

Minutes of Barston Parish Council

Barston Institute

13th September 2017 - 8pm

Chair Jez Emmett opened the meeting at 8pm.

Present: Cllrs. Cookes, Bates, Lyon, Hadley and clerk Ken Flood were also present.

Apologies: None

Parishioners: 12 present

Minutes of May's Meeting: Read and approved

Matters Arising: The Chair referred to the exercise he carried out with Cllr. Hadley in relation to identifying potential sites for CCTV security cameras. Eleven sites had been earmarked and Cllr Hadley stated that the cost per site would be in the region of £1,200. Following discussion, it was agreed to progress with three sites which would be sponsored by Cllrs. Emmett, Hadley and Cookes. At this stage, there will be no requirement for parish funds.

Cllr Emmett suggested that Cllr Cookes should be paid for his costs in relation to notice board refurbishment. Cllr Cookes would provide and invoice.

Following discussion, it was decided to opt for a more economical solution to the refurbishment of the phone box whereby instead of replacement, it would be repainted and reglazed.

Cllr. Emmett confirmed that the fly tipped asbestos had been dealt with in Ryton End. Cllr Lyon said that other fly tipping activity had ensued and suggested putting up a sign; however, that was not felt to be the most appropriate way of dealing with the problem.

We are due to cut back the hedges in November. Some discussion ensued in relation to Severn Trent's responsibilities. In 2015, Heritage charged £1240.00. Cllr Cookes would speak to them again and the Chair suggested we also obtain a comparative quotation from Jo Emmett, which was agreed.

Cllr Emmett had spoken briefly to Ashley Prior in an effort to improve the overall response from SMBC. He would be taking those discussions forward.

Returning to security, the progress of Whats App was discussed and the fact that engagement had been much better than anticipated. The need for parishioners to action calls to 101 and 999 (in cases of current activity) was registered as was the possibility of linking with Hampton.

Apart from action taken by Cllr Emmett to bar access to travellers, he reported no progress in terms of the sale and commencement of building. Some discussion took place relating to a potential media campaign and Cllr Lyon would lead on that. However, this led on to discussions about potential payments under 106 and the qualifying period (July 16). Limits on how any monies could be spent were clarified by Cllr. Bates. While that position was still unclear, the discussion moved on to progress on the Parish Design Statement and whether or not we were going to produce one.

It was agreed to notify the community of a discussion in relation to the Design Statement at November's meeting.

It was agreed that we would fund a No Through Road sign for Oak Lane (£180).

The new parish website would go live on 14th September. The clerk undertook to follow through on obtaining funds to cover costs under the Transparency Fund.

Finance: The clerk stated that having received the Precept (£3532.49) and paid out £882.06 during the interim, the balance now stands at £6,745.62. He said that £3,500 (or thereabouts) could be made available for CCTV. Payments to Richard Cobbs and Andy Kirby (Grasscutting) and the Newsletter had been made and all payments were up to date. The clerk thanked Simon Wilcox for his assistance as internal auditor and confirmed that Grant Thornton had now approved the accounts. There would be a £100 charge for external auditing this year. The annual £400 grant to the Institute was paid.

Planning Matters: The Chair asked councillors to respond more quickly with recommendations about planning applications between meetings. Non responses should be treated as 'abstain'. The application relating to Arbour Farm had been withdrawn.

Airport: Cllr Lyon asked for a volunteer to replace her at ACC meetings. David Elliott agreed to do this. Cllr. Lyon had spoken to Stuart Lindsay of CAA who advised that a response to our submission to the PIR would be forthcoming in December 2017. She said that she had settled all accounts in relation to the Airport Fund with the exception of John Steel - which was in dispute and resolution of which would enable discussion to take place about returning the balance in the account to the donors.

In common with the Garden Centre discussed earlier, Cllr Lyon would lead on a media campaign in relation to the airport. She would meet with the clerk later in the months to work on this.

Finally, Cllr Lyon clarified that it is no longer appropriate to refer parishioners seeking information about compensation claims to her. They needed to pursue their claims personally and even seek legal advice.

Highway Matters: Cllr Cookes reported drainage problems on Knowle Road and a collapsed gully outside the Malt Shovels.

Environment: Roger Derwent was paid for the invoice for flowers and plants.

AOB: There being no other business, Cllr Emmett adjourned at 9.35pm stating that the next meeting date would be 8th November 2017.

Ken Flood Clerk 26th September 2017