

DRAFT

BARCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Barcombe Parish Council full meeting held at the Sports Pavilion on Wednesday 9th June 2021 immediately following the June Planning Meeting.

Attendees: Cllrs Arbenz, Cornwell, Holman, Loughlin, Marler, Mills, Pack, Skan, Stewart, Stroude

MINUTES

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr Smith

2. **Confirmation and signature of the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 5th May 2021.**

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

3. **Questions from Councillors**

It was **agreed** to buy some blinds to allow the pavilion to be used more easily on summer evenings.

4. **Questions from Electors**

a) The ongoing anti-social behaviour in village by a small number of younger residents was raised. Damage caused includes the Village Hall where the roof has been damaged by school-uniformed individuals climbing on the roof; intentional damage to windows and shutters, and abusive language when challenged about the activities. The Recreation Ground is also suffering from littering with broken glass.

Action: The Parish Council was asked to consider what activities and facilities could appeal to this age group to entertain them?

Action: The Clerk to highlight the issues with the Barcombe PCSO.

Action: The Parish Council suggested that the Village Hall Committee contact the relevant comprehensive school and see if it can influence the behaviour of the young people.

b) The Parish Council were asked their opinion of the Surrey and Sussex Association of Local Councils and Police Community Group Online meetings. The meetings were started to counteract the general feeling of local parish councils about the lack of police support. These meetings are held regularly throughout the year. If any members of the public would like to attend please contact the Clerk for an invitation.

Points raised at the most recent meeting include:

- Poor parking in Barcombe village centre holding up vehicles including the Chailey School Bus.
- Increasing number of cyclists on local roads and the potential for accidents.
- The Earwig Corner roadworks and the impact on Barcombe and other villages e.g., Glynde.

Cllr Stewart reported that the Transport and Traffic meeting, as suggested at the last meeting between the Parish Council and the Rural Crime Police Team, has not yet been arranged.

Action: Clerk to support Cllr Stewart in trying to arrange this meeting.

Ollie Pendered - Ovesco

Mr Pendered provided an update on how the CommuniHeat project is progressing. The Barcombe-led project aims to take local energy use to net zero along with reducing electricity grid use. The developing of a plan for net zero for rural community is progressing well and providing a role model for other communities.

There will be a cost per house but by being a first mover the Barcombe community will have better access to grants and project funding. The project is working closely with suppliers to make improvements affordable and identify economies of scale. Accredited Home Assessments are available from locally trained staff.

PLEASE NOTE - 25th June 2021 – A community 'Walk Through' Day at the Village Hall to understand home assessments, meet installers and understand how the local grid works.

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Barcombe Energy is a Community Benefit Society so would like to ask a member of the Council to join its steering group alongside members of the local community. There will be opportunities to access alternative fundraising streams through the Community Benefit Society.

Action: Parish Council to identify a Councillor to join the steering group.

Mr Pendered answered a number of questions from Parish Councillors and members of the public.

Action: Allocate a Councillor to the steering group at July Meeting.

5. Subject Reports as required

Finance (To review draft accounts)

Annual Accounts – **Agreed**

External Audit Papers - **Agreed.**

Recreation

All sports teams are back in action, which is great.

- There are now two cricket teams plus a junior all-stars team
- Football had a good season and have won their league. There will be a second team next year
- The Pavilion's damaged slab and roof tiles have been repaired. The internal repair and repaint to the ceiling will be done later. A contractor has repaired the fence.
- The new memorial bench has been arranged. A second requested for a memorial bench has been received, a location will be arranged.

Wells

Mackley have the scoping document but currently have a shortage of staff to provide a quote/work plan.

Toilets

It was agreed to keep the facility in a basic usable condition until the long-term strategic plan for the upper end of the recreation ground and pavilion is agreed.

Playground * (report circulated per-meeting and available from the Clerk on request)

The Playground Working Group did not provide a preferred option as there was not a unanimous consensus within the group. Three options were brought back to the Parish Council for a decision. A short presentation was given on the options for equipped play space. The option of simply re-designing the existing space was excluded by the Parish Council.

Creating equipped play space on the Lower Field - **4 votes in favour.**

Extending and re-designing the existing space – **5 votes in favour.**

Action: Cllr Stewart to check whether the existing site can be extended without effecting the legitimacy of cricket and stoolball matches.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman has attended the Lewes District Association of Local Councils meeting. Housing allocation was discussed, with a report from a meeting with Maria Caulfield. Maria Caulfield believes nothing has changed and the allocation of 345 from the local plans should be used. A meeting is planned between Maria Caulfield, Plumpton Parish Council and Lewes District Council.

The Adur and Ouse Preservation Society are to start monitoring Bevern Stream. The group will look at the water quality and discharge patterns. Cllr Holman will attend the initial meeting.

Barcombe Mills

The height barrier has been broken so large vehicles could get into the carpark. The barrier has been re-padded. Donations towards the car park costs are being made using the GoFundMe page which is very encouraging.

Action: Clerk and Cllr Mills to obtain a QR code and arrange A3 Posters for the car park.

Action: Date to be set for repairs to car park surface inside entrance.

6. Administration, including accounts for payment:

- Julia Shelley, Clerks Salary, June 2021, £530.40
- Julia Shelley, Household expenses, June 2021, £45.31
- Tim Austin, Cleaning/caretaking April 2021, £491.14
- Shaun Broadway, WAB Walkway repair, £200.00

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Proposed by Cllr, seconded by Cllr Arbenz

7. Correspondence

The Monday Club have approached the Parish Council with a grant request. The decision was deferred to July as it was felt that a simple donation to the organisation would be better rather than using money from the Solar Fund.

Action: The Parish Council will identify who is responsible for which elements of public footpaths and stiles etc.

The meeting closed at 21.13.

** POST-MEETING UPDATE ref Section 5: Playground. There are some outstanding questions about this discussion including the impact on the cricket and stoolball pitches and whether the car park spaces could realistically be reduced. This decision will be brought back to the July meeting for ratification following further research and consideration.*