

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL  
ON MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2022 COMMENCING AT 8.29pm**

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

**In Attendance:** Mrs C Callen (Clerk) and Councillor Mr S Laycock

**Minutes:** Mrs C Callen

**22/064 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Councillor Mr J Roberts

**22/065 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.

**22/066 MATTERS ARISING** –

The traffic surveys in Bedford Road and Sharpenhoe Road are currently in place to provide evidence for Central Beds Council to support the Rural Match Fund application for anti-speeding measures to be installed in these areas.

The Parish Council took part in ‘No Mow May’ at the Heritage Garden, Arnold Recreation Ground extension field and Simpkins Drive open space. Contractors have now mown the Heritage Garden and Simpkins Drive open Space. The field at the top of Arnold Rec will be left for several more weeks as the Orchids are currently flowering.

The Clerk has received ongoing complaints regarding the area at the top of Old Road where the temporary barriers are still in place. Some residents feel that they are unsightly and should now be removed. Vegetation is starting to grow in this area but would not be sufficient to prevent unauthorised parking, despite the double yellow lines in place. Again, wooden blocks or more mature planting has been requested. The Clerk has explained to the residents that this is a decision for Central Beds Council to take forward, as owners of the land.

Councillor Paxton advised that the hedgerow at the rear of the Co-op Foodstore is very overgrown.

**ACTION – Clerk to investigate ownership of the hedgerow and action accordingly.**

**22/067 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 28<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2022**

A copy of the minutes was provided to all members ahead of the meeting. Councillor Paxton **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022, subject to amendment of a spelling mistake, **SECONDED** by Councillor Day **with 5 in favour and 1 abstention.**

**22/068 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE BUS SHELTERS INSPECTION**

The next inspections are due to be undertaken during the week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> June.

**22/069 UPDATE REGARDING ACTIONS TO PREVENT NUISANCE MOTORBIKES AT LOVERS WALK**

The Clerk has spoken to the farmer at Barton Hill Farm and is trying to arrange a visit for Councillors to see first-hand the issues at the site. There will also be an opportunity to discuss ditch clearance with the farmer at this meeting. After discussion, it was agreed to arrange the meeting for the morning of Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July.

The Clerk has also contacted CBC Public Rights of Way Officer to discuss options for restricting access for motor vehicles to the Bridleway at the top of Old Road. A new Officer has recently been appointed – she has already been in contact with the farmer at Barton Hill Farm. A joint meeting with the Officer, Parish Council and the two farmers whose land borders the bridleway is being arranged.

Councillor Widdowfield advised that the current Operation Meteor Police Officer is retiring shortly.

**22/070 TO CONSIDER APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FOR TREES AS PART OF THE QUEENS GREEN CANOPY AND AGREE WAY FORWARD**

Earlier in the year, the Parish Council discussed the possibility of applying for funding via CBC Tree Planting Grant under the Queen’s Green Canopy scheme, for trees to be planted on Arnold

Recreation Ground to mark the Queens Jubilee. Blooming Barton are also applying under this scheme for a Christmas tree to be planted on Lime Close. The Clerk has contacted CBC for advice on the scheme and is awaiting a response.

**ACTION – Clerk to speak to the Tree Officer for support with the application. This item will be discussed further at the next Full Council meeting.**

**22/071 TO ACKNOWLEDGE COMPLAINT REGARDING EXCESSIVE SPEEDING ON WINDSOR ROAD AND CONSIDER ANY ACTIONS**

A resident from Windsor Road has contacted the Parish Council regarding their concerns over excessive speeding on Windsor Road and their fears that a serious accident may happen. The Clerk has acknowledged their request and advised that CBC would have to make any decisions regarding highways issues. It was suggested that any instances are reported to the Police.

**ACTION – Clerk to respond to the resident’s request and copy Councillor Shingler into the correspondence.**

**22/072 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE**

There were none.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm