

BARCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Barcombe Parish Council held at the Sports Pavilion, Barcombe, at 19.15 on April 12th 2017.

Minutes taken by Cllr Andrew Pearce in Clerk's absence.

1. Apologies: Cllr A Holman

2. Signature of the Minutes of the last meeting, Wednesday 8th March 2017: Signed

3. Short report from Mark Best, Planning Consultant at Parker Dann Ltd, Lewes on behalf of the owners of site O5BA (aka Hillside). See 2016 SHELAA report for site location.

- Mr Best established that sites O5BA and O7BA are in the same ownership, but site O3Ba has a different owner. Discussions between site owners regarding a common approach have taken place.

He reported that:

- No site survey has taken place and plans have not yet been made
- Sites O5BA and O7BA could accommodate 25 dwellings
- Likely density is 20 dwellings/ha, classed as low. High density = 50/ha, typical in urban locations
- Presumption is for smaller, different-sized homes — definitely not 25 4-bed houses
- Site owners and Clifford Dann want local residents to be involved throughout the process that leads to a planning application
- Guidance on house style, material, and type will be taken from the village's Neighbourhood Plan if possible.

A lively discussion followed. Questions from the public and Councillors included:

- Will affordable housing be mixed with other dwelling types or separated? A: Probably separated
- What might be the visual impact of development on the village approach? A: There will be an impact, though this can be mitigated through developer's survey
- How will access be achieved? A: Via the existing access on the northern boundary
- Has the PC's 2015 village survey been taken into account? A: Yes
- Will safeguards be in place against high-density development? A: Yes
- Can a cap to house number be set via the Neighbourhood Plan? A: Possible, not often achieved in practice
- Will landscaping be undertaken to minimise the visual impact of development? A: Yes
- Can the ecology of existing drainage ponds be protected? A: Will be accounted for in design

4. Actions, if any, remaining from the last meeting: None

5. Chairman's report:

- A new barrier is needed for the car park at Barcombe Mills. This will be an item on next month's Agenda. Ringmer PC should be approached regarding sharing cost
- The hot water boiler in the Pavilion has failed. A quote for its replacement is in hand
- Plans have been drawn for a possible extension of the Pavilion's shower section. These will be circulated before May's meeting and the topic should be added to the Agenda.

6. Questions from Councillors: None

7. Questions from Electors

- Dr A J MacGillivray expressed concern regarding cycling events and road safety, following a recent event where the absence of marshals lead to long queues at the A26/Mills Road junction. **Action:** Clerk to contact race organisers to request that all road junctions are marshalled in future.
- Hedge between School Path and Rec car park: this will not be cut before September.
- Cycle jumps adjacent to Lower Rec: an experienced potential user should be involved in the planning of any new jumps
- All Councillors should walk the Recreation Ground to see what needs to be/has been done
- The hedge on the north side of Galleybird Corner still has not been cut. **Action:** Clerk to chase on return
- A village clear-up is planned for 22nd April; volunteers are needed, clothing and equipment are provided. Contact Cllr Skan for details.

8. Reports

Neighbourhood Plan

Dr A J MacGillivray reported that the 2017 SHELAA has still not been published, and that Lewes DC could not say when it, or the Local Plan Part 2, would appear. Meanwhile background work continues: for example, draft policies for housing are being developed, and work on defining village character is well in hand. The Steering Group are to meet again in two weeks.

Barcombe Stores

Pledges for financial contribution towards freehold purchase have so far been received from over 150 individuals, and reaction to the appeal has been very encouraging. A second meeting for potential contributors will be held in the next few weeks, at which financial models will be presented. Individuals can then donate or withdraw. Keen prospective tenants from within the village have come forward, so the position is very positive.

Transport and Highways

The cost of settlement signs for Barcombe Mills has not yet materialised. **Action:** Clerk to chase. The surface of the unadopted road leading from the Royal Oak to Weald Close has been comprehensively patched following the last Strengthening Local Relationships meeting.

Recreation Ground

Local contractors are carrying out a range of seasonal work.

Playground

A comprehensive report from Cllr Mills covering options for play item replacement had been circulated. It was agreed that the cost of new equipment and surfacing was too high to justify action. Chairman suggested it best to wait, pending a new playground site, or to remodel the existing area completely; agreed after discussion. Cllr Laughlin thought money from the Community Infrastructure Levy might be available from LDC. **Action:** Clerk to see if application form available.

9. Resolutions or recommendations from Councillors

Cllr Skan asked the Council asked about the condition of one seat by the signpost, at the bottom of the High Street. Cllr Pearce confirmed that replacement is required: cost to be established.

Cllr Loughlin suggested that there should be a review of funding/grants available for planned capital projects. She undertook review this.

10. Sign documents

Letter transferring Solar Farm grants from savings to current account; Bonfire Society, £200.00; Bowling Club, £250.00; Flower Show £219.00; Cricket Club, £1,083.99.

11. Authorise payment(s)

- Julia Shelley, Clerks Salary, April 2017: £470.44
- Chris Rumary, caretaking, April 2017: £204
- Julia Shelley, contribution to household expenses, April 2017: £45.31
- Barcombe Landscapes, gate, posts, benches and block paving by carpark: £2,226
- Barcombe Flower Show, Vases, Solar Fund donation: £219
- Southern Water: £183.00
- Mr Alce, Playground repairs: £189.97
- Mr A Pearce, web-based facility booking service, 3 month fee: £16.80
- LDC Rates, Barcombe Mills car park: £311.02
- Metal Store, framework for cricket nets: £288.79
- Fitness Sports, matting for cricket nets: £832.00
- NALC subscription: £406.20
- Anna Cronin, Neighbourhood Plan Consultancy: £1,980.00

Authorisation proposed Cllr Stewart, seconded Cllr Grover

12. Correspondence

- **Proposal:** Request from Playground Working Group to allocate £10,000 of the solar grant money for future matched funding grant application for new playground costs. **Response:** Deferred, pending preparation of detailed list covering likely future capital expenditure.
- Letter from President of the Barcombe branch of the Royal British Legion asking how the centenary of the end of World War 1 could be marked next year (email circulated). **Response:** The Parish Council agreed to support any local club or organisations intending to mark the event.

Meeting closed at approx 21.10.