

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL
ON MONDAY 3rd JULY 2023 COMMENCING AT 8.00pm**

Present: Councillors J Paxton (Chairman), N Day (Vice-Chair), A Fletcher, J Selley, W Rudd and A Tebb

In Attendance: Mrs C Callen (Clerk)

Minutes: Mrs C Callen

23/072 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – There were none.

23/073 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.

23/074 MATTERS ARISING –

The Groundsman have now taken over the watering of the Queen's Green Canopy trees on Arnold Recreation Ground, after the initial support provided by the Nursery. Due to the recent dry weather, the water bags are being filled every 2/3 days from the Burial Ground supply.

23/075 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 27th MARCH 2023

A copy of the minutes was provided to all members ahead of the meeting. Councillor Paxton **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of 27th March 2023, **SECONDED** by Councillor Fletcher **with 5 in favour and 1 abstention**.

23/076 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE BUS SHELTERS INSPECTION

The inspections undertaken on 13th June were acknowledged. Everything was in order.

23/077 TO RETROSPECTIVELY APPROVE COST FOR TREE WORKS AT ODELLS POCKET

Two trees were found to have dropped over the past couple of weeks, as advised by the Clerk, and were hanging over the footpath from Manor Road to the fields leading to Hexton, and the neighbouring fence. The Groundsman was able to cut some lower branches back but it was agreed that the trees could potentially fall and cause damage or harm. Therefore, the Clerk arranged for Jempson's Tree Services to inspect them on Friday 23rd June, and it was confirmed that they needed cutting back immediately. As the trees form the boundary with the land behind 111 Manor Road, the Clerk spoke to the owners to confirm they were happy for the tree works to go ahead. After speaking to Councillors Fletcher, Selley and Day for approval, the Clerk instructed the works to be completed. A message was posted on the Council and Village Social Media sites to advise of the works being undertaken.

Councillor Paxton **PROPOSED** retrospective approval of the cost of £200 plus VAT for the tree works, **SECONDED** by Councillor Fletcher and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

23/078 TO CONSIDER THE TREE SURVEY FOR 2023 AND AGREE FOLLOW UP ACTIONS

The Tree Survey was completed by Treefusion Ltd in early June, with the full report being received on 30th June. The summary maps showing the trees highlighted for works were shared with members ahead of the meeting. Following an overview of the reports, several require further inspection with Resistograph data within 1 month. Some trees are reported to be covered in Ivy and difficult to assess. The Clerk was requested to compare the results with the reports from 3 years ago to see if the same trees were inspected with a Resistograph at that time. It was suggested that the reports be reviewed by a local resident with specialist knowledge in this area. **ACTION – Clerk to compare findings with previous report. Quote to be obtained for the Resistograph inspections, as recommended, for consideration at the next meeting.**

23/079 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE

There was none.

Meeting closed at 8.28pm