

ANNUAL BARROW GURNEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held remotely.

Wednesday, 5 May 2021 at 7.00pm.

Present: Chairman Eric Gates, Andy Robbins, Sandra Gibson, Graham Spooner, Andrew Sheridan, Nick Tyrrell, Phil Carnell and Clerk

No apologies received.

1.5.21 Chairman welcomed everyone

2.5.21 Interests: No interests declared

3.5.21 Public Participation: No Members of the public present

4.5.21 Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting 2018 are APPROVED

5.5.21 As no member of the public was present at the meeting, the Chairman referred to the report, which was given by him at the Annual Electors meeting.

6.5.21 The Clerk confirmed that the annual gross income and gross expenditure in the period of 1.04.2020 and 31.03 2021 did not exceed £25,000, which meets exemption criteria for the External Audit. The Clerk and Chairman will sign Certificate of Exemption from a limited assurance review.

7.5.21 The Council voted for Eric Gates to be the Chairman in the year 2021-22

8.5.21 Eric Gates signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

9.5.21 The Council voted for Andy Robbins to be the Deputy Chairman in the year 2021-22

10.5.21 Andy Robbins signed the Declaration of Acceptance of office.

11.5.21 A proposal made by a resident at the Annual Meeting of Electors on 28th April that Barrow Gurney PC implement green initiatives. The Chairman asked for suggestions for specific actions, which could be carried out by the PC.

Members discussed the need for a Welcome Pack for new residents in Barrow Gurney. The Clerk and Councillors will gather more information and discuss it further at the next meeting.

12.5.21 The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th March 2021 are APPROVED as true record and signed by the Chairman..

13.5.21 Highways, pavements, verges and footpaths:

- The Clerk was requested by the PC to ask NSC for the schedule of verge cutting in Barrow Gurney this season.
- Members noted that the bollard at the corner of Springhead Farm and the manhole cover by the village tap still have not been replaced by NSC.
- The final stages of reinstating the Village Tap are near completion.

- The Council will put together an addendum to the previous request to NSC identifying all the outstanding problems requiring attention from NSC, including the retaining slabs near the Village Hall, which need to be replaced.

- A village walk is to be organised on 23rd May.

14.5.21 Barrow Hospital site – flooding of Hospital Road

A correspondence was sent to Richard Kent in NSC in March 2021, highlighting the flooding problems in Hospital Road. The PC has not had a response so far. The Clerk will follow up.

15.5.21 Village Green Committee report

The new picnic bench has been purchased and delivered, on which memorial plaques can be installed.

16.5.21 Village enhancements update

The testing of water needs to be done before water can be consumed from the Village tap. Bristol Water specialists are due to take the water test.

17.5.21 Planning Applications

The following application was considered:

21/P/0661/AOC Hill Farm, Naish Lane	This application involves a considerable programme of work to refurbish and extend two existing barns (one hay barn and one Dutch barn) and build an additional barn at the rear of the existing building complex.	PC comments were submitted to NSC case officer on 20 th April 2021
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18.5.21 Finance and Administration

- a. Internal Audit Report for 2020-2021 received and NOTED by Members. Observations on the need for an annual review of financial regulations and standing orders and a risk management plan need to be addressed. Action – for discussion at the June meeting.
- b. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2020-21 Section 1 – APPROVED. Members agreed that the Chairman and Clerk sign the Annual Governance Statement 2020-21
- c. ANNUAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENT 2020-21 – APPROVED. Members agreed that the Chairman signs the Annual Accounting Statement, prepared and circulated previously by the Clerk.
- d. ANNUAL RETURN 2020/21
 - Members APPROVED the exercise of public rights. Clerk to publish the exercise of public rights from Monday 14th June 2021 to 23 July 2021 in Parish Council's website and noticeboards in the village.

- e. The following payments are APPROVED. The Council agreed for the payments to be arranged by the Clerk and two Councillors approve these payments online. Invoices emailed to all Members for scrutiny prior to the meeting.

	Net	VAT	Total
Culligan water inv: P-000440 for water cooler.	£925.00	£185.00	£1,110.00
MG Timber Products – new bench	£216.67	£43.33	£260.00
Little Apple Gardening Services. March grass cutting Inv: 3566			£140.00
Village Tap Foot Grate			£32.99
ALCA Clerks training (shared with WPC). Inv: 47-02/20-21			£15.00
Zoom subscription (shared with WPC)	£59.95	£11.99	£71.94 (£36 to pay)
Internal Audit Report. Clerks hours – 4 hr			£43.44
Union Jack Flag	£65.05	£13.09	£78.54
Clerks expense (Internal Audit)			£26.90
Clerks salary April 2021			Emailed to all Councillors
Clerks Home office allowance			£24.00

19.5.21 Open Forum for the Parish Councillors – Andy Robbins agreed to attend NSC's Parish Workshop scheduled for 20 May .

20.5.21 The PC discussed whether it should revert to meeting every other month in future. Current rules precluded on line meetings after 7th May, although it seemed possible that discussions, which do not require formal decisions, might take place remotely. It was agreed to schedule the dates of future meetings, taking into consideration the pandemic at that time. It will also be necessary to book the village hall for the required dates.

-It was agreed to comment on the Government consultation on remote meetings, recording the very positive experience that BGPOC had. Action: Eric Gates.

Next Parish Council meeting is planned on Wednesday 23rd June in the Village Hall.