

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN  
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON MONDAY 10th JANUARY 2011**

**PRESENT:-** Mesdames: Kirsopp, Robinson, Vickers, Wilson, Gray & Hughes.  
Mr K Reading, Mr M Schott & Mr S Harazny

**APOLOGIES:-** Mrs C Ashdown, Mr J Wills & Cllr M Byram CW&C

**In Attendance:** Cllr N Wright, CW&C Council, for item 11  
Mr M Simmons, CW&C Area Manager Northwich & Rural North for item 4.  
Police Inspector Loughlin, PCSO Parker, PCSO Wiggins & Jane Makin  
CW&C Community Safety Partnership Team Leader for item 10

**MIN FC 132/1/11 - DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:**

Mrs Robinson and Mrs Hughes, being Trustees of Barnton Memorial Hall, declared a personal interest in item 13, and Mrs Hughes a personal in item 6 (3) Planning Application.

**MIN FC 133/1/11 - QUESTION TIME / OPEN SESSION:**

Mr Mark Simmons, Area Manager for Northwich and Rural North addressed the meeting. He explained his role and wished to emphasise area working and doing things in partnership, whilst seeking efficiencies to cope with a 26% reduction in funding over the next four years.

There were five areas in the district and the Board had been reduced from 30 to 10 members. He was developing an Area Action Plan through Consultation, Marketing and Engagement.

There were three priorities:

Teenagers

Highways (including Repairs and Traffic Congestion)

Employment

In reviewing the area bounded by Barnton Parish Council, there were features which needed to be examined further:

. The Child Poverty Index rating was poor

. The high proportion over those aged 65+ in social housing accommodation.

Also within his purview were issues relating to the Economy, Education and the Environment.

The Board wanted to encourage Community Engagement through the area meetings, where members of the public would be encouraged to make use of the pre-meeting "drop in" sessions. He would be considering issues raised in the Parish Plan.

At present £29,000 is still available for allocation and any agreed expenditure would have to link with the criteria and priorities of the Parish Plan. Funding for Gunnersclough Woods might well be available through the Groundwork Trust.

Mr Simmons was thanked for his attendance and for his advice and interest in the Parish.

**MIN FC 134/1/11 - MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 29TH NOVEMBER**

**2010:**

APPROVED

Proposed:: MrS H Kirsopp    Seconded: Mrs J Hughes    8 For    0 Against    1  
Abstention

**MIN FC 135/1/11 - PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

**i). 10/02213/FUL - Land to the Rear of 57 to 71 Mond Street, Barnton**

3 No. Terraced Houses with Associated Parking

MIN FC 093/09/10\_(v) refers. Amended Plans.

The previous decision of the Council to refuse this application was NOTED.

**ii). 10/02657/COU - 26 Oakwood Lane Barnton:**

Change of use of part residential/part therapy & yoga studio, back to residential

No Objections. NOTED

**iii). 10/02717/FUL – 95 Townfield Lane, Barnton**

Front fence (1830mm high) and Gate)

OBJECTION: Planning be refused on the grounds of the height of the fence not being in keeping with the local street scene.

Proposed:: Mrs H Kirsopp    Seconded: Mr Schott    8 For 0 Against    1 Abstention

**MIN FC 136/1/11 – BUDGET & PRECEPT FOR 2011/ 2012:**

The Clerk had submitted a comprehensive report and explained his calculations to those Members, present. He had estimated that the Council would need to budget for £100,000 expenditure for 2011/2012. The slight overspend in 2010/11 would be reported to the next meeting of the Finance & general Purposes Committee.

Some of the expenditure allowed for in relation to the purchase of land and Gunnersclough Woods might well be met from Grants available for this kind of expenditure, which would then result in a below budget outcome.

The issue with regard to office and storage accommodation for the Clerk remained a concern. In this instance, it was unlikely that there would be any financial demand upon the Council until 2012/2013.

AGREED: That the Budget, as presented for 2011/2012 be approved:

Proposed:: Mrs H Kirsopp    Seconded: Mr K Reading    Unanimous

**MIN FC 137/1/11 – GUNNERSCLOUGH WOODLANDS:**

AGREED: That Amenity Tree Care Ltd be appointed to undertake the Tree Survey and a Woodland Management Plan (including the cost of urgent Tree Works).

Proposed:: Mrs H Kirsopp                      Seconded: Ms V Vickers      Unanimous

The Clerk also undertook to register the Parish Council with the Rural Payments Agency to obtain Forestry Commission Grants and to ensure that the establishment of a Friends Group would be placed on the agenda of the next Parks & Recreation Grounds Committee Meeting. Mrs Wilson also undertook to ascertain if additional funds were available from the Leader Plus organisation.

**MIN FC 138/1/11 – CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL:**

Cllr Wright reported that the Library had had a Grant of £2000 from the lead Councillors and that he and Mark Simmons (Area Manager) had surveyed the problems surrounding the Theatre at Oakwood Lane. As a result, he was anxious to meet the Chairman of the Operatic Society and requested contact details.

**MIN FC 139/1/11 – BARNTON PARISH COUNCIL - MEETING DATES 2011/ 20112:**

The final schedule for meeting dates in 2011/12 were submitted by the Clerk, together with the list of Committee Members. It was noted that new arrangements for the Burial Joint Committee were expected to be announced after the AGM in May.

AGREED that:

- . the meeting dates be approved
- . arrangements for Committee Chairmen to take action following decisions taken by their committee, be an Agenda item for the next meeting

**MIN. FC 140/1/11 - CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIPS OF SUB COMMITTEES**

The following Committee appointments be noted:

- . Mr M Schott – Burial Committee
- . Mr M Schott – Reserve: Finance & General Purposes Committee
- Ms D Gray - Grants Committee
- . the Reserves for the Parks & Recreation Grounds Committee be reduced to two and that there should be just one Reserve for the Grants Committee

Proposed:: Mrs H Kirsopp    Seconded: Mr K Reading    Unanimous

**MIN FC 141/1/11 – POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER:**

PCSO Wiggins presented her report where it was noted that there had been a quiet period since the last meeting

Inspector Loughlin and Jane Makin (CW&C) described issues relating to Designated Public Place Orders. From the statistics available to Inspector Loughlin, it would appear that Barnton suffered a slightly higher rate of criminal activity . but this should be set against a detection rate which was well above target. Rates for Alcohol related crime was less acceptable, being well over the desired target, although much of this would be related to youths coming in with alcohol from other areas to congregate around Saltersford Locks and Lydyett Lane.

As a consequence Inspector Loughlin had designed a team approach to tackle lower levels of criminal behaviour and this had proved successful with a number of arrests, or formal disciplinary action. There are occasions when he can provide additional PCSOs for identified problem areas.

Jane explained how the DPPO areas were identified across the CW&C Council area, with the main focus being on Chester City Centre, at present. The Northwich area will be considered for a consultation exercise, later in the year – Barnton Parish would be included in that exercise.

The visitors were thanked for their advice and their attendance.

Members expressed some concern about the lack of urgency with regard to the allocation of DPPO status, considering the huge amount of evidence which had already been gathered and were satisfied that the Clerk expressed his intention to proceed with the application for a Bye Law to protect those areas most vulnerable to damage, litter and nuisance.

Chairman ..... 28th February 2011