, planters/assets within the Terms of Reference.

270 Rights of way / footpath adoptions

Clerk has requested land owner information from SCC, unfortunately the information is no longer held, they recommend we approach the landowners directly. Funding is available from SCC for some materials, but volunteers will be required to carry out any repairs in conjunction with land owners. The walking group will report their findings but will not be responsible for any works. The PC need to keep their allocated footpaths and volunteers will be required to undertake works moving forwards.

287 Council Councillor member for the area No update received

1. **(Item 243) Flooding at Brookhouse Drive** The situation appears to have improved. Item to remain on the agenda for monitoring.
2. **SRH plans re Parking Barlaston Park** SBC asked SRH to withdraw their planning application as the planning needs assessment was not up to date. Cllr Jones met with SRH and SBC to discuss a way forward. Clerk to liaise with SRH to assist with hosting surgeries to obtain the relevant information. The PC was supportive of the application, subject to minor infrastructure changes requested.
6. **(Item 216) Library Consultation.** Gnosall PC are due to open their Library imminently, they are happy to host a visit from Barlaston. The Library Friendship Group in Stone met on Monday 1 October, form their own Constitution and the scope is to get involved with other villages. Cllr Moran is leading on this for the PC.

300 Heron update The production of the magazine is on track.

309 Cllr Parry's Highway Initiative Fund No update received. It was suggested any funding available could assist with the hedge works required on Station Road. Clerk to liaise with Cllr Parry.

327 Canal Milestone works – The Canal & River Trust asked if Barlaston were still happy to continue with the adoption of the canal, it was resolved to continue with the agreement. Dates to commence with the re-setting of the canal stone and other works were required.

349 Notice board in Cocknage

For a 12 x A4 notice board with a dome header in black (preferred preference of the Country Cabin) is £489.00 ex VAT. Expenditure approved at the last meeting.

A quotation is required for the Cocknage sign, Clerk awaiting details.

- 350 High View Planning Application update** – Following a site visit by SBC to discuss the location of the replacement garage/granny annex, it was believed a solution had been found, however the plan was rejected. Dialogue is still ongoing with the home owner and SBC.
- 351 Wayleave Agreement Upper House update** – Cllr Jones was scheduled to visit the Upper House to agree the £25 annual fee for the sign.
- 371 Hedge works on Station Road** – No update from SCC. Residents undertaking works is causing issues with SCC.
- 372 Installation of field shelter behind Diamond Ridge** – Cllr Jones and Hurst to visit the site to inspect the installation.
- 373 Drainage issues on Old Road** – Amery Highways Inspector has been out again to assess the issue and schedule the works.
- 374 Memorial plaque for Mr Peter Proctor** – Plaque has been retrieved, it was resolved to fix this to a stone and place in the raised bed on the Village Green. Clerk to arrange.
- 375 Poppy Appeal grant** – The Parish Council resolved to grant the British Legion £250 for the wreaths and contribution to the Poppy Appeal.
- 276 Formation of an Environmental Sub Committee and agree terms of reference** – covered under 256
- 277 Report from Barlaston Park** No report submitted
- 378 Report from Wedgwood** No report submitted – concerns were raised regarding the provision of the bowl for the forthcoming presentation. Clerk to chase.
- 379 The Public Forum** – Gnosall PC gave an overview of the issues encountered and the works undertaken, including the new library. Their Clerk has been put forward for the National Clerk of the Year award.
- Richard Upton from SBC discussed the issue of social isolation and asked if there is a building within the village which could house a Social Connector volunteer, Clerk to liaise with the Health Centre.
- There is a lot more emphasis for volunteers to address this issue following cut backs from Social Service. It was noted the same people in the village undertaking these roles and are overcome with the demands placed on them. Although the PC advertise the positions on behalf of SBC, we have had no uptake on the Social Connector volunteer role, the requirements and time required is onerous, SBC are aware of this and are looking at changing the requirements to attract volunteers.
- Identifying the number of vulnerable people in Barlaston is difficult, the Health Centre carry out annual checks but the position is going to get worse. The change in family environment is having an impact, with children moving away and leaving parents behind without a support network.
- 380 Borough Council member for the area** – covered in 379 above
- 381 County Council member for the area** – no report was received
- 382 Planning Committee Recommendations**
- Planning Application Ref: 18/29248/HOU at Broadstone 16 Old Road Barlaston – construction of single storey rear extension. It was resolved to approve this application.
 - Planning Application Ref: 18/29281/HOU at Gleveside 104 Longton Road Barlaston – proposed first floor bedroom extension. It was resolved to approve this application.
- 383 Financial update:**
- Balance of precept/CGI of £35,001.00 has been credited to bank
- Bank reconciliation** Clerk issued copies of the reconciliation
- Cash flow and budget comparison** Clerk issued the reports

Schedule of payments – October 2018

NALC – Local Council Explained publication	19.99	0.00	002416
K St Leger – Salary & Expenses	1226.56	8.69	002417
Perennial Landscapes	285.00	57.00	002418
Aftermath WW1 artwork	25.00	0.00	002419
Midland Masonry – repair memorial	1500.00	300.00	002420
G Jones – Chairman’s Annual Allowance	250.00	0.00	002421
HMRC PAYE/NI	319.21	0.00	002422
Noticeboard Company – Notice board for Country Cabin	489.00	97.80	002423

384 Weekly play equipment report – No report submitted

385 Risk Assessment Actions - No risks were identified

386 Correspondence and circulars Issued upon receipt

387 Questions from Councillors for inclusion on next month’s agenda

A request to make the village feel more festive for Christmas was proposed. An approach to the tenants on the green will be required to enable the lights to be turned on. It was resolved to approve a budget of £300 for external Christmas lights for the Village Hall.

Date of Next Meetings

6 November 2018 Ruth Dickson Meeting Room, Barlaston Village Hall