

BARCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Barcombe Parish Council held at the Sports Pavilion, Barcombe, at 19.30 on Wednesday 11th March 2020

Present: Councillors: Arbenz, Cornwell, Marler, Mills, Pack, Smith, Stewart, Stroud

MINUTES

1792. Apologies; Cllrs Holman, Loughlin, Skan

1793. Signature of the Minutes of the last meetings, Wednesday 12th February 2020
Agreed.

1794. Action Matrix

- Wells, Cllr Stewart will try and arrange site visit but company very busy with flooding damage, the specialist well company are equally elusive. It was therefore agreed that there will be a proposal on the April agenda to either pursue specialist cover or use a combination of sleepers, soil and fencing off to minimize risk. Open. Action: Clerk to add to April agenda.
- VE Day, Cllr Arbenz will provide the list of activities for the clerk to discuss with the insurers as items like bouncy castles may require additional coverage. Open.
- Climbing frame net – this has been removed. Closed
- Playground tidy/clean. The planting has been sprayed with a herbicide spray and a steam clean is being booked. Open.
- Mobile speed monitor, cost for loan requested. Open.
- Additional signage for bowls club. Cllr Holman will provide update by email. Open
- Compost area, WAB. Still too wet to get the vehicles down to do the work. Hopefully the area will start to dry out now. Open

1795. Chairman's report

The Lewes District Council Local Plan Part 2 has been released. It is available online here; <https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/planning-policy/lewes-local-plan-part-2-site-allocations-and-development-management-policies/>

The plan, showing potential building locations in the Barcombe area and their status – generally red – will be added to the Parish Council website.

1796. Questions from Councillors.

Cllr Lington took the opportunity to complement the organisers of Eco Fair. It attracted lots of people both locally and from further afield. An excellent event.

Cllr Lington has provided feedback and recommendations to ESCC Highways following the division of traffic through the village. E.g. the use of temporary traffic lights and the necessity for the traffic to be monitored to prevent HGV's ignoring the No HGV signs.

1797. Questions from Electors.

Rosalyn St Pierre attended the meeting to inform Councillors of the work of Railfuture. Railfuture is the UK's leading independent organisation campaigning for better rail services for passengers and freight. They have been campaigning for some time to reopen the line between Uckfield and Lewes. Recently Maria Caulfield, MP, publicised

the launch of the Restoring Your Railway fund and has submitted a bid to the Department for Transport for this project to be considered for funding. The proposal includes re-using the old train line route through the parish of Barcombe but with no station here. More information can be found at <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Uckfield+Lewes> and <https://www.bml2.co.uk/>

Action: Clerk to contact RailFuture and request a speaker. June meeting proposed.

Rosalyn St Pierre also asked the council to look at improving the slope or re-instating the steps at the end of the recreation ground as it is becoming difficult to use,

Action: Cllrs Stewart and Marler will investigate.

1798. Subject Reports

Recreation/maintenance

Everything running smoothly at the moment, Additional locks will be added to the garage door if required.

WAB

Another very successful working day was held. The area is looking great and the involvement of so many community volunteers is wonderful.

Playground

The most recent email from Sports England indicates that trying to place fixed play equipment on the lower recreation area will require an appeal which will involve significant paperwork and addressing legal issues. The Playground Working Group will meet to review the situation and decide on best route forward.

If the lower recreation cannot be use, a full refurbishment of the existing area becomes the default option. Obviously if any of the land adjacent to the recreation ground (Hillside) becomes available additional play space can be developed.

Action: Add proposal, subject to PWG meeting, to April agenda.

Footpaths

Cllr Smith has been talking to the organisers of the Monday Club who voluntarily maintain and replace stiles in the area. It's really useful for the Parish Council to understand how they work both so we can make the best use of them as a resource but also support them via donation and promotion.

Pavilion

The hot water boiler (for drinks) element has been replaced, the issue as not fixed. We are waiting for replacement board cost. A new boiler would be in the region on £1452.00. Dependent on cost the Parish Council may just purchase a tea urn.

Annual Village Meeting

The date will be 13th May. At 6pm the Parish Council will provide drinks and nibbles at WAB so individuals can chat with the councilors informally and enjoy the nature area. Following this at 6.45pm there will be the formal business of the evening. The agenda will be available both on the Noticeboard and the website. The evening continues with the regular meeting (and planning) if required. Please contact the clerk if you require any further information barcombe.pc@homecall.co.uk.

99 Resolutions or recommendations from Councilors: Grant request from Scouts towards storage container. The Parish Council is willing to support with a donation, However they can also provide advice on a good value supplier so the amount of money was not discussed in detail as the cost is likely to be reduced.

Deferred until April.

1800. Sign documents.

None

1801. Authorise payment(s):

- Julia Shelley, Clerks Salary, March 2020, £516.10
- Julia Shelley, Household expenses, March 2020, £45.31
- Tim Austin, Cleaning/caretaking January 2020, £279.36
- Cllr Pack, refund of payment to WaterCoolers for boiler service, £166.80
- Graham Smith, Sleeper, £23.99
- Emma Burnett, Contribution to Eco Fair, £50.00

Proposed and seconded Cllrs Loughlin and Stewart.

1802. Correspondence:

- Rubbish bins @ recreation ground. Cleaning normally takes place on a Monday so the bags are out less than 24 hours. The bags are extra strong and there has never been an issue with them breaking. They contain mainly dog poo so should not attract vermin. The normal routine has been disrupted due to the extreme weather conditions and personal circumstances of the caretaker. This has meant in the last month that bags have been longer, up to 3 days, but things will go back to normal now. The Parish Council therefore propose to take no action at the current time but will monitor the situation.
- Concerns have been raised about the use of weed killers in the children's playground. The material used was an herbicide product, applied by a certified contractor. The contractor remained on site for an hour.
- Traffic and speed through the village. Action: Cllrs Marler and Pack will collate the information the Parish Council have on speed surveys and create a single document that explains the situation as clearly as possible.