

## **Minutes of Barston Parish Council**

**Meeting: 8pm 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

### **Barston Institute**

Present: Jeremy Emmett (Chair); Paul Hadley (Vice Chair); Robert Cookes; Kay Sumner; Lee Bould and Ken Flood (Clerk).

Chairman Jeremy Emmett opened the meeting by asking for one minute's silence in memory of Brian Vann who passed away recently. Brian served the parish as clerk. Following the remembrance, parishioner Ivan Eley advised all that the funeral will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> November at Robin Hood crematorium.

#### **Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies.

#### **Minutes of September's Meeting**

The Chair duly signed the minutes of September's meeting.

#### **Matters Arising**

The clerk should expect an invoice of circa £2,500 plus vat from Cllr. Hadley in respect of ANPR cameras. The Chair announced that he had met and spoken to our new police Chief Superintendent.

#### **Public Forum**

Parishioner David Read raised the matter of much needed drainage work (Wood Lane, Hampton Road and Barston Lane – towards the Blythe) and Cat's Eyes at the latter. The Chair is working to pursue these and other matters; however, Solihull is some way short of being unresponsive. The Chair would continue to pursue. Some discussion took place in relation to using Precept to carry out some 'self-help' repair work.

Regarding the fly tipping problems at Ryton End Lane, The Chair advised the meeting that SMBC have already taken some covert action to identify the perpetrators.

Parishioner Jayne Emmett commented on the work to clear back hedge intrusion on Barston Lane footpaths. All present agreed that this work had made a significant difference although Cllr. Cookes said that he had found places where as much as 17" pavement are still covered by growth and debris.

In relation to ANPR, Eastcote loop and Hob Lane are our next priorities.

Some discussion took place relative to pothole repairs under the theme of self-help.

## **Finance**

Clerk, Ken Flood said that having received September's Precept, the bank balance stood at £6,521.43, taking into account November's outgoings, the cheques for which were duly signed.

Cllr Roberts asked for an appreciation of uncommitted funds that might be used for projects. The clerk said that circa £3,500 per annum were available and had been spent in past years on Bus Shelter repairs, Phone box and Notice Boards replacement/refurbishments. Cllr Sumner suggested that it would be beneficial to budget for projects going forward. The Chair agreed to look at the matter before the next meeting.

## **Airport**

Parish representative David Elliott, told the meeting that the CAA report was now over 3-months late. Referring to the recently announced airport 5-year development plan, he said that the plan expected footfall to increase from circa 13 million to 18 million. He announced that BAL would attend the Institute on 4<sup>th</sup> December from 6 – 8pm to present this plan.

## **Planning**

Barston Rise, Wood Lane Farm; The Garage and Elmcroft had all been approved by the Council since September; however Planning has yet to rule on the Garage and Elmcroft.

Cllr. Cookes raised the subject of planning in relation to Wyevale and the need to stay abreast of the various planning consents still outstanding. The Clerk undertook to contact Solihull Planning in that regard. The clerk said that there would be no formal advice from Planning regarding each of the planning issues e.g. parking; drainage and tree preservation.

## **Highways & Environment**

Elvers Green Lane is scheduled for closure w/c 19<sup>th</sup> November for resurfacing work. Work on gullies is also scheduled for November. Cllr Cookes raised the matter of roadside hedge trim back and contribution from SMBC. Cllr Cookes would seek a meeting with Ashley Prior to resolve the matter.

## **Security**

The Chair proposed and the meeting supported the proposal that Harvey Mulingani should continue to anchor the ANPR initiative. The Chair announced that there had been an arrest in relation to the car-jacking (opposite Bulls Head). Also, he informed the meeting that with Cllr. Hadley, he has hosted delegations from Radnage (Thames Valley) and Witchwood Avenue, Knowle. Finally, The chair said that we had registered with The Information Commissioners Office (ICO).

## **Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr. Sumner spoke about the pros and cons of putting together a Neighbourhood Plan. Following discussion, the Chair call a vote and councillors voted unanimously in favour of holding back on any action for the present.

## **A.O.B.**

David Elliott read a communication from Alan Murdoch in relation to Speed Watch. Parishioners felt that instigating such an initiative would have unintended consequences for our parish, particularly in relation to our ANPR initiative.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.25pm with the Chair advising that the next meeting will be on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

Ken Flood 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018