

**DRAFT**

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Barton Seagrave Parish Council held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at Barton Seagrave Village Hall.**

**PRESENT** Councillors Mrs. Miles Chairman  
Mr R Carter  
Mr S Edwards  
Mr C Skinner

Clerk: Mr R Reed

There were eleven members of the public in attendance.

**23/130 Apologies**

Cllrs. Currall, Roberts and Mrs Carter.

**23/131 Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations on agenda items.

**23/132 Policing matters**

There were no officers in attendance. The Clerk had circulated the latest report.

Cllr. Edwards has arranged to meet the Police over problems with graffiti and vandalism in the Pocket Park. **Action: SE**

**23/133 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting Held on 13.07.23**

It was proposed by Cllr. Edwards and seconded by Cllr. R Carter that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023, having previously been circulated, be accepted and signed as a true record of that meeting. This was agreed unanimously

**23/134 Matters Arising**

Covered by agenda items.

**23/135 Highways**

It was agreed to defer the item on Traffic Calming to the next meeting as Cllr. Roberts was not present.

Slabbed footways – concerns over the weed growth between slabs have been reported to Highways with the request for spraying to be carried out. Cllr. Edwards said that he had submitted photographs of the footways to NNC.

Posts/stones on highway verges – the Clerk stated that this practice is an offence under section 149 of the Highways act 1980. The posts that had been installed some years ago at Wicksteed Park were placed there by Northamptonshire County Council for safety reasons as visitors to the park were parking on the verges. Cllr. Edwards spoke of parking issues outside schools.

**23/136 Rights of Way**

Following a report from Bryan Lade, Parish Path Warden, the Wicksteed Trust was arranging for the weed growth at the church gate on HL1 to be cleared.

**23/137 Village Hall**

Mr Adshead presented his report. He had been unable to circulate it earlier due to the internet at the hall being down.

Cllrs. welcomed the increased use of the EV charging points. Cllr. Edwards suggested that the facility be promoted more. It was noted that the points were the cheapest in the area.

Refreshments are to be available at the Christmas events.

Mr Adshead is to speak to the WI regarding Christmas shoebox parcels this year. **Action: RA**

**23/138 Pocket Park**

Cllr. R Carter gave a report about the recent vandalism in the park. Repairs are to be arranged and Cllr. Edwards asked about community involvement in getting the work done.

The Clerk is to check with the insurers. **Action: Clerk**

Following a report of fly-tipping in the park a letter is to be sent to the relevant householders in Belvoir Drive. **Action: Clerk**

**23/139 Climate and Biodiversity Working Party**

Following the spraying earlier in the summer, the growth had now died down and when the group reconvenes in October arrangements will be made to prepare the ground for re-sowing.

**23/140 Neighbourhood Plan**

Following Gary Kirk's presentation at the last meeting, the Parish Council has decided to embark on the process. As soon as the restrictions imposed by the forthcoming election next

week are over a date will be set for a public meeting when members of the working group will be appointed.

### **23/141 Election to fill vacancy on the Parish Council**

Councillors are aware of this but for the benefit of the minutes the Clerk outlined the situation. Following the publication of the notice of a vacancy, a valid request by ten or more residents for an election to be held was received by North Northamptonshire Council and which has now made the arrangements for the election to be held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023 when residents can vote for one of two candidates. Unfortunately, while the late Kettering Borough Council generally absorbed the election costs, NNC will be charging the Parish Council for these which have been estimated by that authority at circa £9000.

### **23/142 Planning Report**

Councillors had considered the following applications:

NK/2023/0477: 120 Polwell Lane. First floor rear extension. Single storey rear extension to form garage with porch. Object – loss of light, out of keeping, parking concerns.

NK/2023/0473: 34 Nicholas Road. Increase roof height to create additional floor. Object – not in keeping with adjacent properties, parking concerns.

NK/2023/0439: 36 Cranford Road. Single storey rear extension, first floor dormer extension. No objections.

NK/2023/0362: 39 Yateley Drive. Change of use of ground floor, part of first floor, garage and garden from residential to nursery. Object – Traffic issues, inappropriate location.

NK/2023/0397: 200 Barton Road. Erection of two storey extension to side and rear. Single storey integral double garage, etc. No objections but concerns over shadowing effects on adjacent properties.

**Action: Clerk**

### **23/143 Councillors' Reports**

Cllr. Edwards reported on recent issues including bin emptying.

Cllr. R Carter informed the council that two replacement notice boards had been installed.

Cllr. Skinner raised concerns over weed growth in alleyways.

### **23/144 Correspondence**

As per circulated list.

It was agreed to invite Lee Burrows to the next meeting to discuss tree planting. **Action: Clerk**

### **23/145 Barton Seagrave Residents time**

The situation over the Neighbourhood Plan was discussed and councillors agreed that immediately following the election results a date at the end of September would be fixed for a public meeting to consider the development of the NHP and establish a working group.

It was suggested that greater communication was required via the Facebook page.

In answer to a question, Cllr. Edwards said he was not aware if the roadworks in Barton Road have now been completed. It was understood that this was due to repairs to gas apparatus and it was noted that this type of repair was becoming quite frequent. The Clerk is to see if he can find out the reasons for this. **Action: Clerk**

The WI suggested additional seats for Barton Road (x2) and Castle Way/St Botolph's Road junction.

Mr Hunter said that he had made an application to create a village green area comprised of the Cricket Field, Big Spinney and the adjacent areas.

### **23/146 Accounts**

(i) The Clerk presented the latest statement of accounts correct to the end of August. Since the last meeting receipts comprised £12500 Nursery rent (half year), £1611.44 insurance claim settlement, £10370.83 VH income and Salvation Army £74.81.

(ii) The Clerk presented the budget monitoring report.

(iii) The following invoices were approved for payment, proposed by Cllr Mrs Miles and seconded by Cllr. R Carter

#### Retrospective

22.06.23 ESPO Debit card receipt £81.54

22.06.23 ESPO Debit card receipt £50.34

17.07.23 3 Lions Security £42.00 OLT

03.08.23 Lamb & Holmes £3,045.00 OLT

03.08.23 Initial £28.12 OLT  
03.08.23 Clean4Shaw Ltd £674.16 OLT  
03.08.23 PKF Littlejohn LLP £504.00 OLT  
25.08.23 Doorway Services £162.00 OLT  
03.08.23 HMRC £824.37 OLT  
03.08.23 Staff costs £2,638.38 OLT  
25.08.23 Wilson Alarm Systems Ltd £718.80 OLT  
25.08.23 Make Woodworking Ltd £6,706.63 OLT  
04.09.23 Staff costs £2,046.32 OLT

Clean4Sure Ltd. (Via Bibby) £674.16 OLT  
Initial £28.12 OLT  
HMRC £545.68 OLT  
R Reed £2,241.43 Cheque No.758  
HMRC £544.00 OLT  
The Defib Pad Debit card receipt

- (iv) The Clerk presented the External Auditor's report. No issues had given the auditor concern but they reminded councillors to bear in mind the balance when setting the precept. **Attention: All**
- (v) The Clerk had received a notice from HMRC alleging overdue payments. The accountant had found this to be an HMRC error and this has now been corrected.

**23/147 Items Requiring Urgent Attention, for Information or for the Next Agenda**

Nothing at this time

**23/148 Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023 commencing at 7:00pm. In the Village Hall.

As there was no further urgent business the Chairman closed the public part of the meeting at 7:55pm