

Barton Parish Council Annual Meeting
Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17th May 2022
Barton Village Hall, 7.30pm

In attendance

Cllr J Parker, Cllr R Hacking , Cllr Smith, Cllr Lees, Cllr Tomlinson

Melissa Thorpe (clerk)

Parishioners as per the attendance book

Apologies

Cllr S Whittam, Cllr S Thompson, Cllr K Middlebrough

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIR** – Cllr Hacking to continue for a further 12-month period

2. **ELECTION OF VICE– CHAIR** Cllr Parker to continue for a further 12-month period

3. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES

3.1 Preston Area Committee - Cllr Hacking & Cllr Parker to remain as the parish council representatives

3.2 BB&M War Memorial Committee – Cllr Hacking & Cllr Tomlinson to remain as the parish council representatives

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the last meeting

Approved as a true and accurate record

6. TO ACCEPT DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND TO CONSIDER ANY WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS - Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal / prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda. If the personal interest is a prejudicial interest or there is a disclosable pecuniary interest, then the individual member should not participate in a discussion or vote on the matter and must withdraw from the meeting and not seek to influence a decision unless a dispensation request has been submitted in writing. At the start of each municipal year Members are requested to check, and update their notification of interest forms.

None

7. ADMINISTRATION - Members are asked to confirm the following administrative / financial procedures or the 23/24 meeting cycle:

a. Meetings will continue to be held at Barton Village Hall or at least 5 times a year to include a parish meeting and AGM in the month of May.

All agreed

8. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2022-23

The internal audit report was not available for the May meeting but will be made available to Cllrs in June 2023 before the accounts are submitted for external audit.

9. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2022/23 FOR BARTON PARISH COUNCIL – Members are requested to approve the Annual Governance Statement for 2022/23 (Section 1) in advance of approving the Accounting Statement and the Chairman is requested to sign the appropriate documentation.

Approved.

10. EXTERNAL AUDIT ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2022/23 FOR BARTON PARISH COUNCIL- Members are requested to consider for approval the Accounting Statements 2022/23 (section 2) in relation to Barton Parish Council. The chairman is requested to sign the appropriate documentation.

Approved.

11. FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1ST APRIL 2022– 31st MARCH 2023 - The Chairman is asked to verify that the finance and bank statements have been reconciled.

Verified and approved.

12. Insurance Renewal 2023/24

The Chairman had reviewed the insurance renewal quote for the parish council prior to the meeting and was happy with the contents.

Cllrs approved the insurance renewal for 23/24 at a cost of **£418.20**

13. Presentation from the Village Hall Solar panel project

Brain Chiverton from the Village Hall Trustees attended the meeting to present details of the Solar Panel and Energy Efficiency Project for Barton Village Hall to Cllrs present.

The project has been successful in securing £35906 from the Lancashire Environmental Fund and this leave a shortfall of £9158.

The Cllrs discussed the positive benefits of the project for the Bowling Club , Village hall and Tennis Club and how the project will future proof the village hall moving forward and hopefully help to keep running costs lower so that costs do not have to be passed on to users of the hall making the use of the hall sustainable.

Cllrs present agreed that if the Bowling Club and/or Village Hall Trustees were able to split the remaining shortfall between the 3 organisations then the Parish Council would contribute £3050 to the remaining underspend if the National Lottery application submitted for the full underspend was not successful. A decision on the national lottery funding was expected by 30th June 2023.

14. Neighbourhood plan update

The Barton neighbourhood Plan has been with an independent inspector for review and final confirmation that it is ready to go to referendum and is sound.

The inspector was happy to allow the plan to go to referendum subject to a few final changes. These changes will now be made and the Parish Council's planning consultant will look over the required changes and BPC will look to speak with Preston City Council to get a date booked in for a referendum.

15. Public participation

Chris Sandham and Michelle Gates attended from Sandhams Cheese and updated on where the proposals for a commercial development on their land is up to.

The land sits outside of Barton Parish in Myerscough and Bilsborrow PC but is within the village boundary.

Whilst Sandhams confirmed that they were not legally obliged to consult the local community ahead of submitting a planning application, they were keen to seek the views of the community to try and ensure that the development provided positive input into the village. The development plan draws upon comments submitted from residents in response to previous large residential developments which offered no facilities/infrastructure for the village.

Chris Sandham explained that the family business was growing and capable of more growth and employs local people and they wish to keep the business in the village and expand on the current site.

The project is fully funded by Sandhams and a planning application will be submitted to Wyre Council by the end of June for consideration. The land currently has an outstanding permission granted for housing so Sandhams have been working closely with their planning agent and Wyre Council to work towards providing additional information for the justification of a commercial development in place of housing at the site.

Should a commercial development not be possible and planning permission not be granted then the planning permission for housing will remain in place.

16. Any other business

Cllr Lees asked permission from the parish council for a chocolate bingo event to be held in September and for a contribution to be made towards this. Cllrs agreed to receive more information on the costs for this and agree a contribution once full costs and dates are known.

Chris Sandham asked about the possibility of the Parish commemorating the death of the Queen and the Coronation of King Charles. It was agreed that this was a good idea and would be explored further.

17. Date of next meeting– Wednesday 20 September 2023, 7.30pm