

BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Tel: 07783 475200

E-mail: clerk@barringtonpc.co.uk

Minutes of the 749th Virtual Meeting of Barrington Parish Council held on Tuesday 4 May 2021 at 19:00hrs

Present – Councillors

Don Bourne (Chairman), Mat Arnold, Margaret Stone, Tom McKnight, Peter Oakes, Victoria Collins, Robert Stenner

In attendance:

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

19:00 – Meeting opened

21/01 To elect a Chair and sign the acceptance of office form

RESOLVED: Don Bourne was proposed, seconded and duly elected as Chair of the Parish Council.

21/02 To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given

None.

21/03 Declarations of Interests

None.

21/04 To elect officers and sign the acceptance of office forms

RESOLVED: It was agreed for officer roles to continue for long standing councillors and for new responsibilities to be appointed for Rights of Way & Footpaths, Tree Officer, Defibrillator, Fitness Equipment. The clerk advised that the person carrying out the fitness equipment should ideally have training, which she could arrange & that baseline photographs to start and weekly inspection sheets should be completed & provided to the clerk, with any issues notified to the parish council at monthly meetings.

Councillor Arnold offered to take on the responsibility for Rights of Way & footpaths, trees and the weekly inspection for fitness equipment. Councillor Bourne agreed to take on the asset register and the PC involvement with the defibrillator, alongside the parishioner caretaker.

All Councillors signed the acceptance of office form.

21/05 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.

21/06 Matters to report from the previous meeting

There were no matters to report.

21/07 Public Open Session to include County and District Councillors reports

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District Councillor Stanton reported that SSDC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) had resigned and an interim CEO had been appointed to be announced the following day. He had also provided a written report which had been circulated and was available for viewing on the PC website.

21/08 Planning Decisions Report.

None.

21/09 Planning Applications Report - 21/00792/LBC - Barrington Court, Eastfield Lane – Repairs & partial replacement of decayed stone chimney and finials on the roof of Barrington Court

RESOLVED: The Parish Council unanimously supported the application.

21/10 Finance - To approve the 2020/21 EOY financial statement, cashbook and bank reconciliations

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve the 2020/21 EOY financial statement, cashbook and bank reconciliations.

21/11 Finance - To approve and sign Part 2 of the AGAR to exempt the PC from an external audit due to income or expenditure being less than £25K for the financial year 2020/21

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve and for the Chair to sign Part 2 of the AGAR to exempt the PC from an external audit due to income or expenditure being less than £25K for the financial year 2020/21.

21/12 Finance – To complete Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2020/21

RESOLVED: All councillors answered 'Yes' to each statement on the Annual Governance Statement 2020/21

21/13 Finance – To agree AGAR Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2020/21

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to accept the AGAR Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2020/21

21/14 Finance - To report the following payments:

J Ferguson – Clerk's salary and expenses (April21)	£384.78
HMRC – PAYE (April21)	£ 64.80
Garden Farm & Country Services – Grass cutting Mar21	£320.00
SALC – Councillor Training	£ 25.00
NSALG – Annual subscription	£ 30.00

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21/15 Finance - To approve the following payments:

J Ferguson – Clerks salary & expenses (May)	£365.30
HMRC – PAYE (May21)	£ 64.80
Bradford Building Supplies – Footpath maintenance	£173.12

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

21/16 Finance – To consider switching to online banking

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed for the clerk to be added to the bank mandate as a full signatory and apply for online banking for all parish council NatWest bank accounts.

21/17 Parish Matters – To report on the overgrown plot opposite 'North's Land'

The Chairman gave a report on the situation regarding the tidying of the plot of land, instructed by the owner in response to a neighbour's request and fire officers recommendations to create a fire break between the large trees and vegetation and a number of vulnerable properties. It was emphasised that the parish council had not been involved in the instruction of the work or the communications between neighbours & landowners.

Whilst it was the responsibility of the landowner to keep the hedge tidy, the parish council agreed to ask the ranger to cut back the overhanging vegetation & hedge bordering the highway, as it was considered to be a danger to pedestrians. Any future work might be chargeable to the landowner.

21/18 Parish Matters – To consider a request from the allotment holders to erect a fence

Members of the parish council had visited the allotments to better understand the problem that allotment holders were encountering with what is thought to be deer and dogs running over allotments. Councillor Oakes explained that sections of the hedge had been removed by past and present allotment holders to aid access, but agreed that this would be unsatisfactory for some allotment holders. It was agreed to fund a stock fence & posts and a gate for access, with the plan to replant the gaps in autumn.

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to a budget of £300 for posts, stock fence & gate plus labour.

ACTION: Councillors Oakes and McKnight

21/19 Parish Matters – Village hall re-opening report & arrangements for future PC physical meetings

RESOLVED: It was agreed to return to physical meetings in the VH after the 21st June, subject to availability of the main hall.

21/20 Date of next meeting – 13th July 2021

20:40 – Meeting closed