

BARHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE CLAYDON & BARHAM VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 4th SEPTEMBER 2017

PRESENT: S. Carr, G. Musson, D. Milward, W. Allan, District Councillor J. Whitehead and County Councillor J. Field

1.9 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There was two members of the public present who raised concerns over the Joint Local Plan document produced by MSDC and the planning applications Barham Church Lane reference 1856/17 and Old Norwich Road, Claydon reference 1832/17.

2.9 REPORTS OF THE COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Councillor Whitehead's report was laid round at the meeting (see file)

Councillor J Field reported that Suffolk County Council is currently undergoing a reorganisation and there are representatives being assigned to talk to local councils regarding this (see file)

3.9 APOLOGIES: N. Cooper, J. Lea, A. Deveney and District Councillor J Caston

4.9 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST APPROPRIATE TO ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Chairman S. Carr declared an interest to item 12 on the agenda – the relocation of the dog bins at Kirby Rise, as this is near to where he lives.

5.9 MINUTES of the meeting of 30th June 2017 (July's meeting) were approved and signed.

6.9 WORKPLAN

Councillors received an update on the outstanding matters. Clerk fed back the information received regarding costs etc from Westerfield Parish Council. Councillor J. Field suggested contacting Henley Parish Council regarding the costs of their speeding signs, as he believed them to be lower than those quoted by Westerfield.

7.9 REPORTS

Of the councillors present no meetings were attended since the last Parish Council meeting and the clerk received no reports from councillors not present.

8.9 FINANCE

- a. Monthly payments – It was agreed to sign cheques to the value of £956.81.
- b. July payments – it was agreed to sign cheques for street cleaning and grass cutting of 501.98.
- c. Recreation Ground Funding – it was agreed to continue the 40/60 split with Claydon and Whitton Rural Parish Council to support the Recreation Ground for the forthcoming year.
- d. Council Insurance Renewal – it was agreed to accept the Inspire/AXA insurance quote for the next year (1st October 2017 – 30th September 2018) and a cheque was raised for £297.69.

9.9 PLANNING

There are no further developments on Barham Church Lane since the last Parish Council Meeting.

Councillor G. Musson discussed the concerns that both the Parish Clerk and himself had raised with the Planning Enforcement Team at MSDC regarding unplanned works being done at Shrubland Park. Councillor J. Whitehead was able to give us an update having spoken to Simon Bailey at MSDC. They are working with the Heritage Team and currently trying to gain access to investigate the concerns and open enforcement issues regarding Shrubland. It is a listed building therefore making it an offense to carry out unauthorised works. The Parish Council will be kept updated with their progress.

10.9 OUTCOMES FROM CLERKS TRAINING

The Parish Clerk explained to the Parish Council that there is a legal requirement to regularly review and update if necessary policies and procedures. The Council have agreed to review the current policies and update them before the end of the financial year. The Council have agreed that the Clerk can purchase an all in one printer for the job role and to spend no more than £60.00. The Council still needs to decide on printer cartridge options moving forward. It was also agreed that the Clerk could look to purchase a Mobile Phone for the Parish Clerk position, as this was beneficial and professional and the Clerk is currently having to use her own. It was agreed that the Clerk confirms that a personal or business account is required. It was agreed to purchase copies of The Good Councillor’s Guide, The Good Councillors Guide to Neighbourhood Planning and Finance & Transparency, and Being a Good Employer. A number of councillors indicated that they would share a set between them other councillors requested individual copies. It was agreed to contact those councillors that were absent to identify what quantity needed to be ordered as well as a reference set for the Clerk.

11.9 BARHAM PICNIC SITE

This item has been placed on hold to be discussed at Octobers Parish Council Meeting.

12.9 DOG BINS

It has been agreed by the Parish Council to fund the relocation of the dog bins on Kirby Rise. The Parish Clerk will order the new posts and instruct the contractor to complete the work he quoted for.

13.9 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Parish Council have discussed and agreed the necessity to move forward with working on a Joint Neighbourhood Plan with Claydon and Whitton Rural and Great Blakenham Parish Councils, in light of the MSDC Local Plan, and the numerous proposed developments that are being applied for around the villages.

14.9 SCOUT HUT

Councillor W. Allan approached the Parish Council about considering signposts for the villages local Scout Hut, as there are currently none it makes it hard for those attending to be able to locate the Scout Hut. The site also plays an important part to the community, as a Polling Station on election days. The Parish Council have agreed that the Parish Clerk can investigate prices of signs for this.

15.9 STATE OF FOOTPATH THAT RUNS BETWEEN LOW HOUSE AND PEST HOUSE LANE

The Parish Council has received complaints by local residents regarding how overgrown the footpath keeps becoming on the main Norwich Road between Low House and Pest House Lane stating that it is hard for one person to walk the path safely without feeling the need to end up walking on the busy road. Councillor J. Field has raised this as an issue on the Suffolk County Council online portal in order to get this investigated by the Highways Team.

16.9 POSSIBILITY OF A NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE

Councillor G. Musson discussed the outcomes of the meeting that he and Councillor S. Carr attended. The Community Centre Committee are considering relocating and building a new site at the Recreation Ground. A Sub Committee will be set up to discuss the various options. Councillors W. Allan and G. Musson will represent Barham Parish Council.

17.9 LOCAL BUS CUTBACKS

The Suffolk County Council have had to go back to the drawing board regarding the local buses, as it appears that some of the villages were not originally considered in their planned changes so until they complete the updated plan the current bus timetable will be staying.

Chairman

Date