

BARHAM AND WOOLLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Wednesday 7th February 2018 DRAFT

Approved and signed minutes from the definitive legal record of council business. In the interest of early publication for residents, the notice board carries text of draft minutes awaiting approval. Draft minutes may sometimes be amended at the next council meeting before being signed. If amendments are made, this will be noted in the draft minutes of the next meeting.

Councillors Present: Mr N Grundy-councillor
Mrs Grove-Price-councillor
Mr T Massey-treasurer
Mrs A King-councillor

Chairman: Mr P Harrison

2 members of the public were present

- 1. Chairman:** The meeting commenced at 19.50
- 2. Apologies:** None
- 3. Minutes of the last meeting- 11th October 2017.** Minutes have been circulated, no amendments were required. The Council moved to accept them as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were signed by Chairman Mr P Harrison.

4. Matters arising: The clerk has written to the local Speedwatch co ordinator again as we showed our interest last year but nothing further has come of it. Our application to the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation who look after the Woolley Hill Windfarm fund, for a defibrillator, was turned down in November 2017. After discussion it was agreed that the clerk reapply for this funding. All were in favour of reapplying but Mr Massey wished to abstain. Mr Massey requested some further money from the grant for the website to enable him to buy a printer as there was sufficient money left over.

The meeting moved onto the drainage and sewage situation at Woolley Road, Barham. At this point the Chairman closed the meeting to enable a member of the public to speak on the matter. After 5 mins the Chairman re opened the meeting. After much correspondence from John Setchell, Environmental Protection Officer, the latest update is that a dye test has been undertaken on the septic tanks in Woolley Road and the results will be passed on to the Environment Agency, who should be in touch with the Clerk. The Environment Agency is the appropriate authority that deals with septic tanks and water pollution. There is nothing that the Parish Council can do and we await to hear further.

Village Drains: After Mr Ivor Watson had made a complaint to the Highways Officer regarding blocked drains in Barham and backing up at his property, the Highways carried out some work on the drains and cleared the blockage as far as they could. This was in December 2017. A Community Group of residents excavated the drain further on land that the Parish Council is responsible for, as the problem had not been fully resolved. It was found that there were some pipes squashed in the ditch. There is approx. 51metres of pipe running between 2 manholes, 1 of which is in good condition but the other is not and needs replacing, as Mr Grundy reports. Some of this pipe runs across PC land but the question arises as to whether the PC is responsible for this pipe, as the pipe predates any Parish Council. Mr Grundy further states that if the PC is not responsible it should not commit any money as this would then give the impression that the PC was responsible. Mr Massey asked if the Clerk could contact CALPAC, the local reference point for Parish Councils, as we are a member. Would they be able to give is guidance as hopefully other Parish Councils will have the same issue in the past.

The Clerk will also contact Karl Brockett at the Highways again as he oversaw the work in December, and tell him that the break in the pipe has been found and can they now come back and mend it. The Parish Council unanimously give the Highways permission to go onto the land for this purpose. Mr Grundy estimates it will cost between £600 and £800 for the materials to mend this pipe and culvert.

5. Pecuniary interest: None were disclosed concerning any of the Agenda items.

6. Correspondence: A letter was read out by the Clerk from Leighton Bromswold Parish Council Chairman, Mr Bohdan Mysak, regarding the grain lorry traffic to the grain store at Top Lodge Farm. To summarise, it was originally envisaged that there would be approx. 30 grain lorries per annum to and from the grain store, but this is now nearer 100. Because the original number of expected journeys was small no particular conditions were laid down for planning consent. This lorry movement is through Barham to Spaldwick and the A14. The Clerk was asked to write to HDC regarding the lorry movements to and from the grain store at Top Lodge Farm, Leighton Bromswold, and to query the original use as a grain store for the farm or warehousing for grain as is now possibly the case.

7. Treasurers Report: The Treasurer distributed a balance sheet to all Councillors. The Clerk advised that she had an invoice for £100 for her services to the Parish Council for April 2017 to April 2018. The Chairman asked if the Clerk would be happy for this figure to remain for the coming year and the Clerk agreed. A unanimous decision by all Councillors was given to the Treasurer to pay this invoice.

8. Website: The website is up and running and all agreed that it is working well and that Minutes of the meetings held in 2017 are on the website, along with other relevant information and pictures. Again, it was unanimously agreed that the website is working well.

9. Any other Business including readopting standing orders: Clerk advised that the Standing Orders were last adopted in February 2016. Mr Grundy proposed and Mrs King seconded, that standing orders be readopted.

Chairman had attended a meeting with the police recently regarding policing the countryside. Hare coursers have now taken to carrying high powered rifles and are now not only coursing hares but shooting deer, foxes etc and leaving them for the landowners to find. The police are building up a case against these people but they have also taken to ramming police vehicles and driving dangerously on the public roads to avoid being caught. The message is to ring 999 if you see anyone coursing and not to try and stop them yourself.

10. Time, place, date of next meeting: The AGM and Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 15th May 2018 at 19.45 at St Giles Church, Barham.

Meeting closed at 20.35

Signed by the Clerk.....

Date.....

Signed by the Chairman
Barham and Woolley Parish Council

Date.....