



**Barley Parish Council Meeting: 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at 8pm,  
Town House, Church End, Barley.**

**Meeting Minutes**

**PRESENT**

Cllr and Chair Yvonne Lee, Cllr and Vice Chair Ali Hearn, Cllr Jerry Carlisle, Cllr Alan Cayford, Cllr Ian Turner, District Cllr Martin Prescott, Clerk Alice Robertson, Town House Chairman Alan Wiltshire.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

2 members of the public.

**1. Apologies**

1.1 RFO Lynn Brett, Cllr Neil Cockrell and County Cllr Ruth Brown 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 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 were approved aside from a very minor change to a sentence, as a true and accurate record of proceedings. Proposed Cllr Carlisle, Seconded Cllr Turner.

**4. Public Participation**

4.1 No matters raised.

**5. Planning**

5.1 **Ref: 24/00765/FP - Full Planning Permission (AMENDED) Foxlea, The Mount, Barley, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 8JH: Erection of two 4 bed dwellings and one 2-bed chaletbungalow with detached garage and home office with associated parking, amenity space and access to the site through the existing access off The Mount.**

The Meeting agreed to request to have this planning application called in for consideration by the NHDC Planning Committee. Cllr Prescott will advise on the date when this is received.

5.2 **Ref: 25/00309/FP –Full Planning Permission: Ivy's Cottage, Smiths End Lane, Barley, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 8LH. Erection of one detached self-build 2-bed retirement dwelling and ancillary works – AMENDED.**

It was confirmed that Ivy Cottage has been called in to committee on the 17<sup>th</sup> July. Cllr Lee will attend.

- 5.3 **Planning application 21/00765/OP: Land off Barkway Road and North of Flint Hall, Barkway Road, Royston, Hertfordshire. Outline application for residential development of up to 280 dwellings (including affordable housing) green infrastructure including public open space, landscape boundaries and SUDS with all matters reserved except for access which is to be taken from Barkway Road (as amended 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025).**

A “New plan for Royston” leaflet (see Appendix) has been received in relation to the above proposed development citing the improvements in road lay out that the development will bring. However, it was noted that any proposed road changes are only focused in Royston itself. There still appears to be a lack of consideration of the potential impact on the neighbouring villages of Barley and Barkway. The meeting agreed for Cllr Lee to contact the applicant to invite him to engage with the villages and to hear our concerns. Cllr Prescott advised a joint effort with Barkway Parish Council on this matter could be beneficial. The Clerk to follow up.

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

### **6.1 To receive a report from County Councillor Ruth Brown**

County Councillor Ruth Brown was not present but sent the following report:

*The following highways improvements have been completed:*

#### *1. Church End, Barley drainage issues*

*Upon investigation, it was found that the public house had blocked its former rear entrance with a brick wall, which led to water ponding on the footway. To address this, the kerb and footway levels were raised to ensure surface water runoff remains on the carriageway and flows into the surface water drainage system.*

#### *2. Faded road markings identified in a number of locations throughout the village have been refreshed.*

- 6.1.1 Cllr Turner advised that the work Highways have advised needs doing on the Hedge on London Road which is currently due in August has not been confirmed if going ahead, or how much of the Hedge will be affected. The Clerk agreed to follow up with Cllr Brown and Highways for clarification.

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

Cllr Prescott advised that information about the new Waste Service Change by the Council has been sent around to residents. The Clerk advised that not all the villagers have received their bins. Cllr Prescott confirmed he will advise NHDC.

The Clerk confirmed that a Street Cleaning schedule has been requested from NHDC but have not received a response. The Clerk has also reported increased litter on verges around the village as well. Cllr Prescott advised he will follow up with NHDC too.

Cllr Hearn suggested posting information on how to report a full public litter bin to NHDC to the facebook page. The Clerk to action.

## 7. Finance RFO report

To consider and approve payments for the Council.

### EXPENSES

Payee	Amount	For
Alice Robertson	£329.99	Clerk gross pay balance June & expenses
Lynn Brett	£506.68	RFO gross pay & expenses June
Broadmead Leisure	£108.00	Quarterly Inspection village playground 4/6/25
Hardcastle Burton LLP	£1,074.00	Internal audit for year end 31.05.25
Adcock	£294.00	Club room servicing approved at meeting 7/7/25
J Drury	£6,200.00	TH windows approved by TH committee 7/7/25
<b>TOTAL BPC for approval</b>	<b><u>£8,512.67</u></b>	

### **For Information**

Peninsula	£223.45	Paid via DD
Alice Robertson	£400.00	S/O paid as agreed with BPC
J Drury	£7,200.00	2nd payment for TH windows authorised R Emerson pd 03/07/25
Lucas Lin	£150.00	Final payment for TH windows pd 03/07/25
<b>TOTAL BPC for information</b>	<b><u>£7,973.45</u></b>	<b>PAID/PREVIOUSLY APPROVED</b>

### INCOMES

#### **Year to Date**

VAT refund	£431.08	
Club Room	£4,079.05	Rent & Ins BBP
NHDC precept	£16,782.00	1st Half precept
CTRS Grant	£278.33	
CDA Grant		
Other incomes	£275.00	Allotments
Interest	£58.80	
Donations rec'd from TH	£12,471.51	
<b>TOTAL BPC Incomes</b>	<b><u>£34,375.77</u></b>	

### Bank Balances Held

#### **Balance**

#### **Barley Parish Council**

Main	£53,384.96
Savings	£0.00
TH Sinking Fund	£12,362.78
<b>TOTAL BPC Banks</b>	<b><u>£65,747.74</u></b>

### Other Sections

Barley Show Profit	£2,317.39	Final
<b>Barley Show</b>	<b><u>£11,240.89</u></b>	
<b>Barley Tennis Club</b>	<b><u>£19,694.70</u></b>	Bank balances

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

The Payments were agreed. **Proposed Cllr Turner, Seconded Cllr Hearn.**

## 8.0 To consider and approve payments for The Town House Charity (as Sole Trustee)

### EXPENSES

Payee	Amount	For
Elvira Gusejnova	£856.00	Elia fees and cleaning
North Herts Council	£120.77	Trade refuse service 01.07 - 30.9.25
Swift Fire & Safety	£144.00	Fire Alarm 6th monthly service
<b>TOTAL TH for approval</b>	<b><u>£1,120.77</u></b>	<b>TO APPROVE FOR PAYMENT</b>

### **For Information**

PNET	£26.53	paid by DD
NHDC	£47.00	paid by DD (none Feb/march)
Octopus	£132.88	Electricity supply DD monthly charge
Everflow Ltd	£49.79	Water supply DD
NHDC	£47.00	paid by DD (none Feb/march)
<b>TOTAL TH for Information</b>	<b><u>£303.20</u></b>	<b>PAID/PREVIOUSLY APPROVED</b>

### INCOMES

#### **Year to Date**

Town House YTD	£7,505.00
BPC Donation	£19.98
Bank Interest	
<b>TOTAL TH Incomes</b>	<b><u>£7,524.98</u></b>

### Bank Balances Held

#### **Balance**

#### **Barley Town House**

Main	£32,288.16
Deposits	£5,900.00
Savings	£6,033.93
	<b><u>£44,222.09</u></b>

### Deposits

Opening balance	£5,000.00
Received	£1,650.00
Refunded	-£300.00
Trf to main ac	-£450.00
Closing Balance	<b><u>£5,900.00</u></b>

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

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

### **9.1 Town House Charity**

9.1.1 The window replacement is almost complete.

9.1.2 Cllr Cayford advised that the Health and Safety Checks in the Townhouse have been undertaken and no issues have been raised.

9.1.3 Cllr Turner advised the sound system changes will be fully implemented by the end of the week.

The Town House Chairman expressed concern at the perceived intervention by Parish Councillors in the current windows project and considered this to be counterproductive. The Chair said that this was certainly not the intention, the circumstances were unique, and it should not happen in the future. The concerns of the Town House Committee Chair were noted.

The meeting was advised, Nick Shaw, the previous Town House Chairman has been presented with a gift and given thanks for his long-standing hard work and commitment to the Town House Charity over the years. The meeting endorsed those sentiments and added their vote of thanks for Nick's service to the village.

The Clerk advised the meeting that a complaint had been received about the care of the benches outside the Town House during the window replacement project. The meeting agreed that both the Parish Council and the Town House Committee would write with apologies.

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

9.2.1 Following the ROSPA report and recommendations to renew the Multiplay slide surface in the playground in the Plaistow, the Clerk confirmed she had received a quote from Broadmead Leisure who originally installed the playground equipment, to do the work at a cost of £350. The meeting agreed the quote and asked the Clerk to action. Proposed Cllr Turner, Seconder Cllr Cayford.

9.2.2 There has been no update regarding the footpath 006 and its new resurfacing. The Clerk has followed this up and awaits a response.

9.2.3 The meeting agreed that Cllr Carlisle will follow up on the Tennis Club Agreement with the Tennis Club.

9.2.4 The Clerk and Cllr Cayford followed up with Peninsula (Health and Safety) regarding the dip in the ground in the middle of the static football goal, who advised this is a normal wear and tear and it could be filled at a suitable time in the future. The meeting agreed to wait to see if it degraded further and will review it in the coming months again.

9.2.5 Cllr Turner advised that the bridge on the Royston Road should be completed by the end of week but that it had been observed that the ditch here is blocked. The Clerk was asked to contact Anglian Water to ask them to investigate.

9.2.6 The Clerk advised we were successfully awarded a grant of £1,512 to replace the two decaying wooden picnic benches in the Playground and the money should be with us in the coming days. The meeting agreed the Clerk should action and order the two new recycled plastic picnic benches and to arrange disposal of the old ones.

**10. Clerks Report**

The Clerk reported that:

- 10.1 A Dog waste bin has been successfully installed in Green Lane/Butterfield.
- 10.2 The Clerk confirmed there is a proposed meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioners Office in July. Cllr Turner & Cllr Lee to attend with the date to be confirmed. In addition, further research into Truvelo Camera alternatives will commence.
- 10.3 There is grass and earth encroachment on London Road pavement causing narrowing of the tarmacked surface making access difficult for mobility users and young families with buggies. The Clerk was asked to approach Highways to clear.
- 10.4 It was agreed that the Clerk and Cllr Carlisle will visit Drayton's residents, whose property abuts the villages main surface water run-off ditch, to advise of responsibility to ensure the ditch is kept clear of debris.
- 10.5 The new tree planted in the Plaistow, is dying likely due to lack of water. The Clerk has watered it but it needs looking at weekly in this heat during green inspections.
- 10.6 There was a fallen drain cover at the new development on Picknag Road. Cllr Carlisle and the Clerk attended and the Clerk notified Planning Control; it has now been rectified.
- 10.7 The Clerk has liaised with the Probation Service who have confirmed that the Village Bench Project is not something they can help with at this time. The Clerk and Cllr Cayford agreed to walk and review some of the condition of the 41 wooden benches around the village, before the next meeting in September. Cllr Hearn suggested this could be a good project for the Scouts to help with.
- 10.8 The meeting discussed the cars that have been reported using the Town House Carpark over multiple days. It was agreed to see what the response is following a notice for removal on Facebook and through leafleting the cars, before agreeing further action.

**11. Date of next Barley Parish meeting**

The date of next Parish Council Meeting will be 1<sup>st</sup> September, commencing at 8pm.

**Contact: Alice Robertson, Clerk to Barley Parish Council**  
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