

Minutes of Barston Parish Council

Meeting: 8pm 9th January 2019

Barston Institute

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

Apologies for Absence

Cllr. Lee Bould.

Minutes of November 2018's Meeting

The Chair duly signed the minutes of November '18's meeting.

Matters Arising

1. Cllr Cookes asked the clerk to differentiate between planning applications that have been approved by Barston Parish Council and those subsequently approved or otherwise by SMBC Planning.
2. Cllr. Hadley presented two invoices in respect of ANPR cameras.
3. Cllr. Cookes reported that the clerk had been unable to get a response from Jon Hallam SMBC Planning regarding Wyevale progress on outstanding planning matters. Cllr Cookes would take up matter with Cllr Bob Sleigh.
4. The clerk reported that he uncovered the fact that SMBC's budget holder for hedge maintenance is Mr David Turton who should be reached via Liz Quinney – Neighbourhood Liaison Officer. Chair would forward Ms. Quinney's email to the clerk..

Public Forum

No items were raised. Some discussion ensued with regard to the fatal accident in December on Eastcote Lane.

Finance

The clerk stated that the bank balance stood at £6,521.53 as at 14th December, 2018. Circa £6,000 was available as a working balance until the first of 2019's Precept due in April '19. Four cheques were signed for a total of £5,043.64, the Lion's share of which was £4,560 for ANPR camera costs.

The clerk stated that 2019's Precept would be set with SMBC in January 2019. The Chair took councillors through a budgeting process, which the Chair would consolidate and circulate to the committee. Initial indications indicated that the Precept would need to double in 2019 in order to finish deployment of ANPR cameras and undertake other initiatives including road sweeping and repair. The Chair included budget for initiatives including Best Kept Garden and flower troughs. The clerk confirmed that he was in possession of the trophy for same and that Simon Wilcox held the shield.

Airport

Parish representative David Elliott, told the meeting of the meeting held by Birmingham Airport at the Institute on 4th December, 2018. He referred those present to more detailed information on BAL's website. The CAA report was now over 5-months late and David urged Chair Jeremy Emmett to raise the matter during his forthcoming meeting with Caroline Spellman. Mr Elliott raised the matter of aircraft noise, highlighting the disparity between officially documented levels and the data he had captured.

Planning

Two applications in respect of Old Timbers and Cherrytrees were approved. Cllr Cookes asked the clerk to check whether or not the application relating to 'The Garage' (discussed in November '18) had been withdrawn.

Highways & Environment

The Chair would ask the contractors responsible for the recent four-way control traffic light debacle to direct their agreed recompense towards footpath cleansing and repair.

Security

The Chair sympathised with Simon in respect of the break-in he experienced in Walsall End Lane. A parishioner proposed the use of Whats App as a 'come and assist' call to other parishioners in such instances. The Chair reported on recent vehicle jacking and burglary incidents in Henwood and Barston Lanes.

Neighbourhood Plan

This item would be removed from forthcoming agendas.

A.O.B.

Some discussion ensued regarding fly tipping, rubbish been deposited in or near the lay-by on Knowle Road and the absence of the SMBC camera in Ryton End Lane.

The clerk proposed with subsequent approval that GDPR replace Neighbourhood Plan on all agendas going forward.

Cllr Hadley agreed to support Neighbourhood Watch - residents of Marsh Lane, Solihull with their plans to install ANPR cameras.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.25pm with the Chair advising that the next meeting will be on 13th March 2019.

Ken Flood 10th January 2019