

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL
ON MONDAY 30th OCTOBER 2023 COMMENCING AT 7.37pm**

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

In Attendance: C Callen (Clerk)

Minutes: C Callen

23/243 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – These were received from Councillor J Paxton.

23/244 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.

23/245 MATTERS ARISING –

Re **minute ref 23/190** – As agreed at the last meeting, Jempson Tree Services have been instructed to undertake the work at the Sports Field, Recreation Ground and Burial Ground. They will schedule the Sports Field works now. The Clerk has applied for Planning Permission for the tree works in Arnold Recreation Ground and the Burial Ground as these are in the Conservation area and so will be subject to a 6week public consultation. Jempson Tree Services have also actioned the urgent tree felling at the entrance to Lovers Walk, as agreed.

23/246 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25th SEPTEMBER 2023

A copy of the minutes was provided to all members ahead of the meeting. Councillor Fletcher **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of 25th September 2023, **SECONDED** by Councillor Tebb **with 2 in favour and 3 abstentions**.

23/247 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE BUS SHELTERS INSPECTION

The inspections undertaken on 19th October were acknowledged. The Groundsmen are in the process of replacing one of the Perspex sections of the Bus Shelter on Windsor Road, due to cracking. Everything else was in order.

23/248 PRESENTATION FROM THE CENTRAL BEDS COUNCIL ACTIVE STREETS OFFICER

It was agreed at the July Full Council meeting that the CBC Sustainable Transport Project Officer would attend the meeting to provide more information on their Active Streets project, including Play Streets and School Streets. Unfortunately, the officer has advised they have moved roles and their replacement will be starting in November. This item will be deferred to the New Year.

23/249 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE COST FOR TREE WORKS AT LOVERS WALK

The Clerk has sought three quotes for the work required at Lovers Walk, to fell 14 trees and remove deadwood from an additional 8 trees. One contractor has declined to quote. Two other quotes were considered. Councillor Fletcher **PROPOSED** approval for Macauley Tree Services to undertake the work at a cost of £8,240 plus VAT, **SECONDED** by Councillor Tebb and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

The Clerk has contacted the Forestry Commission regarding obtaining a felling licence for the work. A site meeting has been arranged for 2nd November to discuss.

23/250 UPDATE ON ROAD SAFETY ISSUES AND AGREE WAY FORWARD

Councillor Paxton and the Clerk met with the Beds DPCC on 18th October for a walkabout the Village to look at anti-social behaviour areas and road safety issues. A copy of the feedback from the meeting was provided to all members.

A resident has also been collecting information on road safety issues around the Village via Facebook. Copies of their information that has been discussed with Ward Councillor Childs was also provided to all members.

Following the Clerks subsequent conversation with Ward Councillor Childs, contact has been made with both Ramsey Manor and Arnold Academy Schools to request they survey their children and parents on how and where they travel to school.

Following a thorough review of the problem areas around the Village and possible options, it was agreed that the Parish Council will work with the Ward Councillors to build evidence for taking to Central Beds Council Highways department to justify an improved pedestrian crossing on Bedford Road and a reduction in speed limit around Manor Road and Hexton Road school entrances as the first priorities.

ACTION – Clerk to liaise with Ward Councillor Childs regarding the school surveys and update the resident on the planned way forward. Councillors Tebb and Fletcher to consider conducting a survey of residents crossing Bedford Road at various points over a set period to help with evidence.

23/251 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE

There was none.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm