

BARROW GURNEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the village hall, Barrow Gurney,
at 7:30pm on 8 July 2019

Present: Eric Gates (Chair), Nick Tyrrell, Joanna Critchett, and Joanna van Tonder
(Clerk)
Phil Carnell (arrived 8:05pm)
4 residents

Distribution: The Parish Councillors plus District Councillor Hugh Gregor

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Andy Robbins and Andrew Sheridan. Phil Carnell had advised the Clerk he would be late.

2 Declaration of Acceptance of Office: Chairman

Eric Gates, having been duly elected to the role of Chairman in his absence at the last meeting, completed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office form in the presence of the Clerk.

The Clerk confirmed Eric Gates had completed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office form in respect of his co-option as a councillor, in her presence on 21 May 2019.

3 Declarations of Interest and dispensations

a) Declarations of Interest

Eric Gates declared an interest in agenda item 13(a).4 – Planning application 19/P/1512/FUH (The Gables, School Lane).

b) Receive requests for dispensation

No requests for dispensation were received.

c) Grant requests for dispensations

No requests for dispensation were granted.

4 Minutes of the previous meeting – 13 May 2019

It was agreed the minutes of the last meeting having been circulated previously be taken as a true and accurate record.

5 Public Questions

Following a question about the faces around the Council table, Eric Gates outlined the results of the election and the position the PC had found itself in with only four councillors elected. Eric informed residents that he had been elected as Chair, Andy Robbins as Vice Chair and Nick Tyrrell was introduced as a new councillor.

6 Police Report

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

April 2019:

- 1 x Public Order offence on or near A370 (investigation complete; unable to prosecute suspect)

There was no crime reported during May 2019 and no information available on the constabulary's website for June 2019 as at the time of the meeting.

Eric Gates reported that a number of incidents of shed break-ins and bicycle and motorbike thefts had been reported through the Redwood beat Neighbourhood Watch Network of late.

7 Actions Arising

The following actions arising from the meeting of 13 May 2019 were still outstanding or not addressed elsewhere:

Min 7(e) (12/11/18): Other Planning matters	Clerk to source flight path maps of recent activity into and out of Bristol Airport – Bristol Airport has offered the PC the previous week's data; Clerk has requested more.
Min 13(f) (13/05/19): Finance: Disposal of redundant laptop	Clerk to facilitate wiping the redundant laptop's hard-drive and returning to NSC – returned to NSC (restored to factory settings) on Thursday, 6 June 2019.

8 Parish Council vacancy following uncontested election

Members were reminded that, following May's uncontested election and two subsequent co-options, a vacancy existed on the Council that could be filled through co-option.

The vacancy had been advertised in the Parish Magazine and, in view of the ongoing expansion plans for Bristol Airport and their impact on the A38, households from the A38 / Naish Lane area had additionally received flyers.

Naish Lane resident, SG was present at the meeting and expressed an interest.

9 Position of Clerk to the Parish Council: temporary re-engagement of Clerk

The decision taken by all members of the Council via e-mail or in person to re-engage Joanna van Tonder in the role of Clerk, following the resignation of Maria Carter during the handover, was ratified.

Joanna would remain in post until the end of the year, enabling the Council to recruit and train a successor.

It was decided the PC would ask ALCA to publicise the vacancy and readvertise the position in September, after the school holidays.

10 Finance and Governance

a) Clerk's salary: cost of living increase 2019/20

Joanna Critchett proposed, Nick Tyrrell seconded and it was resolved that the clerk will receive the NALC recommended cost of living increase associated with new SCP10 of 4.75% as of 1 June 2019. The clerk's salary would rise by £241.57 to £5,330.26 per annum. A payment of £20.13 would be due to the Clerk for the increase backdated to 1 June 2019.

b) Amendment to the Clerk's salary standing order

In accordance with 10(a) above, it was resolved to amend the monthly standing order set up with the Co-Operative Bank to pay the clerk's salary from £424.06 to £444.19 with effect from July 2018.

c) Archiving of historic documents

The Clerk advised that Somerset County Archives had accepted a number of historic documents and documents required by law to be retained, submitted to them on Wednesday, 19 June 2019.

Amongst the documents to be archived, there had been other material that the County Archives deemed unnecessary to retain or did not meet their retention criteria. It was agreed to permit the SCA to confidentially dispose of this material.

Action: Clerk to advise SCA

d) Receipts and Payments

The Clerk reported the following **receipts** had been received since the last meeting:-

£1,490.00	North Somerset Council	Stacombe Quarry Community Fund grant - defibrillator
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Nick Tyrrell proposed, Joanna Critchett seconded and it was resolved to ratify the following **payments** made since the last meeting:-

£424.06	Ms Joanna van Tonder / HMRC	Clerk's salary (May 2019)
£289.56	Ms Maria Carter / HMRC	Clerk's salary (01/05 – 22/05/19)
£424.06	Ms Joanna van Tonder / HMRC	Clerk's salary (June 2019)

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

£11.94	Avon Local Councils Association	Good Councillor Guides
£36.00	Campaign to Protect Rural England	Annual subscription 2019/20
£1,578.00	Cardiac Science	Supply & install defibrillator
£50.00	Parish Councils Airport Association	Annual subscription 2019/20
£440.00	Little Apple Gardening Services	Village Green maintenance
£210.00	Griffin Electrical	Power supply for defibrillator
£93.03	Ms Joanna van Tonder	Travel expenses and back-payment of increase

11 Highways, pavements, verges and footpaths

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

Location	Problem	NSC Action
A38	Surface dressing programme	Lining works completed; awaiting cats' eyes
Wild Country Lane	Weight restriction signage outstanding at Hern Lane end	Awaiting an update from NSC Clerk's note: works confirmed for week ending 19/07/19.
A38 street light (opposite hot tubs)	Street light not working; at an angle since collision	No action since reported on 20/05/19; to be reported once again
A38 verges (in the vicinity of Naish Lane)	Overgrown; preventing pedestrian access to bus stops	Reported and cut back shortly thereafter
Freemans Lane		Verges cut back

Temporary road closures / speed amendments

- GREAT WESTON RIDE 2019 – passing through Barrow Gurney on **Sunday, 14 July 2019**

Phil Carnell joined the meeting.

b) Condition of roads, pavements, verges and footpaths

The following reports were noted and/or received:

- A38 at Barrow Street lights – 2 x potholes
- A38 at Naish Lane bus stop – overflowing litter bin
- A38 between Newditch Lane and Dial Lane – verges overgrown and impeding pedestrians
- A38 between Naish Lane and Hobbs Lane – brambles growing into pavement
- Naish Lane & Newditch Lane – overgrown verges

- Barrow Lane at Bridgwater Road intersection – overgrown foliage along A38 obscuring drivers' visibility
 - Slip road off A370 (from Flax Bourton end) – ragwort present in the verges
 - Hobbs Lane – overgrown and impeding pedestrians and cyclists; contributing to a feeling of insecurity by users
- Action:** Clerk to report on Council Connect

Joanna Critchett reported that local resident, CC, had cut back the foliage obscuring visibility at the Barrow Street / Wild Country Lane junction.

Members discussed NSC's obligations towards maintaining Hobbs Lane as part of the recognised cycle network despite the verge cutting having been undertaken by a local farmer in previous years. As this could no longer be guaranteed, it was agreed to request NSC ensure the path is kept well maintained.

Eric Gates reported that Andy Robbins had received an wholly unacceptable response from NSC to his enquiries regarding the remaining phase of walkways works that had previously been agreed. Andy would be taking the matter up upon his return from holiday.

It was noted that a proliferation of garden foliage was obscuring the view of oncoming traffic for those motorists at the stop line outside the Post Office on Barrow Street and at other points along the footpath.

c) A38 petrol station – impact on traffic

Members noted concerns raised by two residents local to the petrol station regarding the speed of traffic along the A38 and the hazard posed by motorists exiting the new facility. A recent serious accident at the location was cited as evidence of the danger.

Naish Lane resident SG reported she had not noticed any significant impact from the petrol station and commented that the new SLOW road markings on the A38 in the vicinity of the Barrow Lane junction were helping to slow traffic down.

It was agreed to review the situation after the petrol station had been operational for a few months.

12 Village Green Committee Report

a) Village Green Committee report

No report had been received.

b) Village Green / Mill leat railings

Eric Gates reported the railings around the mill leat at the edge of the Village Green were in need of repair.

Action: Joanna Critchett to ask Tony Bennett to quote

Action: Clerk to source a second quotation for the works

13 Planning

a) Planning applications since the last meeting

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

1	19/P/1056/FUL	Application for planning permission for the change of use of an existing agricultural building to a class B2 use (general industrial) and increase the height of the building at Redwood Farm, Barrow Street <u>Council comment:</u> requests conditions (retrospective)
2	19/P/1204/FUH	New dormer windows to the rear elevation and new small windows to the front elevation at Wayside, Naish Lane <u>Council comment:</u> no objection (retrospective)

3	19/P/1085/FUL	Full planning application for the erection of an electricity sub-station and the siting of 2no. Sets of Calor gas tanks at Land at former Barrow Hospital, Hospital Road Council comment: no objection (retrospective)
4	19/P/1512/FUH	Erection of single storey garage adjacent to the existing garage. New games room at the lower ground floor level to the rear of the garages and below the ground floor rear patio at The Gables, School Lane Eric Gates, having declared an interest, refrained from discussions. Planning documents could not be opened due to the format of the files on NSC's planning portal. As this was still to be resolved, an extension of time would be requested.

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

There had been no decisions made since the previous meeting.

The following enforcement case had been **opened, reported on** or was still **pending**:

- 19/00161/OTH – Blue Barn, Newditch Lane	Reported breach: Airport parking; construction of a large building
<p>OUTCOME: Parking has ceased – no breach occurring. Building has permission. <i>[15/P/2089/CUPA – Prior approval for the change of use from an agricultural building and land to a dwelling within use class C3, plus associated operational development comprising the insertion of windows and doors to south, east and north elevations replace corrugated cladding with timber and replace corrugated roof with pantiles]</i></p>	

c) Barrow Hospital – update

Barrow Hospital Phase 1 road names

Following a request from NSC, it was agreed the previously submitted list of suggested road names for the residential developments at the Barrow Hospital site remained acceptable.

Action: Clerk to advise NSC

Hospital Road residents / woodland encroachment

In a report passed to the Clerk, Andrew Sheridan advised that residents along Hospital Road had received letters from the landowner advising them that they had encroached into private woodlands.

Resident M-F R confirmed this adding that, while residents were agreeable to removing their property from the land, there was concern that the landowner intended to widen the pathway through this parcel of woodland. Conversations that had been had with Del Piero's consultant arborist indicated their intention to remove all Ash trees together with some others and plant new trees in their place.

It was agreed to keep a close eye on proceedings.

d) Other Planning matters

Ashton Gate

It was noted the decision on **19/P/0936/EA2** at *Land East Of Long Ashton Park And Ride Land North Of Metrobus, Ashton Vale Ashton Road Long Ashton* was still awaited.

Bristol Airport

- Corston PC villagers' survey
- Members noted the invitation that went out to ALCA members from Corston PC to assist with the setting up of a villagers' survey to consider the views of residents with respect to the expansion of the Airport.
- Wrington "airport expansion" events
- Eric Gates confirmed he had attended the Aviation Learn In event the previous week and gave an overview of the evening. Of particular interest was the fact that aviation was not included in council / government carbon emission reduction plans;

however, the climate change argument had not yet been accepted as grounds to counter airport expansion plans.

It was agreed that the new NSC Executive appeared to be more sympathetic to green issues.

- Nick Tyrrell confirmed he would be attending the Parish Councillors' Expansion Briefing on Tuesday, 9 July.

- The Clerk advised a Crowdfunder page had been set up to raise money to fund a legal challenge against Bristol Airport's expansion.

14 Village Enhancements and maintenance

a) Defibrillator

Members heard that the Stancombe Quarry grant-funded defibrillator had been installed on the outside of the village hall and a power supply established. The equipment and associated public liability was covered under the PC's AXA policy.

SW Ambulance Services had added the defibrillator to their list and would require a monthly e-mail confirming the equipment had been checked and was in working order. Nick Tyrrell volunteered to take on that responsibility.

Eric confirmed Bristol Airport's fire service team were available to train anyone interested in the use of the equipment.

Action: Clerk to offer Jacqui Mills (Bristol Airport) a selection of dates

Action: Clerk to put out a parish-wide e-mail inviting attendance

Members discussed possible signage around the village indicating the presence of a defibrillator. It was agreed two signs on the Hobbs Lane cycle path and one at the telephone box would be appropriate.

Action: Clerk to source quotes for 3 x A4 signs

b) Litter-picking

Eric Gates advised he would be collecting the litter picking equipment acquired through the Clean Up Fund the following day, and that Andy Robbins would be holding the equipment should anyone wish to make use of it.

NSC had confirmed the PC could organise litterpicks along Barrow Street without the need for a road closure provided the events were covered by the PC's insurance and robust risk assessments had been carried out in advance.

15 Open Forum for the Parish Council

a) Good Councillors' Training

The Clerk advised that Flax Bourton, Cleeve and Brockley Parish Councils were interested in participating in a group councillor training session and that a date in late September would be preferred.

Action: Clerk to co-ordinate with PC's and ALCA

b) VE Day 75 – 8 May 2020

Members noted the letter from SSAFA, previously circulated, detailing commemorative events planned for the 75th anniversary of VE Day over the weekend of 8 – 10 May 2020.

Following discussion, it was agreed to consider how the PC might participate in a way appropriate to the size of the parish.

c) Freemans Farm Memorial

Eric Gates suggested the small memorial now located in a field at Freemans Farm may well become lost over time and called for the PC to consider how best to ensure that was not the case. It was agreed to look into having the memorial included on NSC's historic monuments list.

Action: Clerk to make enquiries

On another matter, Nick Tyrrell asked if it was feasible to look at extending the Barrow Street walkway down to Vicarage Lane, especially in light of the recent motor vehicle accident that had occurred, suggesting also that traffic speeds appeared to be increasing. Eric Gates replied that, with a committed person/s behind such a project, there was no doubt it could be achieved, however, it should be remembered that the current scheme was five years in the making.

16 Future meetings

2019 meeting dates: 9 September and 11 November 2019

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

The meeting closed at 9:25 pm.