

Barford St John & St Michael Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday 4th September 2019 at 7.30pm in Barford Village Hall

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

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

Apologies for absence: Cllr Charman, County Cllr Fatemian

19/041	Declarations of Interest: None
19/042	Minutes of the last meeting: It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 rd July 2019 were a true and accurate record (unanimous)
19/043	Matters arising from the minutes: None
19/044	Clerk's Report:
19/044/1	Leak Allowance Claim – A leak allowance claim of £317.13 has been received from Castle Water together with £20 compensation for the delay in processing the request. These amounts have been credited to the account and deducted from the latest bill.
19/044/2	New Dog Bin – The larger dog bin has been installed opposite the church and dog bin opposite the church has been moved to the end of Horn Hill at the location recommended by Cherwell District Council.
19/044/3	Stonepit Field – The Oxford Diocese has instructed their solicitor to draft the Land Registry transfer form for the land that they incorrectly registered in their name. Aplins Solicitors, who the Parish Council has used in the past, quoted in the region of £950 + VAT to handle the matter for the Parish Council but a cheaper quote of approximately £200 + VAT has been obtained from Brethertons through Steven Neasham an ex Deddington resident.
19/044/4	20's Plenty Signs – One sign has been located going into Barford St John coming down the hill. Another sign has been located in Lower Street.
19/044/5	Footpath sign for The Rock – SSP, who supplied the 20's Plenty signs, can supply a sign to highlight the footpath at The Rock. It was agreed that a sign would be ordered.
19/044/6	South Newington Road speeding cars – Oxfordshire Highways installed the road signs on 4 th July. These were recommended by Highways to try to reduce the speeding cars.
19/044/7	Footpath clearing – Beth Rutterford, OCC Footpaths Officer, has been asked to contact the owners of Mead Farm to request that they clear their footpaths. The trees obstructing the footpath between Barford St John and Mill Lane, Barford St Michael have been trimmed but complaints have been received that there are still dangerous branches at head height that are overhanging the path.
19/044/8	Overgrown Bushes & Trees on Murreys Lane – Oxfordshire County Council was asked to trim these in July but it has not been done. Thomas Fox has been asked to quote for carrying out this work.
19/044/9	Tree Obstructing the gateway on the hill out of Barford St John – The farm owner has asked for this to be trimmed to ease access. A tree surgeon has been asked to quote but has not yet responded despite emails, voicemails and texts. It was agreed that another tree surgeon would be asked to quote.
19/044/10	Recycling Leaflets – An email has been sent to CDC requesting a supply of leaflets to be distributed with the Barford News.
19/044/11	Play Area Inspections – Playsafety has carried out an inspection of the Toddler Playground at the Village Hall. The maintenance items will be carried out by the Clerk this month. Playsafety has quoted £89.50 for an annual inspection of the West Close Playground vs. £179.86 quoted by Sovereign.
19/045	Correspondence:
19/045/1	Speeding through the Villages - Maggie Blackhall emailed the Chairman complaining about speeding and requested that 20's Plenty signs are also installed on the road from Hempton before Townsend, Overworton Road and going into The Rock. It was agreed to monitor the effect of the two signs before ordering more.
19/045/2	Jubilee Oak Plaque – Mariann Young has kindly offered to replace the missing plaque at the Oak on West Close. The Parish Council would like to thank Mariann for her generosity.

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<p>19/046 19/046/1</p> <p>19/046/2</p>	<p>Public Participation Allotments - Jeff Elliot reported there have been no problems with bees on the allotments. There is concern at the condition of allotments when they are vacated. There is a pile of rubbish. Three allotments are going to become vacant as unattended. And one person is interested on taking on an allotment was agreed that there would be no increase to the allotment charges this year.</p> <p>Dog waste bin at the top of Horn Hill - Karen Howarth attended the meeting to discuss the location of the spare dog bin. Alternatives to the proposed location at the footpath end of Horn Hill were discussed. It was agreed that locations in the centre of Barford St Michael would be most appropriate, either at the Horn Hill/ Rock junction or at the end of the footpath from West Close to the Potteries.</p>
<p>19/047</p>	<p>County Councillor's Report: Arash Fatemian</p>
<p>19/048</p>	<p>District Councillors Report: Bryn Williams – None</p>
<p>19/049 19/049/1</p> <p>19/049/2</p> <p>19/049/3</p>	<p>Parish Matters: Village Hall Improvement/ Renovation – Redecoration, a lowered ceiling and folding doors to the garden are being costed and considered by the Village Hall Management Committee. This was welcomed by the Parish Council although it was agreed that there is a need to stay within budget as funding is tight. It is hoped that grants can be obtained. Folding doors to the garden were agreed as a priority.</p> <p>Inspection of the Play areas – Rectification of the items identified in the report on the toddler play area at the Village Hall will be carried out this month. The West Close play area will be inspected from 2020.</p> <p>Reinforcement of the Village Green – Although the condition of The Green is currently good reinforcement will still be investigated as damage by vehicles driving over it is unsightly.</p>
<p>19/050</p>	<p>Planning: No outstanding applications</p>
<p>19/051</p>	<p>Reports from Meetings:</p>
<p>19/052 19/052/1</p>	<p>Finance: Payments - The Clerk sought approval to pay cheques totalling £6,049.40. This was proposed by Cllr Eden and seconded by Cllr Cox.</p>
<p>19/053 19/053/1</p> <p>19/053/2</p> <p>19/053/3</p> <p>19/053/4</p> <p>19/053/4</p> <p>19/053/5</p>	<p>Any Other Business: Lower Street sign – This has still not been replaced and it was agreed that the clerk would chase CDC.</p> <p>Branch obstructing Netherworton Rd – This will be reported to OCC Highways.</p> <p>Hedge on Bloxham Rd bounding Woodworm Hilton – This is encroaching the road and OCC highways will be asked to trim back.</p> <p>Hedge encroaching footpath from Potteries to West Close – complaints have been received that the hedge is encroaching the footpath. The owners will be asked to trim it.</p> <p>Litter Bin on West Close – requests have been received for a litter bin next to the play area. It was agreed not to install one at the moment as there is not a litter issue, it would encourage foxes and there is currently no volunteer to empty it.</p> <p>Moss on pavement in Robins Close – It was agreed that Thomas Fox Landscaping will be asked to kill the moss.</p>

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd October at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Signed by Chairman.....

Date.....