

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT BARTON PARISH COUNCIL ON
MONDAY 20th NOVEMBER 2017 COMMENCING AT 7.15 PM**

<u>Item</u>	<p>Members Present : Councillor Maggie Dunn chaired the meeting together with Councillors Peter Fisk, Nicky Crouch, Matthew Parker, Kate Trevitt, Eddie Gibson and Diana Boys.</p> <p>2 members of the public were present.</p>	
<u>1.0</u>	<p><u>Chairman’s welcome, reminder about the filming of meetings and to receive apologies for absence</u></p> <p>Councillor Maggie Dunn welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were accepted from Councillor Philip Reeve.</p>	
<u>2.0</u>	<p><u>Opening Public Session</u></p> <p>Councillor Matthew Parker and a member of the public raised the issue of the increase in the volume and speed of traffic, on East Barton Road and Cox Lane, since Sow Lane has re-opened. Councillors Peter Fisk and Matthew Parker will put up the VAS mounting post on Cox Lane. The Clerk will request a speed check from the police. Councillors agreed that speeding in the village was a top priority, but they have limited resources to prevent it. This will be a topic for the Annual Parish Meeting. A request for a coordinator for the Community Speed Watch scheme will be put in the newsletter.</p>	PF/ MP LJH
<u>3.0</u>	<p><u>To receive County Councillor’s report</u></p> <p>Councillor Rebecca Hopfensperger had sent her apologies and a report. Details of the costs for the Mill Road pedestrian crossing point will be sent from the Highways Locality Team, where all local schemes are now designed, costed and delivered. The safety review of the Fornham Road/A143 junction and the costs for large white gates on East Barton Road will be chased. Suffolk County Council is proposing a 1.99% rise in Council tax, the first after a 7 year freeze, with a proposal to apply the 3% adult social care precept again this year. There is a further £27 million of savings needed to balance the budget. The home to school transport consultation will start in December/January.</p>	
<u>4.0</u>	<p><u>Report from Borough Councillor</u></p> <p>Councillor Sarah Broughton had Chaired an Air Quality Monitoring meeting with representatives from St Edmundsbury Borough Council and the village. Funds are available in her locality budget for village groups. St Edmundsbury Borough Council have brought the Post Office building on the Market Square and the sale has completed on the DHL building on Western Way.</p>	
<u>5.0</u>	<p><u>(i) To receive members Declarations of Interest – Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests which they have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item is reached &, when appropriate, to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item. (ii) Council to consider any new written requests for dispensation and/or requests which have been received prior to the meeting</u></p> <p>Councillor Eddie Gibson declared an interest in financial item 14e relating to the West Suffolk Operational Hub.</p>	
<u>6.0</u>	<p><u>To sign the minutes of the Council meeting on 18th September 2017 to stand as an accurate record of the meeting.</u></p>	
<u>6.1</u>	<p>The minutes of the council meeting on 18th September will be signed at the</p>	

	December meeting.	
6.2	The minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 30 th October 2017 were signed as an accurate record of the meeting by Councillor Eddie Gibson, who was 1 of only 2 Councillors who attended the meeting.	
7.0	<u>Chairman's Report</u>	
	Councillor Maggie Dunn did not wish to make a report.	
8.0	<u>Items arising from October's Council meeting:</u>	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council agreed the larger sign to show 'No Vehicular Access' on Park Lane. 2. Councillor Maggie Dunn is looking into how to register the lease, for Icepits Wood, with Land Registry. 3. Figures from the VAS will be provided at December's meeting. 	LJH
9.0	<u>Updates on village projects:</u>	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update on the Neighbourhood Plan – The Neighbourhood Plan questionnaires are being processed and the data will then be reviewed. The definitive budget for the Neighbourhood Plan reserve and grant will be confirmed at the December meeting. The next Neighbourhood Plan working party meeting will include a visit from Berkeley Homes to discuss the Barton Severalls development. All Councillors have been invited. 2. The Icepits Wood Committee is working on a woodland management plan 3. The suggested interim measure to improve the surface of a section of the School Lane/Downing Drive link footpath was discussed, along with suitable surfaces. A resident gave suggestions after studying the project data. Councillor Philip Reeve will liaise with the surrounding residents. 	LJH PR
10.0	<u>Local Government Transparency Guide</u>	
	The clerk had made suggestions as to how the Council could adopt the guide which is recommended good practice for all authorities. This will be discussed at the December meeting.	
11.0	<u>Council to consider their 2018-2019 precept</u>	
	Councillors discussed the draft figures provided by the Clerk and the Finance Committee, including whether the amount of funds in the General Reserve should be increased to reflect the expenditure this year, meaning a possible precept increase of 7 1/2%. It is estimated that the financial obligation for the Parish Council to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations could be £2,200 for the next financial year and £1,100 for the year after. There was a discussion on the role of the Data Protection Officer and whether this is a role the Clerk or a Councillor could take on. Further clarification will be sought from SALC. Further precept discussions will take place at December's meeting.	
12.0	<u>Council to consider the external lease for the allotments</u>	
	The Allotment Association were happy with the lease for the allotment site on Green Lane, which has been extended for a further 10 years. The Council resolved to accept the extended lease for the allotment site on Green Lane, between Suffolk County Council and Gt Barton Parish council to 2027. Proposed Councillor Maggie Dunn , seconded Councillor Eddie Gibson , unanimous decision.	
13.0	<u>Councillor's Reports</u>	
	There were no reports.	

14.0**Finance****(a) Payment of Accounts**

The Council resolved to pay the following accounts. Proposed Councillor Kate Trevitt, seconded Councillor Maggie Dunn, unanimous decision.

Details	Chq no	TOTAL INVOICE	RECLAIMED VAT
Suffolk County Council allotment rent	D/D	£ 50.00	
HMRC not paid this month as account in credit			
NEST - pension November	D/D	£ 31.55	
L J Harley - Clerk's salary	1970	£ 1,046.39	
Gt Barton Thanksgiving Fund September & October – Hall Hire	1971	£ 121.00	
S Deare Neighbourhood Plan Clerk	1972	£ 222.86	
D Boys mileage expenses new Councillor course	1973	£ 36.00	
Howes Percival – legal services for WSOH	1974	£ 4,191.60	£ 698.60
Suffolk County Council - extra cuts for Right of Way East Barton Road to Icepits Wood	1975	£ 73.70	
John Roe - Emergency Plan expenses	1976	£ 29.00	
SALC - Councillor training Diana Boys	1977	£ 132.00	
Community Action Suffolk- Neighbourhood Plan survey software and templates	1978	£ 240.00	£40
SALC - GDPR seminar – L Harley	1979	£ 26.40	£ 4.40
Vertas - grass cutting playing field and church	1980	£ 1,469.45	£ 244.91
Total		£ 7,669.95	£ 987.91

(b) The Clerk reported the following items :

Bank balances at 2/11/17

Current A/C	£62,139.20
Bus Reserve	£40,381.31
TOTAL	£102,520.51

Items owed from newsletter included £50 from an advertiser.

Other Credits received	£600 Fornam St Martin PC £200 Fornham All Saints PC £100 Allot Association rent
Business reserve account interest	35p bank interest

RESERVES	BALANCE
Small Projects	£17,998 - Earmarked: £3,000 School Lane footpath, Mill Rd crossing from PC £2,750 & from Freedom Church £1,750, Replacement tree for Conyers Green £150 = £7,650) Total balance £10,348
Neighbourhood Plan	£5,496– Items from November need to be deducted
Neighbourhood Plan Grant	£7665
Youth Project	£1,038
General	£22,902 (Earmarked: £3,300 VAS, £4,000 Housing Needs Survey, WSOH solicitors £2,500 = £9,800) Total balance £13,102
Allotments	£ 264 (Earmarked: £50 rent April 2018)
Asset maintenance	£ 4,482
Asset acquisition	£7,556 (Earmarked: Community Speed Watch £1,007) Total balance £6,549
Village Sign	NIL
Icepits Wood	£17,472 (Earmarked: £15,000 pump track) Balance = £2,472
Total reserves	£84,873

- c) The bank reconciliations had been checked by Councillor Maggie Dunn .
- d) Risk assessments had been carried out including the weekly playground check and there was nothing new to report.
- e) The Council resolved to pay further solicitors fees to Howes Percival for advice on the WSOH planning application, review of the committee papers and advise on the merits of any challenge. Proposed Councillor Nicky Crouch, seconded Councillor Maggie Dunn, Councillor Eddie Gibson having previously declared a non-pecuniary interest, abstained from the voting and discussion. There were 5 votes for this proposal and 1 against.
- f) Following a request from The Den youth club at the Freedom Church, to carry their grant over to the next financial year, the Council agreed that the grant of £669 would be available until March 2018 and they were welcome

15.0	to re-apply after that.	
15.1	Planning	
	The minutes from the planning meeting on Monday 13 th November were signed as an accurate record of the meeting. Proposed Councillor Maggie Dunn, seconded Councillor Peter Fisk, unanimous decision.	
15.2	The council supported the following applications:	
15.3	Offices Mere Farm, Mere Farm Lane	DC/17/1934/FUL Replace all existing windows and doors
	4 Tewkesbury Place	DC/17/2238/HH Single storey side extension
	The Council objected to the following application and commented that this application contravenes Policy DM27 relating to development in the countryside. 3 Councillors voted against this application, 1 voted for the application and 1 abstained.	
15.4	The Mill House, Mill Road	DC/17/2038/OUT Outline planning application (Means of Access to be considered) - 1 dwelling and garage
	The following applications had been approved by St Edmundsbury Borough Council :	
15.5	Land adj to the Church Institute, The Street	DC/17/1166/FUL (i) 5no. Dwellings and accesses, (ii) Extensions and subdivision to the Forge to form 2no. dwellings and accesses, and (iii) Single storey rear extension to Church Institute with new parking layout
15.6	Land adj to The Church Institute, The Street	DC/17/1167/LB Application for Listed Buildings Consent - (i) 5no. Dwellings, (ii) Extensions and Subdivision to the Forge to form 2no. Dwellings and (iii) Extension as Single Storey to Church Institute
15.7	Rowan House, The Park	DC/17/1629/HH - (i) Conversion of existing double garage into bedroom with new infill extension linking to main house (ii) detached double garage (iii) enlargement of existing front bay window
15.8	Treetops, Livermere Road	DC/17/2340/TPO TPO 513 (2010) - 1 Ash (T1 on plan, within area A2 on order) fell
15.9	Brookmead House, Thurston Road	DC/16/2358/HH Detached Summerhouse
16.0	Correspondence	
17.0	The correspondence list had been circulated.	
17.1	Urgent Business	
	The lineage at the Bunbury Arms junction, which has worn away, will be reported to Suffolk County Council.	
17.2	The planning application for the West Suffolk Operational Hub has been sent to the	

LJH

	Secretary of State.	
<u>17.3</u>	Church Road verges are becoming very overgrown and encroaching on the width of the road. The condition of Green Lane from the Church to Cattishall is poor with potholes and mud on the road. The clerk will report to Suffolk County Council.	LJH
<u>17.4</u>	Councillor Kate Trevitt and the Clerk are reading West Suffolk's Woodland Management Plan to find out information for Hall Park Wood.	LJH
<u>17.5</u>	The issue of dog fouling on The Coppice/Conyers Way was raised and the absence of a dog bin on that side of the village. This will be discussed at December's meeting.	LJH
<u>17.6</u>	Councillor Diana Boys left the meeting at 9.05pm.	LJH
<u>17.7</u>	The Clerk will arrange for the leaves to be swept on School Road.	LJH
<u>17.8</u>	Following a discussion, the Council decided not to give a one-off payment to a resident whose fence has been damaged by a falling tree from Icepits Wood. This will be dealt with through the insurance companies.	
<u>17.9</u>	The Clerk reminded the Icepits Wood committee that a working party should take place in the autumn/early winter specifically to tackle the spread of ivy around trees in the area adjacent to the rear gardens of the properties on the Eastern edge of the wood. This is in response to the comments raised by the insurers following the damage incurred during Storm Doris earlier this year.	EG PR
<u>17.10</u>	The butchers shop in the village has closed.	
<u>18.0</u>	<u>Closing Public Session</u> No items were raised.	
<u>19.0</u>	<u>Date of next meeting</u> The next Council meeting will be on Monday 11 th December 2017. There being no further business the meeting finished at 9.15pm.	
<hr/> <p>CHAIRMAN Signed as confirmation that they are a true record.</p>		

--	--	--