

BARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

27th June 2024 7.00pm AT BARTON VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chair Cllr Walsh, Vice Chair Cllr Jones, Cllr Burns, Cllr Dobinson, Cllr Wool, Cllr Lee

Members of the Public: David Cross Parish Clerk: Charlotte Liversedge-Gell

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| 14 Apologies - with approval for apologies | None |
| 15 Declaration of Interest – to receive & consider then decide upon any applications for dispensation | None |
| 16 Minutes | Minutes of the meeting held 30th May 2024 approved and signed by the Chair |
| 17 Matters Arising | None |
| 18 Correspondence | <p>18.1) Parishioner email expressing concern over the closing of the Half Moon Pub and the need for Parish Council backing to try and prevent this. PC replied explaining the PC is proactively involved in a positive outcome for the Pub.</p> <p>18.2) Letter received from NYC regarding the 30mph limit zones within the Village. It was agreed that the Village would benefit from the 30mph limit being extended to beyond the Barton Sports Fields. Cllr Lee to respond to NYC</p> <p>18.3) David Cross Co-Opt application. PC unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr Cross onto the PC. Clerk to arrange with NYC democratic services. Chair Walsh welcomed Cllr Cross</p> <p>18.3) Risk Assessment received for the Armed Forces Day. Clerk passed onto Insurers and the PC wishes the organisers luck for the day. Cllr Wool offered to lend his generator for power throughout the event.</p> <p>18.4) Cllr Lee was approached by two Parishioners asking if the PC could look into the boarded up property at 7 St Cuthbert's Green. Cllr Lee contacted the owners, The Home Group Housing Association. They have confirmed that they intend to refurbish and re-let the property to a Barton resident or someone working in the Village. It is expected to be marketed by the end of this year. Chair Walsh had contacted Environmental Health a few months ago to enforce some sanctions to clean the house up. It will be a positive to have the house available for a Barton resident.</p> <p>18.5) Cllr Lee informed the PC that a Parishioner had two oak tree saplings that are 6 foot tall and did the PC have any use for them. Chair Walsh explained the only land viable could be that at the top of Kettle End but the landscape there is already fairly cluttered. The PC is grateful for the offer but declined taking the saplings on.</p> |
| 19 Public Participation | None |

20 Half Moon Pub

Update on future options for the Half Moon within the Village
The PC had an extensive discussion around the Half Moon Pub and its future.

Cllr Cross updated the PC that the Survey circulated to the village had run its course and that the registration process for the Pub to become an Asset of Community Value had started.

The survey had 160 responses and 90% of them were positive - the level of concern over the Pub's future is high. The responses have been very useful to input into the Registration for Asset of Community Value (ACV). This was submitted 31/05/2024 – there is then a period of a maximum of 8 weeks where NYC contacts other relevant parties. If there are no objections it can be registered immediately. Cllr Wool currently holds the license and he explained that he had not yet received any contact over the registration. If any parties were to object, NYC would make a judgement based on things like whether there was another pub in the Village and the level of local public concern/interest. Cllr Cross explained that we have a very strong case for this to proceed positively.

Following this there would be a Moratorium period – within the first six weeks the Community could express an interest in submitting a competitive bid. there would then be a further six months Moratorium for the Community to submit a bid for the pub – the pub cannot be sold within those six months until the Community have put their bid in.

If no interest is expressed within the first six weeks by the Community, then the owner can sell.

As a consequence to the Facebook post about the pub, Mr Landers had mentioned the Community Ownership Fund and levelling up that has a pot of £70 million for Communities putting bids in for Community Assets like the Half Moon. The fund can cover up to 80% of the finance needed to buy the Community Asset and covers £50,000 of the first year running costs. The PC passed on thanks to Mr Landers for their input and advice.

Cllr Cross told the PC that there had also been Teams Call with the Plunket Foundation – they are a Charity that the PC can join as a member if we need to call on their services.

VC Jones passed credit onto Cllr Cross for his time and effort for registering the Pub as a Community Asset.

VC Jones explained that there was a party interested in putting a bid in for the freehold, there had been concern that the Community Asset Registration may have prevented them putting a bid in for the Freehold.

The potential buyers had been told that the ACV would stall the sale due to the Moratorium. This is not the case.

Cllr Wool had spoken with the interested parties and explained that this was not the case. The ACV is to prevent the pub being sold for use other than a pub – not to stop interested parties wanting to buy and run the Pub. VC Jones noted he would call the interested parties and explain that the PC and the registration to make the Half Moon a Community Asset was not a barrier to them

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| | <p>purchasing the Freehold and that they had the backing of the Parish Council as well as the Community.</p> <p>Chair Walsh voiced that it would be counterproductive for Punch to leave the pub empty to deteriorate. Cllr Wool agreed and explained that the Pub was going to be boarded up from 30/6/24 – this had been circulated to various clubs within the Village to remove anything of theirs within the pub before it was boarded up. Cllr Lee asked what plans the interested party had for the pub – were they fresh ideas so that it doesn't struggle as it has done in the past.</p> |
| 21 Planning | <p>To consider ZD24/00321/FULL 23 Kettle End</p> <p>PROPOSAL: Full Planning Permission for Demolition of Conservatory and Construction of 3 Extensions and Conversion of Roof Space</p> <p>No objections from the Parish Council – note to ensure that there is no loss of amenity for neighbours overlooked by the dormer windows.</p> |
| 22 Police & Crime Update | <p>May 2024 – 7 Crimes reported.</p> <p>2 x assault without injury</p> <p>2 x sexual publication</p> <p>2 x sexual</p> <p>1 x burglary</p> <p>Chair Walsh commented that the Police appear to be doing a good job in the area. Cllr Dobinson told the PC about the Mardis Club being made aware of a scam going round regarding Lifeline. People have been receiving scam calls saying that due to changes in Lifeline if users want an extra button for their home they can order one for £1 and that it can be shipped this week. Two members of the Mardis Club had had calls.</p> <p>This is a scam – Lifeline is paid for by the Rowlanston Egglestone - please don't give your bank or card details out over the phone.</p> <p>Cllr Lee highlighted that there has been some more Speed Patrols carried out within the Village.</p> |
| 23 NYC Update | <p>Quarterly update will be circulated by the Clerk on receipt</p> |
| 24 Play Area Inspections | <p>Chair Walsh updated the PC that Street Scape have very kindly only charged the PC for the parts for the Stand Up Seesaw and it has been repaired. There had been a small amount of litter that Chair Walsh has picked up – the rest of the Play Area is in good condition. Thankfully it does not suffer intentional damage/vandalism.</p> <p>Chair Walsh to forward forms for future grants to the Clerk.</p> |
| 25 Financial Matters | <p>25.1) Salary Payment & Accounts Payable</p> <p>£271.36 Clerk Salary</p> <p>£296.40 24054 & £889.20 24097 Walkers – grass cutting</p> <p>£210 Street Scape Play Area repairs</p> <p>25.2) The current bank balance £11874 20/06/2024</p> |

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| | <p>25.3) Chair Walsh informed the PC that the cost of cutting the hedge at the Village Hall has been paid for by the Village Hall Committee</p> <p>25.4) Annual Governance Forms were signed for submission to external auditor and final 2023/24 accounts forwarded to PC</p> <p>25.5) Cllr Burns offered to donate £2000 towards the repair of the White Bridge at Marygate as it is in a state of disrepair. There has been various contact with Highways to repair and paint the bridge but works have not been fulfilled. Chair Walsh thanked Cllr Burns for his very generous offer. Taking the White Bridge on as a PC Asset could prove costly and it's upkeep could become a large financial and public liability. VC Jones stated that Highways had scheduled painting of the bridge when the weather improved, but it did not happen and that a letter should be written to NYC. Chair Walsh agreed – he will write a letter for the Clerk to forward to NYC.</p> <p>Chair Walsh thanked the new Cllr's Lee & Cross for attending and for their input.</p> <p>Meeting Closed 8.15pm</p> |
| 26 Next Meeting | To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting due to be held on Thursday 25th July 2024 at 7pm held in the Village Hall |