

DRAFT

BARCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Barcombe Parish Council's full meeting held on Wednesday 9th March in the Sports Pavilion, immediately after a Planning Meeting.

Attendees: Attendees: Cllrs Bennington, Cornwell, Holman, Pack, Parson, Skan, Stroude. Also Cllrs Lington and Milligan, plus approx. seven members of the public.

MINUTES

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllrs Arbenz, Smith, Stewart.

2. **Confirmation and signature of the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 9th February 2022.**
The Minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

3. **Presentation**

Two representatives of Gladman attended the March meeting and provided an update on proposals for the land known locally as the Blackcurrant Field. Company staff have met Lewes District Council for a pre-application meeting. However, the land has been deemed not suitable for development in the most recent Land Availability Assessment.

4. **Action Matrix**

The remaining outstanding issues were covered in the agenda.

5. **Questions from Councillors**

Cllr Milligan flagged up a funding project for small-scale road safety activities. He will provide further information when the scheme is launched.

6. **Questions from Electors**

The Boundary Commission for England proposes that Barcombe Cross moves into the East Grinstead and Uckfield Parliamentary constituency (see <https://bit.ly/3MIInp5A>). The Parish Council will write to request that Barcombe Cross remains under the Lewes Parliamentary constituency. Dr A MacGillivray has kindly helped with the wording of the letter, which addresses concerns raised about loss of the link with Lewes. The Parish Council thanks residents who are raising awareness, and who will present the Parish Council's statement at a public meeting. The full text of the statement can be seen on the Parish Council's notice board at the entrance to High Street car park. The PC recommends that that residents write independently to the boundary Commission or respond via the Commission's website at <https://bit.ly/3tVxhAz>.

Action: Clerk to write to Boundary Commission.

7. **Subject Reports as required**

- **Agriculture, Cllr Stroude.** There will be a noticeable increase in activity on local farms, with lambing starting shortly.
- **Community Liaison Group, Cllr Parsons.** Although Rydon Homes established the community liaison group, the reserved matters applications that have been filed do not reflect the conversations between the group and the developers. Cllr Parson will write a piece for the Barcombe News and the Parish Council will hold a planning meeting to allow for the reserved matters to be fully discussed. Cllr Lington confirmed that she will call the application into Full Committee at Lewes District Council.
- **Environment, Cllr Bennington.** Wild About Barcombe requests the Parish Council to create an archive of the organisation's papers. **Action:** Cllr Pack and Clerk to create an online store of material: originals can then be deposited at The Keep.
- The Parish Council thanked Cllr Parsons for repaired the pond decking. A more extensive repair may be required later in the year. It was agreed to seek quotations for the repair of WAB's footpaths, required in the medium term. The climbing rope requires replacement. **Action:** Cllr Bennington and Clerk to order a replacement.
- It was agreed that next year the Parish Council should raise awareness of the village's Toad Patrol.
- **Finance, Cllr Holman & Clerk.** Current financial status circulated.
- **Good Neighbours/WI, Cllr Skan.** Good Neighbours is busy providing lifts and collecting prescriptions. The organisation would also like to explore the option of providing a social element, for example monthly card games in the Sports Pavilion. **WI litter pick** on 19th March. **Action:** Cllr Lington will arrange for litter bags to be collected.

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- **Playground working group/WAB, Cllr Holman & Cllr Smith.**

Proposals:

- Appoint Natural Playscapes to provide the equipped playground in the extended area. **Agreed. Action:** Cllr Holman to ask for the estimate to be presented as a formal quotation with final equipment choices.
 - Appoint PlaySafe to provide the equipment to be sited in the lower recreational area. Decisions on equipment choice and final location deferred until previous item is underway.
 - The toilet block should be set aside as a potential coffee kiosk. **Against.** It was agreed it would be more productive to knock the building down and incorporate into the play or parking space.
 - The Sports Pavilion's external toilet will be refurbished and opened to the public. **Agreed.**
- **Services/Properties, Cllr Pack and Clerk.** Cllr Pack had reviewed options regarding air purifiers. It was agreed to defer purchase until the next stage of the COVID pandemic unfolds.
 - **Traffic/Roads, Cllr Cornwell.** It was agreed to consider some traffic control/road safety options with a view to applying for a forthcoming grant (see item 5 above).
 - **Footpaths, Cllr Smith & Cllr Holman.** Two matters have been reported.
 - A path ploughed and not remarked between Hamsey Road and Mill Lane (path BAR/36/1)
 - A fence missing in front of the Willows where the road crosses a stream, leaving a steep drop (path BAR/39/3).**Action:** Clerk to report both items.
 - **Chairman's report, Cllr Holman.** The Chairman passed on a request from the village school for a Councillor to become a school governor. Proposed date for Annual Village Meeting – May 11th 2022.

8. Administration, including accounts for payment:

Julia Shelley, Clerks Salary, March 2022, £812.04
Julia Shelley, Household expenses, March 2022. £45.31
Tim Austin, Cleaning/caretaking February 2022, £359.01
John Church, Radiator repair, £50.00
Richard Osmond, Greenkeeping Jan 2021 – April 2022, £875.00 ¹
HMRC, Clerks NI Payment, £12.69
Re-issue grant cheque, Barcombe Bowls Club, £250.00 ²

Paid between meetings: Barcombe Forestry, Tree pruning School Path, £2,880.00.

Proposed by Cllr Parson, seconded Cllr Holman.

9. Correspondence

Dog Fouling. **Action:** Clerk to order and distribute posters.
Air Ambulance request. Added to next meeting agenda.

The meeting closed at 21.00.

¹ Covers 15 months to bring payment in line with financial year end.

² Invoice demonstrating spend received.