

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE PARISH OFFICE ON  
MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2019 COMMENCING AT 8.14pm**

**Present:** Councillors Mr J Paxton (Chairman), Mr N Day, Mr J Roberts & Mr L. Davison-Williams (*ex-officio*)

**In Attendance:** Mrs S Cowie (Assistant Clerk), Councillor Mr J Selley

**Minutes:** Mrs S Cowie

**18/677 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Councillor Mr D Gunter

**18/678 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.

**18/679 MATTERS ARISING**

Whitbread Wanderbus have confirmed that they will run a second bus service on a 3 month trial basis, effective from 7<sup>th</sup> May. The service will start in Barton and take passengers to Hitchin, in the event that there are no passengers, the bus will return to base. Notices of the new service have been displayed on social media, the Council's website and notice boards. In addition Councillor Gardner will deliver copies to Gale Court, Library etc.

No response has been received from Central Beds Council regarding lighting on footpath number 9 which runs from Sharpenhoe Road to Portobello Road.

Reynolds Landscaping have completed work clearing the area on the roundabout at Grange Road/Bedford Road today.

**18/680 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 18<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2019**

Councillor Paxton **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019, **SECONDED** by Councillor Roberts and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**18/681 TO RETROSPECTIVELY CONSIDER/APPROVE COST TO REPLACE PERSPEX IN BUS SHELTERS FOLLOWING RECENT CRIMINAL DAMAGE**

Two of the bus shelters on Luton Road (North and South bound) suffered criminal damage during the evening of 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> April when panels were pushed out and damaged beyond repair. For health and safety reasons two new panels were purchased and have been installed. Members noted that the Clerk had paid for the replacement panels on her own credit card as it was not possible for an account to be set up, and thanked her for doing this. Councillor Paxton **PROPOSED** retrospective approval of the cost for the two replacement panels purchased from Amari Plastics at a total cost of £96.90 plus VAT, Clerk to be recompensed. The proposal was **SECONDED** by Councillor Roberts and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**18/682 TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND CONSIDER WAY FORWARD FOLLOWING RESIDENTS COMPLAINT REGARDING TREES BETWEEN SIMPKINS DRIVE AND THE A6**

Members acknowledged the correspondence and photographs received from the resident of Simpkins Drive which highlight the issues they are facing with the trees between their property and the A6. Councillor Davison-Williams advised that the River Ivel Drainage Board carry out some work in this area but they do not own the land. They have offered help to establish the correct ownership. In addition he has asked Central Bedfordshire Council's (CBC) Assets team for a copy of the Title Deeds. Once the question of ownership is established he plans to visit the resident to give an update. The deadline for tree works has now passed as it is nesting season but work should be able to be carried out in September.

**18/683 UPDATE REGARDING PORTABLE SPEED SIGNAGE**

Councillor Paxton reported that he had recently attended a demonstration of the portable speed sign provided by Morelock Signs. He advised members that he felt the sign was a good size, was bright and the feedback from Parishes who have installed the sign was positive. A second quote from TWM Traffic Controls for similar signage was provided prior to the meeting. Before progressing further it will be necessary for CBC to be consulted as the sign will need to be mounted on lamp posts which are not under the Parish Council's ownership. All agreed that a list of possible locations (around 6) should be collated and submitted to CBC for consideration. The equipment has the ability to collect data regarding traffic movements and speed. Councillor



Davison-Williams advised that CBC carried out a traffic count some years ago and at that time informed the Parish Council that they would only accept data collated by themselves/approved contractors. It was agreed that the question of collating and using data should be checked with CBC. Before progressing further members asked that Central Bedfordshire Council be consulted and these questions be asked; In addition the Clerk was asked to contact the two suppliers to establish their costs for callouts, should the equipment fail. The second company should be asked where they have signs installed and surrounding Parishes who have signs installed be asked whether they are collecting data and how it is used. This item is to be discussed at the next meeting once all information is available.

**18/684 UPDATE REGARDING LOCAL WALKS LEAFLETS**

Outline costs from PMA, Hitchin, for the production of local walks leaflets were discussed by members. Members felt that in addition to the leaflet, signage/plaques or similar will be required along the route(s). It is possible that some routes will be changed once Central Bedfordshire Councils Local Plan has been finalised. It was agreed that this item should be discussed once the Local Plan has been finalised. In the meantime, the Clerk was asked to look at grant opportunities to fund the project.

**18/685 UPDATE REGARDING TRAFFIC CALMING INSTALLATION, HEXTON ROAD**

Following the postponement of the traffic calming measures for Hexton Road, the Parish Council has sent a letter to Central Beds Traffic Management Team expressing their disappointment in the delay. Final plans for the scheme have now been received, however, the costs are not currently available. The Assistant Clerk confirmed that no response to our letter had been received or notice of a new date for the works, at the time of the meeting.

**18/686 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE – None.**

Meeting closed at 8.54pm