

BARKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Page 17/357

Minutes of meeting of the Barkham Parish Council held on 12th September 2017
in Barkham Village Hall at 8.00 p.m.

Present: Mrs P. Stubbs (in the Chair), Dr. R. Loader, Mr L. Heath, Mr R. Rowe, Mr J. Kaiser (Borough Councillor) and the Clerk.

Apologies: Mr. K. Lane (on holiday), Mr G. Dexter (on holiday), Mr. D. Oxbrough (on holiday), Mr. C. Heyliger (family commitment), Mr A. Crook (attending a BALC course), Mr F. A. Scott (family commitments)

Declarations of Interests

None

17/762 **Minutes** of meeting held on 11th July 2017 were approved and signed as a true record.

17/763 Planning

There were no planning applications that required referral to the full Council.

17/764 Highways

The drains are again blocked from The Bull down to Barkham Bridge and there are two water leaks, one outside Bailiff's Cottage and the other outside Cauldwell House on Barkham Road. It is essential that the water leaks are repaired as the first frost will cause the water to freeze and the road will be a skating rink. Clerk to again report to WBC.

The new footpath, The Coombes Circular Walk required additional wooden posts to be installed at Ellis Hill, these have now been completed by WBC and they now require the metal signs to be attached. This job to be completed when Mr Oxbrough returns from holiday.

It was noted that many new lamp posts have now been fitted around Barkham, these are new power saving lamps with a white light, they are self reporting, and therefore any failures should be attended to promptly. Elizabeth Park has some that are currently not working, Clerk to report the failed lamps to WBC.

Clerk to write to Matt Gould at WBC Highways to request a meeting to discuss the results of the speed surveys recently conducted along Barkham Road, school summer holidays and road works have now finished in that area. Plus the current position regarding the additional pavement in Barkham Street.

17/765 Litter

There were no areas of litter that required attention.

17/766 Finance

P. Stubbs – purchase of chairs for the Parish office	254	£55.00
J. Neuhofer – BT phone & broadband 23/7/17 – 22/10/17	255	£215.80 (£179.84 exc VAT)
Mazars – audit fee	256	£240.00 (£200.00 exc VAT)
HMRC – N.I. for July, August, September £22.72 x 3	257	£68.16
Barkham Village Hall – hire of hall for May, June & July	258	£86.25
Royal British Legion – donation	259	£100.00
K. Lane – cost of printing 3000 Welcome To Barkham maps	260	£354.88 (£295.73 exc VAT)
J. Neuhofer - engraved pen for R. Loader, leaving gift	261	£59.85 (£57.90 exc VAT)
Print on Demand – order of 50 “Barkham A History”	262	£230.16
K. Lane – plastic envelopes for Welcome to Barkham maps	263	£67.37 (56.14 exc VAT)
J. Neuhofer – Staples (purchase of ink cartridges)	264	£141.46 (117.88 exc VAT)
Came & Co. – insurance renewal 1.10.17 – 30.9.18 (This is a 3 year agreement with a discounted rate of 5%)	265	£1286.36 (£1148.54 exc VAT)
J. Neuhofer – Easyspace N. Plan. Paid for on credit card	266	£147.05 (£122.55 exc VAT)
R. Rowe – Solopress for 3500 flyers for Neighbourhood Plan	267	£91.00

Standing Order for Clerk's salary for August

	£742.80
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Standing Order to Royal Bor. Windsor – Pension Fund for Clerk
for month of August (Employee & employer contribution)

	£197.41
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Standing Order to Royal Bor. Windsor – Pension Fund for Clerk for month of September (Employee & employer contribution)	£197.41

The Clerk confirmed that the accounts for the year ended 31.3.17 had been duly returned signed off by Mazars the auditors. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit and Right to Inspect the Annual Return has been duly displayed for 14 days. Also a statement has been placed on the website.

The final 10 history books have been taken up to Henry Street Garden Centre. A further supply of 50 books have been ordered from Print on Demand. To date profit amounted to £1135.91 - £230.16 for purchase of further books = £905.75.

17/767 To Consider applications for the Sam Hosgood Sporting Endeavour Fund

Bethany Austin – aged 12 tumbling and gymnastics

Alexandra Castle – aged 13 swimming

Ewan Castle – aged 16 rugby

It was agreed to present each young person with a cheque for £350.00. Clerk to write to the applicants inviting them to attend the next meeting of BPC on 10th October to receive their cheques and to ask Sam Hosgood to present the cheques and certificates.

17/768 To Discuss the Parish Office at the Community Centre

It is still hoped that the Community Centre will be transferred from the MOD to Crest by the end of September. If this does take place there will be a low key event to acknowledge the hand over. Gemma Gallant who is now the contact from Cratus is now handling any bookings. Internet and a phone line are still required, until such time as these services can be installed the office cannot be used as a working office, only for meetings.

17/769 To Discuss the future working with Thames Valley Police

Mr Rowe reported that he had heard nothing since completing the forms. When Mr Dexter returns this should be chased.

17/770 Local Plan Update – Mr Heath

A letter has been sent to Rt Hon Sajid Javid (Dept for Communities and Local Government), copies to Rt Hon Alok Sharma (Minister of State for Housing & Planning), Rt Hon John Redwood, Charlotte Haitham Taylor (Leader of Council), David Lee (Deputy Leader of the Council), Simon Weeks (Elected Member for Planning & Enforcement), John Kaiser, expressing our grave concern over the Government's continued use of a flawed methodology to assess the 5 year land supply. Planning applications are being granted well in excess of the rate of building. In spite of the huge amount of building around Wokingham planning appeals have been lost on the grounds that the Borough does not have an adequate 5 year land supply. BPC finds it unacceptable that we are under pressure to accept even more houses over and above the existing local plan. Letter circulated to all Parish Councils in Wokingham.

Mr Heath reported that he had met with Ian Belinger at WBC who advised that WBC are behind schedule with the Local Plan Update and the Preferred Options list of possible sites for development will not now be released until Summer 2018. However it has come as a surprise that WBC have issued a News Release that includes Barkham Square in a short list of just three sites for detailed examination. A letter will be sent to WBC stating that this is unacceptable to BPC.

17/771 Neighbourhood Plan – Mr Heath

An exhibition will be held at the Community Centre on Saturday 30th September for residents to view numerous display boards and give feedback. This will be combined with a MacMillan Coffee Morning which should attract extra interest. Flyers have now been produced advertising the event, these will be delivered by a distribution company, it was suggested that the Welcome To Barkham maps could be delivered to Elizabeth Park, Barkham Road and Bearwood Road at the same time, which would just leave the remaining roads to be delivered by BPC. Mr Rowe to ask if this would be possible and report back. Mr Kaiser suggested that WBC officers should be asked if they could attend the event and give residents information regarding the proposed new Community Centre, this is now being consulted upon and hence this would be an ideal opportunity for residents to give their views. Clerk to contact Josie Wragg at WBC.

17/772 To receive the BALC report – Dr Loader

BALC are running several courses of interest which have been taken up by councillors. Mr Dexter and Mr Heyliger to attend the planning course, Mr Lane to attend the finance course and the Clerk to attend the data protection course.

17/773 Borough Councillor's Report – Mr Kaiser

Mr Kaiser reported that it is possible that land at Barkham Square could now be included in the Masterplan, this would result in a further 1000 houses being built in Barkham. He urged that action must be taken now to alert residents of this. BPC need to find out who the Masterplanners are in order that BPC can start speaking to them now. He stressed that this must be fought or Barkham will not only have 3500 houses on the SDL but a further 1000 houses at Barkham Square. BPC to write to Charlotte Haitham Taylor and David Lee to ascertain who the Masterplanners are.

The children were now all installed in the new Bohunt School, the Legacy Buildings have been returned to MOD. The sports hall will be used by Bohunt School until 2018 and then it will be transferred to WBC to be included in the contract with other sports facilities as a community asset.

9.30 p.m. Mr Crook arrived from attending the BALC course.

17/774 Correspondence

- a. Letter of thanks from Barkham Village Hall for grant.
- b. CAB – invitation to AGM to be held on 22.9.17 at Wokingham Town Hall at noon. Mrs Stubbs to attend.
- c. BALC – Reform of Data Protection Regulation. BALC will be organising training sessions if any councillor would like to attend. The Clerk to attend.
- d. Royal British Legion – Remembrance Day Parade to be held on 12th November, assemble at 10.15 at the RBL Club.
- e. WBC Civil Parking Enforcement Briefing Session 25th September at 7.00 p.m. Two councillors are permitted to attend. Mrs Stubbs wished to attend and it was suggested that Mr Dexter might like to attend also.
- f. Southern Parishes Network Meeting to be held on Thursday 2nd November at 7.00 p.m. at Shinfield Parish Council. Mrs Stubbs, Mr Lane, Mr Heath and Mr Dexter to attend.
- g. Dr. R. Loader – resignation. A lunch to be held on Monday 25th September at 1.00 p.m. at the Community Centre in recognition of Dr Loader's contribution to the Parish over the past 10 years. All councillors and Mr Kaiser to attend.

17/775 Councillors Forum

Welcome To Barkham maps

The maps have now been delivered and Mr Lane ordered some protective sealed bags to put the maps in to keep them clean and make delivery easier. These will be delivered to all houses in Barkham. A supply will be given to the Marketing Suite at Arborfield Green. Crest Nicholson have kindly offered a grant of £1000 towards cost of production. Everyone was delighted with the quality and design of the map.

Mr Rowe advised that he had been liaising with Stewart Richardson (editor of BVRA magazine) regarding distributing the magazine to the new residents of Arborfield Green. Mr Rowe will work out which roads will need distributing to. He also suggested contacting Romans estate Agents to find out which houses in which roads will be offered for rent.

Meeting closed at 9.55 p.m.

Next meeting of full Council will be held on 10th October 2017 at 8.00 p.m.

Next meeting of Planning Committee will be held on 26th September 2017 at 7.30 p.m.