

BARNT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

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DRAFT

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Barnt Green Baptist Church lounge, B45 8LU

on Monday 17 June 2019 at 7.00pm

Members present: Cllrs R Cholmondeley, C Hotham J Jagger, P Perry, S Whitehand, O Polton (from 19:28)

In attendance: A representative of The Village magazine
Representatives from Amey / Severn Trent Water – Samantha Pedley, Customer Liaison Amey, James Hale, Project Lead Amey and Frances O'Neill, Project Manager Severn Trent
Executive Officer, Tracy Bodley

19/076 Apologies

Cllr J Nilsson
Cllr H Rone-Clarke
WCC Cllr P McDonald

19/077 Declarations of Interest: Councillors were reminded that to ensure transparency and retain public confidence in the council's decisions they are required to -

- a) Keep their Register of Interests form up to date;
- b) Declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and any Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) in agenda items and the nature of those interests.

No declarations had been received.

19/078 To consider any dispensations

No dispensation requests had been received.

19/079 Adjournment of meeting to hear from:

- a) **Amey Customer Services representative on behalf of Severn Trent Water to liaise regarding the improvement plans to the water main in Hewell Road.**

Introductions were made and a presentation paper and supporting site map were distributed.

It was reported that the work would commence on the 22 July at the start of the summer school holidays and that it would be carried out in two phases.

It was stated that the work was required due to the main iron pipe causing problems. The work was pushed back to accommodate the school closure over the summer holidays to allow minimum impact on the thoroughfare, the traders and the residents. Results from trial holes indicated that work was needed in the central part of the road as gas lines were also insitu meaning a complete closure was required. A less invasive method was deemed not viable due to the size and location of the pipe, which would not be removed but a new pipe installed and the old pipe disconnected.

The contractors would adopt a directional drilling method which will be a faster technique and full liaison with WCC Highways was undertaken with the result of road closures being in place for the two phases.

Phase 1 road closure – Top end of Hewell Road from the school to Station Approach.

Phase 2 road closure – From the parade of shops to the Victoria public house.

The project would adopt a method of two teams, one laying pipe and the second team connecting the supply.

It was stated that the cul-de-sacs off Hewell Road on both sides of the road would remain untouched and access would be granted to residents albeit somewhat disrupted at times.

Priority would be given to residents and speed restrictions to 10mph would be imposed.

It was thought that weekend and evening work would be unlikely but if slippage was apparent on project timescale then this may occur.

It was asked if the parish council thought there was a need for negotiations with the Sports and Social Club to utilise parking spaces for visitors to the town.

Councillors thought that the problems regarding parking within the town would be increased and the diversion routes may also suffer with parking issues. It was agreed that Severn Trent would speak to the club to broker a deal regarding parking spaces.

Communication of Disruption

- 1055 Properties had been sent letters through the post detailing the work and the road closure.
- The Village Magazine 28 June Edition – Severn Trent had paid for a page to communicate the disruption. It was also currently live on the Village website.
- Severn Trent are also hosting two drop in sessions on Thursday 27 June and 11 July at Barnt Green Sports Club, between 3.30pm and 6.30pm.
- Press releases will also be printed in local newspapers.
- Signage will be placed stating 'Business as Usual' at each end of the road closure and further out of town signage would be placed if required.
It was requested that this be in the location of the Alvechurch roundabout, Hopwood Junction and Twatling Road Junction.
- Letters and emails had been sent to traders and how to claim business compensation was also detailed in the information sent to them.

The subcontractor being used is Pipeline and Amey will have a site agent in place daily. It was reported that there were no plans for temporary traffic lights, however should the need arise they would be manned.

It was requested that a weekly update be provided to the Executive Officer which could be forwarded to members accordingly. This was agreed by Severn Trent.

Reminder letters will be sent to residents and signage reminders will be in place 10 days prior to the work being carried out.

b) Members of the Public –

None present.

c) Supporting organisations, eg Safer Neighbourhood Team – None present

d) Worcestershire County Councillor – Peter McDonald (Beacon division)

Not present.

e) Bromsgrove District Councillor - Charles Hotham (Barnt Green & Hopwood)

Cllr Hotham stated that BDC had a new leader, Cllr Karen May with the old leader becoming the Deputy. There were also three new cabinet members duly appointed.

The meeting resumed.

19/080 To adopt previous minutes

- a) To approve adoption of the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held 20/05/2019

AGREED

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 20/05/2019 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

19/081 Chairman’s Report

The Chairman stated that he had nothing to report that was not already on the agenda.

19/082 Executive Officer’s Report

To be advised of any decisions taken under delegated powers since the last meeting and receive updates to ongoing matters and a list of office communications since the previous council meeting.

a) Station	<p>Lifts - A letter has been written to DfT requesting a meeting to discuss the requirement of the installation of lifts at the Station with representatives interested in attending from BDC and WCC in addition to BGPC.</p> <p>Since sending out the agenda the EO reported that a letter had been received from Sajid Javid MP accompanied by a letter from Andrew Haines of Network Rail detailing that Network Rail are working on a funding process with DfT with a view to starting work shortly after the funding has been approved. An approval of the Outline Business Case has already been accepted.</p> <p>Bromsgrove Engagement and Equalities Forum have reported that they will be writing to the Disabilities Minister on the same matter and will also contact Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive of BDC and Richard Dugdale of Network Rail.</p> <p>Station Improvements – An email had also been received from Richard Brooks of West Midlands Rail stating that he had visited the station on Friday 14 June and that branding and new signage was now in place.</p> <p>He further went on to report that a new ticket machine at the car park entrance had been installed and that this would be operational this week.</p> <p>The EO stated that an invite had been sent to attend the parish meeting in either July or September and also extended an invitation to the new Station Manager – Zoe Hogins.</p> <div data-bbox="635 1422 1452 1505" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;">RESOLVED: that the report was noted.</div>
b) Cofton Parish Footpath Update -	<div data-bbox="635 1579 1452 1653" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">RESOLVED: That the comments were noted.</div>
c) Defibrillator	<div data-bbox="635 1720 1452 1794" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">RESOLVED: That the comments were noted.</div>

19/083 Finance

(i) To note the current financial position and bills for payment

RESOLVED:

- a. That the current financial position was noted.
- b. That the list of payments was agreed.

- (ii) To be advised of any expenditure decisions taken by Executive Officer.

RESOLVED: That it was noted that no decisions had been taken.

- (iii) DKE Audit Services – Annual Internal Audit for Financial Year Ending 31 March 2019.

RESOLVED:

1. That the comments made in the report were noted.
2. That as part of the regular financial checks upon invoices received and accounts recorded accurately that Cllr Jagger would come to the office on Tuesday 25 June to carry out a spot check of the records.

- (iv) Trial use of a cloud-based accounting software package.

RESOLVED:

That an update would be presented to the next parish council meeting regarding the suitability of moving to cloud based accounting.

19/084 Events

- a) Summer Treasure Hunt

RESOLVED: that the update was noted and a flyer would be sent to the Village Magazine in order that they might publish its content in the next edition.

- b) Community Walk – Saturday 28 September 2019, 3pm – 5pm
It was stated that there would be 3 planned routes of 3, 5 and 7 miles, each one incorporating the new bridge at Cofton.

RESOLVED: that the update was noted.

- c) Christmas Switch On

Set for Saturday 30 November 4pm – 7pm (Small Business Saturday)

An email received from the Markets Manager at BDC was discussed. It was felt that the cost for hiring the traditional framework stalls was expensive and given that it was uncharted waters with regard to organising stall holders it was felt that this was not something that the council wished to pursue at this time.

Further consideration highlighted that having certain traders on the stalls may have a negative impact on the local shops.

EO reminded members that this was the final year of the Christmas Lighting Hire contract and that a new tender process for 2020 would be undertaken.

RESOLVED: that the Markets Manager be thanked for his support but on this occasion BGPC would continue the event as in previous years.

19/085 Environment & Community Wellbeing

- a) Smart Water Project Update

RESOLVED: that Sgt Aston be asked to attend the event on 7 July and then set up dates following this to sign residents up to the scheme.

- b) **Butterwick Close** - concerns about public safety with access onto Cherry Hill Road from the estate.

It was reported that the steps had now been installed with Cllr Hotham stating that discussions were still ongoing between BDC and Cala regarding the gated access.

RESOLVED: That the update was noted.

19/086 Planning Applications

- a) Members' response to the following consultations:

BDC ref	Site Address	Proposal
19/00679/HHPRIO	Blythe, Aqueduct Lane	Single storey rear extension
BGPC Decision:		
No Objection. Approval Recommended.		
19/00669/FUL	38 Sandhills Lane, Barnt Green	Single storey rear extension
BGPC Decision:		
No Objection. Approval Recommended.		
19/00690/FUL	10 Bittell Lane, Barnt Green	Proposed porch extension and single storey side extension
BGPC Decision:		
No Objection. Approval Recommended.		

19/087 Future Meetings and items for future agendas

- a) Councillors were reminded of meetings to be attended and asked to use the opportunity to raise items for future agendas.
- i) Expansion of Barnt Green
A brief discussion took place regarding readdressing the request to expand the boundary of Barnt Green.
The benefits would be to increase the population and therefore the precept.
The preferred re-designation would incorporate Cherry Hill Road, Kendal End Road and up to Cofton Church Lane.
It was suggested that this be placed on the agenda for discussion at the meeting being held on 16 September 2019 with a planning meeting to be held in early September to discuss options and draw a preferred mapped option to report to the parish meeting.
 - ii) Church Eco Group – Cllr Jagger had been approached by the church and requested further discussion. Cllr Cholmondeley requested the information be sent to him in the first instance.

- iii) Room Hire for Meetings – Cllr Perry, supported by Cllrs Hotham, Whitehand and Jagger requested that from September the Parish Council Meetings be resumed in the Parish Office once again. This item will be placed on the agenda for 15 July for further discussion.
- b) Members were advised that the parish office will be closed week commencing 22 – 26 July and 26 – 30 August, due to annual leave of the Executive Officer. This was noted.
- c) Please be advised that the Finance & General Purposes Committee being held on Monday 2 July 2019 is cancelled. This was noted.

19/088 Date and Venue of Next Meeting

Next Parish Council meeting will be Monday 15 July 2019, 7pm at Barnt Green Baptist Church.

This meeting ended at 20:46hrs

Signed:..... Date.....
 Chairman, Barnt Green Parish Council 15/07/2019