

**MINUTES OF GREAT BARTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING ON  
MONDAY 24<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2017 COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**

<b>Item.</b>	33 members of the public were present.	.....
<b>1.0</b>	<b><u>Election of Chairman</u></b> The Chairman of the Parish Council, Philip Reeve, chaired the meeting.	
<b>2.0</b>	<b><u>Chairman's welcome and apologies for absence</u></b> Councillor Philip Reeve welcomed everyone to the meeting. No apologies for absence had been received.	
<b>3.0</b>	<b><u>To approve the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting</u></b> The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 2016 were signed as an accurate record of the meeting. Proposed Councillor Peter Fisk, seconded Councillor Eddie Gibson, unanimous decision.	
<b>4.0</b>	<b><u>Chairman's summary of the last year</u></b> Councillor Philip Reeve gave a summary of the last year including the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• West Suffolk Operational Hub – 3 Parish Council's are working together, Gt Barton, Fornham All Saints and Fornham St Martin. The planning application is currently under consultation. From the issues raised, traffic is the biggest concern.</li> <li>• The Vehicle Activated Sign is still being used at the 7 sites around the village. A second sign will be purchased in the next few months</li> <li>• Thanks to the Clerk for a flawless audit</li> <li>• No grants have been received from St Edmundsbury Borough Council this year</li> <li>• The Council currently has 8 Councillors with 3 vacancies</li> <li>• Welcomed new Councillor Diana Boys</li> <li>• 99 year lease on Icepits Wood signed</li> <li>• Thanks to the representatives on the Icepits Wood committee. A memorandum of understanding for the wood has been started</li> <li>• Air Quality is still an issue on the A143. St Edmundsbury Borough Council are setting up a steering group to find a resolution</li> <li>• A second pedestrian crossing on the A143 will be looked at again once the outcome from the Air Quality issue is resolved</li> <li>• The Neighbourhood Plan was started in April 2016 and is due to be finished within 24 months. Thanks were given to everyone involved.</li> <li>• 38 planning applications have been received this year and 2 have been referred to the Secretary of State</li> <li>• Feedback has been provided on the Bury Town masterplan and the Cattishall Crossing closure</li> <li>• Meeting with Taylor Wimpey on phase 2 of the Moreton Hall development</li> <li>• The lease for the allotments has been extended to 15 years</li> <li>• The pedestrian crossing point on Mill Road is still progressing</li> <li>• Working with Suffolk County Council on a customer assistance project (verge cutting)</li> <li>• Police are confirming if it is warranted for street lights to stay on overnight following burglaries</li> <li>• The School Lane/Downing Drive link footpath will be re-opened again this year to try and reach a satisfactory conclusion for all parties</li> <li>• Local Governance Review and changes to the boundaries of Gt Barton</li> <li>• The North East Development – Barton Severalls</li> <li>• A village litter pick, thanks were given to Councillor Maggie Dunn and The Clerk, Linda Harley for organising. 32 bags of rubbish were collected which was a record for St Edmundsbury Borough Council</li> <li>• The grass cutting contract has been renewed for a further 4 years</li> <li>• Discussions are continuing for the School Road carpark between Havebury Housing, The Holy Innocents Church and the developer of Forge Bungalows.</li> <li>• Thanks to Ronnie Whiting for cutting the grass on Conyers Green, who sadly passed away this year</li> </ul>	

	<p>Moving Forward in 2017-18 :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A full team is needed for this busy Council</li> <li>• The School Lane/Downing Drive link footpath will be completed</li> <li>• The Memorandum of Understanding for Icepits Wood and the youth area will be completed</li> <li>• Work will continue on the Neighbourhood Plan</li> <li>• 7 Residents have been co-opted onto committees</li> <li>• A Multi-Use Games Area will be reviewed</li> <li>• Mill Road pedestrian crossing point is in abeyance regarding the safety survey</li> <li>• School Road carpark lease will hopefully be resolved</li> <li>• The download speed for Gt Barton</li> <li>• 40mph speed limit on Mill Road</li> <li>• Continue to monitor Suffolk County Council's road repairs</li> <li>• Develop internal walkways and a network of pathways to avoid the A143</li> <li>• A second Vehicle Activated Sign is being purchased</li> <li>• WSOH – will application be referred to the Secretary of State?</li> </ul> <p><b><u>5.0 Neighbourhood Plan</u></b></p> <p>An update was given on the progress on the Neighbourhood Plan since the last APM. More residents are still needed to engage and help with tasks and the collection of evidence. Events have been held at The Den and the school. The NP has its own page on the Parish Council's website. A questionnaire will be delivered to every house in the village to capture resident's views. The Parish Council are applying for grants. At the end of the process there will be a referendum so it is important that residents engage with the plan. There are 5 themes to the plan: housing, transport, character and environment, business and employment and community facilities.</p> <p><b><u>6.0 Handing out of grants</u></b></p> <p>The Mayor presented grant cheques to the Community Woodland Group to go towards the cost of their insurance and the Scout Group for 6 new tents.</p> <p><b><u>7.0 Talk from the Police's Safer Neighbourhood Team on crime in Gt Barton and how to prevent it</u></b></p> <p>The Safer Neighbourhood Team Officer gave a presentation. There have been 15 crimes in Gt Barton in the last year with 1 house burglary, 1 attempted burglary and 1 garage burglary. Last week there was an attempt to steal the ATM at the garage. Ideas were given for crime prevention including being vigilant and reporting any suspicious behaviour. The main issues are thefts of heating oil, hare coursing and anti-social behaviour. The Parish Council were complimented for including items for the children in the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p><b><u>8.0 Presentation from Gt Barton's Allotment Association</u></b></p> <p>A presentation was given on why people love their allotments. Comments included a family of 5 who cultivated a wide range of vegetables fruit and herbs and found it rewarding to be able to cook for the children. A new website has been set up. Thanks were given to the Parish Council and Borough Councillor Sarah Broughton for grants. A new 15 year lease will enable future planning for a possible borehole and a composting toilet.</p> <p><b><u>9.0 Presentation from the Mayor of St Edmundsbury, Councillor Julia Wakelam</u></b></p> <p>The Mayor gave an very entertaining talk on the history of the Mayoralty and the mayor's duties on a day to day basis including commemorative and civic occasions and special events and representing the Council in the community. Councillor Wakelam commented that Gt Barton was one of the most active and lively villages she has visited.</p> <p><b><u>10.0 Village Matters (residents questions and comments)</u></b></p> <p>Items raised included garden rubbish being dumped in a ditch along Mill Road, the petition against the West Suffolk Operational Hub, residents cutting back their own hedgerows.</p>	
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**Chairman's thanks**

Councillor Philip Reeve thanked the Councillors, the Mayor and the Safer Neighbourhood Tam representative, all volunteers and speakers and everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

.....Sign & Date

.....Print name.

CHAIRMAN

Signed as confirmation that they are a true record.

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