



**Barley Parish Council meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 at 8pm,  
Town House, Church End, Barley.**

**Meeting Minutes**

**PRESENT**

1.1 Cllr Jerry Carlisle (Chair), Cllr Alan Cayford, Cllr Hearn, Cllr Ian Turner, District Cllr Martin Prescott, County Cllr Fiona Hill, Cllr Neil Cockrell, Cllr Yvonne Lee, Nick Shaw,

**IN ATTENDANCE**

7 members of the public.

**1. Apologies**

1.1 None.

**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 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024 were approved as a true and accurate record of proceedings. Proposed Cllr Cayford, Seconded by Cllr Turner

**4. Public Participation**

4.1 None

**5. Planning**

5.1 **Reference: 24/01692/FPH (Deadline 6<sup>th</sup> September)** - Full Permission Householder: Erection of detached outbuilding with external stairs to access first floor office space and incorporating 4no. roof-lights following demolition of existing outbuilding and shed.  
Wellside Cottage, Smiths End Lane, Barley, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 8LJ

Barley Parish Council considered this application at this meeting and unanimously resolved as follows:

Barley Parish Council object to this planning application and ask North Herts Council in arriving at their own decision to take the following comments into account.

We note that the application site is outside the Defined Village Boundary for Barley and lies within the Rural Area beyond the Green Belt of the recently adopted Local Plan. It is also within the Barley Conservation Area.

It is our view that the design, size, scale, and bulk of the proposed development is excessive. Due to the elevation of the site its orientation and position on the bend of Smiths End Lane, the proposal will unacceptably dominate the frontage to the site such that it will have a significant and detrimental impact on the Conservation Area.

The proposal will be almost twice the size in terms of height, depth and floor area of the existing outbuildings that it seeks to replace. It is our view that any proposed replacement for the existing outbuildings should be single storey only and not materially taller or with a ground floor footprint materially larger than the existing structures it seeks to replace.

We also note the indicated use of the proposal is as an office and gym with very limited storage. The lack of external storage or garaging facilities was noted in our response to the applicant's recent application No 24/00573/FPH which this current application does not really address.

The proposed development would also appear to limit onsite car parking and vehicular turning ability such that vehicles entering the site may have to reverse back onto the road to exit which would be less than satisfactory particularly given the bend in the road.

For all the above reasons we would ask that North Herts Council refuse this application.

However if NHC are nevertheless minded to approve the application we would ask that the use and occupation of the proposed development be restricted to the use and occupation of the main house and for no other purpose and also that all and any Permitted Development Rights be withdrawn.

**5.2 Reference: 24/01581/FPH (Deadline 6<sup>th</sup> September)** Full Permission Householder: Single storey rear extension and demolition of existing east elevation chimney stack. Lantern Lodge, Smiths End Lane, Barley, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 8LL

Barley Parish Council considered this application at this meeting and agreed there were no objections.

**5.3 Ref: DM/6006/24** ~ Proposed Waiting Restrictions in High Street, Barley, Royston **(On hold)**

HCC advised BPC that they have instructed the developer to remove the yellow lines they prematurely painted. HCC confirmed that this consultation is on hold until further notice.

Cllr Lee commented on the recent disinterest from Highways on development applications in Barley and the impact they will have on our highways. Cllr Lee warns of the same issue likely to occur at the recently approved Picknagge Road development application **Planning Ref: 23/02948/FP**— and that we can anticipate more problems at this site.

**5.4 Reference: 24/01558/LBC Replacement of windows at Town House Church End, Barley, Hertfordshire, SG8 8JW**

Of the 16 windows requiring eventual replacement it will be necessary to obtain planning and/or listed building consent for them all. Initially however design work and listed building consent for only the four first floor windows facing the church will be pursued and finalised. The Council confirmed hardwood is their preference for sustainability and longevity. It had been suggested by the NHDC Conservation Officer that replication of existing ironmongery was preferred if possible and the Council requested that the Town House Committee look into the options and potential local suppliers.

## 6. Finance RFO report

6.1. To consider and approve payments for the Council.

### Barley Parish Council

#### EXPENSES

Payee	Date	Amount	For
Alice Robertson	28/07/2024	£178.00	Clerk gross pay balance July
Lynn Brett	21/08/2024	£577.28	RFO gross pay & expenses
PFK	2/8/2024	£378.00	Audit fee y/e 31.3.24
CDA Herts	30/7/2024	£36.00	Membership Fee 1.9.24-31.8.25
Broadmead Lesisure	23/8/2024	£368.40	Playground repairs
Adcock refrigeration	27/8/2024	£294.00	Routine AC mtc-recoverable
<b>TOTAL BPC for approval</b>		<b><u>£1,831.68</u></b>	<b>TO APPROVE FOR PAYMENT</b>

#### **For Information**

Peninsula	26/7/2024	£223.45	Paid via DD
Alice Robertson	28/7/2024	£400.00	S/O paid as agreed with BPC
Stewart Bullard	11/07/2024	£222.48	2nd cut footpath pd 18/07/24
Peninsula	27/08/2024	£223.45	Paid via DD
Alice Robertson	28/08/2024	£400.00	S/O paid as agreed with BPC
<b>TOTAL BPC for information</b>		<b><u>£1,469.38</u></b>	<b>PAID/PREVIOUSLY APPROVED</b>

#### INCOMES

	Year to Date	
VAT refund	£2,020.59	
Club Room	£4,500.00	Rent & Ins BBP
NHDC precept	£16,000.00	First Half precept
CTRS Grant	£271.51	
CDA Grant		
Other incomes	£165.00	Allotments
Interest	£51.59	
Barclays Bank	£150.00	Compensation
Alice Robertson	£2,295.00	Goal Donation
<b>TOTAL BPC Incomes</b>	<b><u>£25,453.69</u></b>	

#### Bank Balances Held

account	Balance
<b>Barley Parish Council</b>	
Main	2188 £34,096.81
Savings	5127 £0.00
TH Sinking Fund	5720 £13,845.22
<b>TOTAL BPC Banks</b>	<b><u>£47,942.03</u></b>

#### Other Sections

Barley Show Profit	£1,004.06	Final
<b>Barley Show</b>	<b><u>£12,820.98</u></b>	
<b>Barley Tennis Club</b>	<b><u>£13,019.60</u></b>	Bank balances

<b>Precept Requested 24/25</b>	£32,000.00
CTRS	£543.02
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£32,543.02</u></b>

The Payments were agreed. Proposed Cllr Turner, Seconded Cllr Cayford

6.2 The RFO advised that the Parish Council Insurance is due for renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and is a Long Term Agreement so there is no need to seek alternative quotations at this time. However the sums insured set out in the Council's Asset Register have been reviewed to make sure that insurance values are realistic. The insurers are considering whether the overall changes in the sums insured will affect the premium.

6.3 The Clerk confirmed receipt of our external AGAR report. And which has been posted on the Council website and noticeboards.

**7.0 To consider and approve payments for The Town House Charity (as Sole Trustee)**

**Barley Town House Charity**

**EXPENSES**

Payee	Date	Amount	For
Elvira Gusejnova	26/07/2024	£345.50	Lettings Jun-Jul 24
Nick Shaw		£367.00	July/Aug expenses
N White Plumbing	01/09/2024	£193.96	Kitchen leak
D Partt Barley Mtc	30/08/2024	£72.00	Lower kitchen tap/flower bed edging
<b>TOTAL TH for approval</b>		<b><u>£978.46</u></b>	<b>TO APPROVE FOR PAYMENT</b>

**For Information**

PNET	23/07/2024	£28.04	paid by DD
NHDC	1/7/2024	£37.00	paid by DD (none Feb/march)
Octopus	16/07/2024	£190.89	Electricity supply DD monthly charge
Octopus			Electricity supply DD Est £865 outstanding
Everflow Ltd	23/07/2024	44.52	Water supply DD
N Shaw	16/07/2024	458.85	June Exps pd 18/07/24
Sapele Design	15/07/2024	1,200.00	Drawings for TH pd 18/07/24
NHDC	01/08/2024	37.00	paid by DD (none Feb/march)
Everflow Ltd	23/08/2024	43.09	Water supply DD
PNET	23/08/2024	28.04	paid by DD
<b>TOTAL TH for Information</b>		<b><u>£2,067.43</u></b>	<b>PAID/PREVIOUSLY APPROVED</b>

**INCOMES**

**Year to Date**

Town House YTD	£13,785.00	
BPC Donation	£5,777.18	Donation re Insurance
Bank Interest	22.16	
<b>TOTAL TH Incomes</b>	<b><u>£19,584.34</u></b>	

**Bank Balances Held**

account Balance

**Barley Town House**

Main	3265	£40,739.29
Deposits	8330	£3,760.00
Savings	8104	£5,948.18
		<b><u>£50,447.47</u></b>

**Deposits**

Opening balance	£3,360.00
Received	£400.00
Refunded	
Trf to main ac	
Closing Balance	<b><u>£3,760.00</u></b>

**The payments were agreed. Proposed Cllr Turner, Seconded Cllr Cayford**

## **8. Reports from County/District Councillors**

### **8.1 To receive a report from County Cllr Hill**

Cllr Hill reported that:

- Summer reading challenge finished on the 7<sup>th</sup> September which has closed and was really successful.
- The Winter self help scheme has been launched again for 2024 and advised free salt is available on application.
- The Highways Action Plan has been updated and sent to all parties.
- Lloyds in Royston is due to close shortly. The banking Hub location is yet to be confirmed.
- There is a proposal of a junior park run in Royston with funding and location in development.
- The Armed Forces Covenant application is ongoing.
- A Cybercrime protection evening is being held on the 8<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm in Royston Town Hall presented by the Police. Running Time is 90 mins.

### **8.2 To receive a report from Cllr Martin Prescott**

Cllr Prescott reported that:

- A meeting with the cleansing team here in Barley has been organised.
- Street Cleaning has happened this month but noted reports of missed areas.
- There is a potential Grant for internal defibrillators available. The Clerk suggested perhaps the Phone Box in Smith's End Lane might be an appropriate location. It was agreed The Clerk will investigate viability.

## **9. Reports from Working Parties, Committees and Portfolio Holders**

### **9.1 Town House Charity**

- Cllr Cayford confirmed all weekly Health and Safety checks had been carried out and there were no particular items to report.
- Clerk as organised the Fire Risk Assessment and Health and Safety Review with Peninsula for 1<sup>st</sup> Oct at 10am.

### **9.2 Plaistow & Green Areas**

9.2.1 Cllr Cayford carried out weekly checks on the playground and Plaistow. No further issues to report other than outstanding caps and other fixes to be completed by Broadmead Leisure.

9.2.2 One of the Paving steps down to the Tennis Courts is broken. The Council agreed that it is for the Tennis Club to replace. It was agreed that the Clerk will follow up with the Tennis Club.

9.2.3 Proposed works to improve the footpath from Church End to the Plaistow, and the need to highlight the uneven ground on the footpath from the Cricket Club to Shafterhoe End past Lovely View Stables' fields are ongoing with HCC Countryside and Rights of Way Department.

9.2.4 Allotment maintenance – the hedge has been cut, with overgrown plots still to be cleared. Updated Agreements will be finalised in the coming weeks and sent to existing and new plot users.

9.2.5 The Probation Service have said they can undertake basic repairs required for the Village Bench Project where benches with minimal deterioration (50%) in and around the village need to be repaired. They advised they would need equipment and materials to be provided. The other 50% that need radical repair would be undertaken by Brian Haughey and team. A quote for the hardwood material required for the project is estimated at £900-£1000. The Clerk will investigate a possible grant available by HCC that may be suitable to help us with the cost of materials for this project.

## **10. Clerks Report**

10.1 Migrating to .gov email addresses is now completed.

10.2 Parish Notice Boards need maintenance. The Clerk to look into this.

10.2.1 Enquiries into getting a Bus Shelter for the local bus route outside Richmonds Garage is ongoing and we are still waiting to hear from Highways on viability.

10.3 The Clerk will follow up with Dave King to purchase and plant of a replacement Rowan tree for the Plaistow.

10.3.1 Cllr Hearn advised that the Defibrillator at Barley Surgery has had its power turned off twice. She advised she spoke with the surgery to ensure they don't turn it off going forward and will keep an eye on it. The Clerk will write to the surgery to ask them not to turn it off.

**11. Items of correspondence.**

11.1 Correspondence from a member of the public was received regarding overgrown footpaths around the village. The Clerk advised she would contact the property owners who own the encroaching trees, hedges and plants to request a cut back.

**12. Items for future discussion**

12.1 The Village Speed Cameras – The Clerk advised we are waiting on a cost break down from the PCC to determine costs and responsibilities for Barley Parish Council to consider, should we decide to continue with the Tuvelo Camera Scheme when the pilot scheme ends in April 2025.

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

The date of next Parish Council Meeting which will be 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024 commencing at 8pm.

**Contact: Alice Robertson, Clerk to Barley Parish Council**  
**[Barley.pariahclerk@gmail.com](mailto:Barley.pariahclerk@gmail.com)**