

BARLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of meeting of Barley Parish Council
on Monday 4th April 2022

PRESENT

Cllr Jerry Carlisle (Chair), Cllr Brian Haughey, Cllr Ian Turner, Cllr David King.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mel Chammings (Clerk), County Cllr Fiona Hill, District Cllr Tony Hunter, Lynn Brett (RFO), and five members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES.

1.1 Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hearn, Cllr Lee, District Cllr Gerald Morris, 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 7th March 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 Members of the public were in attendance to participate in the planning applications.

5. PLANNING

5.1 Planning reference: 22/00796/FP Demolition of dwelling known as Vernham Dene, and erection of fence to facilitate the inclusion of associated land to form extended residential curtilage for the host dwelling, Grigs Field. Conversion of existing garage into a home office and alterations to existing access driveway. Vernham Dene, High Street, Barley

The Council had no objections to this application in principle but was concerned about loss of a small property, without a proposal to replace it.

5.2 Planning reference: 22/00832/FPH and 22/00836/LBC Alterations to existing rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory. Jasmine Cottage, Church End.

The Council had no objections to this application.

5.3 Planning reference:22/00852/ OP Outline application for the erection of one two storey dwelling and garage, gated entrance, and adapted access to the highway (all matters reserved) Ivy's Cottage, Smiths End

The Council objected to this application and asked that the Planning Department refuse it on the grounds that as all matters were reserved the outline plan did not support a clear design and therefore the members could not properly establish the impact of the proposal on the Barley Conservation Area or on other existing neighbouring properties.

5.4 The Council had been advised by NHDC that an appeal had been lodged in respect of application 21/02973/PIP Land east of Picknag Road, adjacent to 36 Picknag Road, Barley. The appeal would be in the form of written submissions and if the Council wished to make any further comments, in addition to those already made, then they should do so by 21 April 2022. Action: Cllrs to consider if they wished to make any further comments by the due date.

6. FINANCE

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

Barley Parish Council

M Chammings	342.80	Clerk inc. Hallmaster licence
L Brett	294.80	RFO
Fashion Flooring	1481.23	Staircase refurb
Barley Property Mtce	5925.43	Timber repair and painting
HAPTC	393.01	Subs
G Booth	300.00	Church grass cutting
TH Sinking Fund	5000.00	Transfer

Approved. Proposed Cllr Haughey and Seconded Cllr Turner

Barley Town House

Swift Fire	144.00	Alarm and lighting service
PJ Robinson	103.20	Appliance tests
Nick Shaw	502.98	Expenses
Bulb	1276.47	Balance clearance

Proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Haughey.

6.2 Quotes and charges

6.2.1 The quote from John Guerro for replacement of the play area gates would be with Cllr Haughey within the week. It was agreed that

the quote would be considered by email **Action:** Cllr Haughey to forward quotes for all to consider

6.2.2 It was agreed to accept the request of £300 for church yard grass cutting for year ending March 2022.

6.2.3 Cllr Haughey had received two quotes for the installation of a pumped sewage container behind the scouts hut, £7000 and £10000 + VAT, respectively.

Although the container was on Parish Council land, the facility was only used by the Scouts and therefore members believed it was reasonable to request that the Scouts contribute to the cost of installation and maintenance.

It was agreed to defer a decision until June to allow for discussions with appropriate people in the Scouts.

6.2.4 Following consideration it was decided to raise the allotment fee for 2023/2024 from £50 to £55. **Action:** Clerk to inform current allotment holders.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

7.1

District Cllr Hunter updated the meeting on NHDC items.

- Help towards the Ukrainian refugee situation was high on the agenda
- The NHDC budget had been agreed but there was also a need to find additional savings this year
- The Local Plan was still under review
- Parking in Royston was under review
- Royston District Area Committee had met and agreed to issue several grants, including one to the Barley Town House to assist with the recent refurbishment
- NHDC had launched a Community Lottery.

7.2

County Cllr Hill reported on the items that she had been involved with over the last month.

- The HCC budget had been agreed
- Library services would be back to pre-pandemic service soon
- Covid issues were still affecting service more generally
- HCC was working with partners to ensure that Ukrainian refugees received all the services that they required in order to settle in Hertfordshire.
- The London Road works, and road closure had not gone according to plan. Work still outstanding included:

- The kerbing from Mortimers to Smiths End
- Backfilling of the verge behind the kerb
- Clearance of the drains across the road and from Smiths End to Crossways.
- All of the above would probably require another Road Closure
- Cllr Hill would urgently organise a meeting with Kate Hooper (HCC Highways) and relevant BPC members to discuss why the work had been delayed and left unfinished and how it would be resolved.
- Cllr Hill was still chasing the HCC officer responsible for overseeing 20mph and 40mph limits, and both of these should be on the agenda for Barley
- The rumble strips were on track to be re-instated in this year's budget

8. REPORTS FROM WORKING PARTIES, COMMITTEES & PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

8.1 Town House

The Clerk reported on behalf of Mr Shaw.

8.1.1 The recent Health and safety checks were all satisfactory

8.1.2 The Town House Committee would meet next week to discuss pricing for letting of the Town House. This was as a direct result of increased prices particularly electricity.

8.2 Plaistow

8.2.1 Repairs to the fence surrounding the play area had been undertaken and any missing protective caps to fixings on equipment had been addressed. Members reviewed the results of the recent independent inspection by Broadmead Leisure which indicated that there was an issue with one of the Timber posts on the Adventure trail. On further inspection by Cllr Turner, it was unclear which post was at issue. **Action:** The Clerk would query this with Broadmead Leisure.

8.3 The Queens Jubilee event

8.3.1

- HCC network had approved the Church End Road closure

- Plans were in place to provide catering, entertainment, and decorations.
- Printing of the Barley book was on track
- Volunteers were needed to help on the day.

8.4 Council Face Book page

8.4.1 As Cllr Hearn was unable to attend the meeting a decision on developing a Council Facebook page was deferred to the next meeting.

9. CLERKS REPORT

9.1 Actions cleared by the Clerk

- The poor condition of the footpaths leading to the Plaistow had been reported and was on the priority list for HCC Countryside Management.
- One of the current allotment holders had decided to leave and the Clerk was actively looking for a replacement.

9.2 The dates for Parish Council meeting for the rest of the year will be held on the first Monday of the Month apart from July which will be on Monday 11th. July 2022. It was noted that 2023 was a Parish Council election year.

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

10.1 The next meeting (AGM) would be on Monday 9th May 2022. The Annual Parish meeting will be held in the same week on Wednesday 11th May 2022

Items for future discussion

- a) Tennis club Agreement (May meeting)
- b) Queens Jubilee celebration final update (May meeting)
- c) Cesspit repair/pumping station (deferred to June meeting)
- d) Barley Parish Council Facebook page (deferred to May meeting)

The meeting ended at 22.00

