

**BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 18 OCTOBER 2023 AT 6.00 P.M.
IN THE READING ROOM, LITTLE BARRINGTON**

Present Cllr Jan de Haldevang - Chairman
 Cllr Sue Cleal
 Cllr Alex Pierre-Traves

Officer: Mrs Tan Marchant - Clerk & RFO

Apologies: Cllr Tony Dale

Absent: Cllr Ali Hope, Cllr R Wingfield

In Attendance: 2 members of the public

16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr de Haldevang declared a personal interest in Planning Application No 23/03022/AGFO and abstained from commenting.

17 MINUTES OF THE AGM

The Minutes of the AGM held on 17 May 2023 were APPROVED as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

18 ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO RAISE ISSUES

A member of the public mentioned that Little Barrington Church had been broken into that morning, and Cllr de Haldevang said that there were tyre marks on the grass, the doors had been left wide open, and the church sign had been pushed over and discarded. Nothing had been stolen. The break-in had been reported to the police.

19 ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Dom Morris was not present.

20 ADJOURNMENT FOR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Tony Dale had given his apologies for the meeting.

21 ADJOURNMENT FOR DANIEL TIFFNEY, GCC AREA HIGHWAYS MANAGER

Mr Tiffney had given his apologies for the meeting.

22 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The Chairman advised that two speed cameras had been installed on 28 September, one at the entrance to Great Barrington and the other in Little Barrington by Lowicks Cottage. The cameras take a photograph of the rear number plate, which is sometimes hard to verify as it can be dirty or blurred if the vehicle is travelling at speed or it is raining heavily. The four warning signs are now up, one at each entrance, and one at each point where the speed limit changes from 40 to 30 or 30 to 40.

Cllr de Haldevang explained the graphs that he had circulated, which made interesting reading. In summary, the trigger speed is 36 mph, and there were 192 offenders exceeding this speed in Great Barrington from installation date to 17 October. The maximum speed recorded was 45mph and the fastest hour was 6.00 a.m. The cameras are solar powered and therefore do not have a 24-hour capability.

The camera in Little Barrington had an initial fault so did not feed the data for a few days. In this case, there were 20 speeders, a maximum speed of 44 mph, and the fastest hour was 7.00 a.m.

It was noted that six of the speeders were in vehicles without an MOT, and six vehicles were untaxed.

The policy that will be followed is not just to log the top speeders, but also to log the repeat speeders too. There are currently twelve, of which four have been caught consistently.

The Police will be charging to the parish council 70p per warning letter. For the first offence, a letter will be sent. For a second offence, a letter will be sent and a telephone call made. The third offence will initiate a visit from the police.

Cllr de Haldevang's plan is to seek approval for the issuing of ten letters a week, along the lines of the Quenington example, which will amount to a cost to the parish council of £364 p.a.

IT WAS RESOLVED to APPROVE expenditure of £364 per annum as detailed above.

23 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH & FLY-TIPPING

Cllr Cleal reported that six lots of fly tipping had occurred on the Leys Road. She said she had difficulty reporting this online as she needed the exact postcode of the location - she was encouraged to use the postcode finder app online. She said she had reported one incidence of fly-tipping to the district council within two hours of visiting the site and taking photos, but so far the council are yet to respond. The Clerk mentioned that Cllr Dale had said at the last meeting that he was happy to be copied into any complaints so that action might be speedier, and Cllr Cleal will be supplied with his email address. She said that otherwise, everything was under control.

24 WINTER PREPARATIONS

Cllr de Haldevang said that he will be replacing three grit bins before the winter sets in. Cllr Cleal said she had surveyed all the bins earlier today, and she confirmed there is one by Sundial Cottage and one in the corner of the Middle Road going up to the A40. A pile of grit is on the roadside leading up to the A40, and another pile is at the top. Three bins are also on this road but the middle one is squashed.

There is a further bin at Papermill Cottage; Minnow Lane has two, one at the top which needs replacing due to a hole in its side, and the other at the bottom.

A pallet of grit has been delivered to Cllr de Haldevang, and he will deal with all of these issues. Great Barrington also has a pallet.

25 EVENTS

- a. Autumn Tidy Up – this will be held on Saturday 4 November from 10.00 a.m. meeting at The Fox.

- b. Advent Drinks – will be held in Great Barrington Village Hall this year on Saturday 9 December.

26 MAINTENANCE UPDATE

Cllr de Haldevang said there are two village signs which need to be varnished to make them weatherproof. He confirmed that he had treated all the benches this summer.

27 D-DAY 80 - LETTER FROM PAGEANT MASTER

This event will take place nationwide on 6 June 2024 with the lighting of as many beacons as possible across the country. Cllr Wingfield will be consulted about holding the Barringtons' beacon lighting in Great Barrington.

28 PARISH WELCOME PACK

Cllr Pierre-Traves is masterminding this initiative, and a draft leaflet is ready to be circulated in the near future. He said he would welcome any suggestions on items to include.

29 NOMINATION OF LITTLE BARRINGTON CHARITY TRUSTEE

This matter will be reviewed at the next Annual General Meeting although nominations are four-yearly and therefore do not need to be reconsidered until 2026.

As a background, the Charity comprises of five trustees, two of which are nominated by the parish council. Currently James Bainbridge is a trustee (although no longer a member of the Parish Council). The Parish Council has only had a tenuous link to the charity in the past, but it is nonetheless very important to the locality.

A member of the public felt that residents should have a say, because it is their rent money that goes to the Charity for its purposes, and they would appreciate hearing what happens to it. He also felt that there should be tenant representation on the Charity Committee.

Cllr de Haldevang will pass on these views.

30 PLANNING MATTERS – FOR NOTING

Planning No	Date Received	Details
23/02947/TPO	21/09/2023	Green Close Cottage, The Green, Little Barrington. Trim yew tree identified as T1. Remove secondary growth beyond the red lines. These works are required to allow light and access to the lawn area and to reduce the encroachment on adjacent structures. Barrington Parish Council had no objection to this application. DECISION AWAITED
23/03022/AGFO	27/09/2023	Land Northeast of Barrington Downs Farm – Agricultural or Forestry Prior notification for a modern steel framed agricultural building. Barrington Parish Council had no objection to this application. PERMITTED

31 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Financial Statement 1 April to 30 September 2023 had been circulated, and it was noted that the largest item of expenditure had been speed cameras at a cost of £1,065.50. The account balance remains at a very healthy level, and reducing the precept for next year will be an Agenda item for the next meeting. A copy of the Financial Statement is attached to these Minutes.

32 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Friday 15 December 2023	Parish Council Meeting, Reading Room, 6.00 p.m.
Friday 15 March 2024	Parish Council Meeting, Reading Room, 6.00 p.m.
Friday 17 May 2024	Parish Council AGM, Reading Room, 6.00 p.m.

The meeting ended at 6.45 p.m.

Chairman