

BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Julie Ferguson. Chilthorne Knapp, Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil, BA22 8QZ

Tel: 07783 475200

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Minutes of the 748th Virtual Meeting of Barrington Parish Council held on Tuesday 9 March 2021 at 19:00hrs

Present – Councillors

Don Bourne (Chairman), Margaret Stone, Tom McKnight, Peter Oakes, Victoria Collins

In attendance:

Julie Ferguson - Parish Clerk, Mike Stanton – District Councillor, Adam Dance – County Councillor

19:00 – Meeting opened

20/145 To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given

Mr Arnold had sent his apologies.

20/146 Declarations of Interests

None.

20/147 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting held.

20/148 Matters to report from the previous meeting

There were no matters to report.

20/149 Public Open Session to include County and District Councillors reports

Both County and District Councillors had provided a written report which had been circulated and was available for viewing on the PC website.

Councillor Stanton reported that he had recently appeared on local BBC Politics programme to emphasise the need to find a solution to the phosphates problems that was currently holding up all planning applications in the area.

Councillors Dance & Stanton encouraged all members of the PC to respond to the Government consultation, expressing their opinions and preferences for One Somerset or Stronger Somerset.

Councillor McKnight reported that the ranger had been asked to cut back the overhanging vegetation for the parish footpaths.

The PC had received an email from a resident of the parish expressing concern over a hedge that had been netted in preparation for removal and requesting that the PC ensure that it be reinstated once the development had been completed. The Chairman thought that sections of the hedge required removal to serve as access to the development, but agreed to check the details of the planning application before responding to the resident.

20/150 Planning Decisions Report.

a. 20/03381/HOU – 16 Westfields, Ruskway Lane. Demolition of single storey structure, erection of a two storey extension and porch. Approved.

Noted.

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20/151 Planning Applications Report.

None.

20/152 Parish Council Matters – To adopt the Financial Regulations

RESOLVED: The Financial Regulations were unanimously adopted without amendment.

20/153 Parish Council Matters – To approve the Scheme of Internal Audit (Financial Risk Assessment)

Councillor Stone suggested that the PC might consider switching to online banking. The clerk agreed to put this on the agenda next month for a decision.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

RESOLVED: The Scheme of Internal Audit (Financial Risk Assessment) was unanimously approved without amendment.

20/154 Parish Council Matters – Preparation for the return to physical meetings

The clerk explained that, because of ongoing Government Covid restrictions, public meetings of any sort could not go ahead physically in the village hall until after the 21st June at the earliest. Due to the legal requirement for the PC to hold the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) between the 1st March and 1st June, this would therefore need to be a virtual event. Furthermore, the Annual Meeting of the Council would need to be held before the 7th May. It was decided to hold the APM on the 13th April, starting at 6.30pm allowing a few minutes to each village group, with the annual PC meeting starting at 7pm as usual. The clerk suggested that village groups be contacted so that they are aware of the APM.

ACTION: All Councillors

20/155 Finance - To approve the following payments:

J Ferguson – Clerk's salary and expenses	£361.88
HMRC – PAYE	£64.80
Barrington PCC – Allotment field rent arrears	£377.00

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed for the payments presented to be approved and signed.

20/156 Date of next meeting – 13th April 2021 (APCM preceded by Annual Parish Meeting @ 6.30pm)

20:40 – Meeting closed