

## **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Barton Mills**

held in the village hall on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025 at 7:30pm

Present:

Cllr. Colsey  
Cllr. Curtis  
Cllr. Fuller  
Cllr. Jarvis  
Cllr. Lewis

Cllr. Marshall  
Cllr. Mullender  
Cllr. Oke  
Cllr. Walston

Also in attendance were the Clerk Naomi Alecock, District Cllr. Taylor, County Cllr. Stanbury and 4 members of the public.

Cllr. Colsey paid tribute to Tom Youngs who recently passed away; thoughts are with his family.

### **1.Election of Chairman and receive Chairmans Declaration of Office**

There were no proposals for the position of Chairman. Cllr. Colsey was proposed to chair this meeting by Cllr. Fuller, seconded by Cllr. Oke. All in favour.

### **2. Election of Vice Chairman and receive Vice Chairmans Declaration of Office**

Due to the non-election of a Chairman this item was not required.

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

There were no apologies for absence.

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

Item 12.5 – Cllr. Lewis

### **5. To receive approval of minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025 from those members present at the meeting**

The Clerk gave an update on item 22.1. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes from the meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> May with no amendments. Proposed by Cllr. Jarvis, seconded by Cllr. Fuller. All in favour.

### **6. Public Participation**

It was reported that there is a fallen tree between the Mill and the Jubilee Fields on the river path. The Clerk will report to the appropriate authority.

### **7. District Councillor Report**

Cllr. Taylor reported that the banking hub will be moving to Mildenhall Bus Station.

West Suffolk Council have extended their decarbonisation initiatives and the Parish Council were urged to look at other options for funding.

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Glass bottle banks will be phased out with the introduction of a kerbside collection in 2026. Commercial food waste collections have already begun.

## **8. County Councillor Report**

County elections were postponed due to devolution and it is not confirmed when these will take place. There should be an outcome from devolution in Autumn.

Cllr. Stanbury is trying to find who is responsible for the layby near Walkers Snack Bar on A1065; if anybody has any background knowledge please send to him.

An issue was raised of the traffic build up on the A11 on car boot days. Cllr. Mullender to send an email to Cllrs. Stanbury and Taylor detailing the issues and what measures could be implemented to alleviate the problem.

*Cllr. Stanbury left the meeting.*

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

The paper was received and **NOTED**.

Cllr. Lewis gave an update on the exception site.

## **10. To receive a verbal update on the Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr. Oke informed members that the first draft of the Neighbourhood Plan has been received from the consultant and a request was made to add to the next agenda for the Council to review and approve to enable it to move to a public consultation.

## **11. Parish Matters**

### **11.1 To discuss and agree the Village Gardener's amended working hours**

It was **AGREED** to add the below tasks to the Gardener's responsibilities:

- Removal of weeds in Village Hall car park
- Trim hedges on the footpaths
  - Near the old Dog and Partridge
  - Bell Lane to Church Lane

Cllr. Colsey will speak to the Gardener to ask how many hours it will take to complete all tasks and this can be reviewed by the Council at the next meeting.

*Cllr. Taylor left the meeting.*

### **11.2 To discuss the repair to the village sign**

The repair of the village sign outside Lamb Cottage was discussed. A proposed 3<sup>rd</sup> village sign was also discussed. It was **AGREED** to obtain a quote and investigate the requirements to site on the Worlington Road and lead times.

### **11.3 To discuss meeting arrangements with MHFC and BMFC**

It was **AGREED** for a meeting to be held with MHFC and BMFC to discuss the condition of the field and fixture dates and to inspect the changing rooms. The meeting will include Cllrs. Walston, Curtis,

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Lewis, Colsey and Mullender on the proposed date of 1<sup>st</sup> July. The Clerk will contact all parties to arrange and circulate a copy of the lease to all members.

A request for the use of the field in conjunction with a village hall booking for a children's party to be held in September was discussed and it was agreed that this would be allowed.

A request from an Isleham based under 8 football team to use the field Thursday evenings for 1 hour was discussed and it was agreed that this could not be accommodated with the current usage.

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

The contractor has repaired the incorrect streetlight and the faulty light in Station Road is still blue. The Clerk is in dialogue with the contractor on how to resolve this.

Cllr. Lewis has received a request for a new streetlight near the crossing on Mildenhall Road; this will be monitored.

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

One of the benches on the field has been broken. The contractor has suggested that this can not be repaired and we will need a replacement. The Clerk was instructed to obtain a quote.

Quotes were considered for a bench to surround the Jubilee tree. These will be reconsidered and agreed at the next meeting.

Works to the foundations of the spring bike are now complete. The foundations of the other spring bike also need repairing; the Clerk was instructed to obtain a quote.

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

The battery SID is in place. There has been some progress made with the solar SID data but Cllr. Colsey is still working on this.

## **12. Financial Matters**

### **12.1 To approve the accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

This item was deferred to the next meeting as the accounts are still with the Internal Auditor.

### **12.2 To approve the Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 (Section 1)**

This item was deferred to the next meeting as the accounts are still with the Internal Auditor.

### **12.3 To approve the accounting statements for 2024/25 (Section 2)**

This item was deferred to the next meeting as the accounts are still with the Internal Auditor.

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

It was confirmed that there is currently £1,487.16 held in the current account and £47,321.94 in the deposit account.

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

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

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Gross</u>
12-May	Smith of Derby	Church clock service	789.00	157.80	946.80
15-May	SALC	Cllr training N Curtis	66.00	13.20	79.20
25-May	R&S Play Installation Ltd	Resurfacing springer	400.00	80.00	480.00
31-May	R Lewis	Barton Miller	26.16	0.00	26.16
31-May	Clerk	Expenses	39.06	0.00	39.06
31-May	N Parkinson	Gardening Services - May	30.00	0.00	30.00
01-Jun	West Suffolk Council	Emptying of combination bin - June	15.14	0.00	15.14
			<b>1,365.36</b>	<b>251.00</b>	<b>1,616.36</b>

Proposed by Cllr. Fuller, seconded by Cllr. Jarvis. 1 abstention, 8 in favour.

## **13. Governance**

### **13.1 To review and adopt the Data Audit and Risk Management Policy**

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Data Audit and Risk Management Policy with no changes. Proposed by Cllr. Oke, seconded by Cllr. Fuller. All in favour.

### **13.2 To review and adopt the Members Code of Conduct**

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Members Code of Conduct with no changes. Proposed by Cllr. Lewis, seconded by Cllr. Marshall. All in favour.

### **13.3 To review and adopt the Publication Scheme**

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Publication Scheme with no changes. Proposed by Cllr. Fuller, seconded by Cllr. Lewis. All in favour.

### **13.4 To review and adopt the policies for dealing the press/media and complaints procedure**

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the policies for dealing with the press/media and complaints procedure with no changes. Proposed by Cllr. Lewis, seconded by Cllr. Marshall. All in favour.

## **14. Clerks Report**

The Clerk advised that she had chased SCC on the survey to the dip in Station Road; the Surveyor will look at this during their inspections.

## **15. Parish Councillors reports**

Cllr. Curtis attended a forum with SCC regarding the Local Government Reorganisation. SCC would prefer one Council with one rate of council tax; the final decision will be made by Government.

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

It was **AGREED** to include:

- Playground suggestion of a long slide and mound
- Events from other bodies
- Views on an additional village sign

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It was agreed to publish a schedule of events being held on the playing field once we have collated the information.

### **17. Correspondence**

The Clerk advised that she has received an email with regards to an issue with mareetail weed at Olive Court and has contacted Samphire Homes.

### **18. Exchange of information**

Cllr. Jarvis informed members that they are invited to the allotments on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm for a visit with the Garden Club to view the progress of the allotments; light refreshments will be available on the evening.

### **19. Date and time of the next meeting – Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025 at 7.30pm in Barton Mills Village Hall, Mildenhall Road, Barton Mills, IP28 6BB**

The meeting closed at 9.16pm.

**N. Alecock**

N. Alecock, Clerk