

Barford St John & St Michael Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 2nd December 2020 at 7.30pm in Barford Village Hall

The virtual meeting commenced at 7.30pm using Zoom video conferencing

Present: Cllrs Turner, Hobbs, Eden, Cox, Best, Charman, Cosgrove, District Cllr Williams, County Cllr Fatemian and Mr Best, (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer). Five members of the public attended the meeting.

Apologies for absence: None

20/065	Declarations of Interest: Cllr Best on agenda item 10b (Mead Farm planning)
20/066	Minutes of the last meeting: It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 th November 2020 were a true and accurate record (unanimous)
20/067	Matters arising from the minutes: None
20/068 20/068/1 20/068/2 20/068/2 20/068/3 20/068/4	<p>Clerk's Report:</p> <p>Mobile Post Office – The telephone line for the post office in the Village Hall has been installed and the post office will open Thursday 7th January 2021.</p> <p>Dog Bin Opposite Church – The clerk has put in a new post as Cherwell District Council had not been out to repair it and people were leaving poo bags by the side of the bin.</p> <p>Bottle Bank relocation – No suggested locations have been received via the village Whats App group. The clerk received a suggestion that Cherwell are asked to collect bottles from houses with the recycling collection. The clerk has asked Cherwell Environmental services but has not received a response.</p> <p>External Audit of 2019-20 Accounts – The clerk has received confirmation that the accounts were in accordance with the Proper Practices.</p> <p>Christmas Tree Lights on The Green – The battery power supply was connected on the 1st December, but the lights did not illuminate. It is believed that the timer is faulty. This will be checked, and it was agreed that a replacement will be purchased if needed.</p>
20/069	Correspondence: None
19/070	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>Mead Farm Planning Application 20/03053/F - Five members of the public attended the meeting with an interest in the application. Mr Richard Warner, representing the applicant, reiterated that plans had been scaled back and they have tried to alleviate concerns with the previous application. Two members of the public who keep horses at the current livery facility advised the Parish Council that the facility provides reasonably priced livery to local residents. They confirmed that they had never had any issues with the Mead Road junction either on horseback or driving trailers in or out. Councillors asked about the floodlights and Mr Richard Warner advised that they had never received any complaints on the current floodlights in the last 20 years and that people using the facility normally leave by 6.30-7.00pm. Another member of the public was interested whether there would be increased traffic with 12 new stables as the stable owners would probably want to rent out all of them to recover the building costs as it is believed that the current stables are not rented out to capacity.</p>
20/071 20/071/1 20/071/2	<p>County Councillor's Report from Arash Fatemian:</p> <p>The Oxfordshire County Council budget – work on this has halted temporarily.</p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council Track and Trace – The follow up of people by OCC who couldn't be traced by the national programme has been highly successful. Approximately 800 people who could not be traced by the national team were referred to OCC. Approximately 500 of those were traced by the local team the rest are students.</p>
20/072	<p>District Councillors Report from Bryn Williams:</p> <p>Cherwell district has come out of lockdown into tier 2 and the number of infections is reducing. A local testing station has been set up in Wood Green Leisure Centre. There are still some District Council funds available to support COVID_19 initiatives.</p>

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20/073	Parish Matters: None
20/074	Planning: 20/02654/F – 20 Broad Close – Cherwell Planning decision – Permitted on 23/11/2020. 20/02909/F – 1 Red Roofs – The Parish Council voted to support the application. 20/03503/F – Mead Farm – The Parish Council voted to support the application (majority in favour with one Councillor abstaining as a neighbour of the applicant) but with strong reservations on road safety and floodlights.
20/062	Reports from Meetings: None
20/063	Finance: Payments - The Clerk sought approval for payments totalling £2,174.27. This was agreed unanimously. £1,422 of this expenditure is for the Village Hall which will be repaid from a grant from Viridor. 2021-22 Budget - The draft budget was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Highlights of the budget were presented. The Excess of Income over expenditure at the end of the next financial year is forecast to be £353 with an increase in the Precept of £250 (2.6%) to £10,000. The budget and the precept increase were agreed by a majority vote.
20/064	Any Other Business: Damaged wall in The Rock – Oxfordshire County Council Highways has still not repaired this. The clerk will chase this again. Gap in the hedge in West Close along Murrey's Lane – A Councillor brought this to the attention of the Parish Council. Other Councillors will inspect this before the next meeting to decide if any hedge planting is required.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 6th January 2021 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall if restrictions have been lifted or using Zoom if they are still in place.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed by Chairman.....

Date.....