

# Barton Mills Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Naomi Alecock [clerk@bartonmills-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@bartonmills-pc.gov.uk)

Chairman: Mr N. Horne 07590 672963

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Barton Mills

held in the village hall on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 7:30pm

Present:

Cllr. Colsey (Vice Chair)  
Cllr. Fuller  
Cllr. Jarvis  
Cllr. Oke

Also in attendance were the Clerk Naomi Alecock, County Cllr. Stanbury and 2 members of the public.

### **1. Acceptance of apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Horne, Lewis, Mullender and Pollard.

### **2. Declaration of members interests and dispensations**

Item 7.1 – Cllr. Oke

### **3. To receive approval of minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 from those members present at the meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes from the meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> December with no amendments. Proposed by Cllr. Oke, seconded by Cllr. Jarvis. All in favour.

### **4. Public Participation**

A member of the public would like clarification over a comment made by Cllrs. Lewis and Horne under the Parish Councillor report at November's meeting regarding the Neighbourhood Plan.

A request was also made for the latest information on the Neighbourhood Plan to be published on the website.

### **5. District Councillor Report**

Cllr. Taylor sent his apologies but sent an email reminding of the £200.00 locality budget that he has available.

### **6. County Councillor Report**

Cllr. Stanbury advised that the SCC budget will be increasing by 6.7% with added expenditure going towards children's services and adult care. Council tax will be increased by the maximum of 4.99%.

The proposed devolution for Suffolk and Norfolk will be discussed at Thursdays meeting; it is hoped that the new structure will provide a simpler format and receive greater funding opportunities. It is proposed to have a strategic authority with elected Mayor with unitary authorities in the tier below. It is likely that the County Council elections will be postponed from 2025 to 2026.

*Cllr. Stanbury left the meeting.*

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## **7. Planning Consultations**

### **7.1 DC/24/1035/FUL – Reconsultation – Planning application – construction of stable building – Stables opposite 19 Mildenhall Road, Barton Mills**

It was **RESOLVED** to **SUPPORT**. Proposed by Cllr. Fuller, seconded by Cllr. Jarvis. 3 in favour, 1 abstention.

### **7.2 DC/23/1577/OUT – Reconsultation – Outline planning application (with all matters reserved except means of access) for a mixed-use development including: a. 8 hectares of employment land for use as light industry (Use Class E(g)(iii)), general industry (Use Class B2), storage and distribution (Use Class B8); b. Residential development (use Class C3) for up to 300 dwellings; c. Up to 300 m2 of flexible floorspace for Class E uses (Class E(a-f)) and takeaway uses (sui generis); d. Public open space, SANG and landscaping; and e. All garaging, parking, servicing, access, drainage, footpath and cycle links and other associated infrastructure works – Land North of Acorn Way, Manor Wood, Red Lodge**

It was **RESOLVED** to make **NO COMMENT**. Proposed by Cllr. Fuller, seconded by Cllr. Colsey. All in favour.

## **8. Planning Applications decisions, statuses and appeals**

The paper was received and **NOTED**.

## **9. Parish Matters**

### **9.1 To discuss a proposal for signage at the Football Club**

Barton Mills Football Club are awaiting the design for the proposed signage and therefore it was **AGREED** to **DEFER** until the next meeting.

### **9.2 To receive a verbal update with regards to streetlights**

It was **NOTED** that the streetlight on the corner of Mildenhall Road/Station Road has been repaired.

A question was raised as to why one of the streetlights is blue in colour as you enter the village. The Clerk will make some enquiries.

### **9.3 To receive a verbal update with regards to the play park**

It was **NOTED** that the inspection reports that we receive from WSC are still not accurate; outdated photos are being used.

A new basketball net is required. It was **AGREED** to obtain a quote for a new one if we do not have a spare.

### **9.4 To receive a verbal update with regards to the SID**

Cllr. Colsey is attempting to access the file that has been downloaded by Cllr. Pollard.

He advised that the rota for the battery SID has been completed until the end of February.

### **9.5 To discuss EV chargepoints**

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The proposal and potential sites were discussed; it was **AGREED** to express an interest to enable further investigation and to speak to neighbouring parishes about any that they operate.

## **10. Financial Matters**

### **10.1 To receive the current bank account balances**

It was confirmed that there is currently £472.20 held in the current account and £32,825.56 in the deposit account.

### **10.2 To approve and authorise payment of invoices**

It was **RESOLVED** to pay the following invoices:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Gross</u>
31-Dec	R Lewis	Barton Miller	26.16	0.00	26.16
31-Dec	Clerk	Expenses	32.09	0.00	32.09
31-Dec	N Parkinson	Gardening Services - December	30.00	0.00	30.00
1-Jan	West Suffolk Council	Weekly bin collection - January	14.49	0.00	14.49
			<b>102.74</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>284.69</b>

It was **AGREED** to put a 2<sup>nd</sup> query in to E-on Next with regards to their backdated invoice and withhold payment until the query is resolved, despite the reduced invoice.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Gross</u>
1-Dec	E-on	Backdated charge - BMFC			181.95

Proposed by Cllr. Oke, seconded by Cllr. Fuller. All in favour.

### **10.3 To approve and sign the precept form for 2025/26**

The Clerk explained that following the budget setting in December the precept form had been completed for the figure of £31,250.00 which will be a 4.65% increase. It was **AGREED** to **APPROVE** the precept figure of £31,250.00. Proposed by Cllr. Oke, seconded by Cllr. Fuller. All in favour. The precept form was signed by the Vice Chair and the Clerk ready for submission to WSC.

*The Chair agreed to add an item on insurance as it requires a resolution before the next meeting.*

### **10.4 To consider a quote for insurance for 2025/26**

A renewal quote has just been received for 04/02/25 – 03/02/26 for insurance. This is the same cover as last year where the asset register was used to ensure the correct cover was in place. Last years premium was £1,390.20 and this year's quote is £1,646.37. It was **AGREED** to accept this quote given the timescale; however next year it would be beneficial to get some quotes ahead of the renewal period. Proposed by Cllr. Fuller, seconded by Cllr. Oke. All in favour.

## **11. Clerks Report**

The Clerk advised that we have been successful in obtaining a grant for the next stage of the Neighbourhood Plan and we are in receipt of the payment of £9,862.00 which is included in the deposit account balance.

It was proposed to create a record detailing the use of the field due to the increased use so we are aware of the availability if we receive any requests for events. It was **AGREED** to obtain fixture lists from MTFC

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and BMFC along with their training days. Cllr. Horne has the car boot dates and to present these is a shared Outlook calendar.

WSC have advised that they have not received any requests for an election following the Councillor vacancy and therefore the next agenda will include the opportunity for co-option of a Councillor.

An inspection of Station Road is due to take place this month.

### **12. Parish Councillors reports**

Cllr. Colsey reported that the Resilience Plan had been sent to WSC and they have requested that a plan lead and emergency contacts are added. Cllr. Colsey **AGREED** to be plan lead and an emergency contact and Cllr. Jarvis **AGREED** to be an emergency contact.

WSC have also said that we need to ensure our insurance covers the event of us calling an emergency; it is felt that this is not appropriate as we do not have the resource and our Resilience Plan should integrate into WSC Emergency Plan rather than being a standalone Plan. Cllr. Colsey will contact WSC to discuss.

### **13. To discuss and agree the content for the next Barton Miller**

It was **AGREED** to include:

- Cllr. Taylor's £200 locality budget that is available for community groups.
- EV Chargers

### **14. Exchange of information**

There was no exchange of information.

### **15. Date and time of the next meeting – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.30pm in Barton Mills Village Hall, Mildenhall Road, Barton Mills, IP28 6BB**

The meeting closed at 8.56pm.

**N. Alecock**

N. Alecock, Clerk