

**MINUTES OF THE BARNTON PARISH COUNCIL  
MEETING HELD IN  
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON MONDAY 27<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2011**

NB: The meeting had been preceded by the Annual Village Inspection of all Parish Council owned property to review installations and to check requirements

**PRESENT:-** Mesdames: Vickers, Robinson, Kirsopp, Beech, & Ashdown  
Mr K Reading.

**APOLOGIES:-** CWaC Cllr N Wright, Mrs J Hughes and Messrs: Wills, Schott and Harazny

**IN ATTENDANCE:** CWaC Cllr M Byram, Mr M Solari and PCSO Wiggins

**MIN FC 223/6/11 – BARNTON PARISH COUNCIL – VILLAGE INSPECTION:**

The Chairman summarised the outcome of the visit to Parish Council property thus:

- i) Cemetery (a full detail will be submitted by Ms H Kirsopp following this meeting):
  - . attention to path weeding
  - . removal of glass containers
  - . back filling of pathways
  - . weeding and topsoil to the Remembrance Garden areas
  - . removal of British Gas equipment
  - . Clerk to ascertain information in the Guidance Notes issued by the Cemetery Clerk
- ii) Nursery Road Recreation Ground:
  - . drainage at the northern end
  - . repairs to the areas where the pyramid ramp meets the tarmac
  - . repairs to the entrance gate of the infant/junior park
  - . poor surface to the football pitches
  - . re-painting the ramp murals with anti-graffiti paint
  - . consider the installation of a Graffiti Wall
  - . repairs to lighting controls
  - . repairs to the water fountain
  - . repairs to the waste bin mounting
  - . replace dog waste bin (Dog Walk) with ordinary waste bin
- iii) Jubilee Corner:
  - . see later Agenda Item
- iv). Runcorn Road Recreation Ground:
  - . defer replacement and repaint of the play equipment
  - . renew play equipment ground surfaces
  - . replace waste bin

The Clerk suggested that at least one of the young people present at the Nursery Road Recreation Ground be invited to liaise with the Parish Council which Mrs S Beech undertook to investigate further.

**MIN FC 224/6/11 - DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:**

None declared.

**MIN FC 225/6/11 – STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS:**

I) Standing Orders:

AGREED that the revised Standing Orders be adopted

Proposed: Ms H Kirsopp

Seconded: Mrs C Ashdown

Unanimous

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**MIN FC 225/6/11 – STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS:.... /Contd...**

ii) Financial Regulations

AGREED that:

a). Paragraph 11 b) i) be amended to read that contracts “exceeding £10,000 for the supply of goods or materials .....

Proposed: Mrs A Robinson                      Seconded: Mr K Reading                      Unanimous

b). Paragraph 11 b) ii) be re-numbered as Paragraph 11 b) iii)

c). New Paragraph 11 b) ii) Now to read: “for expenditure of between £1,000 - £10,000 in value for the supply of goods or materials or for the execution of works or specialist services or other such goods, materials or specialist services as are excepted as set out in paragraph a) the clerk shall invite tenders from at least two, preferably three, firms such firms to be taken from the appropriate approved list.”

Proposed: Mrs A Robinson                      Seconded: Ms H Kirsopp                      Unanimous

d). Subject to the amendments recorded above, the Financial Regulations be adopted

Proposed: Ms H Kirsopp                      Seconded: Mr K Reading                      Unanimous

**MIN FC 226/6/11 – STREETSCENE:**

Mr M Solari (CWaC) was welcomed to the meeting who explained the role of his department and how the differing cleaning schedules of the boroughs which had combined to form the CWaC Authority had had to be rationalised. Much of this had been under the direction of Government regulations. He gave precise schedules for the individual streets of the Parish Council, described the provision of the quick response service (including graffiti removal), and the attention given to the high maintenance areas.

His department would also consider every day attention to Jubilee Corner, subject to priorities which may occur elsewhere, and to the issues surrounding the direct employment of street cleaners by the Parish Council. The difficulties caused by cars being parked along the streets (particularly Lydyett Lane) was acknowledged.

When forwarding a summary of the department’s services to the Parish Council, he would also indicate any provision which can be made for the distribution of Planters.

Members expressed their gratitude for the advice given, and requested that their appreciation also be recorded for the work of the road-sweeper currently allocated to the Parish (Lenny).

Subsequently, the Clerk reported that the meeting to discuss contractual obligations. with Ian Hogan (CWaC), was now scheduled for 29<sup>th</sup> June, in company with himself, Mrs J Hughes and Ms V Vickers.

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**MIN FC 227/6/11 – POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER:**

PCSO Wiggins presented her report which indicated that the area had experienced comparatively little disturbance over recent weeks. There were continuing issues relating to car-parking near to the shops, where parking tickets had been issued. She had been involved in a variety of activities including the Police Surgery, liaison with the new Waterways Manager, giving re-assurance to victims, the Lock area on the River Weaver, Fun Days, the Youth Club, visiting residents in Oakwood House, Governors' meetings at the school, and the removal of alcohol from youngsters.

She also reported upon speed checks on Runcorn Road, and the impending installation of a vehicle speed monitor on Soot Hill. She welcomed the new initiative, awarding youngsters Certificates for good behaviour.

Mrs Ashdown raised concerns about early morning car parking at the newsagents adjacent to Oakwood Lane, which was causing serious obstruction every day, whilst recognising that there appeared little that could be done about this nuisance, at present.

Members expressed their thanks to PCSO Wiggins.

**MIN FC 228/6/11 – CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER COUNCIL:**

CWaC Cllr Byram reported about the concerns being expressed about the reduction in school transport affecting journeys to Faith schools and VIth Forms. He recommended that those affected should relay their written objections to the Authority. It was noted that the Student Pass was a cheaper option for many youngsters and that free transport would still be available for the designated secondary school (Hartford High School).

Members expressed their thanks to Cllr Byram for his report.

**MINUTE FC 229/6/11 – URGENT PROVISION – GRANTS & DONATIONS:**

**i). Membership of the Cheshire Playing Fields Association:**

The Clerk reported that continued membership (£20) would probably be helpful in securing advice and grants towards improvements of the playing fields.

NOTED

**ii). Donations:**

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had made no provision for donations in the 2011/12 budget and that all eligible clubs and societies would receive guidance upon applications for a Grant, later in the year

NOTED

**iii). Connexions Service:**

The Clerk reported that he had discovered that the Hub/Connexions Service planned to use the Nursery Road Recreation Ground during the summer, for a Youth activities and work programme, aimed at the 13 – 19 yr age group. This would include the development of personal and social skills, alongside the completion of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award programmes. As part of his retrospective approval, the Clerk had requested that the Leader provide an end-of-project report to Members at a future meeting.

NOTED

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**MINUTE FC 230/6/11 – QUESTION TIME/OPEN SESSION:**

No member of the public present

**MINUTE FC 231/6/11 – MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF THE  
16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2011:**

AGREED that the revised Minute FC187/5/11 i). be APPROVED (MINUTE FC 203/6/11 refers).

Proposed: Ms H Kirsopp      Seconded: Mrs S Beech      5 For 0 Against 1 Abstention

**MINUTE FC 232/6/11 – MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF THE  
6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2011:**

AGREED that the Minutes be APPROVED

Proposed: Mr K Reading      Seconded: Mrs C Ashdown      5 For 0 Against 1 Abstention

**MINUTE FC 233/6/11 – MATTERS ARISING:**

There were no matters arising

**MINUTE FC 234/6/11 – CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Cheshire Community Action:**

The service is being invited to one of the August meetings to describe the support and guidance they can offer for rural community groups.

NOTED

**MINUTE FC 235/6/11 – PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

i). 11/01049/FUL - 76 Townfield Lane, Barnton:

Single storey extension to the rear of the property. To note that Approval has been granted.

ii). 11/00712/FUL – 47 Church Road, Barnton:

Change of use of outbuilding to dwelling. To note that permission has been refused, but that an Appeal had been lodged with CWaC.

AGREED: That planning permission be refused upon the grounds of the previous objections and former decisions.

Proposed: Ms H Kirsopp

Seconded: Mrs C Ashdown

Unanimous

**MIN 236/6/11 – JUBILEE CORNER:**

AGREED that:

i). the benches be removed

ii). the paved area be removed at the back of the Memorial, and that the same area be planted up to the back of the Memorial with thorn bushes to help reduce nuisance opportunities.

Proposed: Ms H Kirsopp

Seconded: Mr K Reading      5 For 1 Against (Mrs Robinson)

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**MIN 237/6/11 – GUNNERS CLOUGH WOODLAND:**

The Clerk reported that:

- a). A reconvened meeting between David Scott and the Forestry Commission scheduled for the 4th July
- b). David Scott had advised against a cycle track and a bridge from the cemetery area
- c). he had arranged for Scottish Power to fell the dangerous trees on Hough Lane
- d). he would be ascertaining the legal position in respect of cyclists in the woodland
- e). he would arrange for further investigation into the validity of current insurance cover, as advised by Ms H Kirsopp from her meeting with interested parties in Marbury Park
- f). he would be following up the contact made by Ms V Vickers with British Waterways staff in respect of path clearances between the woodlands and the canal, seeking to take advantage of their access to the Respect Action Team

AGREED that:

Steve Sullivan from British Waterways be invited to undertake an appraisal of the work required and also be invited to the next meeting of the Parish Council

Proposed: Ms V Vickers

Seconded: Mrs A Robinson

Unanimous

**MIN FC 238/6/11 – BARNTON PAVILION:**

Mrs Robinson reported on the progress being made which included appointing architects to undertake an outline design, with the intention of commencing Phase 1 (Changing Rooms and Toilets), in due course. CWaC officers had been able to offer architectural assistance, which had been very welcome and they had also secured an agreement in principle (at Officer level only) to relocate the Library from its current location, during a later phase.

Three of the four main parties to the project (School, Barnton Wanderers Football Club, and the Youth Club) had already agreed to seek £500 from each of their organisations, in order to provide some working capital and open a Bank Account. It remained for the Parish Council to agree its share, and members were asked to consider this for further discussion at the next meeting.

Kevin Janes from the Cheshire & Warrington Social Enterprise Team had addressed the last meeting and had been able to indicate strong support in the compilation of any Bid for funds, advising where these could be accessed. He had also talked of ways of raising funds, although the size of the full project indicated a considerable challenge to the group.

NOTED

**MIN 239/6/11 – BARNTON PARISH COUNCIL – WEBSITE:**

The Clerk reported that there had been some detailed work undertaken between himself, Jenny Jeffs and Bob MacDonald (local resident). He wished to record his thanks for the considerable amount of time and helpful advice which had been offered by Mr MacDonald.

The new Website pages were being prepared and copies will be offered to Members at the next Meeting. Thought will need to be given to the promotion of the Website, thereafter.

He was pleased to report that a copy of the Quark software had been purchased for £25.00.

NOTED

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**MIN FC 240/6/11 – FORMER CO-OP BUILDING, LYDYETT LANE, BARNTON:**

The Clerk reported that that he had had discussions with several commercial estate agents and that the Landlord had been seeking what appeared to be an exorbitant amount for the rent of the Ground Floor, in addition to rates of £3,000 pa. The interior left much to be desired and considerable attention needed to be given to the Kitchen and Toilet facilities.

AGREED that:

The Clerk continue to pursue negotiations, seeking a much more reasonable settlement.

Proposed: Mrs A Robinson

Seconded: Mrs C Ashdown

Unanimous

**MIN 241/6/11 – NO. 1 LABURNHAM CRESCENT – TREE FELLING:**

AGREED that:

The quotation received from the Old Vicarage Tree Surgery in the sum of £350+VAT, be accepted, and that the Football Club be reminded of their responsibilities for the site.

Proposed: Ms H Kirsopp

Seconded: Mrs C Ashdown

Unanimous

**MIN 242/6/11 – CWaC FAMILY HEALTH DAY HELD ON THE 26<sup>th</sup> JUNE:**

Ms H Kirsopp reported on a successful meeting, in terms of the conversations which were held with visitors, some of which had been most helpful. In addition some useful contacts had been made with those interested to support the work of the Parish Council in relation to Gunners Clough Woodlands.

NOTED.