

BARLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of meeting of Barley Parish Council
on Monday 3rd October 2022

PRESENT

Cllr Jerry Carlisle (Chair), Cllr Ali Hearn and Cllr David King, Cllr Lee, Cllr Brian Haughey, Cllr Turner.

IN ATTENDANCE

District Cllr Gerald Morris.

1. APOLOGIES.

1.1 Apologies were received and accepted from Mel Chammings, Clerk, Lynn Brett, RFO, County Cllr Fiona Hill and Nick Shaw.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

2.1 No declarations of interest were made.

3. MINUTES

3.1 The Minutes of the meeting held on 5th September 2022 were read and approved as an accurate record of proceedings.

Proposed by Cllr Haughey and seconded by Cllr King.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

4.1 No issues were raised.

5. PLANNING

5.1 22/01562/LBC application to replace 5 single-glazed, timber windows (3 first floor and 2 ground floor) with double glazed hard wood window.

Orchard Side, Smiths End Lane, Barley

The Council made no objections to this application, subject to the Conservation Officer's comments.

5.2 Reference 22/02213/FP use of land for the siting of 84 domestic storage containers to include associated engineering operations and installation of bund and planting following the removal of 27 existing storage containers.

Broadmere Pond, Royston Road, Barley

The Council was in receipt of a revised Planning Statement from Bidwells incorporating some of the additional information requested from the applicant, including details of visits to the site by existing users and where such users are located. It was noted however that there was no information provided to demonstrate the demand for the substantial increase in the number of containers proposed and the expansion of the site to accommodate those containers that had been requested.

Cllr Lee had attempted to contact the Planning Officer to discuss the case and was awaiting a response.

Pending the outcome of Cllr Lee's discussion with the planning officer the Council agreed:

- To seek clarification of the final number of containers proposed to be installed as the application states 'approximately' 84 containers, but whereas BPC consider the application needs to be specific in the number of units to be installed. Also, the extent of the proposed change of use of part of the site from agriculture to B8 (Storage or Distribution) use needs to be properly defined on a site plan.
- To seek assurance from the applicant by way of a condition in any consent, should the application be approved, that the bund relocation and planting should be completed prior to the installation and commencement of use of the additional containers to ensure full screening is in place.
- If the application were to be approved then BPC would wish to see the existing restrictions on hours of use and prohibition of external lighting to be maintained. BPC would also ask NHDC to withdraw all and any permitted development rights relating to the site, whether in relation to the existing agricultural and B8 use or the expanded use.

5.3 The Chairman made the meeting aware of a potential application at Slaters, Bakers Lane, Barley. The application is to relocate the access from the current location to further down Bakers

Lane. No formal notification of application had been received to date.

6. FINANCE

6.1 The RFO had previously distributed the list of payments for approval at this meeting.

Barley Parish Council

M Chamblings	151.25	Clerking
Gallaghers Insurance	2,598.04	
Broadmead Leisure	288.00	Inspection and repairs
PKF Littlejohn	360.00	

Approved. Proposed Cllr King and Seconded Cllr Haughey

Barley Town House

Mel Chamblings	148.65	Lettings
Robin Saklatvala	151.50	Lettings – final charge
Swift Fire	144.00	Alarm/lighting service
Swift Fire	60.00	Extinguisher Service
BCR	72.00	service
Mel Chamblings	400.00	Ex gratia
Nick Shaw	866.20	Cleaning/maintenance

Proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr King

6.2 The Chairman advised the meeting that the figures set out in items 4 and 6 of Section 2 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) for the year ended 31st March 2022 approved by the Council at their meeting on 11th July had, following discussion with the external auditor, been restated due to an administrative error in their original calculation. The changes were not material to the Return.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

7.1 County Cllr Hill was not in attendance but sent the following feedback via the Chairman

- Concerns raised about disturbance to bank on B1039 by badgers, causing obstruction to the road – a meeting is planned

to discuss this issue and also the outcome of the recent survey of the surface water drains and outstanding work to cut back the hedge on London Road.

- Meeting planned with OPC with Cllr Haughey re data from the road safety camera.
- The consultation regarding the minerals and waste plan has been extended.
- Libraries continue to be busy.
- An increase to parking fees in Royston has been agreed.
- There is continued work with Urbaser regarding street cleaning.
- Noted dates of works to London Road 14th-18th November, a full schedule of works was requested.

7.2 District Cllr Morris reported

- Stagecoach had issued notice to withdraw routes between Cambridge and Royston. A meeting has been held in Royston and the routes will be re tendered to see if interest can be raised. Passenger numbers are down 70% since the pandemic.
- The decision regarding the planning application for the site known as BK3 in the proposed new local plan of 140 houses in Barkway has been deferred pending an ecology report from HCC/Environment Agency and Natural England. Issues have also been raised regarding sewage discharge and capacity of the local sewage works. There are risks of overwhelming the system which is currently under strain particularly in times of high rainfall.
- The Proposed new Local Plan comes before North Herts Council on 8th November 2022, which should be a final decision if supported by members and will be in place until 2031.

8. REPORTS FROM WORKING PARTIES, COMMITTEES & PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

8.1 Town House

- A new letting officer has been appointed, Ella Gusejnove
- Issues reported with external lighting. Nick Shaw to be asked to arrange for an electrician to investigate.
- It was reported that there is overhanging ivy in the car park. Cllr King will arrange to remove.

8.1.2 There were no Health and Safety issues to report

8.2 Plaistow

- The inspection report from Broadmead was noted.
- A concern was raised about lack of 12mm gaps on closures – Cllrs Haughey and Turner will review.
- 2 round seats are split and broken – Cllrs Haughey and Turner to review.
- One paling to be replaced.

8.3 Other Items

8.3.1 The Tennis Club

- Cllr Lee presented a draft Management Agreement between BPC and the Barley Tennis Club
- The Tennis Club are to constitute themselves, without which the signatory would have personal responsibility.
- BPC are trustees of the Plaistow, tennis courts and playing fields.
- The draft was reviewed by the council following which Cllr Lee will make some small amendments to the agreement which she will now discuss with the tennis club as a working document.

8.3.2 A children's' Christmas Party is planned in the Fox and Hounds on 19th December 2022 with a visit from Father Christmas and a plan for a gift for Barley children. BPC received a request for funding to support this event. The Council resolved to support this event with an amount of £10 per child to a maximum of £400. There are 36 confirmed attendees to date.

9. CLERKS REPORT

9.1 The only item was to note correspondence regarding the badgers on B1039 which is actioned under item 7.1.

10. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA

10.1 The next meeting will be on 7th November 2022

Items for future discussion

- a) Tennis club agreement

The meeting ended at 21.45