

BARTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Date: 26th March 2019 starting at 7.30pm

Present: Councillor J Parker (Chair) M Thorpe (clerk)

Councillors:

T Tomlinson

H Lees

Roger Hacking

John Parker

Cllr Bleasdale

In attendance: Parishioners as per attendance book.

1 APOLOGIES FOR NON ATTENDANCE

Cllr L Smith, Cllr G Jolliffe

2 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF BARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 20th NOVEMBER 2018

The minutes of the previous meeting of Barton Parish Council held on 22nd January 2019 were approved as a true and accurate record. *Proposed by Cllr Parker, seconded by Cllr Lees.*

3 DECLARATION OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

None declared.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present

5. MATTERS ARISING

- Forest Grove Open Spaces & unadopted road update – An email has been sent to PCC & LCC to look at options/possibility of adoption of the remaining part of Forest Grove. Discussions are ongoing.
- A quotation for a new bin has been received and will be covered later in the agenda as a separate item.
- Vote of no confidence from Broughton and decision of PACT – the minutes of the latest PACT meeting indicate that most parishes did not feel it was the way to go and may sour relationships and pressure needs to be put on Government and MP's and need to look at ways of working with PCC.
- Everything else was covered in the agenda

6. ALEX GRAHAM – LCC – WORKS TO THE RAILWAY BRIDGE, A6, BARTON

Alex Graham from Lancashire County Council attended the meeting to discuss proposed works to the bridge opposite the village hall which goes over the railway. The works include repairing/supporting a beam that has been in place for over 60 years and due to the proximity of the works to the railway and live cables, the various options available as to how to replace the beam has taken over 2 years to be put in place.

Outline designs have now been agreed with network rail to achieve a solution with a solid mass proposed to support the corroded beam. Possession of the track is required and this can only be granted for between 5-12 hours and this can be cancelled at the last minute so the ideal solution would be to create a walled off area that work could carry on behind whilst the railway line continues to operate.

Along with the work to the beam, the barriers alongside the bridge also need replacing to fit with the new safety standards and to mitigate against a serious accident on the road affecting the railway lines below.

This is a complex project which could take a further 12-18 months to complete at a cost of around £600,000. External funding will be sought to enable the project to be completed and LCC will keep us up to date with progress.

Cllr Parker thanked Alex for attending to talk through the project with the Parish Council.

7. ELECTIONS MAY 2019

The City Council elections will take place on Thursday 2nd May 2019 and will be an all-out election and will include parish council elections where seats are contested.

Barton Parish Council has 6 seats available in total with 2 councillors officially stepping down.

Nomination packs are available from PCC or the Parish Clerk and must be completed and returned to PCC by 4.00pm on 3rd April. PCC have also requested that an appointment be booked beforehand to check that forms have been completed correctly. The clerk is going to PCC on Friday 29th March at 9.30am to take in any completed nomination forms for checking.

If the election is uncontested then any vacant posts can be co-opted by the Parish Council after 2nd May.

8. DRAFT 2018/19 ACCOUNTS FOR CONSIDERATION

The Clerk distributed a copy of the draft accounts for 2018/19. The final accounts would be prepared after 31 March 2019 to ensure that all payments and income are fully accounted for. The full set of accounts will be presented for approval on Monday 10th June and submitted for external audit.

9. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

The Balance of the accounts as @ 18th March 2019 was:

Current Account: £57977.09 (includes Neighbourhood Plan Group grant monies)

NS & I: £7743.10

Payments made since 22 January 2019 :

- Neighbourhood Plan Group meeting room hire £50
- Best Kept Village Entry fee £30

10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS & PLANNING ISSUES

Applications received since 22/1

There were no applications to be discussed at the meeting. The clerk informed councillors that a link exists on the parish council website that enables everyone to view weekly planning applications lodged with Preston City Council.

Land to the Rear of Shepherds Farm Reserved Matters

The parish council had submitted extensive comments to Wyre Council regarding the Land to the Rear of Shepherds Farm.

Land to the South of Station Lane reserved matters

The parish council submitted comments to Preston City Council regarding reserved matters on the Land to the South of Station Lane. The comments are available to view on the application file at www.preston.gov.uk.

Conditions update (Land off Garstang Road)

Graham Jolliffe was unable to attend the meeting following his recent discussions with Preston City Council, to provide an update but an email had been circulated to councillors and concerned residents which provided an update on conditions relating to the Cedar Place development. The works to Station Lane have been completed as has the traffic island on the A6. Some conditions cannot be discharged immediately due to timing of contractors and other works affecting the required works to discharge the condition. It was agreed that parishioners should continue to be encouraged to submit all concerns through the enforcement process at Preston City Council and to continue to copy in the parish and city councillors to provide support and representation where they can.

Adoption of Wyre local plan 2011-2031

John Parker informed councillors that the plan is now adopted and available on Wyre's website.

Wainhomes meeting 28th February

Cllr Parker and Cllr Jolliffe had met with Wainhomes to discuss how they could work with the parish council to leave behind a legacy in the village that reflects more what the community wants and needs. We now wait to see what comes forward in their plans for the remaining developments they are proposing in the village.

11. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN & GROUP UPDATE

Kirkwells had provided a quotation for the full scope of works to take the Barton neighbourhood plan from its current stage to completion. The total cost of the quotation is £9800.

The group had received a £9000 grant earlier in the year and there is £4924.06 remaining from this grant which can either be handed back or used to complete the plan up to 2022. The neighbourhood plan group would like to keep the remainder of the grant if possible and enable Kirkwells to complete the plan as per their proposal. Cllr Parker on behalf of the group asked councillors present if the parish council would be willing to cover the remainder of the cost (£4875.94) up to completion of the plan in 2020.

Cllrs present voted to agree to the parish council covering the remainder of the fee to Kirkwells over and above that left from the grant. The clerk will budget for it in the 2019/20 budget.

Request regarding vote of no confidence

The parish council had received a request from the Barton Neighbourhood Plan Group for them to submit a vote of no confidence against Preston City Council's planning department. The Parish Council discussed the request and acknowledged the letter sent from Adrian Philips, Chief Executive of Preston City Council to both Broughton and Whittingham Parish Council.

In the letter the Chief Executive asks both Parish Council to have more respect for the planning officers and councillors and asked both parish councils to withdraw their votes of no confidence with immediate effect. Once again Barton Parish Councillors discussed the issue of a vote of no confidence and it was agreed that this was not a positive or professional way to deal with the current national planning situation. It was felt that it was better to work with Preston City Council and its councillors to lobby Government for change.

12. VILLAGE HALL IMPROVEMENTS AND BOARS HEAD UPDATE

Barton Grange contract renewal for 2019/20

It was agreed to renew the contract for 2019/20

Noticeboard improvements

Both noticeboards have been painted and repaired and they will now be filled up with new posters and information. It was agreed that the village hall would be given the opportunity to use the noticeboard to promote their upcoming events and facilities.

Best Kept Village Competition

The village has been entered in the Best Kept Village competition again for 2019. We are currently waiting for quotes to come back for the cost of planters (8 hopefully) and two raised beds underneath the welcome to Barton signs.

Boars Head

Several meetings have been held recently by the Barton Heritage Group which Cllr Parker and the clerk have attended. The clerk distributed an update on the site which is currently still in the same ownership. Despite several requests from the parish council we have been unable to engage any further with the owners who say that they are continuing to consider what they are doing with the site.

Cllr Whittam suggested that the site be submitted as a potential leisure site through the Central Lancashire Call for Sites consultation process. The Parish Council agreed that this would be done along with submitting an area of separation between Barton and Broughton.

New bins

The Parish Council had received a quotation for the cost of a large bin to be put on the village hall car park (with permission) to store the waste collected by Greg. It was agreed to use the existing bin on the village hall car park for the time being and if the need arose for a larger bin then one could be hired.

Cllr Whittam advised applying for a waste carrier permit for Greg. The clerk will look into this.

A6 – mobile speed camera sites, surface dressing, strategy

Cllr Jolliffe had been working hard with the police to identify several sites in the village where a mobile speed camera could be placed with the help of some infrastructure improvements and support from developers. Discussion also continue around the installation of rumble strips and other road furniture.

Lancashire County Council have confirmed that the A6 will be resurfaced from the south of the village right through to the village hall. This is very much welcomed by the parish council after a continuous dialogue between Cllr Jolliffe and LCC to bring forward improvements to the A6 through the village.

13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The chair expressed a huge gratitude to Cllr Jolliffe and Cllr Bleasdale who were stepping down from the parish council in May. Their support and hard work as parish councillors has been instrumental in bringing forward improvements in the village and representing the parishioners.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING– Monday 10th June 2019, Barton Village Hall