

BARKING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held at Barking Village Hall at 7.30pm
on Thursday 16th January 2014

PRESENT:

Cllr S Butler (Chair)
Cllr M Smith
Cllr M Bailey
Cllr A Smith
Cllr P Hollocks
Cllr A Ross
Cllr Eagles

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs R J Cochrane *Clerk*
Cllr Julia Truelove
PC Tina Fairness

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Stephen Wright

BPC001/14 PUBLIC FORUM

There was one member of the public present but no questions were raised.

BPC002/14 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received by the Clerk from Cllr Wright

BPC003/14 POLICE REPORT (see attached report)

PC Tina Fairness had not yet arrived but her written report had been received in advance and was circulated to the meeting. One crime to report – theft of a catalytic converter from a vehicle.

BPC004/14 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR STEPHEN WRIGHT

Cllr Wright was unable to be present and no written report had been received.

BPC005/14 – COUNTY COUNCILLOR JULIA TRUELOVE'S REPORT (see attached report)

Cllr Truelove's report included Suffolk County Council's Budget for the forthcoming year, actions taken by SCC Highways before and after the storms in October and December, Children in Care and Suffolk Broadband provision.

BPC006/14 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21st NOVEMBER 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st November 2013 were approved as a true record and were duly signed by the Chair. Proposed by Cllr Bailey and seconded by Cllr Alex Smith.

BPC007/14 - DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest declared.

BPC008/14 APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

There were no applications for dispensation.

BPC009/14 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - CLERK’S REPORT

The Clerk reported on actions taken.

- i. Hay Crop** – Cheque for £500 has now been received from Mr Holder.
- ii. Hedge at Tye Green** – No response was received from Mr or Mrs Donaldson.
- iii. Boot Camp Request** – No response has been received from Mr Rivers.
- iv. Footway Request** – No response has yet been received from SCC Highways. Cllr Truelove was asked if she could chase this up on behalf of the Council.
- v. Drainage Pipe Adjacent to Endways** – It was reported that this work is currently being undertaken.
- vi. War Memorial** – The Clerk has received literature giving advice on cleaning War Memorials - to be circulated.
- vii. Play Area Repairs** – Quote o/s from Clerk Fencing for repairs, and a new football goal net has now been purchased.
- viii. Moles on the Tye** – The Chair reported that some moles had been trapped but that the job is too big. It was proposed that a professional pest control operative be employed to clear the football pitch and other areas of the Tye. It was proposed that gas may be the only realistic solution now. Clerk to obtain a quote from Suffolk Anti-Pest Services.

Cllr Truelove

Clerk

Clerk

7.45pm PC Tina Fairness arrived at this point

BPC010/14 SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

PC Tina Fairness provided more information about the catalytic converter theft, and advised that, due to the departure of PC Mick Smith from Wattisham Base, she will be starting some ‘Meet and Greet’ sessions at Wattisham Base Community Centre commencing 4th February 2014, from 10 – 12 am monthly. All are welcome to attend. PC Fairness was asked if speeding results could be included in the Safer Neighbourhood Team Reports. She thought that would be possible if it is a Needham Market Officer involved in collecting the data. A general question was asked about the posts for the speed signs, which were due to be erected some months ago. It was reported that these were due to be erected in November by the new contractor appointed by SCC Highways, but had not been. It is hoped they will be erected soon, so that the speed signs can start to be used. Cllr Truelove offered to follow this up with SCC Highways. PC Fairness reported that road safety will now be a priority for the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Cllr Truelove

BPC011//14 PLANNING

3679/13 – Land Adjacent to Anderson Close, Needham Market – It was reported that there appears to be some uncertainty whether part of this proposed development is within the parish of Barking. The Planning Officer indicates not, but the Agent indicates there may be part of the development, albeit a small part, in the parish of Barking. Clerk to ask for formal clarification. It was reported that any development on this site would be a departure from the Local Development Framework as Barking is designated as 'countryside' and therefore is not earmarked for any development at all, and this site is also outside the settlement boundary of Needham Market. It was proposed that this site is considered to be a greenfield site, and it is therefore not appropriate to develop this land. There are other more suitable brownfield sites available within the Needham Market settlement boundary. **Decision** - It was further proposed and resolved that, for these two reasons, Barking Parish Council OPPOSES this application. Clerk to respond accordingly.

Clerk

Clerk

BPC012/14 FINANCE

i) To receive Clerk’s Finance Report (attached to these minutes) -The Clerk reported on the financial movements since the previous meeting. Balance @ 16th January 2014 was £38,160.30.

ii) Authorisation of Payments - Decision - Payments totalling £4,557.26 were approved. Clerk to action.

iii) Budget 2014 – Decision - The Budget for 2014-15 was debated and approved @ £28,553.

iv) Precept 2014 -15 - Decision – The Precept was set at £8,488 which is a 1.5% increase over last year. This is the first time the Precept has been raised since 2009. It is understood that the Band D Council Tax Base has reduced significantly, so although the Precept is being increased,, the Band D Council Tax is still less than in 2013/14. The Precept Demand form was duly completed and signed. Clerk to send to District Authority within deadline.

Clerk

Clerk

BPC013/14 VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

Cllr Bailey reported that the Village Hall Committee has decided not to proceed with the extension at this present time. The container is meeting all the additional storage needs and could be clad outside and painted inside. If planning permission cannot be secured to retain the container, a shed could be built. The outstanding question is ‘what do we do for permanent storage?’

BPC014/14 CLERK’S REPORT ON URGENT DECISIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING

There were none to report.

BPC015/14 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

The Correspondence pack to be circulated.

BPC016/14 MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL

- i) **Barking Village Hall** – Cllr Bailey requested that an item be added to the next agenda to consider storage requirements at the Village Hall and the possibility of retaining the container.
- ii) **Parking on the Tye** – It was brought to the attention of the Council that a red van is parking frequently on the Tye opposite Ladyfield. The driver was identified and the Clerk was asked to write to the driver reminding the person of the Bye Laws and requesting that they be respected.
- iii) **Oil Tank at Village Hall** – It was requested that the issue of the oil tank be debated, as it is quite old and may need replaced and re-sited. Item to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

BPC017/14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of next meeting 20th March 2014

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

Chairman Date