

BARKING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Annual Parish Meeting held at Barking Village Hall at 7.30pm
on Thursday 23rd April 2015

PRESENT:

Cllr Stephen Butler - Chairman

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs R J Cochrane - Clerk

Outgoing District Cllr Stephen Wright

PCSO Matt Brown

18 members of the public signed the Attendance Register (*attached to these minutes*)

BPM 01//15 APOLOGIES

Richard Cage (Barking Tree Warden), Pastor Graham Steward (Barking Chapel), Sandra Reynolds (Choir & WI), Kate Griffin (Art Group), Monica Gibbs (Ringshall School), Michael Smith (Theobalds Trust), Karen Partridge (Barking Pre-School), Claire Tabberer (Barking Community Council), Andy Gilder (Barking Carpet Bowls)

BPM02/15 POLICE REPORT – PCSO Matt Brown (*see written report attached to these minutes*)

7 crimes had been reported during the year locally. PCSO Brown was asked if traffic can be slowed down during the Remembrance Service on the Tye in November. It was suggested that a road closure be applied for or some form of road traffic management via SCC Highways. Another question was asked regarding a recent spate of burglaries – approx. 80 to date, and what is being done about them. It was reported that cars are being pulled over at random. Houses are being targeted via back /patio doors and doors are being jemmied open and curtains being closed. All to be alert for signs of closed curtains.

BPM 03/15 MINUTES

Copies of the minutes from the meeting held on 24th April 2014 were handed out. It was proposed by Sue Bailey, seconded by David Bishop and agreed by those present that they should be signed by the Chair as a true record. The Minutes were duly signed.

BPM 04/15 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

BPM05/15 – BARKING PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Cllr Stephen Butler.

Full Report attached.

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Stephen Butler gave the Parish Council Chairman's Report. A copy of the Chairman's Report is attached to these Minutes.

Main points: Local elections due to take place 7th May. 9 meetings held. Consulted on 4 planning applications. The long awaited repairs to railings adjacent to Barking Nursing Home have been completed. A road closure, road works (Wattisham related) and burst water mains led to a miserable few weeks for motorists. A major upgrade to the water mains in Barking is imminent. Temporary speed cameras were present for a short period. The Barking Community Speed Watch Team is mothballed as there are no volunteers currently. The Tye - sky lanterns have been banned from the Tye and the banning of drones is being considered. Mole trapping continues. EFMS Ltd continue to cut the grass. Martin Pryke replaced Cameron Bate as Litter Picker. Donations to Royal British Legion, Four Parishes Magazine and St Marys Church. Calendar profits to SARS. Intelligent Lighting System installed on all 10 street lights to reduce lighting energy bills. Replacement of remaining 8 lanterns with LED units authorised but not yet carried out. 2 new Neighbourhood Watch Signs purchased and being erected. Budget set at £28,822. Precept remains at £8,488. Parish Council is managing finances for the Village Hall extension project. The Council adopted protocol for the reporting at meetings. Revised Financial Regulations and a revised Suffolk Code of Conduct were adopted. Deeds of Easement granted for 2 more properties. The Barking Fox Public House has become an Asset of Community Value. The

Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities will impact on the work of the Parish Council and the acquisition of a defibrillator is being considered.

Questions were asked about the likely start date for the footpath (Answer – not imminent, if ever), and when will the Fox Meadow Affordable Housing Scheme building work commence (Answer – unknown)

BPM 06/15 INVITED REPRESENTATIVES:

Representatives of the following organisations were invited to speak and, where received, their reports are attached to these Minutes.

a) Suffolk County Council – County Cllr Julia Truelove.

Cllr Truelove was not in attendance and no report had been received.

b) Mid Suffolk District Council – Outdoing District Cllr Stephen Wright. Full Report attached.

Main points: SITA Energy from Waste site at Great Blakenham opened on time and under budget. East Anglia Off Shore Wind Farm - planning permission for stage one granted. Somersham shop doing well. Baylam Solar Farm application withdrawn. Proposed glasshouses to grow tomatoes - talks continuing. Somersham Duke of Marlborough - community push to purchase the pub. MSDC Housing – 36 new ‘Council Houses’ planned across district.

c) Barking Neighbourhood Watch – Jeremy Reynolds on behalf of Peter Wright - Barking Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. Full Report attached.

Main points: Catalytic converters stolen, theft of builders van, person pretending to be a pedlar suspected, bag of syringes and needles found, increase in number of scams reported, numerous calls reporting suspicious persons/vehicles. New deputies appointed. Thanks to all deputies.

d) St Mary’s Church, Barking - Barry Gascoyne. Full Report attached.

Main points – Michael Hodgson standing down as Church Warden. Reverend Canon Bernard Rose retiring. See attached Report

e) BATS (Barking Amateur Dramatic Society) – Brian Smith – Full Report attached

First ever pantomime – ‘Wind Up in the Willows’ – 3 performances all sold out. Own staging planned. Future - possibly a murder mystery or a short play.

f) Ringshall & Barking WI – Sue Bailey for Sandra Reynolds, President. Full Report attached

Sandra was unable to be present to the Report was delivered by Sue Bailey. Main points: Soup and Puds event, Book Club formed and card making workshops held, membership risen to 35. 2015 is Centenary Year – numerous events planned incl gathering at the Albert Hall.

g) Barking Tye Community Choir – Sue Bailey for Sandra Reynolds. Full report attached.

Sandra was unable to be present, so Jeremy Reynolds read the report.

Main points: up to 27 members from Barking, and surrounding villages. Currently ladies only – men seem reluctant to join! Concerts held at Great Bricett, Battisford, Ringshall, and Barking. New members always welcome.

h) Barking Art Group – Mike Griffin for Kate Griffin. Full Report attached.

Kate Griffin was unable to be present, so her report was delivered by Mike Griffin. Main points: Group continues to flourish, 2 hour sessions every Monday afternoon.

i) Barking Village Hall Management Committee –Jeremy Reynolds Village Hall Management Committee Chairman). Full Report attached.

Main points: Finances healthy, on-going maintenance – front barge boards due to be painted, pot holes in car park. Extension plans – Phase 1(store room) due to start imminently. Phase 2 – meeting room. Few private lets and no police incidents thus far. Audio visual system installed, new door locking system

installed, new armchairs purchased. Vote of thanks to County Cllr Truelove for up to £10,000 of funding towards store room extension/oil tank. Possible future projects include the acquisition of a defibrillator.

It was suggested that the Co-op is starting up a new fund for defibrillators – Clerk to research.

j) Barking Footpaths Group – *John Dickerson, Chair, Barking Footpaths Group. Full report attached.*
Footpaths in good order, thanks to Roy and Shaun. Ongoing work includes trimming round footpath signs, and replacing posts. Still awaiting replacement of bridge at Clipper Jimmys.

k) Needham Market and Barking Welfare Charities – *David Bishop. Full Report attached.*
Reminder of Charities Objectives, current activities (included £386 to Barking Village Hall for Phase 1 of the extension project, over £15,000 to Needham Market Community Centre), and future plans.

l) Barking Chapel – *Pastor Graham Steward. Full Report attached*
Graham Steward was not able to be present, but a written report had been received in advance.

m) Barking Tree Warden – *Richard Cage. Full report attached*
Richard Cage was unable to be present, but had sent his report in advance.

n) Barking Community Council – *Claire Tabberer (Community Council Chair). Full Report attached.*
Claire was not able to be present, but had sent her report in advance.

o) Barking Carpet Bowls – *Andy Gilder (Barking Carpet Bowls) Full Report attached.*
Andy Gilder was not able to be present, but a written report had been received in advance.

p) Ringshall Primary School - *Monica Gibbs . Full School report attached.*
Monica was unable to be present. A report had been received in advance.

q) Barking Pre-School – *Karen Partridge, Barking Pre-School. Report attached.*
Andy Gilder was not able to be present, but a written report had been received in advance.

r) Theobald's Foundation – *Michael Smith.*
Michael was unable to be present. No report had been received.

BPM07/15 PUBLIC FORUM

The Chair invited questions from the public. There were no questions.

The Chair thanked all for attending especially those who had put together and delivered presentations to the meeting. The Chair closed the meeting at 9.20pm. Tea/coffee and cake were served.

Chairman..... Date.....