**Barford St John & St Michael Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday, 2 April 2014 at 7.30pm in Barford Village Hall**

**The meeting commenced at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr Hobbs, Cllr Eden, Cllr Turner, Cllr Styles, Cllr Best, Cllr Bullard, Cllr Woolgrove, County Cllr Fatemian (arrived 7.43) District Cllr O’Sullivan and Mrs R Watts (Parish Clerk).

**Apologies for absence:** there were none

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| **14/024** | **Declarations of Interest:** there were none. |
| **14/025** | **Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of the meeting on 5 March 2014 were proposed by Cllr Eden, seconded by Cllr Styles, unanimously **RESOLVED** as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman. |
| **14/026** | **Matters Arising not elsewhere on the agenda:** there were none. |
| **14/027** | **Parish Clerk's Report:** James McKewan from OCC Environment & Economy had inspected the bridge in Mill Lane**.** The river levels have dropped sufficiently so that the bridge is passable once again. However, the winter flooding has washed away ground to the north of the bridge (as you step down off the stile). As a short term solution the team will visit and add a second, lower step to the end of the bridge. Whilst on site they will carry out a detailed inspection to find the best solution to problems caused by flooding – this may be to install a longer footbridge or reposition the existing structure. The walkway from Mill Lane to the footbridge appears to have had overgrown vegetation removed. There were a number of cut branches visible. The team are scheduled to carry out the temporary repairs to this bridge within the next two months. |
| **14/028** | **Correspondence:** |
|  | TVP | Thames Valley Police Alerts – emailed to Councillors |
|  | CDC | **Election Nomination Packs** received. Packs can be obtained from the Parish Clerk or Cherwell DC (01295 227005) elections@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk The closing date for nominations is 4.00pm on Thursday 24 April 2014. Nominations must be hand-delivered to Bodicote House. The Returning Officer will not accept posted nominations. |
|  | C Seagroatt | Complaint received regarding the closure of the B4931 Hempton to A361 South Newington for urgent road repairs. The Parish Clerk had responded explaining that the Parish Council has no jurisdiction over road closures. |
|  | Mr & Mrs Greeves | Update on progress of repairs to The Rock face. Councillors thanked Mr & Mrs Greeves for keeping them well informed. Concerns were raised about large vehicles using Church Street while The Rock is closed. |
| **14/029** | **Public Participation:** there was none. |
| **14/030** | **County Councillor’s Report:** The OCC Community budget has been cut by 50% to £5,000. Applications for a grant must in future include details of desired outcomes of a project and details of how the success of a project will be gauged. Government has awarded OCC Highways £4.1M towards repairing potholes. |
| **14/031** | **District Councillor’s Report:** The Appeal for a development of 60 houses in Tadmarton Road, Bloxham has been upheld. This, with three other developments in Bloxham will have an effect on through traffic in the Barfords. Castle Quay 2 has been approved and new shops will be built.Cllr O’Sullivan will retire in May and Councillors thanked him for his support over many years. |
| **14/032** | **Parish Matters** |
| 14/032/1 | **First Aid Courses / Defibrillator Update:** Cllr Hobbs had nothing further to report. The subject matter will be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting on 30 April. |

Chairman’s initials……………….. Date………………………………

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| **14/033** | **Planning Matters:** |
| 14/033/1 | **Planning Applications Received:**14/00370/F Clowes, 1 Church Cottages, Barford St Michael. Remove existing conservatory and erect single storey extension in its place. No objections.14/00380/F Hanmer, Maple Cottage, Horn Hill, Barford St Michael. New roof to provide loft accommodation. No objections. |
| 14/033/2 | **Planning Applications Approved:** there were none.  |
| 14/033/3 | **Planning Applications Refused:** there were none. |
| 14/033/4 | **Notice of Intent TCA:**14/00085/TCA Pegg, The Ledge, Barford St Michael. T1 x Ash – reduce by 30%. No objections |
| 14/033/5 | **Approved TCAs:** there were none. |
| 14/033/6 | **TCA Refused:** there were none |
| 14/033/7 | The Appeal by Miller Homes for a development of 60 houses in Tadmarton Road, Bloxham has been upheld. |
| **14/034** | **Reports from Meetings:** there were none. |
| **14/035** | **Change of Signatories Barclays Bank:****T**here had been continuing issues with the acceptance of the forms during the month and a formal complaint had been lodged with the bank. The Parish Clerk received confirmation on 22 March that all changes were now in place. Any two of five signatories may now sign cheques (Cllrs, Hobbs, Turner, Best, Styles and Eden). |
| **14/036** | **Finance:**Before the meeting the Parish Clerk had presented the schedules of receipts and payments and sought approval to pay the cheques itemised on the schedule totalling £859.08 (Annex 1). Cllr Hobbs moved acceptance of the payments detailed, this was seconded by Cllr Eden and approved unanimously.  |
| **14/037** | **To Approve End of Year Accounts 2013-2014:** Before the meeting the Parish Clerk & RFO had presented Councillors with end of year accounts 2013-2014 (Annex 2) and she now sought approval of those accounts before they are submitted to internal and external auditors. Cllr Hobbs moved acceptance of the accounts, this was seconded by Cllr Eden and approved unanimously.  |
| **AOB** | 1. Complaints had been received during the month about unpleasant smells coming from surrounding fields. Cllr Woolgrove explained that DEFRA now recommended a springtime application of fertilizer to fields rather than an autumn application. Contractors have been working in fields spreading organic chicken manure. The smell lasts from 4-5 days (less if it rains). Cllr Woolgrove has an exemption certificate for storing this compost on land that he farms and contractors are licensed to transport the fertilizer.
2. Parish Councillors hold office for four years. Barford St John & St Michael Parish Councillors stand down this year. The closing date for nominations is Thursday, 24 April at 4.00pm. If the number of validly nominated candidates does not exceed the number of vacancies (seven), they will be declared elected as soon as possible after the latest time for the delivery of withdrawals. In the event of more candidates being accepted than seats available, then an election will take place on 22 May 2014. More details can be obtained from the Parish Clerk, or Cherwell District Council. Unfortunately an article regarding this matter was inadvertently omitted from the April edition of Barford News.
3. The Annual Parish Meeting and VHMC AGM will be held on 30 April at 7.30pm.
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The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 7 May 2014 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.33pm.

Signed by Chairman………………………………… Date………………………………