

# BARROW GURNEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the village hall, Barrow Gurney,  
at 7:30pm on 11 November 2019

**Present:** Eric Gates (Chair), Phil Carnell, Nick Tyrrell, Joanna Critchett, Andrew Sheridan, Sandra Gibson and Joanna van Tonder (Clerk)  
Hugh Gregor (NSC District Councillor)  
Steve Hogg (NSC District Councillor – Wrington Ward)

**Distribution:** The Parish Councillors plus District Councillor Hugh Gregor

## 1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Andy Robbins (illness).

## 2 Declarations of Interest and dispensations

### a) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

### b) Receive requests for dispensation

No requests for dispensation were received.

### c) Grant requests for dispensations

No requests for dispensation were granted.

## 3 Minutes of the previous meeting – 9 September 2019

Nick Tyrrell proposed, Joanna Critchett seconded and it was agreed the minutes of the last meeting having been circulated previously be taken as a true and accurate record.

## 4 Public Questions

There were no members of the public present.

## 5 Police Report

The following incidents of crime were reported on the constabulary's website:

August 2019:

- 1 x Violence or Sexual Offence on or near Bridgwater Road (unable to prosecute suspect)

September 2019:

- 1 x Violence or Sexual Offence on or near Barrow Street (unable to prosecute suspect)
- 1 x Violence or Sexual Offence on or near Bridgwater Road (no suspect identified)
- 1 x Criminal Damage and Arson on or near Bridgwater Road (unable to prosecute suspect)

The Clerk advised she had e-mailed Constable Justina Lewis (Beat Manager) asking for more information on the apparent increase in frequency of crimes of a violent / sexual nature and had been assured these incidents were of a domestic nature with no threat to the public.

**It was agreed to move item 11(c)(1) Planning: Bristol Airport to this point in the agenda and to allow Cllr Steve Hogg to address the meeting.**

## 11 Planning

### c) Other Planning matters

#### 1. Bristol Airport

When asked when a decision on the application could be expected, Cllr Steve Hogg advised that Planning Officers were currently in the process of going through the 5,000+ objections that had been received and that a decision was unlikely before

February 2020. Members were reminded that additional information had been provided by Bristol Airport in support of its application and was open to consultation until 1 December.

Members discussed Bristol Airport's vigilant parking enforcement on their property compared with NSC's lack of enforcement of anti-social and illegal airport parking.

Discussions turned to the prospect of the widening of the A38, and the consequences for A38 residents. Sandra Gibson expressed concern that widening the road would make it impossible for Naish Lane residents to safely exit. It was felt that the traffic study included in the *Additional Information* provided by Bristol Airport assumed no change in the status quo, proposing no solutions and suggesting the increased traffic volumes that would be generated by an increase in passenger numbers to 12mppa, could be accommodated.

## 6 Actions Arising

The following actions arising from previous meetings were still outstanding or not addressed elsewhere:

<b>Min 7(e) (12/11/18):</b> Other Planning matters	<b>Clerk</b> to request information from Bristol Airport on flights that have deviated from the prescribed route during either take off or landing	Bristol Airport has been asked to provide data on a number of occasions – still awaited
<b>Min 15(c) (08/07/19):</b> Open Forum: Freemans Farm Memorial	<b>Clerk</b> to look into having the memorial included on NSC's historic monuments list	In the process of having memorial listed
<b>Min 4 &amp; 10(b) (09/09/19):</b> Village Agent guest speaker & reallocation of Flax Bourton Youth Club grant	<b>Clerk</b> to draw up a directory of local services, facilities and activities <b>Clerk</b> to look into feasibility of a study	In progress
<b>Min 15(b) (09/09/19):</b> Village Enhancements: Defibrillator signage	<b>Clerk</b> to purchase 3 x signs	Completed

## 7 Proposed Local Electricity Bill

Nick Tyrrell advised, following further investigations, the proposed Bill would not be making further progress through Parliament. It was agreed to offer support for the proposal if and when it was resurrected.

**Action:** Clerk to write letter of support

## 8 Finance and Governance

### a) Half Year Financial Review

The Clerk presented the Half Year Financial Review (copy attached), as previously circulated.

### b) Allocation of Grants 2019/20

Members discussed the four grant requests received for the FYE 31 March 2020. Nick Tyrrell proposed, Joanna Critchett seconded and it was agreed to award a grant in the amount of £50 to Wellspring Counselling.

### c) Budget 2020/21

The Clerk requested all expenditure for consideration and inclusion in the budget for the year 2020/21 be forwarded to her by Friday, 13 December 2019.

The suggestion of budgeting for a traffic count study was discussed. The use of Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) was also considered and it was agreed a trial would be helpful.

**Action:** Clerk to ask NSC to provide VAS on loan

**d) Website Accessibility: Compliance with Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No.2) Accessibility Regulations 2018**

The Clerk outlined the regulations as she understood them and the challenges the PC were likely to face in implementing them by the September 2020 deadline.

It was agreed the Clerk would enrol on an SLCC delivered *Website Accessibility Guidelines* webinar at a cost of £60 + VAT (to be split on a 50:50 basis with Brockley PC).

**e) Receipts and Payments**

The Clerk reported no **receipts** had been received since the last meeting.

Eric Gates proposed, Joanna Critchett seconded and it was resolved to ratify the following **payments** made since the last meeting:-

£444.19	Ms Joanna van Tonder / HMRC	Clerk's salary (September 2019)
£444.19	Ms Joanna van Tonder / HMRC	Clerk's salary (October 2019)

Eric Gates proposed, Joanna Critchett seconded and it was resolved to authorise the following **payments** to be made:-

£220.00	Avon Local Councils Association	Training costs
£380.00	Little Apple Gardening Services	Village Green maintenance
£40.00	Information Commissioner	Annual data registration fee
£20.00	Royal British Legion	Remembrance day wreath
£43.80	Cllr Nick Tyrrell	Reimbursed for spare defib. pads
£50.00	Wellspring Counselling	Grant award (see 8(b), above)
£61.88	Ms Joanna van Tonder	Reimburse Clerk for Safety Signs defibrillator signage

The Clerk reported the current account bank balance prior to the authorisation of the cheques was £9,606.12. Following the payment of the cheques amounting to £815.68, the available balance would be **£8,790.44**. £7,529.39 was held in the deposit account.

**9 Highways, pavements, verges and footpaths**

**a) Action taken by North Somerset Council since the previous meeting**

Location	Problem	NSC Action
A38 street light (opposite hot tubs)	Street light not working; at an angle since collision	All lights along A38 operational.
A38 at Barrow Street traffic lights	2 x potholes	No action since reported. <b>Action:</b> Clerk to escalate
Hobbs Lane	Severely overgrown	No action since reported. <b>Action:</b> Cllr Hugh Gregor to escalate
All overgrown verges and hedges along A38		Verges and hedges appear to have been cut back APART from foliage around road signage. <b>Action:</b> Clerk to escalate
Naish Lane (opposite Roseneath)	pothole	Reported – still outstanding. <b>Action:</b> Clerk to report again
Wild Country Lane (between Hern Lane & Barrow Street)	Overgrown hedges impeding carriageway	Verges / hedges have been cut back.

Barrow Street (in the vicinity of St Annes)	3 x blocked drains	Were supposed to be cleared during road closure; works promised for the next couple of weeks.
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**b) Condition of roads, pavements, verges and footpaths**

The following reports were noted and/or received:

- A38 drains blocked
  - Newditch Lane flooding
  - Cats' eyes missing along resurfaced section of Barrow Street
  - Resurfaced section of Barrow Street outside Mill has changed camber of road causing water to run away from the drain
  - Remnants of burnt-out vehicle littering bus stop at A38 War Memorial
  - Temporary traffic signs littering pavements in the following locations:
    - pavement between Naish and Hobbs Lanes
    - pavement running along reservoir at A38 lights
- Action:** Clerk to report on Council Connect

Weight Limit restrictions along Barrow Street

Joanna Critchett raised concerns that many more HGV's were passing through the village despite the 7.5t weight limit. Following discussion, it was agreed to write to the Mill asking that they remind their suppliers to access their premises from the A370 end thus avoiding the village centre. It was also felt that greater awareness of the weight limit at the A38 end would be beneficial.

**Action:** Clerk to contact NSC with a view to reviewing / increasing signage

Service level expectations

Members passed on concerns to Cllr Hugh Gregor that promised levels of service were not materialising. Cllr Gregor agreed to pass this on to NSC and suggested a meeting with Area Officer, Gregg Brake.

**Action:** Clerk to arrange meeting

Car regularly parked on the pavement outside Thatched Cottages and impeding pedestrian accessibility.

**Action:** Clerk to write letter; Joanna Critchett to put on windscreen

**c) A38 Improvements**

Members noted the recent press reports of £260k government funding awarded to NSC in partnership with Somerset County Council (SCC) to design upgrades to the A38. The proposals were expected to take approximately 10 months to develop after which time, a public consultation would be launched.

**Action:** Clerk to see if further information is available on SCC's website

**d) Fly-tipping**

Members noted renewed calls on the village e-mail network for CCTV to be considered to combat fly-tipping, increasingly being reported across the parish. Eric Gates advised that, while purchasing the equipment was entirely possible, finding a sufficient number of volunteers to maintain the equipment and administer the data was problematic. A resident of Vicarage Lane had volunteered to explore the options, however, and this would be followed up.

Sandra Gibson advised there was a Long Ashton Facebook group addressing fly-tipping in that parish that appeared to be having some success.

**Action:** Sandra Gibson to pass details on to Clerk for following up

**10 Village Green Committee Report**

**a) Village Green Committee report**

The Clerk read from the report received from Rob McKenzie, reminding members of the upcoming VGC Meeting on 16 November. In addition, Rob had confirmed the Autumn tidy-up, held on 5 October, was well attended.

**b) Mill Leat railings, play area fencing and bridge works quotations**

Members considered the three quotations received and circulated with the agenda for works to 1) Mill leat railings, 2) Play area fencing, and 3) bridge.

It was agreed to devolve the decision to the Village Green Committee with a recommendation that the quotation in the amount of £885 + VAT offered best value on the basis of price and level of specialisation, and was the Parish Council's preferred option.

## 11 Planning

**a) Planning applications since the last meeting**

The following planning applications have been received since the last meeting:

1	<a href="#">19/P/2451/LBC</a>	Replace timber window and door with new timber window and door (removing glazing bars) on ground and first floor elevation at <b>12 Barrow Court, Barrow Court Lane</b>  <u>Council comment:</u> no objection
2	<a href="#">18/P/5118/OUT</a>	Outline planning application for the development of Bristol Airport to enable a throughput of 12 million terminal passengers in any 12 month calendar period at <b>Bristol Airport - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>  <b>Action:</b> Nick Tyrrell and Andy Robbins to draft comment and circulate for approval before the deadline of 1 December 2019
3	<a href="#">19/P/2661/TPO</a>	T1 - Ash - fell at <b>Winstones Road, Oatley Park</b>  <u>Council comment:</u> no objection

**b) Consents, refusals and enforcement cases since the last meeting**

There had been no decisions made since the previous meeting.

- <b>19/P/2086/TPO:</b> Collection of core samples from Ash & Oak trees for research purposes at <i>Barrow Wood Farm, Wild Country Lane</i>	CONSENT GRANTED 07/10/2019
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No new enforcement cases have been **opened, reported on** or are still **pending**.

**c) Other Planning matters**

2. Joint Spatial Plan

Members noted the statement issued by Cllr Beech on behalf of the four West of England authorities in response to the Inspectors' conclusions on the JSP.

## 12 Parish Area reports

**a) Barrow Court / Barrow Court Lane**

The Clerk read the report submitted that outlined concerns about a growing level of "reversing lorry" noise emanating from the Quarry. In a response to the Clerk's enquiries, the Quarry Manager had advised that an up to date boundary noise survey would be carried out in November and the findings acted upon if necessary.

**b) Barrow Hospital site / Wild Country Lane**

Andrew Sheridan reported there was significant evidence of drug use taking place on Wild Country Lane in the vicinity of the railway bridge. In addition, Andrew reported that the lighting on the "give way" sign at the railway bridge was still outstanding as were works to deal with the flooding of the highway at that location.

**Action:** Clerk to forward on to Long Ashton Parish Council

**c) Naish Lane / A38**

Sandra Gibson confirmed she had nothing to report apart from the pothole as yet unfilled on Naish Lane.

**d) Village centre / Barrow Street**

Eric Gates advised that the bollards required along Barrow Street had not been installed during the road closure as NSC had not placed an order for the items in time. At a site visit with NSC's senior engineer and contractor, Skanska, it had been agreed the bollards and outstanding drainage works would be undertaken within the following few weeks and would not require a further road closure.

**13 Village Enhancements and maintenance**

**a) Litter-picking**

The Parish Council wished to pass on thanks to the 17 residents who had turned out for the litter pick during the road closure, that took in the stretches of Barrow Street between Barrow Court Lane and the southern village entrance up to School Lane.

**b) Broadband update**

Members were advised that Truespeed were working to clear a blocked BT duct on Barrow Street in order to progress. If their efforts were unsuccessful, BT would be required to undertake the works, inevitably resulting in delays. The alternative would require Truespeed to dig under a road closure order that would also result in a significant delay. They were, however, looking at all options to ensure a delivery of service by Christmas.

**14 VE Day 75 – 8-10 May 2020**

Following discussions, it was agreed the Parish Council would offer whatever support it could to the Village Hall Committee with their planned family event on the Village Green.

**15 Open Forum for the Parish Council**

**a) Town & Parish Summit – 12 October 2019**

Members noted Nick Tyrrell and Andy Robbins had attended the event.

**b) WERN Coffee Morning – 4 December 2019**

The Clerk advised that Village Agent, Lyndsay Newman had organised a coffee morning to be held at the Princes Motto.

**A38 War Memorial**

It was brought to the Parish Council's attention that no wreath had been provided for the War Memorial located on the A38 at the Barrow Street intersection. As this memorial was provided jointly by the Parish Councils of Barrow Gurney, Winford and Dundry, it was agreed the Clerk would contact the respective Councils with a view to co-ordinating arrangements for 2020.

**Princes Motto – change of ownership**

Members were advised that Wadworth & Co. had recently sold the pub to Red Oak Taverns with talk of raising rents and concerns for the future of the pub. It was agreed to write to Red Oak Taverns with an invitation to outline their plans.

**Action:** Sandra Gibson to draft letter and circulate for agreement

**Action:** Clerk to look into protection of community assets and Community Right to Bid for inclusion of January's agenda

**Promoting Village history**

Eric Gates explained there was a growing interest in promoting the history of an area as a means to attracting tourism and invited anyone with an interest to consider writing a guide to walks in the parish; something that would be well received by NSC.

**The Clerk left the room for the next item on the agenda.**

**16 Determine Clerk's salary scale point with effect from 1 April 2020**

Following consideration of the benchmarking of the Clerk's role undertaken by ALCA's County Officer and NALC Salary Scales, it was agreed the Clerk would be remunerated at SCP 12 with effect from 1 April 2020.

**The Clerk returned to the meeting.**

## **17 Future meetings**

2020 meeting dates: 13 January, 9 March, 11 May, 13 July, 14 September and 9 November 2020

Village Green Committee meeting: 16 November 2019

Meeting concluded at 10:15pm.