

**Barford St John & St Michael Parish Council Meeting  
Wednesday, 6 January 2016 at 7.30pm in Barford Village Hall**

**The meeting commenced at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Hobbs, Eden, Styles, Turner, Hanmer District Cllr Williams and Mrs Watts (Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer)

**Apologies for absence:** Cllr Best, County Cllr Fatemian

**Chairman's Announcements:**

Long-standing District Councillor, Paul O'Sullivan, sadly passed away on 3 December. Cllr Hobbs asked the meeting to stand and observe a one minute's silence.

David Campbell is moving from the village and has resigned from the Parish Council. Cllr Hobbs thanked him for his contribution to the Council. The Parish Clerk has set the legal wheels in motion for filling the vacancy.

**16/001      Declarations of Interest:**

**16/002      Minutes of the last meeting:** Cllr Styles proposed that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4 November 2015 be **RESOLVED** as a true and accurate record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Eden and passed unanimously.

**16/003      Matters Arising not elsewhere on the agenda:** there were no matters arising.

**16/004      Parish Clerk's Report:**

**16/005      Correspondence:** The Parish Clerk had forwarded all correspondence to Councillors during the last two months. There were no matters outstanding.

**16/006      Public Participation:** none

**16/007      County Councillor's Report:** County Cllr Fatemian had not submitted a report.

**16/008      District Councillor's Report:** Cllr Williams reported on the following matter: The Secretary of State has upheld an appeal by Gladman Developments to build 54 houses in Hook Norton in direct contravention of Hook Norton's recently adopted Neighbourhood Plan. Cherwell District Council has confirmed that it is to legally challenge the decision.

**16/009      Parish Matters:**

**16/009/1      Parish Clerk:** Cllr Hobbs reported that Rosemary Watts, Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to the Parish Council, has resigned after six years' service. Cllr Hobbs thanked her for her support and dedicated service to the post during that time.  
The position is being advertised and Councillors are considering the way forward in the short term.

**16/009/2      Proposed Wooden Play Equipment for West Close:** Cllr Styles reported that Cherwell DC had responded to her application for pre-planning advice (Annex 1). A copy of their report can be found on the Parish Council website, which can be accessed on [www.thebarfordvillages.co.uk](http://www.thebarfordvillages.co.uk). A hard copy of the report will be posted inside the village hall porch. The next step is to put together a small scheme for consideration by villagers and the planning department.

**16/110      Planning Matters:** (detailed in Annex 2)

**16/111      Reports from Meetings:** Cllr Hobbs attended the Parish Liaison Meeting at Bodicote House on 11 November 2015. Subjects covered included a Planning Policy update, local designations of land and property (e.g. local green space, heritage assets, village greens, assets of community value) and funding and support for environmental projects.

Chairman's initials..... *RSH*

Date..... *3 February 2016*

**16/112 Finance:**

16/112/1 The Parish Clerk sought approval to pay cheques totalling £417.79 (detailed in Annex 3). Cllr Styles moved acceptance of the payments detailed. This was seconded by Cllr Turner and approved unanimously.

**AOB**

- a) OCC has cleared the ditch east of the bridge. Despite the amount of rainfall, the road has not flooded since OCC cleared the ditches and drains in this area.
- b) The Parish Clerk had notified the Chairman that the Parish Council will receive a 'New Homes 'Bonus' of £790 and a Government grant of £28.32.
- c) Mick Pearson has asked if he can put a paving slab in front of the dog bin in Church St – this would make it easier for people to avoid the mud. Councillors approved the request unanimously.
- d) A resident has complained about lack of telephone signals in the village. Councillors advised users to contact their providers, either to get a booster box for their router or to get advice on how to change the settings on their 'phones to connect to Wi-Fi.
- e) The Parish Clerk had passed details to the Chairman about villages planning celebrations in June for the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. The details would be passed on to the Village Hall Management Committee.
- f) A resident has asked if Councillors will consider providing a Christmas tree and lights on The Green next Christmas. District Cllr Williams has details of a supplier and costs, which he will forward to the Parish Clerk.
- g) The Chairman, co-Chairman and Bookings Clerk have resigned from the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC). The VHMC was to have a meeting on 20 January but this has now been changed to an open meeting on 21 January at 7.30pm in the village hall. Cllr Hobbs will chair the proceedings.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 3 February 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Signed by Chairman.....

Date.....*3 February 2016*