

Barford St John & St Michael Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday 7th September 2016 at 7.30pm in Barford Village Hall

The meeting commenced at 7.32pm

Present: Cllrs Hobbs, Eden, Turner, Styles, Hanmer, Best, District Cllr Williams, County Cllr Fatemian and Mr Best (Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer)

Apologies for absence: None

16/076 **Declarations of Interest:** None

16/077 **Minutes of the last meeting:** It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th July 2016 were a true and accurate record of the meeting (unanimous).

16/078 **Matters arising from the minutes:**

16/078/1 Speeding in the villages – It was agreed that the clerk will order black boxes from Highways to monitor traffic speeds/ volume at 3 points in the village. Nether Worton Road, Road from Hempton and the hill in Barford St John.

16/078/2 Highways have not contacted the Parish Council to arrange the site inspection of the roads.

16/079 **Clerk's Report:**

16/079/1 Play Area Inspection – It was agreed that the clerk will arrange the annual inspection of the play area at the village hall.

16/080 **Correspondence:** The Clerk replied to a letter from Viridor confirming that the village hall was still in use. Viridor requested the information as it had provided a grant for new windows.

16/081 **Public Participation:** None.

16/082 **County Councillor's Report:**

16/082/1 Highways Site Inspection - Cllr Fatemian advised that he will re-schedule this later this month.

16/082/2 Campaign to downgrade to Horton Maternity Unit – Victoria Prentis is leading a cross party campaign to prevent this and Cllr Fatemian has seconded a motion for the Council to examine a business case to continue this vital service.

16/082/3 Local Government consolidation in Oxfordshire – Grant Thornton published a report on behalf of OCC and Price Waterhouse Coopers published a report on behalf of District Councils. Both reports identified that consolidation of councils could save in excess of £100m over 5 years. There is currently disagreement between the District and County Councils on the structure of a single authority. The Government wants to proceed with consensus where possible. OCC hopes that the debate is not over as it is everybody's interest that the debate continues. The OCC Leader has asked officers to bring a paper to Council on 13th September, and Cabinet on 20th September, to ensure that Councillors have been able to express a view on this debate, and how OCC should move forward.

16/0682/4 Bicester Library – Rob Wilson MP, minister for Civil Society, made a fact finding visit to Bicester Library which provides a broad range of services, help and advice. Mr Wilson heralded it as a great example. OCC has announced plans to grow its Home Library Service

16/082/5 OCC support for young people following exams – OCC is providing support to 16-19 year olds about staying in education, finding a job or starting an apprenticeship via phone at 01865 328460 or web chat via www.oxme.info

16/082/6 Bookable Transport Service – Transport to meet friends, travel across the country, attend an appointment or go to the shops between 10.15am and 2.30pm can be booked via www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/oxfordshire-comet. Charges are low for passengers as OCC owns these vehicles and only needs to cover running costs.

16/082/8 Carers Strategy – OCC wants feedback and input into a review of provision of carers. Input can be given by attending a workshop on 15th September at Banbury Town Hall or via a survey at www.consultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consult.ti/carers/answerquestionnaire?quid=4183363. Call 01865 323410 or email caresupportreview@oxfordshire.gov.uk to attend the workshop.

Chairman's initials.....



Date.....

5 October 2016

Barford St John & St Michael Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday 7th September 2016 at 7.30pm in Barford Village Hall

- 16/083 District Councillor's Report:**
- 16/083/1 Local Government consolidation in Oxfordshire – Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) believes that it should be the sole level of local government in the County and the 5 Districts believe that they should consolidate to 3 and replace OCC. The initiative has paused until consensus, if any, emerges. The Government has decided to prioritise Brexit over local government consolidation.
- 16/083/2 Horton Hospital – The battle to save the hospital continues with well publicised and attended demonstrations. The CDC cross party agreement to continue services is proving effective.
- 16/083/3 Deddington PC – Bryn Williams has stepped down as a Deddington Parish Councillor to concentrate on Cherwell District Council work including representing or Parish at CDC.
- 16/084 Parish Matters:**
- 16/084/1 Transport in the Barfords – There is currently not a transport representative since David Campbell left. In the meantime, the Clerk is going to meet the Chairman of Bus Bartons to investigate whether the Barfords can be included in the service and if so, at what cost.
Play Equipment in West Close – a meeting is scheduled for the last Wednesday in September.
- 16/084/2 Sheep on Road in Barford St John – The Chairman is going to contact the owner of the sheep.
- 16/084/3 Dying Trees on Village Green – The tree in the seat is dead and others are in poor condition. The chairman is going to contact a tree surgeon to rectify. The ideal number of trees was discussed.
- 16/084/4 Vacant Councillor Position – There are still no volunteers but the search will be continued.
- 16/084/5 New Power Supply – Western Power will be installing a new power supply to a house at the top of Murray's Lane and the Parish Council will receive a Wayleave for this.
- 16/084/6 Power Cuts on 7/09/2016 – There were power cuts in Barford St Michael with Western Power working on the supply. Residents had not been notified in advance and complainants will receive compensation.
- 16/085 Planning**
- 16/085/1 Application 16/01116/Q56, Springhill Farm, conversion of part of barn to two dwellings – Notification of refusal was received from CDC. The Council was surprised at this decision.
- 16/085/2 Application 16/01486/F, 6 Broad Close, Rear extensions - Application returned to Cherwell without comments.
- 16/085/3 Applications 16/01650/F & 16/01652/LB, George Inn – Applications returned to Cherwell DC without comment.
- 16/085/4 Applications 16/00710F & 16/00711/F, Ayott Croft – A letter of complaint was received from the applicant. The Council replied dismissing the complaints.
- 16/086 Reports from Meetings: None**
- 16/087 Finance**
- 16/087/1 The Clerk sought approval to pay cheques totalling £2,371 (detailed in Annex 1). This was approved unanimously.
- 16/087/2 Annual Governance Statement YE 31/03/2016 – This was agreed unanimously.
- 16/087/3 Receipts and Payments Statement YE 31/03/2016 – This was agreed unanimously
- 16/088 Any Other Business**
- 16/088/1 Gravel on the road in Barford St John – A resident has requested clearing of the gravel at the crossroads which has washed down from the hill. The Clerk will contact Highways.
- 16/088/2 Tree obscuring road at the bridge – the Clerk will contact Highways to get this trimmed.
- 16/088/3 Wall collapsing and overgrowing shrubbery on West Close footpath – the Clerk will ask bordering properties to attend to this.
Notice boards and furniture – The Chairman will arrange for these to be treated as it is 3 years since last treatment.
2016-17 Budget – The Chairman will prepare a draft budget for review at the next meeting.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th October at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.22pm

Signed by Chairman..... 

Date..... 5/10/2016.....