

BARROW GURNEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the village hall, Barrow Gurney, at 7:30pm on 9 March 2020

Present: Eric Gates (Chair), Phil Carnell, Nick Tyrrell and Joanna van Tonder (Clerk)
3 x Residents

Distribution: The Parish Councillors plus District Councillor Hugh Gregor

In line with government guidance following the Coronavirus outbreak, hand sanitiser was made available to all attendees and both members of the Council and public maintained a distance of 1m from each other during the meeting.

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Andy Robbins (holiday), Cllr Joanna Critchett (holiday), Cllr Sandra Gibson (illness) and Cllr Andrew Sheridan (work commitments).

2 Declarations of Interest and dispensations

a) Declarations of Interest

Eric Gates declared a personal interest in agenda item 11(a)(4) – 20/P/0241/FUH (applicant is a neighbour)

Phil Carnell declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 11(a)(1) – 20/P/0028/FUL (applicant)

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 – 13 January 2020

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

4 Public Questions

The Council was asked to explain the reasons behind including the Springhead farmyard within the Conservation Area boundary. Nick Tyrrell suggested the land may have been included to ensure no development unsympathetic to the overall character of the area could be put through. It was reiterated that being in a Conservation Area was not a prohibition to development.

It was agreed to bring forward agenda item 11(a)(4) – Planning Application 20/P/0241/FUH (1 School Lane) in order to allow representation from the public.

11 Planning

a) Planning applications since the last meeting

4	20/P/0241/FUH	Roof extension and rear balcony at 1 School Lane, Barrow Gurney Eric Gates declared a personal interest (see 2(a), above) Members of the public present were invited to make representation in respect of this application. It was agreed, to defer a decision on the submission of a Parish Council comment until all absent members could be consulted.
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		<p>Action: Nick Tyrrell to draft and circulate comment</p> <p>Clerk's note: Andy Robbins declared a personal interest and refrained from entering into the discussion on the comment when circulated via e-mail</p>
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5 Police Report

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

December 2019:

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

January 2020:

- 1 x Violence / Sexual Offences on or near Bridgwater Road (under investigation)
- 2 x Violence / Sexual Offences on or near Barrow Street (unable to prosecute suspect one case, the other still under investigation)
- 1 x Public Order Offences on or near Barrow Street (unable to prosecute suspect)

Members noted the alarming recurrence of incidents of violence / sexual offences.

Action: Clerk to make enquiries with the constabulary to ensure support is in place for victims

6 Actions Arising

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

Min 7(e) (12/11/18): Other Planning matters	Clerk to request information from Bristol Airport on flights that have deviated from the prescribed route during either take off or landing	<p>Bristol Airport has been asked to provide data on a number of occasions. A site visit has been arranged.</p> <p>Clerk's note: As a result of the Covid-19 outbreak, the site visit has been postponed</p>
Min 15(c) (08/07/19): Open Forum: Freemans Farm Memorial	Clerk to look into having the memorial included on NSC's historic monuments list	<p>The memorial has been added to the Historic Environment Record.</p> <p>Action: Eric Gates to identify the new location of the memorial on the map and, together with a photograph, update NSC</p>
Min 4 & 10(b) (09/09/19): Village Agent guest speaker & reallocation of Flax Bourton Youth Club grant	<p>Clerk to draw up a directory of local services, facilities and activities</p> <p>Clerk to look into feasibility of a survey</p>	In progress
Min 9(b) (11/11/19): Service level expectations	Clerk to arrange meeting with Hugh Gregor, Eric Gates and Gregg Brake	<p>Eric Gates and the Clerk met with Gregg Brake informally earlier in the day and updated members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • jetting lorries were only hired in for around six weeks per year and thus explained the long waits • CCTV had been positioned along Wild Country Lane in an effort to curb fly-tipping
Min 4: Public Questions		An arrangement existed whereby the Village Hall Committee paid a

	Clerk to make enquiries re: Post Office light	sum of £80/ year towards the cost of the electricity. No payment has been received for the winters of 2017/18 and 2018/19 so the lights were not kept on this winter. Action: Nick Tyrrell to take up with Village Hall Committee
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7 Consultations

a) NSC Car Parking review

Following discussion, it was agreed Eric Gates would draft a response to be circulated prior to submission in advance of the deadline of 31 March 2020.

b) NSC Neighbourhood Consultation

Members confirmed they would be attending the public engagement events being held around the District and draft a response to the consultation during April in advance of the 7 May 2020 deadline.

Clerk's note: Following the Covid-19 outbreak, NSC took the decision to cancel all remaining public engagement events, however, the consultation remains active.

8 Finance and Governance

a) Appointment of representatives: Stancombe Quarry Community Fund

The Clerk advised that, for the past few meetings, the Parish Council had struggled to send a full complement of representatives to sit on the Fund committee. It was agreed to defer the appointment of further representatives until the Annual Meeting in May.

Phil Carnell confirmed he would attend the upcoming meeting on 11 March.

b) Reallocation of unspent grant-funded reserves

The Clerk reported the outcomes of requests to release four sums of unspent grant money held in reserves were as follows:

1	Cemex (£738.27)	Permission had been granted to release these funds
2	Bristol Airport grant owing to NSC (£1,925.00)	NSC has issued an invoice for £1,900.00
3	Stancombe Quarry (£1,500.00)	Written to SQCF, awaiting decision to be taken at meeting of 11 March Clerk's note: Permission denied; SQCF has requested the funds be returned
4	Bristol Airport (£98.00)	Permission denied; funds to be returned

c) Website Accessibility report

Members noted the report and confirmed the timetable set up by the Clerk for the delivery of the Council's requirement to comply with the legislation.

The Clerk provided a list of the sample pages that would be used to complete the Basic Accessibility Check as well as a template checklist that would be worked through for each of the sample pages.

Members were asked to assist with this task if it was found to be too time-consuming for the Clerk to complete on her own.

A progress report would be provided at the next meeting.

d) Clerk's salary standing order

In accordance with Minute 16 (11/11/2019), it was resolved to amend the monthly standing order set up with the Co-Operative Bank to pay the clerk's salary from £444.19 to £461.89 with effect from 1 April 2020.

e) Receipts and Payments

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

Eric Gates proposed, Nick Tyrrell 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 (January 2020)
£444.19	Ms Joanna van Tonder / HMRC	Clerk's salary (February 2020)

It was resolved to authorise the following **payments** to be made:-

£18.00	Society of Local Council Clerks	50% Website Accessibility training
£350.00	Barrow Gurney Village Hall	Annual cost of hall hire
£82.14	Avon Local Councils Association	Annual subs 2020/21
£98.00	Bristol Airport Community Fund	Return of unspent grant (see 8(b) (4), above)
£75.00	Mr G Bennett	Maintenance of the War Memorial
£1,900.00	North Somerset Council	Return of unspent grant (see 8(b) (2), above)
£229.40	Ms Joanna van Tonder	Clerk's expenses (September 2019 to March 2020)

The Clerk reported the current account bank balance prior to the authorisation of the cheques was £5,622.88. Following the payment of the cheques amounting to £2,752.54, the available balance would be **£2,870.34**. £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

Members noted the Highways Schedule, previously circulated and copy attached.

Action: Clerk to follow up on the missing cats' eyes along Barrow Street as well as the blocked drain on Cathorn Lane.

Temporary road closures / speed amendments

- Barrow Street (Springhead Barn to Post Office) – TEMPORARY CLOSURE
 - work by BT to de-silt and connect new supply
 - **Sunday, 10 May 2020** for one day between 08:00 and 16:00
 - DEADLINE FOR COMMENT: 18 March 2020

- [GREAT WESTON RIDE 2020](#) – passing through Barrow Gurney on **Sunday, 19 July 2020**

b) Condition of roads, pavements, verges and footpaths

The following reports were noted and/or received:

- Slade Lane (gate to cottage) - potholes

Action: Clerk to report on Council Connect

c) Barrow Street Weight limits

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

d) Fly-tipping

The Council heard of further incidents of fly-tipping at the top of Barrow Court Lane and Naish Lane.

It was decided to include an article in the parish magazine inviting residents to text the Clerk with details of fly-tipping that could be reported to NSC and a record of locations kept.

e) Loan of portable VAS sign

Members noted the Clerk's report on the use of Vehicle Activated Signs, previously circulated and were advised the Council was still on the waiting list for loan equipment from NSC.

10 Village Green Committee Report

The Clerk presented the following report received from Rob McKenzie:

- The VGC had a small working party on 1 Feb where:
 1. the lower boughs of trees over hanging the boule area and the wild flower bank were removed,
 2. some gaps in the hedge were filled with Hawthorn whips, and
 3. the Village Green "Contact Details" sign was put up.
- There had been no evidence of return of mole activity.
- In response to discussions at the last PC meeting about Weedkiller spraying and costs, last year Rob sprayed once himself using equipment and material from Little Apples at no charge to the Parish Council. This arrangement would probably continue this year.
- Additionally Rob has spoken to a local resident informally regarding the weed killer spraying and VG maintenance as whole - Nothing concrete has emerged from this discussion as yet.
- The VGC were looking into quotes for play area equipment replacement.

The local resident referred to above, and present at the meeting, indicated he had been of the impression he would be looking to undertake all the Village Green maintenance work, not just the weed spraying. The Clerk advised that had not been her understanding.

11 Planning

a) Planning applications since the last meeting

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

1	20/P/0028/FUL	Erection of a replacement dairy, parlour, feed silo, cubicle housing building and construction of earth banked slurry lagoon and associated works at St Katherine's Farm, Barrow Street Phil Carnell declared a pecuniary interest (see 2(a), above) <u>Council comment:</u> no objection (retrospective)
2	20/P/0059/FUH	Single storey rear timber orangery at 3 Winstones Road, Oatley Park <u>Council comment:</u> no objection (retrospective)
3	20/P/0240/TPO	T1 – Birch – fell; T2 – Willow – crown lift branches overhanging boundary to give 2m clearance from ground at Plot 2, Winstones Road, Oatley Park <u>Council comment:</u> no objection (retrospective)
5	20/P/0347/FUH	First floor raised extension to provide additional living space at 4 Winstones Road, Oatley Park <u>Council comment:</u> no objection

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

The following decisions have been made since the previous meeting:

- 19/P/2451/LBC: Replace timber window and door with new timber window and door (removing glazing bars) on ground and first floor south elevation at 12 Barrow Court, Barrow Court Lane	CONSENT GRANTED 21/01/2020
- 19/P/3126/TPO: T2 – Manna Ash – raise crown to 2.5m above ground level; raise crown above wall on east side to give 0.5m clearance to wall at Barrow Court, Barrow Court Lane	CONSENT GRANTED 11/02/2020
- 20/P/0059/FUH: Single storey rear timber orangery at 3 Winstones Road, Oatley Park	CONSENT GRANTED 28/02/2020

No new enforcement cases have been **opened, reported on** or are still **pending**.

19/00522/LIST (03/11/2019)	Works to a Listed Building at South Archway Cottage, Barrow Court Lane	Planning application expected Action: Clerk to ask for more information
19/00562/COU (04/12/2019)	Airport parking at Blue Barn, Newditch Lane	No breach at present, monitoring

c) Assets of Community Value and Community Right to Bid

The Clerk confirmed the nomination papers were in the process of being completed.

Members noted new landlords for the Princes Motto had been appointed.

d) Other Planning matters

1. Bristol Airport

Members noted NSC's Planning & Regulatory Committee's recommendation to reject Bristol Airport's expansion application following their meeting on 10 February, attended by Eric Gates and Nick Tyrrell.

It was noted the recommendation was due to be ratified at a Full Council Meeting of NSC on 18 March 2020.

Clerk's note: NSC ratified the refusal decision on Wednesday, 18 March.

2. Joint Spatial Plan

There was nothing to report.

12 Parish Area reports

a) Barrow Court / Barrow Court Lane

The Clerk advised there had been further complaints from Barrow Court residents of Stancombe Quarry blast vibration damage to properties. She confirmed these would be raised at the next Quarry Liaison meeting on 11 March.

b) Barrow Hospital site / Wild Country Lane

Andrew Sheridan's report was read and covered the following issues:

- fly-tipping was becoming a serious issue along Wild Country Lane with one recent incident of waste dumped in the middle of the road, posing a danger to motorists
- significant flooding of Hospital Road during the three recent storms had left many residents stranded
- WCL railway bridge was also still flooding during periods of heavy rainfall

The continued presence of asbestos suspected on the Oatley Park site was discussed. It was agreed that the site should have been certified clear of asbestos prior to the start of construction works, a condition of planning permission.

Action: Clerk to ascertain from Neil Underhay what process was in place at the time to ensure all asbestos was cleared

c) Naish Lane / A38

No report had been received.

d) Village centre / Barrow Street

There was nothing to report.

13 Village Enhancements and maintenance

a) Somerset Village of the Year competition

It was agreed the Parish Council would abstain from nominating the village on this occasion.

b) Retirement of village orderly and ongoing maintenance of War Memorial

The Clerk advised that the gentleman who, for many years, had maintained the War Memorial on Barrow Street would no longer be able to continue. The Clerk was asked to extend the Parish Council's sincerest thanks for his efforts!

Phil Carnell agreed to approach a local contractor known to the Council and enquire if he might be available to take on this work.

14 Open Forum for the Parish Council

a) Town & Parish Forum (General) – 12 February 2020

The Clerk reminded members that the presentation slides from the forum were available online.

b) Annual Parish Meeting 2020

It was agreed to approach District Cllr John Crocksford-Hawley, Senior Archaeologist Cat Lodge and NSC's officer appointed to promote history tourism.

The topic for the APM would be "creating opportunities from the heritage of the parish".

Clerk's note: As a result of the outbreak of Coronavirus and the government's implementation of a social isolation and distancing policy, the Annual Parish Meeting has been cancelled. The meeting will be rescheduled when appropriate.

15 Future meetings

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

Clerk's note: All face-to-face meetings scheduled for up to and including July have been cancelled in line with the government's instructions with respect to dealing with the Covid-19 crisis.

The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 that came into force on 4 April permit virtual meetings and these will be set up in order to allow the Parish Council to continue to address its most urgent business.

Meeting concluded at 9:28pm.

a(a).

HIGHWAYS – BARROW GURNEY

Location	Problem	NSC Action	JvT notes
Hobbs Lane	Severely overgrown	Clerk to inspect	
Naish Lane (opp. Roseneath)	pothole	Reported 01/02/20	#0010-0220-2738-0304 (10473113)
A38	Blocked drains	Reported 01/02/20	#1693397
Barrow Street	Missing cats' eyes	Reported 01/02/20	#1693370 (10473115) e-mail dd 19/02/20 Katherine Diver
Barrow Street (at Mill pond)	Camber of road has changed since resurfacing, water flowing away from drain	Reported 15/01/20	
Wild Country Lane (at Whistlewind)	pothole	Reported 01/02/20	#0010-0220-2872-0078 (10473114)
A38	Litter along the length, especially laybys	Reported 01/02/20	#1693399 Job closed without any NSC comment
Barrow Lane	Blocked drains	Reported 01/02/20	#1693395 (1047311X) Complete : 5.2.20.... X1 gully marked with white paint and a works order raised and committed to contractors
Barrow Court Lane	2 x potholes	Reported 15/01/20 - filled	#10472358 & #10472360
Cathorn Lane	Carriageway deteriorated	Reported 01/02/20	#1693387 (10473116) e-mail dd 29/01 & 11/02
Hospital Road	Flooding	Reported 29/02/20	#0010-0236-2229-6606