

Barford St John & St Michael Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 30th April 2025 at 7.30pm in Barford Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Turner, Tucker, Hobbs, Cox, County Cllr Arash Fatemian and Mr Best, (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer). No members of the public attended the meeting.

Apologies for absence: Cllrs Charman, Lovell and District Cllr David Rogers

25/040	Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman Cllr Sandi Turner was re-elected as Chairman but advised that she will step down in 2026 Cllr Rodney Hobbs was re-elected as Vice Chairman David Best was elect as Responsible Financial Officer
25/041	Declarations of Interest: None
25/042	Minutes of the last meeting: It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 th March 2025 were a true and accurate record (unanimous) and signed by the Chairman.
25/043	Matters arising from the minutes: None.
25/044	Public Participation- None
25/045 25/045/1 25/045/2 25/045/3 25/045/4 25/045/5 25/045/6	Clerk's Report: Allotments – There are two allotments available which have been cleared. One of the taps has broken and will be replaced. A skip will be ordered for allotment holders to use when the land dries out. Flood signs – The clerk has ordered flood signs from OCC Highways to warn cars not to drive across the bridge when the road is flooded. Stonepit Field – The clerk chased the HM Land Registry transfer of Stonepit Field that was registered in error by the Diocese of Oxford but no reply received so it was agreed that the clerk would write a letter of complaint to the Oxford Diocese. Grass cutting – Residents have commented that the shorter grass on West Close is an improvement on last year when complaints were received that it was too long. Bins – The new waste bins will be installed by the clerk. Dog waste bags can be placed in these bins as well as the dog waste bins. Broken bridge on footpath to South Newington – This has been reported to OCC by the clerk.
25/046	Correspondence: Brambles and overgrown hedge at entrance to West Close – A resident has agreed to clear these.
25/047	County Councillor's Report from Arash Fatemian: County Councillor Boundary Changes – Adderbury, Bodicote and Milton will no longer be in Deddington. South Newington, Wigginton, Upper Heyford and Heyford Park have been added.
25/048	District Councillor's Report from David Rogers: None
25/049 25/049/1 25/049/2 25/049/3	Parish Matters: Damaged Gate to West Close – This has been repaired by Cllr Ray Cox. Renovation of Wooden Rails along Rock close footpath – These have been renovated by a resident. Meeting with Highways Engagement Team on 11th March 2025 – The following actions were agreed: OCC will be asked to clear the mud and the gravel An application will be sent to OCC for Tom Lovell to become a Super User Flood Warden to place flood signs by the bridge when it is flooded. A reminder will be sent to OCC to renew the white lines. The green areas of the village are the responsibility of OCC Highways so the PC cannot reinforce the edges to stop them being damaged by vehicles driving over them but OCC could provide a quote for bollards. It was agreed not to request a quote for bollards. A reminder will be sent to OCC to clear the gulleys

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25/049/4	Cllr Dawn Tucker will draft a note advising residents how to use Fix My Street for Barford News so that residents can report issues with the roads. The faded 20's Plenty signs will be taken down. Parish Grant Applications – It was agreed to pay grants of £1,300 to the Parochial Church Council and £500 to the Village Hall. Previously, a grant of £1,600 had been approved for the Barford News which was paid in March.
25/050	Planning: MW.0009/25 – North Oxfordshire Topsoil – Increase vehicle movements from 12 to 24 per day – The PC has objected to this application. Some residents commissioned expert reports to support the objections made by residents and the PC. It was agreed that the PC would not contribute to the cost of these reports as it would set a precedent for future applications.
25/051 25/051/1 25/051/2	Reports from Meetings: South Newington PC meeting to consider planning application MW.0009/25 – Cllr Sandi Turner attended the last South Newington PC when this planning application was discussed. South Newington does not have a parish news. Hall & Fernhill Trust – Cllr Sandi Turner has been invited to attend a meeting to discuss how to use the funds from the sale of the field that they owned.
25/052 25/052/1 25/052/2	Finance: Payments – The clerk gained approval for payments totalling £3,177.24. Internal and External Audits – It was agreed to ask Jeremy Eastwood to carry out an internal audit of the accounts and to submit a Certificate of Exemption to External Audit.
25/053 25/053/1 25/053/1	Any Other Business: Toads Crossing Sign – A resident asked the PC to consider paying for a Toads Crossing Sign on the road to South Newington. This will be considered further by the PC. Dog on dog attack and meeting with the CDC Dog Warden – Another incident was reported of a dog being attacked by another dog. This was reported to the CDC Dog Warden who advised: - Dog on dog attacks should be reported to the dog warden - Dog on people or livestock should be reported to the police - People on dogs should be reported to the RSPCA In addition the dog warden advised: - CDC do not distinguish between dog waste bins and general waste bins which can be used for disposal of bagged dog poo but if people put dog waste from their own gardens into public waste bins it is classed as Fly Tipping. Tree overhanging road outside the Manor House – A resident reported a branch falling into the road from the Manor House and that other branches looked unsafe. Cllr Ray Cox agreed to report this on Fix My Street.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd July 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.47pm

Signed by Chairman.....

Date.....