



**Barley Parish Council Meeting: 10th August 2026 at 19:00,
Town House, Church End, Barley.**

Meeting Minutes

Present

Chair Yvonne Lee, Vice Chair Alison Hearn, Cllr Jerry Carlisle, Cllr Alan Cayford, Cllr Ian Turner, Cllr Ian Northen.

In attendance – 6 members of the public.

1. Apologies - RFO Lynn Brett, Clerk Alison Gibson

2. Declarations of Interest / public participation

Declaration of interest from Councillor Carlisle – items 3.2 and 3.3 relate to property belonging to a family member and Councillor Carlisle did not participate in discussions/decisions on this item.

Terms of public engagement outlined by the Chair.

4 members of the members of public were attending in relation to item 3.1. Comments were given in relation to item 3.1 to the Council.

The first speaker outlined that the applicant, in their view, has rectified all areas of concern with the new application.

The second speaker outlined that the french doors to the rear of the proposed building do still overlook their property, however they are much further away than in the first proposal and are therefore happy with the new design submitted.

3. Planning

3.1 Ref 26/01727/FP Full Planning Permission: Erection of self-build dwelling with Juliet balcony, solar panels, and access steps following demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings. Hard landscaping to include creation of no.2 parking spaces to front elevation. Installation of bin storage. 5 Cambridge Road, Barley, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 8HN
Comments on the above application by 14 August 2026.

The council discussed the new application. It was agreed that the applicant has mostly addressed the previous concerns, however some issues remain with the proposal:

- There remains an issue with overlooking of No. 4 Cambridge Road, particularly from the Juliet balcony and a large window.
- The proposed property has been brought forward, but is still not on the building line of Cambridge Road.

- The access to the rear garden is difficult with a series of steps from the rear or the utility room. Those with impaired mobility can only access the garden via the front door. This is in contrast to the information given in the Design and Access Statement.
- The plant room for a heat pump is likely to be noisy and require ventilation, no mitigation is given within the application for these issues
- The contemporary style of the proposal is not sympathetic to the surrounding houses or the remainder of Cambridge Road.
- The prior concern about the location of the development and the proximity to the sewage pipe along the length of the rear gardens of Cambridge Road needs addressing.

Until the above concerns are addressed the council agreed to object to this application.

3.2 Ref 26/01569/LBC Listed Building Consent: Erection of rear conservatory following removal of existing rear window. Panna Cottage, Pudding Lane, Barley, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 8JU Comments on the above application by 15 August 2026.

3.3 Ref 26/01568/FPH Full Permission Householder: Erection of rear conservatory following removal of existing rear window. Demolish outside garden wall between lower and upper terrace, remove paving slabs from lower terrace, set aside to re-use. Installation of 2.No EV charging points to existing garage. Panna Cottage, Pudding Lane, Barley, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 8JU Comments on the above application by 15 August 2026.

Councillor Carlisle did not participate in these agenda items.

This application is a renewal of an expired application made in 2023, where there were no objections from the council.

There were no objections to this application.

The members of the public left the meeting.

4. Town House Electrical Report - to discuss the report, required actions and timeframes.

The chair raised concerns about the significant delay in the report being shared with the council. This was particularly concerning considering the red safety risks contained within it. It was agreed that the report and findings should have been brought immediately to the attention of the council.

It was reported that two of the three red risks have been addressed with tape, however the third is outstanding. It was noted that no timeframe for repairs has been supplied by the Town House Committee.

It was agreed there did not seem to be significant deterioration of the wiring in general, however the deficiencies have now been picked up by a new company undertaking the electrical safety checks. Some of the amber/green issues are difficult to address in an ageing building.

Under the Charities Commission rules, as Trustee of the Town House Charity, Barley Parish Council is required to pursue the purpose of and act in the best interest of the charity and that is difficult to uphold if the council is not informed of any issues.

Heasells, Royston, has supplied costs of addressing the red and amber risks, at a cost of £5495.94. The council discussed that it may also be worth sourcing up to date quotes for rewiring of the building, which has been under consideration for some time.

Councillor Turner reported that the lights need to be replaced as they become very hot and that mice have been eating part of the wiring.

It was agreed that a planned maintenance programme is required, including urgently addressing the priority items from the Heasells' report for the Town House, in order to allow effective planning and budgeting. In light of this, along with the need to review the Terms of Reference for the Town House Committee which are outdated and contain some inaccuracies and the concerns about falling revenue this year, it was agreed that a focused Town House meeting with Barley Parish Council and the Town House Committee would be beneficial, as there is insufficient time to discuss these issues during a Parish Council meeting. Clerk to arrange a date as soon as possible.

5. Sign off of payments for BPC

5.1 Barley Parish Council

- Alison Gibson £89.09 First aid kits – payment should be made from TH account. RFO to be informed.
- Broadmead Leisure £108.00 Quarterly inspection play area
- Two historic invoices from NHDC for supply and emptying of dog bins were delivered to the previous Clerk and submitted to the meeting. RFO to determine if these have been paid previously and if not arrange payment.

Proposed by Councillor Cayford, Seconded by Councillor Turner

5.2 Town House

Above payment to Alison Gibson to be moved to TH only

It was also agreed by the council to fund the payments for three new signs to better highlight the locations of the two defibrillators in the village. Clerk to order signs. Town House Committee have agreed to the design and location of the signs. The new sign for the GP surgery is a replacement of an existing but faded sign to the front of the building.

Barley Cricket Club has secured charitable funding for the four-year lease of a public access defib which will be located on the cricket pavilion. The council agreed to reimburse the cricket club the costs of the purchase of the external cabinet £115.20 and take over the purchase of the consumables when the four-year lease expires. At this time, the defib can be purchased for £1 which the council supported.

Date of next Barley Parish meeting

To note the date of next Parish Council Meeting will be on 7th September 2026

Apologies received from the clerk Alison Gibson – Councillor Northen to take minutes

Contact: Alison Gibson, Clerk to Barley Parish Council

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