

BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
HELD ON MONDAY 5 DECEMBER 2016
IN THE READING ROOM, LITTLE BARRINGTON
AT 7.00 P.M.

Present: Cllr P Porter - Chairman
Cllr J Bainbridge – Vice-Chairman
Cllr J de Haldevang
Cllr R Stow

Officer: Mrs T Marchant – Clerk & RFO

Public: Mrs P de Haldevang
Mr S Gorst

In Attendance: Cllr C Hancock - Cotswold District Council

28 OPEN SESSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- (a) Mrs de Haldevang informed members of the Council that two men, acting as representatives of the Red Cross, had been cold calling in the village. Although they were legitimately working for Experian Plc on behalf of the Red Cross, she felt their behaviour was rather suspicious and over-friendly. The Charity had notified their intention of gathering support in this way, but unfortunately had sought permission from the wrong council.
- (b) Mrs de Haldevang reminded the Council of the need to nominate a volunteer to update the local Emergency Plan.

29 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Porter declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 39 as recycling facilities are available at his public house.

30 REPORT OF COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Chris Hancock was present at the meeting but had nothing to report.

31 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on 19 September 2016 and previously circulated, were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

32 MATTERS ARISING

- (a) Transparency Application – the Clerk was pleased to report that she had applied to the Transparency Fund for funding towards her costs in putting together the parish council website and for the approximate annual cost of an upgraded Weebly website, and a cheque for £399.28 had been received.
- (b) Weebly Website Upgrade – the Clerk advised that the only way to pay the monthly fee for an upgraded website, as approved at the previous meeting, would be via a parish council debit card and she had applied for the necessary mandate from TSB. However, Cllr Bainbridge felt that it wasn't necessary for the website to be searchable and therefore an upgrade should not be applied for. The Clerk was tasked with

updating the list of residents' email addresses so that as many as possible could be informed of the website's existence. She was also advised to ask for the web address to be included in the local church newsletter.

- (c) WW1 Grant – Cllr de Haldevang said that the matter of a bench had already been raised through the Little Barrington PCC and the current thinking was that the best site for the bench would be outside the church, to the left of the entrance. It would be match-funded by the Barrington Charity, with the parish council contributing if necessary. Cllr Hancock said that he knew of inmates in Leyhill Prison in Gloucestershire making wooden benches at low cost for sale in the community and he said he would let the Clerk have contact details.
- (d) Winter Planning – Although winter salt had not been ordered for this winter because stocks were considered to be adequate, at the meeting in September Cllr Gorst had questioned the adequacy of stocks for Great Barrington and Cllr de Haldevang had asked the Clerk to ascertain the cost of additional grit bins. Cllr de Haldevang had investigated further since that meeting and confirmed that stocks of both winter salt and grit bins were adequate.

33 RESIGNATION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR AND CO-OPTION

It was with regret that the Chairman had received a letter of resignation from Cllr Sebastian Gorst dated 11 November 2016. The Parish Council subsequently declared a casual vacancy and if local residents do not call for an election, then a new councillor will be co-opted. Councillors were asked to come forward with any suggestions, and the Clerk will include details of the vacancy on the Council website and on Facebook.

Sebastian was thanked for the valuable and enthusiastic contribution he had made to the Parish Council in the short time he had been a Councillor.

34 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Financial Report covering the period September to November 2016 was noted. A copy of the Report is attached to these Minutes.

35 GRANT FOR VILLAGER BUS SERVICES

The Clerk had circulated an email from Keith Gowing, the Chairman of the Villager Community Bus Service serving 23 villages and towns in Gloucestershire, requesting financial support in the next financial year.

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** support for this initiative with a grant of £150 in the next financial year and the Clerk was tasked with finding out further details including times and frequency of buses to publicise on Facebook, on the Parish Council website and on local noticeboards.

36 BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2017/18

Councillors considered the budget expenditure in the current financial year, copy attached, and the projected expenditure in 2017/18. The precept currently stands at £2,000 p.a.

It was **RESOLVED** not to increase the Precept in the forthcoming financial year.

37 RISK ASSESSEMENT

The Risk Assessment was reviewed. It was questioned whether the parish grit bins were covered by insurance and the Clerk will make enquiries. Councillors also felt that the

insurance cost was high given the limited assets of the Parish Council, and the Clerk was tasked with obtaining other quotes at the relevant time.

It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the Risk Assessment.

38 PLANNING

(a) Decisions and Comments:

16/01619/LBC 65 The Mullions, Little Barrington. Removal of internal walls, creation of new internal opening, conversion of attic space into bedroom, conversion of boiler room into utility, and replacement of rear door.

PERMISSION NOTED, but the Parish Council made the following additional comments:-

The Parish Council wish to express concern about the scale of the actual work being undertaken, as opposed to the formal application. There is weekly evidence of large scale removal of rubble and the presence of a significant number of skips and vans, suggesting that the original application may be being ‘stretched’.

The Council is especially concerned as the previous owner had all similar applications rejected on the basis that this property (originally three 17th Century cottages) represented a unique historic character, reflecting Little Barrington’s association with the quarrying and stone masonry heritage.

16/03978/FUL 75 The Green, Little Barrington, Burford, Glos, OX18 4TE. Installation of dormer window in front elevation, erection of single storey rear extension, extension of existing parking bay and erection of retaining wall. **The Parish Council OBJECTED to this application as detailed below.**

16/03979/LBC 73 & 75 The Green Little Barrington, Burford, Glos, OX18 4TE - Internal and external alterations including the erection of a single storey rear extension, installation of front dormer window, creation of opening to link 73 and 75, removal of walls, floor and staircase and installation of new stairs. **Barrington Parish Council OBJECTS to the above planning applications concerning Nos 73 and 75 The Green, Little Barrington.**

The Council is concerned by the applications on two counts.

Firstly the proposal will result in the loss of a dwelling within the village, with two original cottages being converted to one. This has been resisted previously in respect of cottages on the other side of the village green.

Secondly, the proposed extension of the cottage(s) is not in keeping with the historic framework and appearance of the row of cottages on the western side of the village green (Listed buildings within a Conservation Area) and would result in an over-development of the

plot.

The Council is very concerned that granting planning permission and Listed building consent would set a dangerous precedent that could result in the loss of more dwellings within the village and significantly harm the village Conservation Area and the overall historic setting and appearance of the Listed buildings therein.

16/04871/FORST Forestry Consultation for Felling Licence at Barrington Park Great Barrington. **The Parish Council had no objection to this application.**

(b) Planning Principles and Charter – Cllr de Haldevang introduced this item and said that every planning application should have the following four parameters:

1. Historic & Regional:

- Does the application meet the Cotswold build character?
- Is the build in character with the district and village?
- Has the historic character of the building been respected and will it be preserved?
- Will the neighbouring properties' historic characters be affected?
- Will the historic seams be preserved (e.g. buttresses, fire places, stone window and stone door frames)?

2. Real Estate Affordable, local housing is a major issue that is affecting the very character of the Cotswolds, changing many of the local villages into London weekend/holiday homes. One effective solution might be the control of the over-development of cottage properties to expensive, locally unaffordable, high rental properties. I propose a simple measure whereby we apply a rule that the total sqm of a building (incl any new annexes) should not exceed 2/3 of the plot of real estate.

3. Environmental & Utilities Is the development going to affect or put unsustainable strain on:

- Sewage and drainage
 - Power
 - Internet
- and in the event that it might, will the enhancing measures (aerials, sewage tanks etc) have an adverse effect on the local environment or character

4. Eco-Social. Finally, the most subtle, perhaps subjective parameter:

- Will the development have a detrimental effect on the character of the village (e.g. a multiple office conversion involving parking/traffic)?
- Will the development add unacceptably to the current strain on road transport & parking?
- Is the development in keeping with a rural, farming community character, crucially not impeding such agricultural industry?
- Might the development endanger or affect adversely live stock or wild life?
- Will any aspect of the development cause serious local offence or disturbance?

Finally, it is suggested that the PC begins to play a far more active role in the monitoring of the build/developments; it is clear that CDC is not sufficiently staffed or historically aware enough to manage the progress of a development and its adherence to the planning application submitted.

39 CHANGES TO RECYCLING BANKS

The Clerk had circulated a communication from CDC concerning changes to recycling banks

commencing December 2016. The main changes will include the reduction of glass recycling banks and the increase of recycling of textiles and Tetrapak cartons.

The information was noted.

40 PARISH DEFIBRILLATOR

The Clerk had circulated details of defibrillators, both internal and external, that could be financed by the parish council for the benefit of local residents. Various possible locations were discussed, including inside the telephone box in Little Barrington. It was pointed out that funding could be applied for from the Community Facilities Grant on the CDC website, and the Clerk was asked to investigate further.

41 PARISH AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Clr de Haldevang introduced this item and listed the regular events which take place each year:

- Spring Clean-up in April
- Summer Fete – in July
- Strim and Supper in October
- Advent drinks in December

42 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Monday 13th February 2017 (Additional Meeting)
Monday 20th March 2017 (Annual Parish Meeting)
Monday 15th May 2017 (AGM)
Monday 4th September 2017

42 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

RESOLVED that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting.

The following item is confidential and closed to the public.

43 CLERK'S DRAFT CONTRACT

The Clerk had circulated a copy of the draft model contract recommended by the Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils (GAPTC). Councillors considered the contract and suggested various amendments which the Clerk will implement for consideration at the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 8.50 p.m.

Chairman

**BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
September to November 2016**

Opening Balance: £2,799.37

Receipts

Date	Cheque No	Payee	Amount	
22.09.16	CR	Cotswold DC - Precept Part 2	£500.00	
09.11.16	500071	Transparency Fund	£399.28	
			£899.28	
				£899.28

Payments

Date	Cheque No	Payee	Amount	
16.09.16	DD	Sage Payroll Fee	£6.00	
26.09.16	FP	GAPTC Subscription	£22.91	
03.10.16	FP	Tan Marchant Salary	£705.78	
17.10.16	DD	Sage Payroll Fee	£6.00	
16.11.16	DD	Sage Payroll Fee	£6.00	
23.11.16	FP	Tan Marchant Transparency	£303.28	
			£1,049.97	
				£1,049.97

**Sub
Total:** **£2,648.68**

**Unpresented
payments:**

None		£0.00	£0.00
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Closing Balance: **£2,648.68**
