

# Minutes of Barston Parish Council

## Barston Institute

10th January 2018 - 8pm

Chair Jez Emmett opened the meeting at 8pm.

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

**Apologies:** Cllr Lyon

**Parishioners:** 12 present

**Minutes of May's Meeting:** Read and approved

**Matters Arising:** The Chair spoke about the installation of an ANPR camera at the crossroads, which would be funded by the parish and Cllr Hadley needed to be reimbursed in that regard. He went on to say that Cllr Cookes had ordered and placed a £250 deposit a new phone box at at cost of £2,750 ex. vat. It should be installed in March 18 and Cllr Cookes said Cllr Emmett would buy the old box for £1,400.

The clerk had contacted Ivan Eley in respect of replaying his home-made fishing signs and that he would furnish Mr Eley will the name of a provide together with costs. The No Through Road sign for Oak lane is now in place and will be paid for by the parish immediately.

The Chair announced that Cllr Cookes had dealt with the obstruction at the crossroads caused by overgrowing vegetation and that SMBC had repaired the Gerry's fence.

Returning to cameras, the Chair raised the matter of signage, the wording of which he would put to the community. He announced that he has produced draft policy and code of practice documents, which would be ready for the next meeting.

A vote of thanks was extended to Cllr. Hadley for his efforts in installing the cameras and the meeting warmly showed its appreciation.

The clear had been contacted by a resident from Eastcote Lane following a series of burglary offences asking that the parish place a camera in that vicinity. Discussion took place on the subject and Cllrs. Emmett and Hadley will visit and review the proposal.

Cllr. Cookes raised the matter of insurance, which the Chair acknowledged by clarifying that individuals would pay for their own insurance but the parish should look into the matter.

The Chair raised the matter of a note from Gordon O'Connor at St Swithins about SMBC's disowning of responsibility for the streetlamp by the church gate. Although Cllr Hadley had replayed the lamp, it had blown again. Cllr Hadley would attend to that; however, the Chair asked the clear to write a reply to Mr. O'Connor.

Trixie Harman's Barston Historic exhibition will take place on 14/15th April and she requires parishioners to prepare any exhibits.

**Open Forum**

A parishioner raised the matter of a damaged No Through Road sign at Walsall End Lane and Cllr Emmett confirmed he would get SMBC to remedy.

**Finance:** The clerk stated that he had not received a bank statement from Lloyds for whatever reason and was unable to provide a confirmed statement; however, he would attend to that matter and provide a closing balance to councillors as soon as possible. He said that there were no payments out of the ordinary in the interim (other than £250 phone box deposit). He went on to confirm that WALC had confirmed payment of a second Transparency Fund claim which would be paid directly into Lloyds. The payment was more than that claimed (£1,900); however, until he sees a breakdown he was unable to clarify, other than to say that website costs would be met in full.

**Airport:** In Cllr Lyon's absence, there was no further information available in relation to reconciling and closing the Barclays Airport Fund account and reimbursing the various donors. The Chair asked the clerk to expedite the matter by liaising with Cllr Lyon before the next meeting.

Airport representative David Elliott reported that the PIR result was delayed to January 18. Noise monitoring was underway in Hampton in January and would take place in Barston in February 18. Night flights in October 17 had increased by 25/26% year-on-year. There was a need to keep a close watch on night flights. Mr Elliott closed by saying that the church and Institute had both received donations of £3,000 from the Airport.

**Planning Matters:** Jim Morrison had been in touch in relation to a revised application for Arbour Farm and Chair and clerk would meet him to discuss. The application in relation to The Pines had been approved by councillors and confirmed to SMBC.

**Highway Matters:** The Chair raised the matter of Consultation in relation to Junction 6 M42. He instructed that details be placed on the website. He announced that Bradnocks Marsh Road would be closed on 15th & 16th January and that it too should be planned on the website.

Some discussion ensued about potholes and the fact that SMBC are behind in attending to them. Barston Lane - opposite Manor Cottage and Elvers Green Lane at the ford were cited as being particularly dangerous.

A parishioner raised the subject of dead wood falling from trees opposite the Garden Centre Barston Lane and Cllr. Emmet said that he would raise the matter with SMBC..

**Development Plan:** The Chair presented a draft plan prepared by Roger Derwent, which he instructed should go on the website and Cllr Bates asked for thanks to be extended to Mr Derwent for his efforts in drafting the plan. We would now seek feedback from parishioners regarding the Design Statement before March 18.

Some discussion ensued about development opportunities and Cllr Cookes raised two specifics where he believed, development would be preferable to the current state of the land. The old garage was felt to be something of an eyesore; however, Cllr Bates said that she believed some plans might be afoot in that regard.

**Environment:** Severn Trent had not attended to its hedges.

**AOB:** Roger Derwent had received from the police a list of stolen property, which it was agreed should be put on the website.

There being no other business, Cllr Emmett adjourned at 9.05pm stating that the next meeting date would be 14th March 2018.

Ken Flood Clerk 11th January 2018