

**Barford St John & St Michael Parish Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 7.30pm in Barford Village Hall**

**The meeting commenced at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Turner, Hobbs, Eden, Best, Cox, District Cllr Williams, County Cllr Fatemian and Mr Best (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer).

**Apologies for absence:** Cllr Charman

<b>18/068</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest:</b> None
<b>18/069</b>	<b>Minutes of the last meeting:</b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2018 were a true and accurate record. Proposed Cllr Eden, seconded Cllr Hobbs.
<b>18/070</b>	<b>Matters arising from the minutes:</b> None
<b>18/071</b> 18//071/1 18/071/2 18/071/3 18/071/4 18/071/5 18/071/6 18/071/7 18/071/8	<p><b>Clerk's Report:</b></p> <p><b>Allotment Water</b> – The response from Thames Water on the leak allowance claim for last year is still outstanding. Water usage in June was 50 cubic metres/ £68 (YTD 80m3/ £109)</p> <p><b>Woodworms Hilton Hedge Cutting</b> – The owners advised that they would not cut as not on their land. The Clerk cut it due to complaints that it is dangerous in agreement with Chair.</p> <p><b>Payroll</b> – Lisa Styles provided training and the Clerk ran the June payroll.</p> <p><b>Advisory speed signs from OCC Highways</b> – Another email was sent to Mike Wasley, OCC Highways, asking for an update on availability of advisory speed signs.</p> <p><b>External Audit</b> – Parish Councils with an income or expenditure less than £25,000 in the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 are exempt from an External Audit. The exemption form was returned to the Auditors and the Annual Return and other accounting documents have been posted on the Barford Villages website.</p> <p><b>Broadband to Houses along South Newington Road.</b> Better Broadband Oxfordshire confirmed that the cabinet serving these properties has been upgraded to fibre but speeds are still quite slow. A request has been submitted for a further upgrade</p> <p><b>Broadband to houses in Barford St John.</b> Fibre has been run to Barford St John but further infrastructure work needs to be completed before the houses are connected. Better Broadband Oxfordshire cannot give a precise date for completion of the work but confirmed that it is still on schedule for completion by the end of 2018.</p> <p><b>Barford Villages Website</b> - The Parish Council section is being updated.</p>
<b>18/072</b> 18/072/1	<p><b>Correspondence:</b></p> <p><b>Dr Hingley</b> – Letters of complaint about the letter from the Parish Council to residents of The Potteries were sent to Clerk and to District Cllr Williams. Replies with apologies were sent to Dr Hingley.</p> <p><b>Bees on the Allotments</b> – a request was received to keep bees on an allotment. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to all allotment holders to see if they have any objections to this.</p>
<b>18/073</b> 18/073/1  18/073/2	<p><b>Public Participation:</b></p> <p><b>Road Safety</b> – Reports have been received of excessive speed and increased use of the back roads surrounding the parish, notably the road linking Iron Down Hill with South Newington. Mr Christopher Murray has reported a number of incidents along this road. Other Parishioners have also raised this issue which was discussed at length. It was agreed that Oxfordshire County Council Highways would be asked to investigate reducing the speed limit from the current 60 mph. Speed reductions also require the agreement of Thames Valley Police. Specifically, OCC Highways has been asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Install a "Black Box" to monitor traffic (this is the first step when applying for a reduced speed limit prior to review by OCC Highways and Thames Valley Police).</li> <li>2. Cut the hedges so that vehicles are not forced into the middle of the road.</li> <li>3. Install additional warning road signs such as Agricultural Machinery, Horses, Concealed Entrances and Blind Brows.</li> </ol> <p>The speed of cars through the villages was also discussed and County Cllr Fatemian in response to questions from Councillors confirmed that there is a moratorium on the introduction of 20 mph speed limits.</p> <p><b>Reinforcement of the Village Green</b> – this has previously been agreed by the Parish Council and a date will shortly be set for carrying out this work.</p>

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18/073/3	<b>Parking in the Potteries</b> – Dr Hingley, Mrs Hingley and Ms J Thunder attended the meeting to complain about the letter that was sent by the Parish Council to the residents of The Potteries following receipt of a number of complaints about parking. Cllr Hobbs explained that this was a problem that had been raised by Parishioners, the Parish Council chose not to go to the Police but to write to the residents, that the letter was factual and that he did not consider that the letter was offensive. Dr Hingley stated that no apology had been received although District Cllr Williams and the Clerk had both written to Dr Hingley and their letters contained apologies. Dr Hingley interrupted Councillors on three separate occasions when they were addressing him. The Chairman, in summing up, again apologised to Dr Hingley, but had to call the meeting to order when he interrupted her.
<b>18/074</b>	<b>County Councillor's Report:</b> Cllr Fatemian had no specific report but answered various questions put to him during the meeting by the Parish Council.
<b>18/075</b> 18/075/1  18/075/2	<b>District Councillors Report:</b> <b>Adderbury Neighbourhood Plan</b> - The referendum result of June 21st 2018 was 91.6% of those who voted were in favour of the Adderbury Neighbourhood Plan. The Plan will therefore be recommended for approval and adopted at the July 16th Full Cherwell Council meeting. <b>Cherwell Community Lottery</b> - Recommendation from the Executive to approve and adopt the lottery at the Full Council meeting on July 16th and that officers develop criteria for the acceptance of supported 'Good Cause' organisations within the district.
<b>18/076</b> 18/076/1	<b>Parish Matters:</b> <b>Hedges overgrowing the roads</b> – It was agreed that the Parish Council would try to establish if the hedge at Woodworms Hilton was on their land. County Cllr Fatemian advised that if this is established and the owner still does not cut it after 3 letters asking it to be cut then Highways can be asked to cut it and they will invoice the owners for the work. Parishioners have also contacted the Council about the hedges at The Old Vicarage and Thimble Fields. It was agreed that the Clerk would call round to request the owners to trim their hedges.
<b>18/077</b> 18/077/1	<b>Planning:</b> 18/00423/LB – Sunnycote, Lower Street - Granted 18/00638/F – Blackingrove Farm - Granted. 18/00908/F – West Close Play Area 18/00711/F – Barleycorn, The Green
<b>18/078</b>	<b>Reports from Meetings: None</b>
<b>18/079</b> 18/079/1	<b>Finance:</b> <b>Payments</b> - The Clerk sought approval to pay cheques totalling £1,312. This was proposed by Cllr Hobbs and seconded by Cllr Eden.
<b>18/080</b> 18/080/1  18/080/2  18/080/3  18/080/4	<b>Any Other Business:</b> <b>Weed Spraying</b> – Cllr Hobbs queried if this had been carried out. The Clerk confirmed that Thomas Fox applied herbicide to the footpaths on 25 <sup>th</sup> June but will check with them if this included Robins Close. <b>Broken bridge on footpath between Barford St John and The Mill</b> – The Clerk will report this to OCC for them to contact the owner to request repair. <b>Unused Allotments</b> – Four Allotments are not being cultivated. Jeff Elliot has contacted the holders to check if they still want to continue with them. <b>Newcomers Letter</b> - Mariann Young has updated this letter to people moving into the villages.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9:00 pm

Signed by Chairman.....

Date.....