

**MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF BARLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE TOWN HOUSE ON MONDAY 8th JANUARY 2018**

1. Present

Cllr Jerry Carlisle (Chairman), Cllr Ian Turner, Cllr Yvonne Lee, Cllr Mel Chammings, Cllr Bill Sterland, Mr Tim Martin (RFO)

There were no members of the public in attendance

2. Apologies

District Cllr Gerald Morris, County Cllr Fiona Hill, Cllr Tony Hunter, Laura Childs (Clerk), Cllr Peter McPartland

3. Councillor's declaration of interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

4. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th December 2017 were read and approved. Proposed by Cllr Sterland and seconded by Cllr Chammings.

5. Matters arising

Cllr Tony Hunter has advised that the earliest date that can be arranged to meet with Police Crime Commissioner David Lloyd is 7th March 2018. However as not everybody who would wish to attend that meeting is available on that day an alternative date is being sought.

Mr Graham Clark had advised the Clerk prior to the meeting that there was nothing further to report as he had not been able to meet with the police since the last meeting due to the officers concerned being away unwell. However he understood that there was no speed enforcement activity during the last month due to other police priorities over the holiday period. (Post meeting note – speed enforcement was being undertaken by the police mid-afternoon on Tuesday 9th January 2018 on Cambridge Rd).

The drainage investigatory works originally scheduled for November 2017 along Gt Chishill Road have unfortunately, due to road closure issues, still not been rescheduled but it was still hoped that these would take place in February 2018. The necessary remedial works to the raised road gully on Gt Chishill Rd have also still not been carried out. As the situation is getting worse and becoming more dangerous to traffic it was agreed that Cllr Hill be asked to request Hertfordshire Highways to attend to this as a matter of urgency as we do not consider it can wait until the rest of the drainage investigation work is undertaken, as we understand has been suggested, particularly as no date has yet been set for that work to be carried out.

Responsibility for the trees on Bankside remains unresolved and Cllr Carlisle will continue to press for the issue to be clarified. Responsibility lies either with North Hertfordshire Homes Housing Association or with NHDC or with Herts County Council Highways. All of these currently deny responsibility.

The Clerk advised that she has contacted Julia Clark, of Herts County Council Rights of Way Officer advising of the damaged footpath signs and also Mr Gary Henning at Herts County Council about other road signs around the village which appear to be Highways responsibility.

Cllr Carlisle reported that he is to arrange to meet Mr Tony West of the British Legion regarding any further works that may be needed to the War Memorial ahead of the Centenary Commemorations later this year.

In Cllr McPartland's absence there was nothing further to report regarding the ongoing updating of the new website.

Cllr Carlisle and Mr Tim Martin are to arrange a meeting with Mr Jack Shepherd and any other interested parties about future ownership of, funding for, and insurance arrangements for the village marquees. Separately discussions should be held about the Annual Flower Show and whether following the disbanding of the Village Show Committee there is any interest from other members of the community to form a new committee to continue with the Village Show which has traditionally taken place in conjunction with the Flower Show.

6. Planning

Spindrifft, Picknag Road, Barley Royston SG8 8HS

Section 73 Application: Change from flat roof to low mono pitch and change of material on walls of single storey rear dining room (as per planning permission 16/02218/1HH for two storey side extension granted 11/11/2017). Case Ref. 17/02757/S73

There were no objections to this application.

Hilltop, Pudding Lane, Barley. Case ref:17/02530/1

Cllr Carlisle reported that despite this councils' objections this application has been approved by NHDC. The planning officers report and recommendation can be viewed on the NHDC planning website.

7. Town House

Mr Nick Shaw, Chairman of the Town House Management Committee, advised that Mr Darren Partt was expected to commence work on re-plastering and repainting the store room etc during the last week of January 2018 and that the new fridge has been delivered and installed.

Following discussions with Drew and Baltrop a new safety check list particular to any events and other activities being carried out in the Town House is being prepared. The form of the letting agreement to be signed by hirers of the building is being reviewed to ensure that there is no ambiguity regarding the insurance provisions.

8. Budget / Precept 2018/2019

Mr Martin reviewed with the meeting the figures which had been amended as per the meeting in December and now updated to include new costs for the Lock-Up. The meeting agreed the new budget and it was unanimously agreed that the precept would be kept at £22,000 for 2018-19. The RFO will forward the budget to the Clerk who will write to NHDC to confirm this.

9. Financial Officers Report & Signing of Payments

Mr Martin reported that the following payments are now due:-

Parish Council

HMRC	PAYE for last quarter	£400.80
HAPTC	Councillor Training	£ 40.00
Mrs Laura Childs	Clerk fees (December) & office expenses	£306.00
Mr Tim Martin	RFO (November) & stationary	£255.36
Curwens	Legal fees re Club Room rent memorandum	£144.00
NHDC	Emptying the dog bins	£481.20

It was agreed that all these payments should be made

Proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Sterland

10. Town House

Mrs Alison Stacey	Letting Officer fee (December) & caretaking	£ 133.25
Mrs Carole Robinson	Cleaning (December) & materials	£ 91.60

It was agreed that all of these payments should be made

Proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Sterland.

It was noted that the following authorised payment had been made between meetings:-

Nick Shaw	Reimbursement for cost of fridge freezer	£618.98
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The bank statements and balances of accounts were distributed and reviewed.

11. Recreation Ground

Cllr Turner advised that there was very little to report this month and everything appeared to be in order. With the recent inclement weather he has not been able to empty the waste bins but would do so at the earliest opportunity.

Cllr Carlisle has still to confirm in writing to Mr Jo Zygmunt, Chairman of the Tennis Club, that the Parish Council have no objection to the Tennis Clubs plans for a small temporary timber shelter by the side of the tennis courts and which he hoped to deal with by the next meeting.

12. General Data Protection Regulations

Cllr Chamings advised that Drew and Baltrop do not provide advice in relation to the Data Protection Regulations and has therefore advised HAPTC that we wish to instruct them to provide the necessary advice on the terms previously discussed. Otherwise there was nothing further to report at this time.

11. Scout Hut

Cllr Carlisle advised that there was nothing further to report. The councils' solicitors, Curwens, were still waiting to hear from the Scouts Association following their latest letter to the tenant trying to bring the matter to a satisfactory conclusion.

13. Lock Up

Cllr Lee advised that Between Times have now been instructed to proceed and had agreed with them appropriate measures to deal with the necessary CDM Regulation requirements and is awaiting confirmation of their proposed start date.

14. Health & Safety

Cllr Chamings reported that she met with Drew and Baltrop last month to carry out the necessary fire risk assessment for the Town House in respect of which there was nothing of any significance to report.

15. Correspondence

All correspondence received is to be distributed amongst the councillors.

16. Any Other Business

The Clerk has written to Mrs Karen Newham, Barley Charities Secretary, to confirm our nomination of Mrs Sharon Slater as the Barley Parish Council representative but due to Mrs Newham's current indisposition we have been asked to send a copy to Mr Geoffrey Wilkerson who is the current Chairman of the Trustees for the record.

Cllr Carlisle reported that the Club Room rent review memorandum with Bright Advertising has been completed.

Cllr Carlisle referred to the request that has been received from Barkway Parish Council for support for a possible HGV weight restriction along the B1368 to deter HGV's from using the road as a short cut to avoid Royston town centre. The meeting felt that while such a restriction would be desirable, given the large number of HGV's passing through the village, the effectiveness of any such restriction was likely to be limited because of the exemptions that would be required for those HGV's serving local farms and businesses throughout the year. It was agreed that the Clerk was to be asked to respond to Barkway PC lending our support in principle but noting our concerns.

Cllr Carlisle reported that he had received an email from Mr R Taylor to advise that an Automatic External Defibrillator was to be sited on the outside of Barley Surgery for use in emergencies. Mr Taylor is also able to arrange familiarisation sessions for the village on its use. It was agreed that Cllr Carlisle should thank Mr Taylor and his colleague Peter Homent of Friends of Royston Healthcare for their efforts in securing the defibrillator and to ask that he did arrange a "teach in" for the village on its use and operation.

Next meeting date 5th February 2018

Meeting finished 21:50