



**Barley Parish Council Meeting: 6th October 2025 at 8pm,
Town House, Church End, Barley.**

Meeting Minutes

PRESENT

Cllr and Vice Chair Ali Hearn, Cllr Jerry Carlisle, Cllr Alan Cayford, Cllr Ian Turner, County Councillor Ruth Brown, District Cllr Martin Prescott, Town House Chair Alan Wiltshire.

IN ATTENDANCE

1 member of the public.

1. Apologies

1.1 The Clerk, Chair Cllr Lee & Cllr Cockrell sent their apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 No declarations of interest were made.

3. Minutes

3.1 The minutes of the Barley Parish Council meeting held on 1st September 2025 were approved, subject to minor amendment to reflect that County Cllr Ruth Brown was in attendance, and that the Fire Brigade visit is scheduled for 17th October not 17th September, and the responsibilities in the Appendix item 4 "Regularisation of access to Town House car park" will be dealt with by JC and YL. The Clerk to rectify. Proposed Cllr Carlisle and Seconded Cllr Cayford.

4. Public Participation

4.1 No matters were raised.

5. Planning

5.1 Ref: 25/02300/LBC - 1 Sells Close Cottages, High Street, Barley, SG8 8HY

Listed Building Consent: Installation of paddle staircase and partition at first floor level including relocating existing doors and removal of existing partition. Formation of loft storage area including repairs to some existing first floor ceilings (development already carried out).

There were no objections to this application raised by the Council.

5.2 Ref: 25/02352/LBC - Daubentons, Manor Farm, Church End, Barley, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 8JW

Listed Building Consent: Insertion of rear bifold doors and windows following removal of existing window (revision of previously approved Listed Building Consent 25/00384/LBC granted 28.05.2025)

There were no objections to this application raised by the Council.

5.3 Ref: 24/00765/FP &

Update on proposed Foxlea Development at The Mount.

The Council noted the papers circulated by Cllr Lee regarding our request for application **Ref: 24/00765/FP** to go to the planning committee for determination rather than being dealt with by Planning Officers under their delegated powers. The Council was pleased to note that our request had been granted.

5.4 Housing Land Supply

Update sent via email from the Development and Conservation Officer at North Hertfordshire Council.

The Council noted the papers circulated by Cllr Lee regarding NHDC 5 year land supply issues.

5.5 Barkway Road, Royston – Proposed Development

Further Update following the consultation held in Royston in September.

The Chair Cllr Hearn reported the NHDC Minutes of the Planning Control Committee and that a decision had been deferred pending further investigation on traffic/Highway issues.

6. Village Speed Management

To agree next steps on investigating future Speed management options.

The Council noted the papers circulated by Cllr Lee from KMC Transport to investigate potential traffic calming measures through Barley in addition to the existing Truvelo cameras and where KMC had proposed a fee of £1450 exc VAT to undertake this overview following discussion the Council agreed to instruct KMC to proceed as outlined.

7. Reports from County/District Councillors

7.1 To receive a report from County Cllr Brown

County Cllr Brown Reported that she is investigating possible suitable signs or signage for Bogmoor Road and Shaftenhoe End and whether the cost of these can be met out of her locality budget.

She also reported that she been contacted by Hertfordshire Highways regarding the proposal for yellow lines on the High St outside the Draytons Close development. She had been asked to advise as to whether or not the Parish Council and residents wished for the yellow lines to be actioned. The Council asked Cllr Brown to confirm to Highways that we did not wish to see these yellow lines installed and indeed request that the existing road markings be properly removed. Cllr Brown agreed to action accordingly.

Cllr Brown confirmed that she had received notification from The Clerk of the Councils requirements in respect of the Salt Supplies and additional Salt Bin in Smiths End Lane.

7.2 To receive a report from District Cllr Prescott

District Councillor Prescott updated the meeting on the new waste bin contract which now seems to have largely settled down satisfactorily.

Councillor Prescott was advised that Highway Cleaning remained an issue in and around the village. While some highway cleaning had been carried out large stretches of road appear to be missed particularly London Road, Church End and High St. Cllr Prescott agreed to continue to press NHDC to significantly improve the service in the village.

Discussion also took place regarding the continued inability of many of the surface water drains to cope with normal/heavy rainfall and the Clerk will be asked to report this again to Hertfordshire Highways.

Also noted was the degradation of the tarmac on the footpath outside Barley Surgery leading to a trip hazard and the overgrown hedge which is restricting the use of the footpath and needs attention by HCC. The Clerk to report.

7.3 To receive an update on the Local Government Reorganisation in Hertfordshire.

Cllrs Brown and Prescott updated the meeting on the proposed Local Government Reorganisation in Hertfordshire. It was noted that the role of Parish Council's was unlikely to be materially affected by any such reorganisation other than perhaps having delegated additional responsibilities currently undertaken by the District and/or County Council.

It was noted that The Clerk had sent round the papers relating to the above.

8. Finance RFO report for the Parish Council

8.1 To consider and approve payments for the Council.

EXPENSES

Payee	Date	Amount	Inv.Ref. our ref	For
Alice Robertson	26/09/2025	£319.05	BPC0032	Clerk gross pay balance Sept & expenses
Lynn Brett	01/10/2025	£292.83	leb 011025	RFO gross pay & expenses Sept
Earth Anchors Ltd	05/09/2025	£1,833.60	EA42054	Picnic Tables
PKF	10/09/2025	£252.00	HT0013	Ann Gov & Acc y/r 31.03.25

TOTAL BPC for approval **£2,697.48**

For Information

Peninsula	26/9/2025	£223.45	U005205118	Paid via DD
Alice Robertson	29/9/2025	£400.00		S/O paid as agreed with BPC

TOTAL BPC for information **£623.45**

PAID/PREVIOUSLY APPROVED

INCOMES

Year to Date

VAT refund	£4,730.85	
Club Room	£9,079.05	Rent & Ins BBP
NHDC precept	£33,564.00	Full Precept
CTRS Grant	£556.66	
CDA Grant		
Other incomes	£275.00	Allotments
Interest	£103.04	
Donations rec'd from TH	£12,471.51	
NHDC Donation	£1,512.00	Donation for benches
TOTAL BPC Incomes	<u>£62,292.11</u>	

Bank Balances Held

account	Balance	as at
Barley Parish Council		
Main	2188	£60,233.03 30/9/2025
Savings	5127	£0.00
TH Sinking Fund	5720	£12,407.02
TOTAL BPC Banks		<u>£72,640.05</u>

Other Sections

Barley Show Profit	£2,317.39	10/7/2024	Final
Barley Show	<u>£11,240.89</u>	07/08/2024	
Barley Tennis Club	<u>£19,694.70</u>	23/1/2025	Bank balances

S137 expenditure limit

24/25	10.81 per elector
25/26	11.1

Precept Requested 25/26	£33,564.00
CTRS	£556.66
Total	<u>£34,120.66</u>

Proposed Cllr Cayford, Seconded Cllr Turner

8.2 Donation request for MAGPAS

The Council agreed to make a donation of £500 to MAGPAS following the training course conducted by them in September and attended by some 30 members of the Parish.

- 8.3 The RFO advised that she was still awaiting details from the Insurance Brokers as to the amount of the new premium for the Parish Council Insurances which were due for renewal on the 1st October 2025. She confirmed that the brokers had confirmed renewal to the insurers so there is no break in insurance cover but the quantum of the premium had not yet been confirmed. This was expected within the next couple of days when the RFO would circulate the details for approval by the Council.

9. Finance RFO report for the Town House Charity (As sole Trustee)

9.1 To consider and approve payments for the Town House Charity (as Sole Trustee).

EXPENSES

Payee	Date	Amount	Inv.Ref. our ref	For
Elvira Gusejnova	23/09/2025	£516.00	Jul-Sept 25	Ella's fees and expenses Jul-Sept 25
Swift Fire & Safety	23/09/2025	£191.80	14508	Fire extinguisher & blanket annual service
Swift Fire & Safety	24/09/2025	£296.64	14549	Call out defective control panel
Swift Fire & Safety	23/09/2025	£571.20	14507	6 Monthly service of alarm & lighting
Alan Wiltshire	29/09/2025	£174.00	0908/00278342	Blue Slate Chippings for TH
Caley Clark	01/10/2025	£90.00	Sep-25	Cleaning Town House
Kevin Starling	03/10/2025	£40.00		Tidying Town House
TOTAL TH for approval		<u>£1,879.64</u>		TO APPROVE FOR PAYMENT

For Information

PNET	23/9/2025	£26.99	PNET 3948488-1 TH	paid by DD
NHDC	1/9/2025	£47.00	TH	paid by DD (none Feb/march)
Octopus	11/9/2025	£80.44	KI-6BAF094A-0036 TH	Electricity supply DD monthly charge
Everflow Ltd	23/9/2025	£49.79	4699949 TH	Water supply DD

TOTAL TH for Information

£204.22

PAID/PREVIOUSLY APPROVED

INCOMES

Year to Date

Town House YTD	£12,375.00	30/09/2025
BPC Donation		
Bank Interest	40.01	
TH Events	£1,164.82	
TOTAL TH Incomes	<u>£13,579.83</u>	

Bank Balances Held

	account	Balance	as at
Barley Town House			
Main	3265	£36,055.29	30/9/2025
Deposits	8330	£6,100.00	
Savings	8104	£6,053.96	
		<u>£48,209.25</u>	

Deposits

Opening balance	£6,150.00	
Received	£400.00	
Refunded		
Trf to main ac	-£450.00	
Closing Balance	<u>£6,100.00</u>	30/9/2025

Proposed Cllr Cayford, Seconded Cllr Turner

10. Reports from Working Parties, Committees and Portfolio Holders

10.1 Town House Charity (as Sole Trustee)

To receive a report from the Chairman of the Town House Charity Committee together with confirmation that all necessary safety checks have been carried out.

The Chairman reported that maintenance work had recently been carried out to the flower beds at the front of the building and that all rainwater gulleys had been cleared.

He reported that the “Call My Wine Bluff” fundraising event was being held on the 11th October to raise funds for The Town House.

Cllr Cayford reported that the H&S checks had been undertaken and that Swift Fire and Safety had been called in to deal with a number of issues to do with the control panel and to undertake the annual service of the Fire Extinguishers and emergency fire alarm and exits.

10.2 Plaistow, Children’s Playground, Green areas

10.2.1 To receive a report from Cllr Cayford and note any issues arising in the Plaistow together with confirmation that all necessary weekly safety checks have been carried out.

Cllr Cayford reported that the two new Picnic benches had been installed and the old benches and tables had been disposed of. He noted that some minor repairs were required to the fencing which he would be dealing with shortly and that the kissing gate at the bottom of the Plaistow requires some maintenance work. As this forms part of the footpath leading from Picknagge Road to Bankside, Hertfordshire Rights of Way are to be advised.

11. Items of Correspondence

11.1 Request of Public Liability Insurance confirmation from Fields in Trust (Plaistow)

The RFO reported that she had passed to The Clerk the necessary details of the Council's Public Liability insurance to enable this to be passed to Fields In Trust. Following the renewal of the Council's Insurances effective 1st October 2025 a copy of the new PL details will also need to be forwarded to Fields in Trust for the forth coming year.

12. Items for future discussion

12.1 The Village Bench Maintenance Project

Cllr Cayford has been reviewing the need for repairs to the various benches around the village but with a view to prioritising those most urgent need of attention.

13. Date of next Barley Parish meeting and items for the agenda

To note the date of next Parish Council Meeting which will be 3rd November 2025. Cllr Brown advised that she would unfortunately not be able to attend.

Contact: **Alice Robertson, Clerk to Barley Parish Council**
clerk@barleyparishcouncil.gov.uk