

**BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON
FRIDAY 12 MARCH 2021
VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING**

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

Clerk: Tan Marchant

Apologies: Cllr Sue Cleal

In Attendance: Cllr Ray Theodoulou, Gloucestershire County Council
 Mr Alexander Hope
 Two members of the public

During the course of the meeting, Cllr Theodoulou informed the Council that this would be his last meeting as he was standing down from his County role in May. He said how much he had enjoyed attending the Council's meetings, and in turn he was thanked for everything he had done over several years to assist the Council.

47 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

48 ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Klaus Goeldenbot said there were two dog waste bins by Green Drive Farm and the Reading Room, but with the amount of mess increasing during Covid, could another bin be installed, maybe near Papermill Cottages. Cllr Bainbridge pointed out that there is another bin in Minnow Lane.

Mr Goeldenbot also said that the hawthorn hedge had been cut back recently but the footpath had never been cleared, which meant that dogs were having to walk on thorns. Additionally, someone is disposing of Christmas trees, shrubs and grass cuttings, all of which amounts to fly tipping. The Chairman said he would take a look and contact the relevant authority where necessary.

Finally, Mr Goeldenbot asked whether there was a date for a litter pick as there was currently so much litter about. He was told that litter picking would be discussed under Item 50.

49 CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR

Alexander Hope had put himself forward for Co-option to the Parish Council following the resignation of Gerard Moate. The Co-option was unanimously APPROVED by a show of hands, and Cllr Hope duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

50 COUNCILLORS PROJECT UPDATES

- a. **WASP (Windrush Against Sewage Pollution)** – Cllr Bainbridge said he didn't have any update on this because of the restrictions of Covid. Cllr Theodoulou said that he was trying to engage with the Environment Agency, whose duty it is to look after the streams. Two local MPs are involved and the whole issue of discharge is one of great public interest. Cllr Hope said that a colleague of his, Tara Douglas Hume, is running the Colne

Valley Campaign Group and his experience may be useful to the Council.

- b. **Windrush Valley Traffic Action Group & Traffic Calming** – Cllr de Haldevang said that the traffic calming programme had been started 18 months ago. It is currently on hold because the police are not releasing the equipment during lockdown. He has booked the system and kit again with effect from April.
Cllr de Haldevang reported that the impact of the weight restriction on Burford Bridge is being felt regionally and even nationally by hauliers. Eight of the Windrush villages have appealed against it to Oxfordshire County Council (OCC). The Windrush Valley Traffic Action Group has now been formed comprising a large number of local villages, plus hauliers and farmers. The mission is to meet challenges and seek to support constructively both OCC and GCC, to recognise the serious regional impact of the experimental weight limit by revoking the Burford 7.5 ton restriction and implementing a regional traffic management plan. Cllr Theodoulou said that co-operation with Oxfordshire is one of the major issues.
OCC have put out five sensors, all on A-Roads, to monitor traffic flow but the Chairman said that none are in our county. Cllr Theodoulou said he will check this with OCC. Cllr de Haldevang emphasised that any HGVs passing through the village should be photographed and reported whenever possible.
- c. **Emergency Plan** – The Plan had been updated by Cllr Watson. A questionnaire had been circulated by email requesting more volunteers, particularly any from Great Barrington.
- d. **Security and Neighbourhood Watch** – Cllr Cleal was not present to give a report on this initiative. Great Barrington has a WhatsApp group and Little Barrington now has a similar one to report crime and to circulate any important alerts. Helen Lord is in charge of the Little Barrington group. Residents are encouraged to report anything suspicious, with car theft and fly tipping being current issues.
- e. **Community Events** – Cllr de Haldevang said that community events are obviously very limited during the current pandemic and the Advent Drinks event did not take place. As far as the Village Clean Up is concerned, he said he could order the necessary equipment for any residents to use as and when they can whilst following social distancing. Mr Goeldenbot said he would be happy to do this, and expected others in the village would feel the same. Cllr Watson said that a number of residents had already carried out some litter picking in Great Barrington last weekend. Cllr de Haldevang said he would circulate a note about litter picking to local residents, and he asked Cllr Hope to take on this task in the future.
The Windrush Valley Flower Show will be held on 24th July 2021.
Cllr Bainbridge advised that a Coffee Morning in the Reading Room is being proposed by Emma Field when circumstances permit. He also said the Circus would be coming in August as usual.
The Strim Stream and Soup event will be held in September.

51 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Friday 14 May 2021**. It is possible that the Annual Parish Meeting may also be held in May, but this is uncertain until it is known whether Remote Meetings Regulations will be lifted to allow in-person meetings to resume.

The meeting ended at 6.45 p.m.

Chairman