

BARKING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Barking village hall at 7.0pm on Thursday 16th September 2021

Present

Cllr M Lillie (*Chair*), Cllr M Tabberer, Cllr R Fellowes, Cllr M Bailey and Cllr S Butler
District Cllr D Pratt

In Attendance

Mrs L Rogers *Clerk*

Bpc45/21 Apologies

Cllr S Butler – held up in traffic – accepted
County Councillor K Oakes

Bpc46/21 Declaration of Interests and Applications for Dispensation

No interests were declared and no requests for dispensation had been received.

Bpc47/21 To Approve Minutes of the Meetings held on 29th July

The minutes of the meeting were approved by the councillors and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Bpc48/21 Report form District Cllr Dan Pratt

Afghan refugees Following the Government announcement of its new resettlement scheme for Afghan refugees, councils in Suffolk, including MSDC, have expressed their commitment to assist. We have already helped a small number of Afghan interpreters and their families to resettle in Suffolk. There will be ongoing work to support unaccompanied asylum-seeking children and other refugees entering the UK. **Gateway14** Proposals for the logistics and business park spanning 156 acres between the A14 and A1120 has been granted planning permission. This was a very sensitive application as Mid Suffolk District Council own the site (through its company Gateway14 Ltd.) and are also the Planning Authority making the legal decision whether or not to approve the application. A number of councillors in the opposition group were against the proposal on the basis of traffic impacts and landscape buffers reduced to 20 m from 40 m shown in the original plans. The application, despite its significance, was decided at a regular planning committee meeting with an agenda that included 7 other development proposals. **Development of Needham Market former HQ site** This development of homes for private sale is progressing well and show homes can now be viewed by potential buyers. This is the first phase of housing development being carried out by as a Public/Private Joint Venture. Further development will include a small supermarket and affordable homes for shared ownership and for social rent. **Cycling and Walking** Babergh and MSDC have set up a Joint Task and Finish Group to prepare a Local Cycling and Walking Improvement Plan (LCWIP) to prioritise locations across the districts for new or improved cycle and pedestrian provision. **Taxi licensing** the council missed the opportunity to encourage the shift to electric vehicles when they put forward a new taxi licensing policy at the Licensing Committee meeting in August. Even though no new diesel or petrol car can be purchased after 2030, our ten-year policy included no provisions to encourage cab drivers to move to electric vehicles. It contained none of the incentives already in place in other districts. The policy mentions no efforts to reduce emissions and was approved on the Chair's casting vote. **Compost Giveaway** The date for collection of free compost from Mill

Meadow, Needham Lake has been changed and will now be Sunday 19 September from 9.00 to 12.00.

Bpc49/21 Public Forum

No members of the public were present

Bpc50/21 Planning Matters

a. The councillors noted the refusal of Planning Application for DC/21/03800—Erection of 1no, single-storey, self-build agricultural workers dwelling with integral garage, utilising existing vehicular access at Land North-west of Moat Farm Barns, The Tye, Barking

Bpc51/21 Finance

a. Finance Report - The Clerk reported on the financial movements since the previous meeting. Balance at 13th August 2021 was £47,624.70 – see appendix

Decision - Payments totalling £1,818.91 were approved and cheques to be signed

b. Changes to bank signatories – Cllr Tabberer and Cllr Fellowes signed the new mandate to update the signatories and will post the form to Barclays

b. External Auditors Report - The External Audit report with no recommendations for 2020-21 was presented for consideration: Decision – It was proposed and resolved to approve the External Auditors report.

c. To re-appoint the Responsible Finance Officer - The councillors agreed to re-appoint L Rogers as Responsible Finance Officer

d. Annual Insurance Renewal – the councillors completed agreed to insure with Zurich Insurance following changes at CAS. Clerk to check business interruption cover. Cost £538.58 for three years

Bpc52/21 Easement on The Tye

The councillors agreed to pay a further £100 towards future legal costs to Bates, Wells and Braithwaite. Cllrs Lillie and Tabberer signed the up-to-date estimate of legal fees and expenses. It was agreed that all legal costs granting the easement to be met by Ruby Homes.

Bpc53/21 Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations June 2022

The councillors agreed to give permission for the event to take place on The Tye. Organisers to advise about insurance and car parking for the event. It was noted that it will be too early for the hay crop to have been removed.

Bpc54/21 Roadworks in Barking

Following problems during recent roadworks it was agreed to write to Highways to complain about the lack of notice given for the works, diversion routes leading to other diversion routes so greatly extended, poor timing as harvest takes place from mid-July to September and agricultural vehicles need access to farms and are too large to follow diversion routes. Lack of local knowledge shown by the operatives on site and planning diversions. It was also raised that house developers are attaching signs to speed limit poles – Clerk to enquire if this is permitted.

Bpc55/21 SID Camera Feedback

The SID camera is showing that 35,000 vehicles travel through Barking each week.

Key points are:

- Average speed past the camera 30.4MPH
- Vehicle count is 17311 for last full week.
- Top speed 65MPH
- Average speeder was 37.1MPH

- Peak traffic between 7.00-8.00 & 16:30-17:30

Clerk to investigate a solar charger to extend the battery life especially during the winter months.

Bpc56/21 Speed Limit on Willisham Road

The councillors discussed extending the speed limit past the three new houses at an approximate cost of £5,000. It was suggested that the decision should be given to the village as part of a survey due to the expense. It was agreed to install the SID camera to measure traffic speeds and the number of vehicles to provide a comparison to the other SID locations. Another suggestion was for the householders to fund the project. To be considered further at the November meeting.

Bpc57/21 Street Lighting in Barking

Following a complaint about all lights being on the part night lighting scheme, the councillors agreed to revert to all night lighting for the street lights at the Willisham Road/Tye junction, outside Michaelmas Bungalow and at the Forge due to previous accident records and to improve safety at these points. Cllr Pratt raised his concerns about the harmful effects of the LED lights are having on wildlife (bats and moths especially) and also on human health as the blue spectrum of light can affect sleeping patterns. Clerk to investigate if there are any measures available to lessen the effects.

Bpc58/21 Wildlife Survey and Hay on the Tye

The survey has not yet available from Suffolk Wildlife Trust. The problems of removing the hay were discussed and Cllr Pratt suggested a company who may be able to take the hay next year. The possibility of sheep grazing was discussed.

Bpc59/21 Tye Green Hedge

Three quotes had been obtained to cut the hedge:

A £3850 + vat

B £1850 + vat

C £3000 + vat

It was agreed to employ James Firman to carry out the work. Clerk to write to householders to give dates of when the work will be carried out.

Bpc60/21 Survey of Barking Residents

The councillors agreed the principle of carrying out a survey to seek the views from residents about the parish council's work. The Clerk to provide a list of the top ten items of expenditure. Councillors to suggest items to include in the survey such as management of the Tye, play equipment, climate change, upkeep of St Mary's churchyard.

Bpc61/21 Action on Climate Change

Cllr Pratt explained that parish councils can work towards supporting action on climate change by their responses to planning applications; requesting solar panels/tiles, ground source heat pumps, hedging, eco-friendly materials, street lighting impact. It was agreed to include this in the residents' survey.

Bpc62/21 Village Hall Management Committee

The councillors agreed to fully support the Pre-school banner displayed at the front of the village hall and request that the parish council are not mis-quoted in the future.

Bpc63/21 Trees on the Tye

It was agreed for the clerk to obtain quotes to lift the crowns on 64 trees as recommended in the arboriculturalists survey.

Bpc 64/21 Position of the Beacon

It was agreed to move the beacon to the Tye near the war memorial in readiness for next years celebrations. Cllr Lillie to ask the Forge to move it.

Bpc65/21 Reports from Councillors

Cllr Lillie announced his resignation as Chairman as he is to move away from Barking soon. In the meantime, he will remain on the parish council.

Bpc66/21 Date of the Next Meeting

Date of next meeting will be on Thursday 18th November 2021

Meeting closed at 9.15pm

Chairman Date

Finance Report

Income received since 29.7.21

HMRC	VAT refund	1,372.72
MSDC	Cleansing grant	347.49
		<u>£1,720.21</u>

Expenditure since 29.7.21 and to be agreed for payment

Savills	Valuation letter	180.00	LGA 1972 s111
SALC	Communication training	15.00	LGA 1972 s111
L Rogers	August wages	342.76	LGA 1972 s111
L Rogers	August expenses	74.19	LGA 1972
Tye Farm Contracting	July grass cut	252.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10
Community Heartbeat	Defibrillator pads	55.20	Public Health Act 1906, ss9-10
PKF Littlejohn	External Audit	240.00	LGA 1972, s111
L Rogers	September wages	342.76	LGA 1972 s111
L Rogers	September expenses	20.00	LGA 1972
Open Spaces Society	Subscription	45.00	LGA 1972 s111
Tye Farm Contracting	August grass cut	252.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10
		<u>1,818.91</u>	

Unpresented cheques

Savills	Valuation letter	180.00	LGA 1972 s111
Tye Farm Contracting	July grass cut	252.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10
Community Heartbeat	Defibrillator pads	55.20	Public Health Act 1906, ss9-10
PKF Littlejohn	External Audit	240.00	LGA 1972, s111
L Rogers	September wages	342.76	LGA 1972 s111
L Rogers	September expenses	20.00	LGA 1972
Open Spaces Society	Subscription	45.00	LGA 1972 s111
Tye Farm Contracting	August grass cut	252.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10
		<u>1,386.96</u>	

Bank Reconciliation

Account	Statement Date	Statement Balance	Actual Balance	Credit/transfers not shown	Unpresented cheques
Community a/c	13.8.21	£13,640.21	£12,253.25		£1,386.96
Base reward a/c	13.8.21	£35,286.45	£35,286.45	0.00	0.00
Paths Partnership a/c	13.8.21	£83.65	£83.65	0.00	0.00
Active Saver	13.8.21	£1.35	£1.35		
		<u>£49,011.66</u>	<u>£47,624.70</u>		