

**BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY 15 MAY 2017  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL, GREAT BARRINGTON  
AT 7.00 P.M.**

Present: Cllr Paul Porter - Chairman  
Cllr James Bainbridge - Vice-Chairman

Cllr Jan de Haldevang

Officer: Mrs Tan Marchant – Clerk & RFO

Apologies: Cllr Dr S Bennett  
Cllr Robin Stow

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

IT WAS RESOLVED that Cllr Paul Porter be re-elected Chairman for the forthcoming year.

2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

IT WAS RESOLVED that Cllr James Bainbridge be re-appointed Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year.

3 APPOINTMENT OF RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

The Clerk was appointed Responsible Financial Officer for the forthcoming year. The Clerk suggested that her contract be amended to include the title of RFO, in common with most other parish and town councils, but Cllr Bainbridge felt that this appointment should be made on an annual basis without the assumption of the role.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5 ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

6 ADJOURNMENT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Chris Hancock had given his apologies for the meeting.

7 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 February 2017, previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

8 PLANNING MATTERS

**PLANNING DECISIONS – MAY 2017**

16/03978/FUL & 75 & 75 The Green, Little Barrington, Burford, Glos, OX18 4TE.  
16/03979/LBC Internal and external alterations including the installation of front

dormer window creating of opening to link 73 and 75, removal of walls, floor and staircase and installation of new stairs. **PERMITTED**

17/00903/TCONR Carpenter's Cottage, The Green, Little Barrington, Burford, Glos, OX18 4TE. T1 – Semi Mature Acer – Reduce by 15%. **PERMITTED**

#### **PLANNING COMMENTS – MAY 2017**

17/00903/TCONR Carpenter's Cottage, The Green, Little Barrington, Burford, Glos, OX18 4TE. T1 – Semi Mature Acer – Reduce by 15%. **NO OBJECTION**

Councillors expressed disappointment at the permission granted to Application Nos 16/03978/FUL and 16/03979/LBC. Cllr Bainbridge and Cllr de Haldevang said they would meet with Cllr Hancock to discuss why the views of the parish council had not been taken into account.

#### 9 ANNUAL RETURN 2016/17

- (a) Annual Governance Statement 2016/17 – Councillors **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Annual Governance Statement as detailed in Section 1, which was then signed by the Chairman and Clerk.
- (b) Annual Return 2016/17 – Councillors **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Accounting Statements in Section 2, which were then signed by the Chairman and RFO.
- (c) Internal Audit Report 2016/17 – Councillors **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Internal Audit Report on Page 5 of the Return

#### 10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (a) Invoices for payment. The following invoices were approved for payment:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Description</b>
15.05.2017	John Yeatman	FPO	£30.00	Internal Audit Fee
15.05.2017	GAPTC Villager Bus	FPO	£50.85	Annual Subscription Grant approved in Feb 2017
15.05.2017	Service	FPO	£150.00	
15.05.2017	Hiscox Insurance	FPO	£168.00	Insurance Renewal

The Clerk advised that she would make the payments by FPO (Faster Payment Online) rather than by cheque to save on time and postage and this was **APPROVED**.

- (b) Financial Statement. The Annual Financial Statement April 2016 to March 2017, attached at Annex A, was noted.
- (c) NEST Pension Scheme. The Clerk advised that it was mandatory for a pension scheme to be put in place for Barrington Parish Council and a Direct Debit mandate was therefore circulated for signature by two Councillors.
- (d) VAT Registration. The Clerk said she had recently attended a course at which VAT was discussed. She realised that the Parish Council could register for VAT, and could then reclaim VAT from purchases up to three years earlier, as well as for payments in the future, such as a parish defibrillator. Cllr Bainbridge was concerned there would

be a cost involved, but the Clerk assured him there would not. After further discussion, it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should take forward the registration for VAT.

- (e) Clerk's Contract. A payment to the Clerk needed to be agreed in respect of the additional meeting held in February. After discussion, it was resolved that an additional payment of £348.03 be paid, being one quarter of the annual sum. Cllr Bainbridge asked if the number of meetings per year could be reduced from four to three in the future to save money and the Clerk said that she would investigate the statutory regulations.

## 11 BROADBAND UPDATE

Cllr Bainbridge reported that two village meetings had taken place on Saturday 25th March and 30-40 people had attended. Gigaclear are contracted to put in fibre optic broadband in the public highway close to everyone's premises. Individuals could then contract with Gigaclear to connect with a variety of connection fees and contract rates applying. Gigaclear said they would be back to continue works during April with connections available in May, but they haven't yet returned.

BT have issued a contract to the parish council to supply fibre broadband to the cabinet outside Lowicks in Little Barrington and a new cabinet on Back Lane in Great Barrington. From those, broadband would be delivered via the existing 'copper wire' network. BT say this should provide 'super-fast' connection to properties within around 1km of the cabinets but speeds would fall off outside this range. The cost to the community is a little over £36,000 but, with 50% grant funding because of the Montessori School, the net cost to the community would be around £18,000. Cllr Bainbridge has had indications of support from the owners of 85 properties in the parish, prepared in principle to fund this sum, subject to review and approval of the proposed contract.

## 12 PARISH DEFIBRILLATOR

The Clerk had circulated example costs of providing a defibrillator in the parish – with the favoured location being in the BT phone box. Cllr Hancock had confirmed that he had £2,000 of funding for five parishes, which amounted to a £400 contribution for Barrington. Councillors approved proceeding with this and tasked the Clerk with investigating alternatives and supplying details to councillors by email.

## 13 WW1 GRANT UPDATE

Cllr de Haldevang said that there were three options for the siting of a memorial bench:

- Near the phone box on the grass
- Opposite Carpenters on the village green
- Near the war memorial (but there is already a bench there)

After discussion, it was agreed that the most appropriate site would be opposite Carpenters.

## 14 POLICE REPORT

The Clerk had previously circulated a report from the local police giving up-to-date crime figures, and the report was noted.

## 15 DIARY DATES

- Cllr de Haldevang reported that Bob McNally from the District Council would be coming to the parish on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May between 10.00 and 2.00 in respect of the judging for the Clean Up Competition and a parish councillor would need to meet him and show him round. Cllr Porter said he would do so if no other councillor was available.
- **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July** - Windrush Valley Fete
- **23<sup>rd</sup> September or 4<sup>th</sup> October** - Strim and Supper
- **2<sup>nd</sup> December** - Advent Drinks
- **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September** – Parish Council Meeting (subject to Clerk’s enquiry into statutory number of meetings)
- **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December** – Parish Council Meeting

The meeting ended at 7.55 p.m.

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Chairman