

**BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER 2020
VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING**

Present Cllr Jan de Haldevang - Chairman
 Cllr James Bainbridge - Vice-Chairman
 Cllr Sue Cleal
 Cllr Anthea Watson

Clerk: Tan Marchant

In Attendance: Cllr Tony Dale, Cotswold District Council

Apologies: Cllr Ray Theodoulou, Gloucestershire County Council

29 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Bainbridge and de Haldevang declared a personal interest in Planning Application No 20/03933/FUL – Barrington Downs Farm - and took no part in the discussion.

30 CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR

Minkie Puddick of Great Barrington had indicated her interest in being co-opted to the Parish Council in place of Dr Simon Bennett. Minkie was unable to attend the meeting but her co-option was unanimously approved and she will formally join the Parish Council as soon as she has signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

31 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 October 2020, previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

32 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a. The NALC Pay Award for 2020-2021, deferred from the last meeting, was noted. The new hourly rate of £10.24 per hour for the Clerk will be implemented in the December payroll, backdated to April 2020.

33 ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO RAISE ISSUES

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

34 ADJOURNMENT FOR DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Cllr Tony Dale advised that the District Council had a new Chief Executive, Rob Weaver, who would take up his post on 4 January 2021. At the last Cabinet Meeting, the green economic growth strategy was approved, which it is hoped will bring renewed vigour to the economy. Cllr Dale is quite optimistic about development of sites in Moreton and Cirencester with the significant business they will bring. Locally, ash dieback works have been a major undertaking, with almost every road in the district closed to cut down trees. Some of this work is continuing.

Cllr Bainbridge said that one recurring parish issue is the damage caused to verges in Little Barrington by refuse collection vehicles. Cllr Dale suggested that the Clerk contact the

relevant District Council department and make it clear that UBICO lorries are not respecting the verges.

Cllr Bainbridge said that another issue was the fact that the Parish Council feels ignored when making representations on planning applications. Cllr Dale advised that valid objections must either be in breach of the national planning framework or against CDC guidelines, and not simply because the Parish Council 'does not like it'. Comments against an application should clearly give the grounds for the objection –such as noise, change of use, inappropriate design or highways issues. Cllr Dale would be happy to be involved in any objection that the Parish Council feels strongly about.

Cllr Watson mentioned fly tipping along the entry road to Little Barrington, and the Clerk will report this.

35 GREAT BARRINGTON DEFIBRILLATOR

Cllr de Haldevang advised that the defibrillator is currently being installed in the phone box in Great Barrington and Minkie Puddick has agreed to be the warden. The telephone box had been repaired and repainted.

36 TRAFFIC CALMING & BURFORD BRIDGE

Cllr de Haldevang advised that they were now eighteen months into the programme. They remain on call with nearly thirty people involved. Average number of hours is 10-12 per week. The problem is not so much speeding as the fact that up to 120 cars per hour are going through the two villages. The vehicles are queueing rather than speeding because of the increased numbers, and HGVs are part of the problem. It seems that neither the police nor the highways authority want to take responsibility. Although 5-6 per cent of vehicles are speeding, the main problem is sheer volume.

Cllr Dale advised that the issue is with Oxfordshire County Council due to the restriction on the Burford Bridge. He suggested that the Parish Council contact Ray Theodoulou and ask him to make representations to the relevant authorities.

37 WINDRUSH VALLEY POLLUTION – UPDATE

Cllr Bainbridge advised there is little to update on this. A certain amount of progress has been made politically, but the necessary testing on the river has not been possible due to the current pandemic. Cllr de Haldevang questioned whether a new law had gone through the Commons. Cllr Bainbridge advised that it was a Private Members Bill but he didn't know the result of it.

38 BRIDGE AT THE FOX INN – FLOODING AND RIGHTS OF WAY

Cllr Cleal said that, because of the excess traffic at the moment, she felt that no-one seems to know who has priority on the bridge. And with heavy rain, it floods when the water comes down from Great Barrington but has nowhere to go. Cllr de Haldevang will refer to Highways on both issues.

39 EMERGENCY PLAN

Cllr Watson has been trying to update the Plan by phoning round all those listed. Minkie has offered to assist where possible. Cllr Watson suggested two people in Great Barrington who might be useful in providing information for the Plan: Margaret, and Helen Lord. She had also consulted with Philippa. She has learnt that the Environment Agency is in the process of revamping its access and contacts and will let her know new details in due course.

40 PLANNING MATTERS

a. NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

20/03933/FUL Barrington Downs Farm Barrington Downs Barrington Cheltenham Gloucestershire GL54 3PT - Erection of link extension, installation of flues, internal, fenestration and roof alterations to facilitate conversion of barns to form one dwelling. **The Parish Council had no objection to this application.**

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b. PLANNING DECISIONS

20/00861/LBC Green Close Cottage The Green Little Barrington - Repointing, repair of stonework and chimney, re-roofing and internal works.
PERMITTED

20/02819/FUL Carpenters Cottage, The Green, Little Barrington - Full application for insertion of dormer window and replacement external stair to garage.
PERMITTED

20/02820/LBC Carpenters Cottage, The Green, Little Barrington - Listed Building Consent for new window opening in existing faux door, insertion of dormer window and replacement external stair to garage.
PERMITTED

41 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Financial Report for the period 1 October to 30 November 2020 was noted. A copy is attached to these Minutes.

42 BUDGET & PRECEPT 2021-2022

The estimated budget for 2021-22 had been previously circulated. It was noted that the Precept had been increased by £100 last year. Cllr Bainbridge queried the cost of annual support for the new defibrillator in Great Barrington. The Clerk advised that this would need to be factored into the budget once the first invoice had been received.

Councillors unanimously APPROVED that the Precept of £3,100 should not be increased, particularly due to the pandemic and its far reaching consequences.

43 ASSETS REGISTER

The Clerk pointed out that the Assets Register had been updated with the new defibrillator. The insurance value of the Little Barrington telephone box was queried and the Clerk will investigate.

44 WEBSITE UPDATE

The website upgrade to make it compliant with WCAG 2.1 legislation is ongoing. One proof had been received, which the Clerk subsequently commented upon, and the next update is awaited.

45 PARISH AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cllr de Haldevang reported that the Advent Drinks event did not go ahead because of current circumstances.

He advised that the Vicar is organising something within Covid rules and a discussion is ongoing. Cllr Watson advised that the Great Barrington report she had just received from Minkie Puddick indicated that an event will be arranged for 20 December to include virtual carol singing, gathering in the open cart shed not far from the village hall, following on from the children's pebble hunt and party.

6th March 2021 – Litter Pick – it is hoped that this event will go ahead, but CDC budget constraints may mean the Parish Council needs to buy its own equipment in the future.

Cllr Bainbridge suggested that the cleaning of the phone box, inside and out, be added to the litter pick.

46 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Friday 12 March 2021 Annual Parish Meeting - 6.00 p.m.

The meeting ended at 6.50 p.m.

Chairman