

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Barton Mills

held in the village hall on Tuesday 7th October 2025 at 7:30pm

Present:

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

Cllr. Jarvis
Cllr. Oke
Cllr. Walston

Also in attendance were District Cllr. Taylor and 6 members of the public

1. Welcome

Cllr. Colsey welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Acceptance of apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Mullender.

3. Declaration of members interests and dispensations

Item 13.2 - Cllr. Lewis

4. To receive approval of minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2nd September 2025 from those members present at the meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes from the meeting of Tuesday 2nd September 2025 with no amendments. Proposed by Cllr. Fuller, seconded by Cllr. Lewis. All in favour.

5. Public Participation

A parishioner expressed concern about the relocation of a bin which was previously within the children's playpark space, their own observations were that the bin was well used. It was agreed that litter and the areas it is most frequently found would be regularly monitored, and that the re-siting of one of the other bins on the playing field might be an option if we discover that habits don't change.

A parishioner requested a list of parties interested in the potential housing on the exception site from surveys carried out in 2019 and 2021. The PC agreed that there should be a new survey to gauge the current level of interest from people connected to the village.

Comments were made suggesting that development for the rest of the land proposed for the exception site is still a possibility. The parishioner agreed to send their copy of documents referred to the PC.

6. Co-option of Councillor

We have received one expression of interest for co-option from John Pearlman. John provided the Council with some information about himself. Cllr. Curtis then proposed to co-opt Harry, seconded by Cllr. Jarvis. All in favour. John was invited to join the meeting as a Councillor and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed by him and the Chair.

7. District Councillor Report

Cllr. Taylor reported on the plans for the redevelopment of the Greene King site in Bury St Edmunds. He also drew our attention to the plans for reorganising recycling in West Suffolk, which will now incorporate kerbside glass collection and separate food collection. He also touched again on the process of Norfolk and Suffolk moving to a Unitary Body, and the restructuring of county divisions, which is now with the Government.

8. County Councillor Report

No report received.

9. Planning Consultations

9.1 DC/25/1370/HH – Householder planning application – extension to existing dropped kerb – 40 The Street, Barton Mills

It was **RESOLVED** to support. Proposed by Cllr. Lewis, seconded by Cllr. Walston. All in favour.

10. Planning Applications decisions, statuses and appeals

The paper was received and **NOTED**.

11. To receive a verbal update on the exception site

The Landscaping plan has been revised to accommodate the requirement for softer boundaries. However, some of the surveys are now out of date and advice needs to be taken on this. Cllr. Lewis suggests that Amy Murray be invited to visit the site. If the site is refused again, District Cllr. Taylor is ready to take the application to Committee.

12. Parish Matters

12.1 To confirm the arrangements for Remembrance Day

Liz will liaise with Revd. Mark McCaghrey and Dave Traher over fine-tuning the arrangements for the ceremony, regarding seating, sound system and in the spirit of offering assistance in respect of noting Glyn East may not be in a position to cover all aspects as previously.

Hall hire confirmed by Liz.

Refreshments provided and made available by Liz and Ros,
Wine booked (Now in the hands of Cllr. Colsey)

It was agreed to purchase 3 wreaths at a cost of £20 each. Proposed by Cllr. Oke, seconded by Cllr. Curtis. All in favour.

It was also agreed to ask Mark Hayward to drag the shingle if possible.

12.2 To discuss options for the village signage

Cllr Lewis will revise his parish map and include prices of a range of the smaller signs and relevant prices, for decision-making next month. It was noted that signage should not impede visibility of people leaving their property (as in the case of Grange Farm).

12.3 To discuss pest control at the village hall bottle

It was agreed that in the absence of any pests being sighted, it will not be necessary to continue the contract, especially as the bottle banks will soon be removed from the site.
Proposed Cllr. Walston, seconded Cllr. Curtis. All in favour.

12.4 To nominate an attendee to the meetings with Parish Councils regarding speeding and road safety

Cllr. Colsey has had to retract his offer to attend these meetings and Cllr. Curtis has offered to go in his stead.

12.5 To receive a verbal update with regards to streetlights

Monitors had nothing to report. Cllr. Oke raised a query over the light at the corner by The Croft. Cllr. Jarvis will look into this and report if needed.

12.6 To receive a verbal update with regards to the play park and to discuss quotes for a tree survey

Cllrs. Jarvis, Walston and Fuller have met to discuss ways forward with managing the playpark more effectively. Cllr. Walston is drawing up a document comparing short term and long-term costs with regard to repairing versus replacing worn equipment. He will also obtain quotes from a range of suppliers. Cllr. Jarvis' last monitoring visit raised the issue of the train being unusable due to safety. It was isolated with orange netting and posts, as used by our contractor.

There was no resolution on the tree quotes. The council would like to ask Quote 1 provider if they can match Quote 2's price for the Survey by Exception (2nd option) as we are conscious of being thrifty with spending of public funds.

12.7 To receive a verbal update with regards to the SID

Rota for moving Battery SID now set through to 2026.
Cllr. Curtis has managed to get some data off the devices.
We are looking into liaising more with Worlington and other villages over speeding/traffic patterns identified.

13. Financial Matters

13.1 To receive the current bank account balances

It was confirmed that there is currently £472.19 held in the current account and £40,530.58 in the deposit account.

13.2 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>
04-Sep	JRB Enterprise Ltd	Dog poo bags	80.12	16.02	96.14
19-Sep	PKF Littlejohn LLP	External Audit	315.00	63.00	378.00
29-Sep	West Suffolk Council	Bin relocation and installation	80.00	16.00	96.00
30-Sep	Suffolk County Council	1/2 yearly rent - allotments	65.00	0.00	65.00
30-Sep	SALC	6 months payroll	45.00	9.00	54.00
30-Sep	Barton Mills Village Hall	Hall hire 01/07 & 02/09 and for NP 28/08	72.00	0.00	72.00
30-Sep	R Lewis	Barton Miller	26.16	0.00	26.16

Barton Mills Parish Council

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

30-Sep	Clerk	Expenses	34.09	0.00	34.09
30-Sep	N Parkinson	Gardening Services - September	75.00	0.00	75.00
01-Oct	West Suffolk Council	Weekly bin collection - October	15.14	0.00	15.14
			807.51	104.02	911.53

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

Clerks expenses approved: Proposed by Cllr. Curtis, seconded by Cllr. Fuller, All in favour

14. Governance

14.1 To receive the 2024/25 External Audit Report and Certificate of Conclusion of Audit

The 2024/25 External Audit Report and Certificate of Conclusion of Audit were noted.

15. Clerks report

Nothing to report

16. Parish Councillors reports

Nothing to report

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

It was **AGREED** to include:

Back - Invitation to Village Hall following Remembrance observation, referring to last year's cover to ensure wording will suit. Information based on latest data from SID (liaise with Mick and Nigel for facts to include)

Inside – Announce new survey of those interested in applying for housing on Exception site. Refer to Havebury for wording.

18. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

19. Exchange of information

Cllr. Oke made her apologies for the November meeting.

20. Date and time of the next meeting – Tuesday 4th November 2025 at 7.30pm in Barton Mills Village Hall, Mildenhall Road, Barton Mills, IP28 6BB

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

N. Alecock
N. Alecock, Clerk