

MINUTES OF 713<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2017 AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.

17/160. PRESENT.

Councillor Caroline Stevens (in the Chair), Cllrs Marion Lewis, Ian McGarry, Peter Oakes, Margaret Stone & Don Bourne and the Clerk, Sue Applegate. County Cllr Adam Dance, PCSO Melissa Thompson and Keith Weston & Keri Phillips from the National Trust were present for part of the meeting.

161. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were apologies from Cllr Janet East and District Cllr Derek Yeomans. There was a declaration of interest on the Update from Barrington Court from Cllr Lewis.

162. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017 which had been previously circulated, were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

19.33 Meeting closed

163. UPDATE FROM BARRINGTON COURT

Keith Weston explained that visitor numbers have been rising steadily and the NT envisage that this will continue. The NT have been listening to the views of their visitors and one of their main concerns is parking. Current provision is 66 all-weather spaces, 120 fair weather spaces (at Helen's Close – limited to 28 days per year) and 40 spaces in the Orchard car park – again fair weather only. The NT are also aware of disruption to the local road network at busy times. The NT have commissioned Portus & Whitton (landscape architects) to look into the options to improve parking and the NT intend to submit a planning application to develop Helen's Close for this purpose. They are currently looking at the design options and will come back to future PC meetings to discuss them. They have taken letters in person to the residents of Water Street and Silver Street inviting them and any other local residents to an open session to find out more between 3 and 7pm on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January at the Court House. The relationship with the local community is key. The NT are still interested in purchasing the former school field but this area will not be included in the planning application. The NT would like to hear of any suggestions for this land from the community although they stressed that at the moment there are no resources allocated for this. Keri Phillips confirmed that the NT want to be open and transparent and welcome any questions.

Cllr Stone asked if the car park would be of hard-standing. Ms Phillips confirmed that this was probable in some areas particularly at the Water Street end but other areas may be designed differently. The intention is that Helen's close will become the main car park with the Orchard car park being the final parking option. The current main car park would be mainly for the less able. Parking in the avenues would stop to protect the heritage asset. The new parking would potentially provide 264 all-weather spaces. Cllr Oakes asked about drainage – Ms Phillips said that this would be looked at in the design. Cllr McGarry asked about plans for the entrances. Ms Phillips explained that the plan is to have a new entrance into Helen's close off the current NT exit road and that the current gateway onto the exit road will become the exit. Cllr Stevens asked to be invited to any relevant site visits and Ms Phillips agreed to do this. She also mentioned that signage from the highway is also an issue – County Cllr Dance offered assistance with this and suggested approaching highways.

Cllr Stevens thanked the NT for attending and explaining their plans.

PCSO Thompson said in response to a question from the Clerk that they would support the Community Speedwatch scheme in the village. PCSO Thompson left the meeting.

County Cllr Adam Dance said that SCC were proposing a number of measures to cut costs including a 100% cut in the funding for flashing speeding signs and closing the park & ride on Saturdays after Christmas which he had strongly opposed. Libraries are under review again.

20.17 Meeting reopened and County Cllr Dance left the meeting.

#### 164. MATTERS TO REPORT FROM THE LAST MEETING

##### a) Annual Parish Meeting

The Clerk confirmed that the hall had been booked for Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Councillors confirmed that they wish to invite the planned speakers from SSDC and the Wessex Community Land Trust. Matthew Rowswell had been in touch following his previous email to say he would be attending the January meeting.

#### 165. NEIGHBOURHOOD / VILLAGE / PARISH PLANS

Councillors felt that the discussion on this needed to involve the whole village. It was suggested that the best opportunity to do this would be at the Annual Parish Meeting in March. The Clerk was asked to book this and invite Sara Kelly/Chereen Scott from SSDC and a representative from the Wessex Community Land Trust. Councillors agreed to meet ahead of the January meeting at 6.30 to discuss this prior to the main meeting.

#### 166. SCHOOL & SCHOOL FIELD

##### a) Update

The Clerk agreed to chase the Diocese/Colliers for an update.

#### 167. OUTDOOR FITNESS EQUIPMENT

##### a) Grants

There was no news yet on the Awards for All Grant application but the Bags of Help application (Tesco) had been successful. Our project will feature in Ilminster Tesco in the New Year and everyone is encouraged to support by putting their tokens in the relevant slot. The project will get a minimum of £1000 from this but up to £4000 if we get enough support from the public.

##### b) Carol Singing

Cllr McGarry reported that the Isle Abbots Choir had collected money at carol singing at the Barrington Boar on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec and plan to donate it to the Outdoor Fitness Equipment Fund.

20.25 Mr Weston & Ms Phillips left the meeting

#### 168. VILLAGE HALL

##### a) Feedback from VH Meeting – 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Cllr Oakes attended on behalf of the PC. Ian Smith is standing down as Chairman. There is still a question over the fete for next year – an article will be put in the Bulletin asking for help. Councillors felt the fete is an excellent community event and would very much like to see it continue.

- b) Attendance at Next VH Meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017  
Cllr Lewis to attend on behalf of BPC.

169. PLANNING

a. PLANNING DECISIONS

None

b. NEW APPLICATIONS

- i) 17/04467/FUL: Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a replacement conservatory; The Quarry, Copse Shute Lane, Barrington

No objection.

c. NOTIFICATIONS

None

170. FINANCE.

a. REVIEW OF FINANCES AND BUDGET FORECAST 2017/18

Noted.

b. DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2018/19

The Clerk presented a revised draft budget which included amendments as requested at the previous meeting. The Clerk agreed to increase the budget for VH hire before the final version.

c. GRANT TO PRE SCHOOL

The pre-school had responded to say that they would very much like to be considered for a grant and would attend the January meeting with an update & some cost estimates.

d. APPROVEMENT OF PAYMENTS

Approval was given for the following payments:

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Dial-A-Grass-cut                                   | £ 60.00 |
| Barrington Village Hall (rent for 2018 meetings)   | £120.50 |
| Barrington Village Hall (additional meetings 2017) | £ 25.00 |
| S J Applegate (Clerk's Pay Oct-Dec)                | £561.31 |
| Post Office Ltd (Tax)                              | £140.40 |
| S J Applegate (Clerk's Expenses)                   | £262.38 |
| St Mary's church PCC                               | £800.00 |

171. HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

a) N16 bus Service to Yeovil College

An email to County Cllr Dance has confirmed that this service will no longer be operating. The Clerk was asked to contact the family known to have been using the service to pass on information about refunds and petrol allowances if the young person lives more than 3 miles from the nearest stop.

b) Bollards on the Corner of Denmans Lane

Cllr Bourne had met with Mr Warren from SCC Highways. 2 bollards on either side of the lane had been agreed but no road marking. This should force people to take the corner cleanly without cutting the corner and avoid damage to property.

c) Community Speedwatch

The Clerk has been in contact with Mrs Briers (Barrington contact) and Mr Pitt (Puckington contact). A joint meeting with an introductory presentation from Peter Bland (South Somerset Community Speedwatch) will take place at Barrington Village Hall on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm.

d) Drain Clearance

Chris Weeks (SCC Highways) has arranged for the Shelway Lane silt trap to be checked. Cllr Oakes has cleared the drains that he can in Bonnings Lane (the metal grids cannot be lifted).

e) Grit Bins

Grit bins are generally full although the contents are hard. The Clerk was asked to put the usual advice into the Web/Bulletin about use of the grit.

f) Road Closure – Silver Street – 8<sup>th</sup> Jan for 5 days

Notice had been received from SCC about this closure. The official alternative route is via Ilminster.

172. ALLOTMENTS/ALLOTMENT FIELD

a) Allotment Agreement Renewal

All allotment holders have renewed.

b) Hedge Cutting on the Allotment Field

Cllr Oakes had cut the hedge between the allotments and the main field. The hedge either side of the field gate is too big to be done by flail. Clerk to get quotes for this to be done and for the path through the woodland to be cut back for 1 metre either side. Quotes to be checked with Cllr Oakes.

173. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence and emails were considered:

- a) **Email from Avon & Somerset Police – monthly crime report, police report etc – circ by email**
- b) **Email from RNAS Yeovilton – Weekly Parish Notice – noted**
- c) **Email from Somerset Waste Partnership – monthly briefing – circ by email**
- d) **Email from District Cllr Yeomans – monthly report – circ by email**
- e) **Email from resident re vehicles over 7.5 tonne using Main Street for non agricultural use - dealt with at Nov meeting**
- f) **Email from St Margarets Hospice – newsletter – circ by email**
- g) **Email re Notification of external auditor appointments for the 2017-18 financial year – noted**
- h) **Email from Somerset Community Foundation re Launch of NEW Hinkley Point C Community Fund – circ by email**
- i) **Email from SCC Highways re closure of Silver Street – circ by email & to website & see item 11f**
- j) **Email from Avon & Somerset Police – PACT meeting 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018, Somerton – Cllr Stevens to attend**
- k) **Email from Puckington resident re. Speedwatch – clerk dealing**
- l) **Email from Environment Agency re Updated 2017-2021 WRFCC Strategy – circ by email**
- m) **Email from David Warburton MP re Advice Surgeries January to June 2018 – circ by email, printed for noticeboards & to website**
- n) **Email from Groundwork UK re Tesco Bags of Help Scheme - Application Decision – circ by email and see item 7b**
- o) **Email from SLAC re. Falmouth Town Council SCA Business Rates & Public Conveniences Proposal Survey – Request To Complete Survey by Dec 15<sup>th</sup> – circ by email**
- p) **Email from Somerset Community Foundation re Sing for Somerset at Wells Cathedral – Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Dec pm Wells – circ by email**
- q) **Email from SSDC re 2018/19 Council Tax Base and Council Tax Support Grant Allocation – see item 10b**

174. MATTERS REFERED TO THE CLERK

a) Christmas Tree outside the Church

It was noted that the Christmas Tree by the church that had been kindly donated looked very good. The idea of growing trees somewhere for future use was discussed but it was felt that there were other possible future donors who might be willing to sponsor trees in the future and that this would be an easier course of action.

175. MEETING CLOSED AT 21.10