

BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Julie Ferguson

Tel: 07365 293954 E-mail: clerk@barringtonpc.co.uk

Minutes of the 775th Meeting of Barrington Parish Council held on Tuesday 9th April 2024 at 19:00hrs

Present: Councillors (Cllrs) – Don Bourne (Chair), Tom McKnight, Peter Oakes, Rob Stenner.

In attendance: Julie Ferguson (Parish Clerk), Somerset Cllr Adam Dance and 3 members of the public.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (15 minutes)

A brief from the Barrington In Bloom team was heard, with the results of the recent footpath survey presented. Lots of maintenance issues were identified and the next steps included finding a footpath warden volunteer, agreeing a schedule of work with volunteers and obtaining funding.

Many public objections to a planning application on the agenda were heard, with no comments heard in support.

OUTSIDE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

Somerset Councillors (SCllrs)

No Cllrs were present.

19:30 – Meeting opened

The Chairman opened announcing that Cllr McKnight had resigned from the Parish Council and thanked him for his significant efforts whilst on the Parish Council, in particular maintaining the village recreation field.

23/150 To receive apologies for absence and approve reasons given (LGA 1972 s85(1))
None.

23/151 Declarations of interests. Council members to declare any interests, including any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33 (b-e). (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).
None.

23/152 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting
(LGA 1972 sch12,para41(1))

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 12th Mar 24.

23/153 Matters to report from a previous meeting.

None.

23/154 Planning decisions report.

None.

23/155 Planning applications – 24/00444/FUL. Land At 339195 118275 Eastfield Lane Barrington Ilminster Somerset. Erection of 3No. dwellings with associated works to form vehicular access, parking and garages.

RESOLVED: To **OBJECT** to the planning application with comments (See Appendix 1).

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23/156 Finance – To **APPROVE** the payment schedule for April 2024.

BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL APRIL 24 PAYMENTS			
DATE	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
09-Apr-24	STAFF	SALARY AND EXPENSES - APR 24	£ 530.77
09-Apr-24	SOMERSET COUNCIL	RANGER MARCH 24	£ 422.51
	TOTAL PAYMENTS		£ 953.28

23/157 Finance – To **APPROVE** 23-24 EoY Cashbook/Bank Reconciliation and **NOTE** Q4 Budget.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the 23-24 EoY Cashbook/Bank Reconciliation and Q4 Budget (Noted) (See Appendix 2).

23/158 Finance - To **AGREE** to exempt the Parish Council from an external audit, due to income or expenditure being less than £25K & sign the Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2022/23 Form.

RESOLVED: To exempt the Parish Council from an external audit, due to income or expenditure being less than £25K & sign the Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2022/23 Form.

23/159 Finance – To **AGREE** to contribute to the cost of the playground grass cutting with the Village Hall Committee. Propose 50% share of £350 (annually).
This was deferred until an updated quote could be considered.

23/160 Reports – To **receive reports:**

- a. Parish Councillor reports

23/161 Items for the next agenda.

- Annual Parish Council Meeting
- Receive Internal Audit Report

23/162 Date of next meeting – 14th May 2024 (all agenda items to be provided to the clerk by 2nd May 2024).

20:45 – Meeting closed

Appendix 1 – Planning Comments. 24/00444/FUL. Land At 339195 118275 Eastfield Lane Barrington Ilminster Somerset. Erection of 3No. dwellings with associated works to form vehicular access, parking and garages.

Material Considerations	Explanation of Grounds
1. Overlooking, loss of privacy or overbearing/overshadowing nature of proposal	
2. Design & appearance, impact on public visual amenity	
3. Layout & density of building	
4. Effect on listed buildings and/or conservation areas	
5. Loss of trees or ecological habitats	The PC did not believe there was enough information provided on the Ecological Survey to provide confidence that habitats would not be affected by this development.
6. Inadequate parking and/or servicing areas	

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7. Access, highways safety or traffic generation	The PC considered that there was a potential for an additional 86 car movements per week for 3 x 4 Bedroom houses with 2 cars per household servicing a typical family size (5 persons). This demonstrates a significant increase in traffic using a narrow lane with a dangerous junction with inadequate splays onto the main Barrington village road. At that point there sits 2 Grade II listed properties, with the danger of damage to those properties significantly increased by additional vehicles accessing and exiting the lane. The application states that there is a passing place, this is a privately owned driveway, therefore cannot be considered a passing place. Safety is a major concern to the Parish Council, safety of current residents, existing road users and local walkers and horse riders using this quiet back lane.
8. Noise, smells or disturbance from the scheme	If planning was granted, there would need to be a stringent and considerate site management plan, due to the restricted access and narrow lane, so as to give careful consideration to the affect on the lives of current residents.
9. Flood risk	There is no detail explaining how surface water run-off would be managed. Barrington has a very high water table and flooding is always a risk to many residents of Barrington.
10. Other reason	
3. Comments only	
General Observations:	The Parish Council cannot see any benefit to the existing parish offered by this development. There is very little local employment, with it acknowledged that a large proportion of residents are retired or fortunate enough to not have to go out to work. Contrary to what is stated in the application, Barrington is not served well by local transport links, only a couple of buses daily for students to catch for school/college, residents are largely reliant on their own mode of transport.

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Appendix 2 – 2023/24 EoY Cashbook/Bank Reconciliation and Q4 Budget.

BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL 2023-24						
Receipts and Payments Summary for the year ending 31st March 2024						
	Last Year	This Year	Budget	Reserve	Remaining	Remaining
	2022-23	2023-24	2023-24	Transfer	2023-24	2023-24
RECEIPTS						
Precept	£ 18,150.00	£ 20,171.00				
Deposit Interest	£ 58.57	£ 179.65				
Allotment Fees	£ 140.00	£ 162.50				
Grants	£ -	£ -				
VAT repayment	£ 597.02	£ -				
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£ 18,945.59	£ 20,513.15				
PAYMENTS						
Salaries	£ 4,950.69	£ 5,551.27	£ 5,000.00		-£ 551.27	-11%
Administration	£ 1,353.01	£ 1,640.27	£ 2,000.00		£ 359.73	18%
Ground Maintenance Contract	£ 3,176.12	£ 2,569.51	£ 4,500.00		£ 1,930.49	43%
Ranger	£ 1,586.62	£ 1,936.54	£ 2,500.00		£ 563.46	23%
Village Hall Hire	£ 120.00	£ -	£ 200.00		£ 200.00	100%
I/T & Website	£ 248.36	£ 424.44	£ 350.00		-£ 74.44	-21%
Subscriptions	£ 159.12	£ 242.71	£ 150.00		-£ 92.71	-62%
Insurances	£ 695.14	£ 709.38	£ 650.00		-£ 59.38	-9%
Training	£ 206.66	£ 460.00	£ 200.00		-£ 260.00	-130%
Footpath Maintenance	£ -	£ -	£ 100.00		£ 100.00	100%
Grants (inc. PCC & VH)	£ 540.00	£ 1,050.00	£ 1,550.00		£ 500.00	32%
Asset Management	£ 449.30	£ 473.42	£ 1,000.00		£ 526.58	53%
Field Lease (Allotments)	£ 506.00	£ 506.00	£ 506.00		£ -	0%
Defibrillator	£ -	£ 2,636.33	£ -	£ 2,400.00	-£ 236.33	-10%
VAT incurred	£ 629.03	£ 992.33				
RESERVES CONTRIBUTIONS			£ 1,200.00			
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£ 14,620.05	£ 19,192.20	£ 19,906.00			
Exc of Recpt over Paymts	£ 4,325.54	£ 1,320.95				
plus balances b/fwd	£ 28,835.25	£33,160.79				
Balances c/fwd	£ 33,160.79	£ 34,481.74	CASHBOOK BALANCE			
Reconciliation with bank accounts as at 31 MARCH 2024						
Natwest Current Account		£ 20,932.46				
Natwest Reserve Account		£ 13,549.28				
Less Outstanding payments		£ -				
Add Outstanding lodgements		£ -				
Total balances at bank		£ 34,481.74	STATEMENT BALANCES			

Reserves	Reserves at 31/3/2023	Additions current yr	Spend from reserves	Reserves at 31/3/2024	Notes
*IT replacement fund (ring fenced)	£ 480.13	£ 100.00		£ 580.13	
Defibrillator replacement fund (ring fenced)	£ 2,300.00	£ 100.00	-£2,400.00	£ -	XFER to CASHBOOK
Footpaths Reserve (ring fenced?)	£ 2,774.73	£ 100.00		£ 2,874.73	
Outdoor Fitness Fund (ring fenced)	£ 2,428.07	£ 500.00		£ 2,928.07	
Highways & drainage Reserve	£ 2,000.00	£ 500.00		£ 2,500.00	
*Election costs (ring fenced)	£ 350.00	£ -		£ 350.00	Sufficient
*Enhanced Website (ring fenced)	£ 250.00	£ -		£ 250.00	Need plans
Winter Warmer Fund - NEW	£ 1,500.00	£ -		£ 1,500.00	Need to identify how to use - other village groups?
Drains - NEW	£ 1,144.82	£ -		£ 1,144.82	Insurance and day to day materials
Legal Expenses	£ 500.00	£ -		£ 500.00	Sufficient
Admin reserve - 50%-75% running costs	£ 19,433.04	£ -		£21,853.99	Sufficient
Total Reserves	£ 33,160.79			£34,481.74	