

STEEPLE BARTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STEEPLE BARTON PARISH COUNCIL
Monday 18th September 2023
THE ALICE MARSHALL HALL, MIDDLE BARTON

Councillors Present: Roger Tyers (Chair), John Parry, Jane McRobie, Steve Rogers, Graham Cox

Also in attendance: Cllr Jackson, Cllr Graham, Andy Hinton

Clerk: Annette Fowler

Public: 2

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Prior to the council meeting commencing there will be an opportunity of up to 15 minutes for members of the public to make comments and to ask questions of the Parish Council.

A member of the public asked if the PC would continue to donate monthly to Our Bus now that they had been granted lottery funding. It was noted that the lottery funds were given to assist with the purchase of two electric buses, and that the PC donation helps subsidise the running costs, as the actual revenue does not cover the cost of running the buses.

1449 To receive apologies for absence.

Cllrs Carter-Windle, Cllr Barry, Alison Umney (School Liaison Governor)

1450 Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interest in accordance with the council's Code of Conduct (and section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992).

Cllr Rogers re planning application below as he has been asked to quote for the work.

1451 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes from the meeting held on **24th July 2023** were approved and signed as an accurate record by Cllr Roger Tyers.

Matters arising:

None.

1452 To receive updates on the action points from previous minutes –

a) Update on traffic calming

Speedwatch data analysis

Cllr McRobie reported that more data had been collected -

49.6% of drivers are doing 20mph or less, a further 15.1% are doing between 20 and 22mph inclusive (the legal limit), 31.4% are driving between 23 and 30mph (inclusive), 4% (143 people) are driving above 30 2% (76 people) are driving 32 and above, with maximum speed of 41mph (1 person).

Signed

Date.....

Cllr Rogers mentioned the bad parking on corners and pavements. This will be included in the next agenda.

b) School crossing patrol – moving the crossing to the bottom of Fleming Drive

Cllr Tyers reported that the crossing patrol lady had stated that most parents did not want the crossing to move to Fleming drive. The idea is that the School crossing patrol could remain in the same position and a zebra crossing could be placed close to Fleming Drive. The School have confirmed they would support the new location. Cllr Rogers has been in touch with James Wright (OCC) who will put a sketch together for a public consultation. OCC have a match fund scheme that we could apply for next year.

c) Weed Spraying

The Clerk had received quotes received from Complete Weed Control and UBICO, both being £440 + VAT.

RESOLVED,

THAT, all agreed to proceed with Complete Weed Control.

d) Request for traffic Mirror at the top of Mill Lane

Still no news from BT, Cllr Barry will take this up when he is back.

e) Request for traffic mirror opposite the Barns North St

It was agreed that the most suitable position is on County Council Land on a pole opposite the hairdressers. The clerk will write to Westcote Parish to ask them to consider handling this as it falls within their area.

1453 Reports from County and District Councillors (Appendix A)

Full reports can be found on the PC website www.steeplebartonparishcouncil.org

Cllr Jackson –

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

As I reported at the July SBPC meeting, there was a good turnout for the public meeting on July 19th. Subsequently, one of the three chaps who volunteered to get a Bartons Neighbourhood Watch started has had to drop out, but Craig Moss and Luke Ingram are in the process of finalising details. I mentioned to Craig the deadline for the September bulletin, and I was pleased that he gave an update.

SPEEDWATCH

We have had fewer sessions during August and September with holiday commitments etc. I have had useful correspondence with Roger Tyers (Chair of SBPC) and Jane McCrobie, who has collated the data we have accumulated since the new 20 mph limit was started. It will be helpful to discuss at the meeting what role the SBPC envisage for the Speedwatch volunteers.

Signed

Date.....

OCC HIGHWAYS OFFICER

I have always had a splendid rapport with Chris Grain who started as our area highways officer just after I was first elected district councillor in 2018. I have had useful "tours" of the Bartons Ward with him in the past, sometimes accompanied by members of SBPC. In some correspondence with him in August, he informed me that the general role of the OCC highways officers is likely to change in November. He was not sure what this will entail, but it will be disappointing if our area does not have a designated person, if, say, each officer is given a certain area of "expertise", for example. I will try to get in touch with Chris before the meeting to find out if he has had any update on this.

Andy Graham –

Buses – The County Council have commissioned a survey of services in rural areas and the way buses are running. The scheme to support and subsidise bus journeys via Park and Ride has been extended to April 24.

1454 Request from the Middle Barton Community Pub (The Fox)

The Council had received a request for support towards the costs of essential reports £3,840 (Structural Survey) and £3,247 (Business Feasibility).

RESOLVED,

THAT, all Councillors agreed to decline the request as it is a community matter and not something that the Parish Council could get involved in at this stage, also the Fox falls within Westcote Parish not Steeple Barton.

1455 Request for donation – citizen’s advice

The Council had received a request for a donation.

RESOLVED,

THAT, all agreed that the Council would donate £250. This will be included in the October payments.

1456 Village Matters

a) ROSPA report – Play equipment

Trevor Payne from the Playing Fields committee talked about the issues with the play area equipment following the ROSPA report. Trevor had also emailed a point-by-point response to the items in the report and this had been circulated to the Council before the meeting. The plan is to repair where they can, raise funds for items that need to be replaced and some items will be removed. Replacement items should be metal and not wood. However, this can be very expensive depending on the item. Trevor stated that the Parish Council have a moral responsibility to assist with the upkeep of the play area. Cllr Parry suggested that a scheme should have been set up to cover the cost of on-going maintenance, and that the PC would need to increase the Precept to give further assistance. Cllr Tyers asked for copies of the audited accounts, Trevor will supply.

Signed

Date.....

Cllr Tyers also suggested a visit to take a look at the play equipment. Going forward Trevor will continue to inform the PC of items that need to be replaced and the costs.

b) Winter Salt – do we have adequate supplies?

We currently have two tonnes in stock. The salt bins need to be checked and a number need to be refilled. A working party will be formed to carry out the inspection of all bins in the village.

c) Emergency Fund/Plan – this will be brought forward to the October meeting.

1457 **Reports**

(a) School Governors report - (Alison Umney, School Liaison Governor)

Term has started very well, and the children have settled well in their new classes. The old schoolhouse known as ‘the hive’ is up and running as a nurture centre and meeting room. They are planning some community events including a MacMillan fundraiser and Christmas carols, more information will follow. We are looking for more governors from the community and parent body to support the running of the school.

(b) Highways, Drainage and Flood Protection – Cllr Tyers

Cllr Tyers suggested we write to OCC to thank them for the new road.

(c) Sports and Social Club/Playing Fields (Andy Hinton, Playing Fields, Steve Rogers, Social Club, Andy Barry, Bowls club)

Playing Fields have paid out £2,500 to the Bowls club for repairs. At the end of November there will be the Christmas tree lighting evening.

1458 **Planning applications** (Cllr McRobie)

a) 23/01913/HHD – 8 Kirby Close – garage conversion

There were no objections

b) Update on Hallam Management planning application

The deadline for comments passed in May but there has been a constant stream of reports being added to the portal. There are a number of issues being brought up, the main one is drainage. A landscape expert has reported that the new houses will be visible from miles around. It might be appropriate for the PC to lodge another comment/objection. In the meantime, Cllr Jackson will approach the case officer to ask for an update.

1459 **Finance**

(a) Accounts for Payment

i) To consider and approve accounts for payment (*Appendix B to agenda*)

ii) Accounts not on Appendix B submitted by 8pm on **18th September 2023 (August payments also included)**

Payment Method	Purpose	Payee	Amount
BACS	Clerk Salary (Jul & Aug)	Annette Fowler	

Signed

Date.....

STEEPLE BARTON PARISH COUNCIL

BACS	New pads for Defib x 2	Wel Medical	£151.02
BACS	Laptop clean-up, Fix duplicate email box	Computerpro	£180.00
BACS	3 rd Grass cut	NR Prickett	£441.60
BACS	Cleaning traffic mirrors	CTF Window Cleaning	£ 19.80
BACS	ROSPA Inspection	BVMHF	£148.80
BACS	External Audit	Moore	£252.00
BACS	4 th Grass Cut	NR Prickett	£441.60
S/O	Donation to Our Bus	Our Bus	£100.00
D/D	Email Hosting (monthly)	1&1	£ 6.00

1460 **External Audit Report – to receive the report and certificate from the External Auditors**
 The Clerk confirmed that the external audit carried out by Moores had been completed with no errors.

The Council RESOLVED to accept the External Audit report and certificate. The report and certificate had been published in the September 2023 Finance section of the website and the Conclusion of Audit notice was also published on the website.

1461 **To receive items for next agenda.**
 To be emailed to the Clerk.

1462 **For Information only**
 None

1463 **Date and location of next meeting**
 To confirm the date of the next meeting, this is scheduled for **Monday 16th October 2023** at the Alice Marshall Hall, Middle Barton at **8.00pm**.

Signed

Date.....