Barton Mills Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Naomi Alecock clerk@bartonmills-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Barton Mills

held in the village hall on Tuesday 3rd November 2026 at 7:30pm

Present:

Cllr. Colsey (Chair)	Cllr. Lewis
Cllr. Curtis	Cllr. Mullender
Cllr. Fuller	Cllr. Oke

Also in attendance were the Clerk Naomi Alecock, District Cllr Taylor, County Cllr Busuttil and 5 members of the public

1.Welcome

Cllr. Colsey welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Acceptance of apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Jarvis and Walston. Cllr. Pearlman was absent.

3. Declaration of members interests and dispensations

Items 8.2 and 11.2 – Cllr. Lewis

4. To receive approval of minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 6th October 2026 from those members present at the meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes from the meeting of Tuesday 6th October 2026. Proposed by Cllr. Fuller, seconded by Cllr. Lewis. All in favour.

5. Public Participation

Ann Low asked how many people had expressed an interest in the properties on the proposed exception site and whether they will be advised that they are unable to staircase to 100%. As the application has been refused, this is not required at this stage.

A parishioner stated that the defibrillator should be accessible and visible.

6. District Councillor Report

District Cllr. Taylor advised that WSC is selling their land on Anglian Lane to West Suffolk College for construction and engineering.

There is a review being carried out on the new recycling scheme. There is a 98-99% satisfaction rate with 100 tonnes of food waste being recycled monthly.

The Local Plan is continuing to develop.

7. County Councillor Report

County Cllr. Busutill advised that they have reduced the number of people from 1250 to 900 at RAF Barnham; this is still being pushed against countywide as SCC do not want to set a precedent.

A decision is to be made this month on whether there will be a Mayor in the Local Government Reorganisation; SCC will be discussing this at their meeting on 5th November.

County Cllr Busuttil left the meeting at 8.07pm

8. Planning Consultations

8.1 To receive a verbal update on the exception site application

Cllr. Lewis reported that the planning application had been refused which was disappointing. Members of the DCC were left confused due to unfair representations. Cocksedge have appointed G H Bullard to carry out the necessary surveys on highways and this should be complete in the next few weeks. It was noted that there are inconsistencies in speed limits in the village.

8.2 DC/26/1378/FUL – Planning application – a. subdivision and extension of existing dwelling to form six dwellings b. conversion and extension of existing barns to form three dwellings c. associated access, landscaping and infrastructure – Bridge House, Worlington Road, Barton Mills

Cllr. Lewis declared an interest and was given a dispensation to give a brief explanation on this site.

It was **RESOLVED** to **SUPPORT**. Proposed by Cllr. Mullender, seconded by Cllr. Curtis. 5 in favour, 1 abstention.

District Cllr. Taylor left the meeting at 8.34pm

9. Planning Applications decisions, statuses and appeals

The paper was received and **NOTED.**

10. Parish Matters

10.1 To re-confirm the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday

Cllrs. Oke, Walston and Fuller will be providing refreshments after the service on Remembrance Sunday; Liz Mutch has also volunteered her help. They will meet at the village hall at 10am.

10.2 To consider a request for permission for signage on streetlights 71 and 74 on Church Meadow

Suffolk Trading Standards have requested permission to erect A4 No Cold Calling Zone signs to streetlights 71 and 74 on Church Meadow. It was **RESOLVED** to make **NO OBJECTION.** Proposed by Cllr. Curtis, seconded by Cllr. Lewis. All in favour.

10.3 To discuss the location of the defibrillator

It was agreed that the front of the village hall would be a central location for a defibrillator but felt that the current site should be retained to avoid confusion if required. The Clerk was asked to explore options and look at costings.

10.4 To discuss the resignation of the History Recorder and the local history records

There are 40 files stored at the Church Rooms which will not be available after this year. Alternative storage was considered and it was agreed to look into costs for digitalising the files. An advert is to

be placed in the Barton Miller to ask if anyone would like to take on the role of the History Recorder following the resignation of the current one.

10.5 To receive a verbal update with regards to streetlights

In the absence of Cllrs. Jarvis and Pearlman, it was agreed to **DEFER** this item.

10.6 To receive a verbal update with regards to the play park

Cllr. Walston is still awaiting a quote from the contractor.

10.7 To discuss traffic control and to receive an update on SID's

The rota has been completed until the end of January 2027.

The Worlington Road SID is now working again.

The EADT has approached us for a comment on speeding in the village, Cllr. Mullender has already spoken to them.

11. Financial Matters

11.1 To receive the current bank account balances

It was confirmed that there is currently £612.17 held in the current account and £50,001.08 in the deposit account.

2 members of the public left the meeting at 8.57pm

11.2 To approve and authorise payment of invoices

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

Retrospective approval of invoices (subject to item 5.15 of the Financial Regulations)

Date	Payee	Details	Net	VAT	Gross
08-Oct	RBL Poppy Appeal	2 x wreathes	46.00	0.00	46.00
23-Oct	Clerk	Salary - October	434.28	0.00	434.28

To be approved

Date	Payee	Details	Net	VAT	Gross
30-Sep	R. H. Landscapes & Maintenance Services Ltd	Grass cutting - September	216.72	43.34	260.06
01-Oct	Community Action Suffolk	Website hosting	58.33	11.67	70.00
26-Oct	Parish Online	Mapping software	90.00	18.00	108.00
31-Oct	R Lewis	Barton Miller	26.16	0.00	26.16
31-Oct	Clerk	Clerk expenses	40.24	0.00	40.24
31-Oct	N Parkinson	Gardening services - October	60.00	0.00	60.00
01-Nov	West Suffolk Council	Combination bin - weekly empty - November	17.42	0.00	17.42
01-Nov	M Colsey	Remembrance - wine	105.00	0.00	105.00
01-Nov	K & M Lighting	Monthly street light maintenance	8.59	1.72	10.31
31-Oct	R. H. Landscapes & Maintenance Services Ltd	Grass cutting - October	433.44	86.69	520.13
			1,536.18	**161.42**	**1,697.60**

Proposed by Cllr. Oke, seconded by Cllr. Fuller. 5 in favour, 1 abstention.

11.3 To review and approve the draft 2027/28 budget

The Clerk presented the draft 2027/28 budget which has been reviewed by the Finance Committee. The expenditure for 2027/28 is £41,514.35, an increase of £1,902.70 from last year's equating to a 4.8% increase. Estimated income is £1,980, the same as last years. It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE**. Proposed by Cllr. Lewis, seconded by Cllr. Fuller. All in favour.

11.4 To review and approve the draft precept application

The Clerk advised that following the approval of the 2027/28 budget, the precept figure is calculated at £39,534 meaning an increase of £1.00 per Band D property to £86.02 per year, a 1.18% increase. It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the precept application and the application form was signed by the Chair and the Clerk. Proposed by Cllr. Curtis, seconded by Cllr. Lewis. All in favour.

12. Clerks report

The village sign is being repaired and should be back in place within about 6 weeks.

CPR and defib training has been arranged for Saturday 30th January; it was agreed to hold this at 10.30am.

The finalised copy of the examiners report on the Neighbourhood Plan has been received today recommending proceeding to referendum; this will be held on 11th February 2027.

13. Parish Councillors reports

Cllr. Fuller reported that the Village Hall Committee are not compliant in being a charity and will be undergoing a restructure and registering as a charity. Members are still happy for Cllr. Fuller to represent the PC on this Committee.

Cllr. Colsey reported that there are no dog poo bags at Bridge Farm Close.

14. To discuss and agree the content for the next Barton Miller

It was **AGREED** to include the following items in the next Barton Miller:

- Village history recorder and files
- Defib training
- Exception site update

15. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

16. Date and time of the next meeting – Tuesday 1st December 2026 at 7.30pm in Barton Mills Village Hall, Mildenhall Road, Barton Mills, IP28 6BB

The meeting closed at 9.12pm.

N. Alecock
N. Alecock, Clerk