

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STEEPLE BARTON PARISH COUNCIL
Monday 17th April 2023
THE ALICE MARSHALL HALL, MIDDLE BARTON**

Councillors Present: Kate Carter-Windle (Chair), Jane McRobie, John Parry, Andrew Barry, Steve Rogers, Graham Cox

Also in attendance: Cllr Graham, Andy Hinton, Alison Umney (School Liaison Governor)

Clerk: Annette Fowler

Public: 12

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.

Due to the Hallam Land Management planning application the Chair increased the public question time to 30 minutes. It was also suggested that the public break into two groups to discuss their points and elect a spokesperson from each group.

Comments/Questions:

Who owns the verge along Holliers Crescent where the proposed access is being shown on the plans, and would Hallam Land Management be able to compulsory purchase the land. The PC will investigate further to establish ownership.

Access onto North Street from Holliers Crescent, opposite the Cinnamon Stick and Fleming Drive is already very busy, this will be made even more difficult with extra traffic. It was confirmed that this would be investigated by Highways as it is their responsibility. If Highways agree that it is a suitable road, then unfortunately we are unable to do anything about it.

Discussion about the access to new area being placed in the middle of the field and additional parking. Cllr Carter-Windle confirmed she had been to visit the area today and agreed that there could be problems. Most would prefer that this comes out onto the Medlar Tree part of the village. Safety for emergency vehicles when all cars are parked etc. was also mentioned.

Sewage system – the original system was put in in the 1960's – this could cause problems with water ingress.

The proposed pond - comments concerning the pond and potential danger to children in the village. If they are adding a water course then everyone within 400 metres will need to change their house insurance.

Discussion around drainage. Cllr Carter-Windle mentioned the Dorn and storm water, the steps taken and confirmed that it is currently quite stable.

The local Doctors surgeries are already full.

It was asked if there is a demand for new houses in the village. Cllr Carter-Windle confirmed that based on the last village appraisal there is a need for 30 social houses in the village.

It was asked that if there are affordable houses, will there be a no sale clause?

Do the PC currently have a view on whether to accept/object? Cllr Carter-Windle confirmed the PC are waiting to hear from the meeting and will then discuss the issues raised and prepare a statement to be submitted to WODC.

It was reported that there had been three accidents near to the proposed construction entry.

If approved, what is to stop the developers asking to change the number of affordable houses? Cllr Carter-Windle confirmed that it could happen, but it has been noticed that at the Uplands meeting, they are strict regarding the numbers of houses required.

What about the two public rights of way? Ruth Henderson confirmed that on the plans the walks would still be available. Kate confirmed another new walk through had been added.

What weight is given to public comments? Cllr Graham confirmed that responses would be considered. Highways, traffic impact, number of houses to number of cars, access and pedestrian safety issues are always considered. It was confirmed that the District Councillor can ask for a site visit from the planning department.

If the application is turned down by WODC could it be progressed with another body? Cllr Graham confirmed that if it was rejected by WODC then that would be final.

Cllr Graham confirmed that the public can attend the planning meeting. It was also confirmed that this application would go to the Uplands committee.

Andy Hinton mentioned that previously OCC had that suggested that planning permission would not be given if there was an entry onto Holliers Crescent.

The Chair reminded everyone present that they should upload individual comments onto the portal.

1391 To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Jackson, Cllr Tyers

1392 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).

None received.

1393 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes from the meeting held on **20th March 2023** were approved and signed as an accurate record by Cllr Carter-Windle.

Matters arising:

None.

1394 **Reports from County and District Councillors (Appendix A)**

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

Cllr Jackson – no report this month.

Cllr Graham – The local plan is about to go into the processing stage which means the consultation will be June/July time. Communities must have a say on infrastructure and quality of life.

Cabinet going on tour, meetings will be held more locally.

1395 **Donation request from Clean Slate** - update from Clerk – this was also included in the March agenda when the question was asked about referrals for the service. The Clerk confirmed that she had checked the website and that referrals were received from individuals and professional third parties.

RESOLVED,

THAT, a donation of £100 was approved.

1396 **Donation request from the Barton Bulletin to assist with the publication of the newsletter.**

RESOLVED,

THAT, a donation of £500 was approved.

1397 **Coronation – purchase of Commemorative coins**

The Clerk confirmed the order for 200 coins had been placed and the cost including delivery is £719.60.

RESOLVED,

THAT, the Council agreed to pay the total cost.

1398 **Village Matters**

a) Update on traffic calming

As Cllr Tyers was unable to attend the meeting this would be carried over to the May meeting.

b) Update on Neighbourhood watch

Clerk confirmed only one person had commented on the Facebook post and would be interested in helping.

1399 **Reports**

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

The school summer term began today after a two-week Easter break.

Most events were reported last month but some children from the school sang at the Mother's day service this year some did readings and artwork by the younger children was displayed in the church.

Governors are meeting this week to approve the school budget. This has been a challenging task, not only as a result of rising costs affecting most aspects of school life but also we will have approximately 10 less children joining the school in September than are leaving for secondary school. Numbers are due to be confirmed for primary school places next week.

The work to cut down and remove the condemned trees has been completed over the holiday period. School are hoping to get some sponsorship or donations towards tree replanting and would welcome any support on this.

The Old School house is now close to completion with carpets and final decoration due to take place in the next couple of weeks.

As a celebration of the Coronation there will be a lunchtime family picnic on Friday 5th May [weather permitting]. Fombs have organised a celebration tea towel featuring the children's self portraits which are available to order for £5 each.

School are very proud of the first newsletter written by two of the pupils and sponsored by Thai to Go which was circulated with the bulletin. They are now looking for sponsorship from local people and businesses to help with printing and paper costs for future editions. Please do get in touch with school if you know anyone who can be of help.

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

No report

(c) Sports and Social Club/Playing Fields (Andy Hinton)

Not a lot to report. Following the ROSPA report the work required on the play area has started, fund raising to finish the project.

The Insurance company have paid for the damage to the bowls club wall. Mark Chesterman will start the work when the weather improves. The playing fields will support the Coronation celebrations.

Cllr Rogers confirmed the Coronation celebrations are being advertised around the village.

1400 Planning applications

23/00818/OUT - Outline planning with some matters reserved for residential and associated development (up to 80 dwellings) including means of access, access roads, green infrastructure, drainage and other infrastructure - Land North of Holliers Crescent Middle Barton Oxfordshire

See comments above. Cllr McRobie asked all Councillors if they had any further comments to those already made above. The Chair asked for a vote from Councillors present, this resulted in 4 Councillors who objected and 2 abstained. Cllr McRobie will construct a response and circulate for approval before uploading on the WODC portal.

23/00896/HHD - Loft conversion with associated dormer windows and roof lights - Old Pound Rise 1 Worton Road Middle Barton

No objections

1401 **Review of Governance documents for 23/24** (reviewed by Finance committee March 2023 and emailed to all Cllrs on 10/4/23)

a) Financial Regulations

The Council reviewed the Financial Regulations and **RESOLVED** to agree to adopt the document with no further changes.

b) Risk Assessment

The Council considered the Risk assessment and **RESOLVED** to continue with the current version.

c) Asset Register

To review and approve the current asset list.

The list was reviewed and approved. an inspection will be arranged before the end of 2023.

1402 **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 **20th March 2023**

Payment Method	Purpose	Payee	Amount
BACS	Clerk Salary (Mar)	Annette Fowler	£
BACS	PAYE Q4	HMRC	£210.40
BACS	Removal of tree and tree stump Frances Road and Cross Way	Tree Total	£ 70.00
BACS	Emptying of dog bins 22/23	UBICO	£403.75
BACS	Payroll preparation	TP Jones & Co LLP	£ 59.40
BACS	Traffic calming leaflets/posters	Taxprep	£279.68
BACS	Cleaning traffic mirrors	CTF Window Cleaning	£ 19.80
BACS	Hire of AMH Jan-March	AMH	£100.00

The Clerk reported that the first Precept payment of £10,780 had been received.

1403 **To receive items for next agenda**

Mullin – Cllr McRobie will attend the next Mullin meeting to find out if the maximum decibel is for the site or per vehicle.

1404 **For Information only**

None

1405 **Date and location of next meeting**

To confirm the date of the next meeting, this is scheduled for **Monday 15th May 2023** commencing with the annual meeting at the Alice Marshall Hall, Middle Barton at **7.30pm**.