

Notes on an informal meeting of the Parish Council

on

3rd September 2025 in the Village Hall

Present: Councillors Charman, Cox, Hobbs, Lovell, Tucker and Turner. 3 members of the public also attended.

Playground Committee Report

The Playground Committee representatives, Jo Giles and Sophie Holmes came to give the Council an update on the playground. They had received a copy of the RoSPA report and were in touch with the manufacturers regarding repair to the basket swing. They were concerned at the deterioration of the wooden posts, particularly where they were being strimmed, as this was damaging the woodwork. Cllr Cox mentioned that he had seen a playground recently where the woodwork was raised on metal legs so that this would not occur.

Parish Clerk Recruitment

A discussion followed regarding the recruitment and appointment of a new Clerk, as David Best had offered his resignation. Computer skills, probation period, maternity leave and regular appraisals were all discussed. Cllr Turner would rewrite the job description and put advertisements on noticeboards and in the Barford News. It was agreed that we would try and recruit from inside the villages so that the Clerk was local.

Councillor Vacancy

It was also agreed that we would advertise for a seventh Councillor, who would fill the vacant seat, as the previous meeting had been cancelled for want of a quorum.

Parish Council Visibility

It was also mentioned that there were no photos of the Councillors on the village website and that this would be helpful to new villagers who might need to contact a Council member. Once the new Councillor had been appointed, then this would be remedied.