

PARISH OF BARRINGTON

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 12th October 2023 in the Village Hall at 7pm

Present: Cllrs Rhodes-Kemp (Chairman), Kemp, Priddle, Walker, James, Pow, Anscombe, Cooper, the Admin Co-ordinator and the RFO,
with no members of the public

1 Co-option of Councillor

There had been no further applications for co-option.

2 Apologies, welcome and introductions

Apologies had been received from Cllr Quincey, Cllr Kindersley and belated apologies from District Cllr van de Weyer.

3 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no interests declared or requests for dispensations.

4 Public Forum

There were no members of the public in attendance.

5 To approve the minutes of

5.1 The Parish Council Meeting held on 14th September 2023

On a proposal by Cllr Walker, seconded by Cllr James, the minutes as circulated were agreed a true record and signed by the Chairman.

6 County and District Councillors' reports

6.1 County Council

Cllr Kindersley had circulated a report. He had sent his apologies for absence.

6.2 District Council

Cllr van de Weyer had submitted his belated apologies.

Concern was expressed that the County and District Councillors did not attend the Parish Council meetings regularly. It was noted that they were both in attendance at the September meeting.

6.2.1 Anti-Social Behaviour

The Chairman was disappointed that Cllr van de Weyer was not in attendance. She reported that motorbikes were causing distress to residents in Malthouse Way. Residents had experienced a very long wait calling 101 so eventually the incidents were reported on the police website. Cllr van de Ven had been in touch with the SCDC Housing Officer who agreed to write to the family concerned.

The Chairman had hoped for an update regarding the caravan on the footpath.

7 Matters Arising and Carried Forward from previous meeting

7.1 Update on purchase of signage and floats Cllr Priddle

Cllr Priddle explained the background to the signs which had been agreed at an earlier Parish Council meeting. He advised that the signage would need to be purpose made, as the ready-made signs were not suitable, and explained the materials needed.

A discussion took place on suppliers and signs purchased in the past by The Green Charity.

On a proposal by Cllr Walker, seconded by Cllr Kemp, it was agreed that up to £500.00 be authorised to purchase the signs which Cllr Priddle agreed to do. The Chairman agreed to speak to a contractor about installation once the signs were ready.

--Cllr Priddle

8 Finances RFO

8.1 To approve the payment of accounts listed below and to approve any further invoices presented to Council that are not on the schedule (if any):

There were additions to those on the agenda which are listed below:

Cllr Cooper referred to the hire of the projector from the History Society, for the Open day, and proposed that £18.00 for the hire of the hall for the training session on the 9th October be paid to cover the hire fee. This was agreed. Cllr Cooper would arrange an invoice.

-Cllr Cooper

V/N	Invoice	Description	Supplier	Amount
143		Electricity charges August 2023	Southern Electric	£196.34
146-153		Staff Costs PAYE, Home Allowance, Pension September 2023	Staff	£2140.54
158	11813	Payroll support quarter end Sept 23	Red Shoes Accounting	£63.00
159		West Green Pond mtce Sept 23	Mr M Goding	£44.60
160	2824	Cut Glebe Field, Main Green, Sports Field	Herts & Cambs Ground mtce	£468.00
		S106 project		
163		Hire of projector and equip for 14/10	AV Expert	£221.40
162		Post it notes for 14/10	K Clarke	£11.58
	5544	Posters for display	Printworks	£42.00

8.2 Balances and Bank Reconciliation 30th September 2023

BANK	Balance
Unity Trust Bank	£156,522.98
Lloyds	£100,797.40
CBS	£1500.00
Unity Trust Deposit	£607,487.35
Lloyds 32 day notice account	£167,080.63
Lloyds Fixed Term Deposit	£500,000.00
CCLA	£803,107.92
TOTAL	£2,336,496.28

On a proposal by Cllr Walker, seconded by Cllr Cooper, the payment of accounts was agreed.

8.3 Update on Bank Mandate

The RFO reported that, as far as she was aware, the Cambridge Building Society paperwork was now complete so she would arrange another visit to the branch.

-RFO

The change to signatories on the Unity Trust account had been requested.

8.4 Clarification of Rangers Duties

The contractor had advised that these duties included litter picking and clearing around the ditches and ponds. The RFO had asked that in future the invoices be itemised. Councillors agreed that the invoice 2622 for £264.00 plus VAT now be paid.

-RFO

Cllr Cooper asked if the under 5's play area, which required sweeping, could be a job for the Ranger every three months. This was agreed. A discussion took place on liaison with the contractor where it was agreed that it should be the Clerk and in emergencies, the Chairman.

8.5 CAPALC Review of Financial Regulations

It was agreed that there were no comments to make and the review be left with CAPALC.

8.6 Ratification of Willow Tree work contract

The Admin-Coordinator had obtained three quotations to re-pollard the trees back to the previous points. It was noted that there was a large variation in the quotes. On a proposal by Cllr Walker, seconded by Cllr Pow, it was agreed that Shelford Tree Services carry out the work at a cost of £750.00 plus VAT. The Admin-Coordinator to place the order.

-AC

Councillors were advised that the woodland trees also needed attention and this would be an agenda item to discuss at the next meeting.

8.7 Village Hall request for grant

Following the request made at the last meeting The Secretary of the Village Hall committee had forwarded financial information which had been circulated to Councillors.

The Chairman explained the background to the request advising that due to higher electricity costs, and the loss of two tanks of oil, the Parish Council had agreed a grant in 2022/23 of £4,000 with £4,000 earmarked in the budget for this financial year subject to certain assurances from the VHT.

Cllr Cooper expressed concern over reference to 'annual support' made by the Village Hall members.

A discussion took place on the accounts where Councillors were advised that to be more competitive with other villages, hire rates had not increased. Cllr Pow questioned the excessive electricity charges, especially through the summer period, and suggested that there may be a refund due as electricity prices had come down a little. There were also concerns over other items with no explanation.

After further discussion it was agreed that a letter be sent to the Village Hall Committee suggesting they follow up regarding an electricity refund and also request clarification of the unexplained payments. The RFO to prepare draft.

This would be a topic for further discussion at the Finance Working Group on the 17th October.

-RFO

9 Planning

9.1 Proposal: Extension to office (Building 4) consented under ref 20/02807FUL

Site address: Church Meadows, Haslingfield Road

This was part of the business park, it was so designated and it was anticipated would be given consent.

Cllr Kemp proposed that no comment was made. All Councillors in agreement.

9.2 Proposal: Conversion of garage, new open porch and alterations to windows and materials

Site address: 4 Haslingfield Road

Reference 23/03624/HFUL

It was noted that this property was in a sensitive location by the Church. The proposal was for a deal of external wood and examples of properties in the village with a similar façade had been given in the planning application. However, Cllr Kemp expressed his concern over the proposed finish stating that the examples given were not particularly helpful.

On a proposal by Cllr Kemp, agreed by all Councillors, a recommendation of Support would be made with a reservation over the proposed finish and pointing out the unsuitable examples. A condition should be attached to require agreement on materials prior to construction. As the property was close to the Church a recommendation would be made that the Conservation Officer be consulted. It would also pointed out that a Red line was needed to show the access route to the highway.

Cllr Priddle advised that the Green Charity would also make a representation.

9.3 Proposal: Single storey side extension

Site address: 65 Glebe Road

Reference: 23/03440/HFUL

Cllr Kemp advised that he could see no objection to the side extension but once again there was no information in the planning application about the materials to be used. He proposed a response of Support be made but pointing out that the Parish Council would like to see more information about the finish and a suitable condition attached to any permission.

9.4 Proposal: First floor and single storey rear extension along with a garden tree house

Site address: 4 Daphmoir Close

Reference: 23/03695/HFUL

Cllr Kemp had observed that there was already a tree house in the garden of this property which suggested that the application may be in part retrospective. The proposal for the extension appeared to show the raising of the roof line above the existing property which was considered inappropriate. He proposed a recommendation of Object be made as this would be a very bulky extension to the current building and inappropriate for the conservation area.

The Planning Officer would also be asked for clarification on the tree house and whether the permission for this aspect was retrospective.

9.5 FOR INFORMATION Proposal: Tree work (5 day notice)

Site address :Barrington C of E Primary School, Haslingfield Road

Reference:23/1163/TTCA

Re-pollard Willow back to previous points (approx. 8 metres ground level back to trunk)

10 All Saints Garden (Redrow)- Cllr Rhodes-Kemp

10.1 Occupancy and Numbers

The Chairman had been told that there were 84 properties occupied. Cllr James confirmed that there were 82 which included social housing. The Chairman added that the expectation was that all of the southern site would be occupied by the end of the year. She was asked if there was going to be a bus stop and confirmed that there was a bus stop proposed but it was not there yet.

10.2 Provision of Litter/Dog Waste Bins -Update

The Admin-Coordinator reported that she had been chasing the installation which had been ordered. She would continue to urge.

-AC

11 S106 -updates

11.1 General Update -Cllr Rhodes-Kemp

The Chairman reported that the Architect, Mills Power, had come to the end of Stage one of their contract and as the Steering Group was having difficulty reconciling their cost model with the Parish Council's available funds, recommended that the Parish Council look at an alternative way forward. This was agreed by Councillors.

11.1.1 Asbestos Surveys

Cllr Walker advised that a Management survey would be carried out on the Cricket Pavilion and Bowls Club at a cost of £290.00 plus VAT. The Village Hall had arranged their own asbestos survey. It was noted that there was some material behind the Pavilion which may need to be removed professionally.

Cllr Walker added that the Agronomist had delayed his visit until the 13th October.

11.2 Update on the Village Survey

The draft report had been circulated to Councillors. As a result, Cllr Cooper had arranged a community café trial for one month which was scheduled to start on the 18th October.

Cllr Kemp reported that the survey return looked like it was 53%. Linda Howell, who had been involved with the Duxford project and volunteered her help, had double checked the household data against the most recent census and there was a good comparison.

The Chairman advised that Ms Howell had carried out a tremendous amount of work at no cost with help from the Admin-Coordinator, and expressed huge thanks.

11.2.1 Open Day 14th October 2023

A discussion took place on the plan for the two sessions during the day. There would be presentations and display boards with examples of what could be achieved. Attendees would be invited for their comments on post-it notes. There would be an opportunity for questions at each session. The Admin-Coordinator and RFO would record the points raised. Cllr Pow offered to put together a list of questions and answers discussed during this agenda item for the sessions.

-Cllr Pow, AC & RFO

The Chairman again thanked everyone who had put in so much hard work and time with the survey process and preparation for the Open Day.

11.3 Traffic Calming – New VAS posts number and cost -Cllr Anscombe

Cllr Anscombe reported that the latest equipment had been installed. There were now permanent Vehicle Activate Signs (VAS) on Shepreth and Foxton Road. A detailed survey had been received from County Highways for the location and cost of new posts. The only post location which differed to those requested was for the post beyond the All Saints Gardens. As this was still an unrestricted speed area the equipment could not be put there so the post location proposed was now before the estate. Cllr Anscombe would liaise with the Chairman as some of this overlapped with the Local Highways Initiative (LHI) plans for the school area.

-Cllr Anscombe & Cllr Rhodes-Kemp

11.3.1 Update on County Highways feedback on LHI meeting-Cllrs Rhodes-Kemp and James

The Chairman advised that the planned meeting had been postponed until the 17th October. In addition to the successful LHI bid, the extension to the speed limit past All Saints Gardens, moving of the village sign and the 20mph privately funded highways initiative would be discussed. Cllr Priddle advised that the flashing lights, which were installed when the chicane was put in, no longer worked. Councillors also felt that the existing signage outside the school was very confusing.

11.4 Archer Bridge -Cllrs Quincey & Anscombe

Cllr Anscombe reported that he had this in hand and would follow up with quotations for a footbridge. The Chairman advised that the landowners on the Barrington side had offered their help. The owner of the other side, despite a lot of investigation by Cllr Quincey, was still unknown.

11.5 Tennis Court Options – Cllrs Walker & Rhodes-Kemp

The Chairman advised that the Admin-Coordinator had carried out a lot of work on options which included Padel Tennis and Pickleball which used much smaller courts than tennis. There would be a video on this at the Open day. Councillors were reminded that there were going to be some facilities for children at All Saints Gardens and residents should be made aware that these facilities were for all the village to use.

12 Reports to be taken as read

12.1 QEII woodland and Community Orchard -Cllr Quincey

12.1.1 Seeds for Planters

A request had been made by residents wanting to put in a planter. They asked for a grant of £100 to purchased seeds and plants. Cllr James advised that the planter was already in position.

On a proposal by Cllr Walker, seconded by Cllr Anscombe, it was agreed a grant of £100.00 be made. All Councillors in agreement. RFO to arrange the payment.

-RFO

12.2 Footpaths -Cllr Cooper**12.3 Ditches -Update on Autumn Ditch Walk -Cllr Walker****12.4 Play Areas-update on quotes for Swing Frame Inspection/New Inspector required -Cllr Cooper**

The contractor had given notice that he would not longer be able to carry out the playground inspections. The recent CAPALC Bulletin listed training on playground inspections, which could be carried out by a trained Parish Councillors or member of the community. Cllr Cooper offered to attend which would be arranged.

Cllr Cooper then reported that she was going through the inspection reports, including the annual RoSPA report, to make a list of outstanding work which needed to be carried out. The work to the slide mound, which the contractor had been paid for, was still outstanding and he would be reminded as this was scheduled to take place during the Autumn. **-RFO**

12.5 Challis Green Pond Fence repairs– Cllr Rhodes-Kemp

The Admin-Coordinator had obtained three quotations after asking seven contractors. One of the quotes was for fixing the posts but not the rails.

A discussion took place on the Section 106 money and whether it could be used on repairs in addition to replacement. The RFO agreed to clarify this with the SCDC Section 106 Officer so that further discussion on the way forward could take place at the Finance working group meeting on the 17th October.

12.6 Green Charity -Cllr Priddle**12.7 Barrington Liaison Paper -Cllr Rhodes-Kemp****13 Open Day - All**

Arrangements had been discussed under Item 11.2.1. It was agreed that a catch-up on the feedback from the meeting would take place via zoom on the 30th October 2023 at 7pm.

14 Policies**14.1 Adoption of Risk Assessment/Home and Lone Worker Policy**

A draft had been circulated to Councillors ahead of the meeting. On a proposal by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Walker, the policy was adopted. The RFO to forward a copy to the Green Charity Secretary as this would also apply to her. **-RFO**

15 Anti Social Behaviour

As reported earlier by the Chairman there was an issue on Malthouse Way with motorbikes. The Admin-Coordinator would follow up with the police. **-AC**

Cllr Cooper reported that there had been a higher police presence in the Glebe Road area recently.

The Chairman then reported that, at a recent SCDCC / Redrow / BPC liaison meeting, it had been advised that the lighting on and at the entrance to the proposed cycle path would not be installed due to the presence of bats. The planned solar lighting of the path had also cancelled. She expressed concern as some people would be afraid to use the path in the dark. There was also the issue of ASB especially the possibility of motorbikes using the path as there were to be no barriers.

Cllr Pow suggested that the Parish Council liaise with Foxton PC as the proposed path would be used by some of their residents too. He added that the extremely noisy motorbikes also use the road to Foxton.

A reference was made to the recent open day held by Redrow to present the plans for the cycle path. The Chairman had been advised by the developer that the response had been 100% positive. Cllr Pow disagreed adding that this was just a PR exercise, and he was aware of concerns raised by residents.

After further discussion it was agreed that a letter be sent the SCDC Head of Planning copies to the MP, Developer, Police, County and District Councillors expressing concern over the safety and ASB issues with no lighting on the proposed cycle path. RFO to draft. **-RFO**

16 Review of Insurance Schedule 2023/24

The Schedule to be reviewed to ensure all recent additions in the village were covered by the policy. A report would be made at the next meeting. **-AC & RFO**

17 Highway Issues**17.1 Update on meeting with CCC Local Projects Officer to discuss PFLI (privately funded bid) for 20mph speed limit, relocation of Village nameplate and extension of speed limit zone**

As reported under Item 11.3.1 this meeting had been postponed until the 17th October 2023.

17.2 A10 Joint Parish Councils Working Party

Foxton Parish Council referred to the working party from 2019-2020 for villages along the A10 corridor. The council asked if the Parish Council would like to be part of a reformed working group to discuss shared issues.

The Chairman confirmed that Barrington was part of the original working party and would like to take part in the meetings again. Admin-Coordinator to confirm with Foxton Parish Council. **-AC**

18 Date of Next Parish Council Meeting - 9th November 2023

The Chairman expressed her sympathy to the family of Peter Bird who had passed away. The Parish Council was indebted to Mr Bird for his time as a Parish Councillor with his extensive knowledge of the ditch system, intelligence and great sense of humour always. He will be much missed.

There was no further business. The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50pm