**BARSTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY 13TH May 2020**

**Virtual Zoom Meeting**

Chair, Cllr. Jez Emmett opened the meeting at 8pm by welcoming all.

**Present:** Cllr., Paul Hadley, Cllr. Robert Cookes, Cllr. Kay Sumner; Cllr. Lee Bould and clerk Ken Flood.

**Apologies.**

No Apologies

**Minutes.**

The minutes of March 2020’s meeting were approved and passed for signing by the Chair.

**Matters Arising.**

* Lockdown had delayed work on Barston Pound. Work will be deferred until things return to normal.
* Offer in respect of Oak Lane land purchase will be declined due to price level. A new verbal offer has been received from Ambrose Murphy and Barston Parish Council awaits a written proposal before any further discussion.
* Bentley contractors had responded to Cllr Cookes request to clean up the roads following their work.
* Clerk confirmed that the CIL form was on our website but as yet no applications had been received. The site would be tested on 14th May to check it is operating properly.
* A new camera pole had been placed near to Margaret Sykes property ready for the installation of an additional ANPR covering Barston Lane and Ryton End..

**Financial Report**

As of the 31st March, 2020 (year end), Barston Parish Council’s bank balances were as follows:

Lloyds Bank - Main A/c 10,127.02

Lloyds Bank - CIL Element   2,547.44

Barclays Bank - Initiatives A/c        25.00

Total 12,699.46

Draft annual accounts had been distributed to members who asked about vat reclaim, which the clerk agreed to review and instigate. Simon Wilcox will audit these accounts in time for July’s meeting. In additional to normal running expenditure, May sees payments out of insurances (Came & Co), memberships (WALC and CPRE) and donations (BI and St Swithens).

The above numbers exclude April 2020 receipts of Precept and contribution to hedge cutting which place the bank balance at £

It was agreed to defer the AGM until 8th July 2020.

**Public Forum.**

* The village map initiative would cost £700 ex vat. This was approved.
* Discussion ensued relative to three planter boxes. The Chair would provide the timber and asked John Emmett if he would construct the planters which would be placed by the bus shelter, near Margaret Sykes property and Eastcote crossroads. Simon Pile believed that Stephen Fisher had some troughs, which might be used and he would investigate. It was decided to await the final design and size of the planters before assigning a budget for plants.

**Planning Matters**

Planning applications had been received for Chase House and Bibury Fields. There had been no objections raised.

**Highway Matters**

* Discussion ensued on the planting of wild flowers this autumn and the Chair undertook to contact Solihull Council in that regard.
* Replacing our signage is still on the agenda.
* It was agreed that we would undertake some road sweeping and it was suggested by Cllr. Bould that Damien Sweep at Bickenhill might be able to help in that regard.
* Cllr Cookes agreed to spray foliage and nettles at the top of Barston Lane.
* Cllr Cookes also commented that land at Eastcote Lane (Loop) requires attention and Simon Pile recommended the use of concrete rings. The Chair requested some photographs of the land issue and Cllr Cookes would furnish same.
* Payment of Heritage’s invoice would be action on 14th May by the Clerk.
* Councillors requested details of BPC bank account so as to deposit cash contributions towards hedge trimming by Heritage e.g. John Gerry had contributed £60.
* The Chair asked about signage placement at Henwood ford. This would be investigated.
* Fly tipping at Wood Lane had been reported to Pete Barker and we are awaiting update on prosecution actions.

**Airport Matters.**

No update.

**Highway & Environmental Matters.**

No matters raised.

**Security and GDPR.**

Henwood Hall Farm had intruders. There had been ssome damage to vehicles but no property theft.

Details of a speeding car had been reported and the car registration placed on our ‘watch list’.

**Any Other Business**

No matters raised.

The meeting ended at 9.20 pm

The next meeting is July 8th 2020.