

BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
FRIDAY 16 DECEMBER 2022 AT 6.00 P.M.
IN THE READING ROOM, LITTLE BARRINGTON

Present Cllr Jan de Haldevang - Chairman
 Cllr James Bainbridge - Vice-Chairman
 Cllr Ali Hope
 Cllr R Wingfield

Officer: Mrs Tan Marchant - Clerk & RFO

In Attendance: Cllr Dom Morris – Gloucestershire County Council
 6 members of the public

Apologies: Cllr S Cleal
 Cllr Tony Dale – Cotswold District Council

36 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

37 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 October 2022 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

38 ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

No issues were raised.

39 REPORT OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Morris began by saying he has now taken on the role of Cabinet Member for Highways and Flooding, which are the two key local issues. He said rural accidents are currently his number one priority. A road safety policy was published a month ago, since when serious accidents had occurred on the B4425 with the loss of four lives. He pointed out that the vast number of accidents in the locality are on faster A and B roads, so, although community speed watch etc. are valuable initiatives, further answers need to be found. He believes the accidents at speed probably come down to bad behaviour, such as using mobile phones at the wheel. Cllr de Haldevang said he felt that the high speeds on minor roads were caused by, for instance, the gridlock in Burford, so that villages are used as rat runs which contribute to higher speeds.

Cllr Morris said there is a GCC rivers task force, which is involved in the issue of sewage being dumped into local rivers. However, it is difficult to move things forward when, for instance, Thames Water fail to turn up when asked to give evidence at a meeting. He said only legislation will remedy this ongoing problem.

In respect of highways maintenance, Cllr Morris was pleased to say there had been a small improvement. Cllr de Haldevang said that GCC Officer Dan Tiffney now pays a visit to the Barringtons every six weeks, which is much appreciated and very useful.

Mr Goeldenbot mentioned the recent removal of ash trees, which has unexpectedly resulted in an increase in noise from traffic on the A40. Cllr Morris said the problem with ash dieback was worse than at first thought, which has meant the removal of many more trees. The budget has been increased and the hope is that as many trees as possible will be replaced. Cllr Morris recommended that the Chairman speak to Mr Tiffney about the problem on his next visit.

Finally, Ms King mentioned the problem of mobile phones being used by drivers and said she felt that a campaign, such as the 'clunk-click' one many years ago aimed at seatbelt wearing, was needed. Cllr Morris said this would be the responsibility of the Gloucestershire Road Safety Partnership which comprises GCC, the police and others.

Cllr Morris was thanked for his attendance at the meeting.

40 PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Results of Previous Applications:

Planning No	Date Received	Details
22/02317/FUL	1 Jul 2022	Barrington Grove Middle Road Little Barrington, Burford Gloucestershire OX18 4TE. Installation of outdoor swimming pool. PERMITTED
22/03161/TELEC	9 Sep 2022	Hurst Barn Farm, Little Barrington, Burford, Gloucestershire OX18 4TH - Addition of 4m steel lattice extension to existing telecommunications mast to increase the maximum height of the mast to 26.5m. The extension will support the addition of 3no. antennas installed to a maximum height of 26.5m. Existing antennas will be refixed to the new mast extension above 26.5m. 2no. 0.3m transmission dishes are proposed fixed at 24.5m, 1no. GPS antenna fixed at 27m, RRUs, an extension to the existing compound and mast foundation and 1no. equipment cabinet. PERMITTED

(b) New application:

Planning No	Date Received	Details
22/04307/LBC	7 Dec 2022	The Smithy, The Green, Little Barrington, Burford Gloucestershire OX18 4TE - Repair & replacement of failed roof to rear of property (retrospective). Barrington Parish Council had no objection to this application.

41 TRAFFIC ISSUES

Cllr de Haldevang went through the slides he had prepared on Traffic Management. The challenges faced by the local community include being used as a rat-run by Burford traffic

and Burford School traffic, with contributory factors being new housing developments, industrial estates and increases in local populations. The Speedwatch group have recorded speeds in excess of 50mph, with up to 158 cars per hour going through the villages at peak times. This raises a real concern for road and pedestrian safety, and potential damage to roads and property.

CDC and GCC solutions include signage, road measures, gates, chicanes, and smiley signs. These are good solutions, but all of these options are limited by the need for street lighting and power. Gloucester police measures include speed cameras, CSW support, mobile traffic cameras and increased patrols, all of which are limited by manpower and cost.

Cllr de Haldevang gave the statistics for Quenington, both before and after the use of Automated Speed Watch (ASW) cameras, and the results were quite dramatic. On the basis of this, the police have now accepted the potential benefit of cameras throughout the district.

The proposal now is that the Parish Council considers the installation of an ASW camera, which would be solar/battery powered, predominately for daylight hours, and pole mounted. The cost would be in the region of £800, but installation costs would be extra.

The GCC Highways fund has been agreed for the cost of a camera, which the District Highways Manager will partially match-fund. The Gloucester Police site visit has just been completed, and five sites within the villages have been approved.

The next steps are to check whether planning permission is required, and to produce the necessary policy and data management documents. GCC Highways' site approval will happen early in the new year and then the budget needs to be finalised. A single camera would cost £550, with £250 for the base, pole and solar panel and approx. £300 for installation, making a total of £1,100 per camera. Insurance may be an additional cost.

Mr Goeldenbot expressed some concern at the siting of the poles in an AONB but was reassured that consultation will be carried out and no firm decisions have yet been taken.

42 WINTER PREPARATIONS

Cllr de Haldevang said he had received a pallet of grit in Village Farm, and Barrington Park had another. He added that in fact it is salt and not grit, and asked residents to be aware of the adverse effect of it on dogs' paws. He will refill and replace grit bins as necessary.

Cllr Morris commended the County Council's gritting lorries for the sterling job they are doing, covering over 1,000 miles, and local communities who manage the difficult task of hand gritting their own internal roads. Cllr Wingfield pointed out that there is a small section of road missed in Great Barrington, and Cllr Morris asked that the request be put in writing to him by the Chairman and it would then be addressed.

44 WINDRUSH, WASP & WASTE MANAGEMENT

Cllr Bainbridge said there is little to update at the moment. WASP continue to challenge Thames Water. There is another organisation doing surveys and laying mats beside the river to collect the sediment when it floods, to ascertain what it consists of. There is still a lot of research going on but it's down to the pressure that people put on the water companies. At the end of the day, until the government and the environment agency are prepared to challenge this, nothing will progress. Cllr Morris felt that if communities could get together to make a bigger noise, then maybe the companies might be embarrassed enough to take note. He said until the water companies are forced to put the necessary infrastructure in place, change will not happen.

45 APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

The Clerk confirmed that John Yeatman had again agreed to carry out the internal audit for the financial year 2022-2023.

46 ASSETS REGISTER

The Clerk had previously circulated the updated Assets Register, which now includes the canvas prints in The Reading Room, the radar gun, and both defibrillators, with insurance cover where necessary. The Register was Approved.

47 EVENTS

The Chairman thanked the organisers of the Advent Drinks evening held on 10 December, and particularly Jacky King. He was pleased to say that approximately 48 people attended this year, and it has become a major annual event within the community.

The Christmas Carol Service was held on Sunday in Great Barrington, and the Christmas tree festival is to follow. The latter raises funds for charity and is open to all.

The Spring Village Clean-Up will be held on Saturday 18 March 2023.

48 KING CHARLES III CORONATION

One of the ideas to celebrate the King's Coronation on Saturday 6 May 2023 is an evening dance – perhaps a Coronation Ceilidh. Funding will need to be organised. The Chairman is happy to circulate a note about it to local residents via WhatsApp. Jacky King asked if an organiser could be sought. The Chairman suggested it be kept simple, with one of the local pubs providing a cash bar and a buffet. It will probably be held in the Village Hall in Great Barrington

49 NALC PAY AWARD

Details of the NALC pay award 2022-23 had been circulated to Councillors and the increase of £1.00 per hour in the Clerk's pay was Noted.

50 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a. The Financial Statement 1 October to 30 November 2022 had been circulated, and a copy is attached to the Minutes.
- b. Two invoices had been approved by Councillors between meetings - £155.99 for TEEC Ltd for website hosting and domain, and £162.00 to the Community Heartbeat Trust for defibrillator annual support.
- c. The Clerk had circulated to Councillors the full details of proposed election charges with effect from April 2023. These charges are in respect of **contested** elections only and would amount to approximately £1,400 on each occasion. This was Noted.
- d. The Clerk requested approval for the cost of binding Council Minutes for the period 2013 to 2022, expected to cost in the region of £130. There was some discussion about this, and it was finally agreed to wait until the same period in 2023, so that the bound minutes covered a ten-year period.

51 BUDGET & PRECEPT 2023-24

The Clerk had circulated details of anticipated total expenditure this year and expected expenditure next year. There would probably be a healthy surplus at the financial year end to

enable the purchase of one or more speed cameras, especially if match-funding was achieved.

The tax base last year was 116. It will be 119 in the forthcoming year, which means that the precept could be increased by £100 to £3,700 without negatively affecting the Council Tax Band D rate for 2023/24. After discussion, it was agreed to request a precept of £3,700 for the forthcoming financial year.

52 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Wednesday 22 March 2023 - Annual Parish Meeting, 6.00 p.m.
Wednesday 17 May 2023 Parish Council AGM, 6.00 p.m.
Wednesday 18 October 2023 Parish Council Meeting, 6.00 p.m.

All meetings will be held in The Reading Room, Little Barrington.

PLEASE NOTE that meetings in 2023 will be held on Wednesday evenings.

The meeting ended at 7.19 p.m.

Chairman