

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL
ON MONDAY 31st JANUARY 2022 COMMENCING AT 8.25pm**

Present: Councillors Mr J Paxton (Chairman), Mr N Day (Vice-Chair), Mr J Selley, Mr J Roberts
Mrs A Miller and Mrs B Thomas (ex-officio)

In Attendance: Mrs C Callen (Clerk)

Minutes: Mrs C Callen

21/462 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – There were none. Councillor Paxton advised he would be arriving at 8.30pm.

21/463 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (*Cllrs may make declarations pertaining to the agenda at this point or at any point during the meeting*) – There were none.

21/464 MATTERS ARISING –

Blooming Barton Group have planted bulbs in all the open spaces around the Village.

A resident has contacted the Parish Council to request that a waste bin be installed on the emergency access road between Sharpenhoe Road and Barton Rovers. This land is owned by Central Beds Council (CBC). The Clerk has advised the resident that CBC would be unlikely to install anything here as it leads to private property and is not on their waste collection route. The Parish Council have several bins around the Sports Pitches on the Access Road that the Groundsman already empties. The resident has been advised to contact Barton Rovers to see if they can clear any rubbish left from their patrons in this area.

21/465 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 15th NOVEMBER 2021

A copy of the minutes was provided to all members ahead of the meeting. Councillor Day **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of 15th November 2021, **SECONDED** by Councillor Roberts and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

21/466 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE BUS SHELTERS INSPECTION

The inspection undertaken on 20th January was acknowledged. Everything was in order.

21/467 UPDATE REGARDING THE BEDS PCC ROAD SAFETY FUND APPLICATION

The Clerk has been in contact with the Police to clarify the type of vehicle activated speed device being suggested for installation on Bedford Road. It is understood that a report of recommendations has been put to the PCC and a decision is awaited.

21/469 TO REVIEW AND AGREE THE PARISH COUNCILS ACTION PLAN 2022/23 FOR THE HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The draft Plan has been drawn up by the Clerk, following the Budget review at the end of 2021. The committee were happy with the plan in respect of Highways & Environment to be put forward for adoption at the next Full Council meeting. Therefore, Councillor Day **PROPOSED** approval of the draft Action Plan 2022/23, **SECONDED** by Councillor Miller and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

(Councillor Paxton arrived at 8.31pm)

Councillor Miller advised that the Blooming Barton Community Group would be prepared to maintain the Village gates, if required. These are currently maintained by the Groundsman under instruction from the Parish Council. It was agreed to consider this at a future meeting, if appropriate.

21/468 TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE RURAL MATCH FUNDING INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR 2022/23 AND 2023/24 AND TO CONSIDER WAY FORWARD

Central Beds Council have provided details of the RMF Scheme being re-launched this year for highway improvements. A copy of the details was provided to members ahead of the meeting. Various possible projects were discussed – only two small-scale schemes will be considered per Town or Parish Council. General questions can be submitted by 11th February, with the deadline for applications 8th April.

ACTION – Members to feedback any questions to the Clerk by 7th February and also consider possible projects. This item will then be discussed again at the next Committee meeting.

- 21/470 TO CONSIDER REQUEST FOR A MONTHLY VOLUNTEER LITTER PICK**
As acknowledged at Full Council, a resident has approached the Parish Council to request consideration is given to have a regular monthly litter pick by volunteers around the Village, as a Community Project. Litter pickers and refuse sacks would need to be provided by the Parish Council who would also co-ordinate volunteers/locations, Risk Assessments, etc. After consideration, it was felt that the administration of a regular event was something the Parish Council would not be able to commit time and staffing to, particularly as there is not a significant problem in the Village. The Parish Groundsman and Central Beds Council already undertake rubbish collection in several areas daily (around Arnold Rec, Village Hall, Sports Field, Shops). There are also groups of residents and the Rotary Club members who regularly litter-pick around the roads.
ACTION – Clerk to speak to Rotary Club to establish what regular activities they already do and whether any support is required from the Community and Parish Council.
- 21/471 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN EVENT 2022**
The next Great British Spring Clean event is planned for 25th March – 10th April 2022.
After discussion, it was agreed to publicise the event on social media and the next Newsletter to see if any groups were interested in organising an event. Possible purchase of litter-picking equipment to be considered at the next meeting.
- 21/472 UPDATE REGARDING THE LOCAL AUTHORITY TREESCAPES FUND**
As reported at Full Council, CBC Tree Officer has confirmed that 44 tree have been earmarked for Barton-le-Clay. A map of the intended locations was provided. The Clerk has requested more details on the exact locations and types of the trees and a response is awaited.
ACTION – Clerk to contact CBC for a response.
- 21/473 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE**
There was none.

Meeting closed at 9.07pm