

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE**  
**OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT**  
**THE PARISH OFFICE, 1 WINDSOR PARADE**  
**ON 16<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2026 COMMENCING AT 9.07pm**

**Present:** Councillors A Vale (Chair), B Thomas (Vice-Chair), A Tebb, K Qureshi, J Mikkelson (ex-officio)

**Attending:** S Cowie (Assistant Clerk)

**Minutes Taken by:** S Cowie

**25/537 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – were received from Councillor Paxton.

**25/538 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – none declared.

**25/539 MATTERS ARISING**

As reported at the March Full Council meeting, the surfacing at the entrance from Church Road into the Recreation Ground has been renewed.

**Minute point 516.5.** The new swing seat has been fitted in the Norman Road Play Area.

The routine pest control check of the allotments was undertaken by PPM on 12<sup>th</sup> March. Bait was replenished at all stations. No recommendations were made.

The Groundsman reported a small water leak in the allotment shed. At present no action is needed and it will be monitored.

The Assistant Clerk has arranged a meeting with a play equipment supplier to discuss ideas for refurbishment of the Norman Road Play Area, when funds allow.

**25/540 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD ON 16<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2026**

A copy of the minutes was provided ahead of the meeting. Councillor Vale **PROPOSED** the approval of the minutes of the committee meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> February, **SECONDED** by Councillor Tebb with **4 IN FAVOUR AND 1 ABSTENTION** as they were not present. The minutes were approved.

**25/541 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WEEKLY INSPECTIONS OF THE PLAYGROUND AND FITNESS EQUIPMENT**

The inspections of the Norman Road, Arnold Recreation Ground and Fitness Equipment undertaken on 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March were acknowledged. Everything was in order in the Norman Road Play Area and with the Fitness Equipment. In the Recreation Ground, on 16<sup>th</sup> March bolts for the Rug Rat multiplay unit were noted as need tightening. This was actioned straight away. There were no other issues noted.

**25/542 TO AGREE THE PROJECT FOR S106 MONEY AND APPROVE THE COST**

Suitable projects for the S106 money include fitness equipment and goal posts for the Recreation Ground. A second quote to supply a further piece of fitness equipment was provided prior to the meeting for comparison. The quotation, which was for supply only, exceeds the funding available and it was agreed that this should not be progressed until sufficient funds are available as there are higher priorities.

The Recreation Ground currently has adult goal posts which are in a poor condition. During the Play Equipment consultation held in 2024, it was identified that these goals should be replaced with smaller goals more suitable for youth use. The S106 funding, which is available totals £470.99, and Barton Rovers Youth FC have confirmed that they are willing to contribute to the project. Their preference is

to install 12 x 6ft and 21x7ft goal posts. Both would cater for youth and will accommodate a wide age range.

Councillor Mikkelson **PROPOSED** the approval to purchase of a pair of 12 x 6ft fixed goal posts and a pair of 21 x 7ft goal posts (to replace the adult goals), from Net World Sports totalling £1,489.99 + VAT. This approval is subject to release of S106 money and a contribution of £500 from Barton Rovers Youth FC. The remainder will be funded by the Parish Council (Play Equipment Replacement ear marked reserve). Councillor Vale **SECONDED** the proposal, and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED. ACTION: Assistant Clerk to discuss funding contribution with Barton Rovers Youth FC before purchasing new goal posts.**

**25/543 TO CONSIDER THE QUOTATIONS TO REPLACE/REFURBISH THE RECREATION GROUND GATES AND AGREE THE WAY FORWARD**

Two quotations were provided for consideration. Both quotes include supply and fit of new double gates, pedestrian gate and fencing to the entrance by the Play Area and to refurbish the double gates opposite Washbrook Close. Also, at Washbrook Close to install additional fencing to improve security by the existing pedestrian gate.

The fence design around the pedestrian gates was suggested to increase safety for pedestrians and deter motor bikes (which are not permitted on the Recreation Ground) from entering the field. The design will also provide additional safety for children who could otherwise run out into the road. Both suppliers had different views on the condition of the existing gate posts, and this is reflected in the overall cost quoted. The Assistant Clerk was asked to feedback the committees' comments and seek revised quotes for discussion at the next meeting.

**25/544 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE COMPLAINT REGARDING FLOODING IN THE PLAY AREA, ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND AND CONSIDER ACTIONS**

The resident's complaint regarding flooding and concerns regarding damage to play equipment was acknowledged. The resident was thanked for their input. The Assistant Clerk reported that the Barton Educational Trust (owners of the land where the play area sits) are meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> March and the issue of flooding and the reinstatement of the field drains is due to be discussed. Members agreed that once an update has been provided by the Trust the next steps can be agreed. Councillor Mikkelson volunteered to meet with the resident and the Trust to discuss options to tackle the flooding. It was noted that permission must be given by the Trust before any work can be carried out.

**25/545 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE INDEPENDENT INSPECTION REPORT FOR THE NORMAN ROAD PLAY AREA AND CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Inspection Report was acknowledged. Comments from the inspector include the root growth underneath the surfacing and algae growth on the surface. The Assistant Clerk will work through an Action Plan with the Ground Staff and seek quotes as necessary.

**25/546 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE ALLOTMENT OPEN DAY EVENTS AND AGREE ANY ACTIONS**

Councillors Vale and Qureshi declared an interest, as they are allotment tenants.

The Assistant Clerk reported that a review of the outstanding work needed to clear vacant plots has taken place and the Ground Staff will work through the actions in the coming weeks. The March Newsletter will be delivered to households shortly, and details of the Open Day have been included in the publication. Members discussed the request from a tenant to allow pre-school children to visit their plot to learn about produce growing. The children will be supervised and will only be permitted on the tenant's plot. Members were very much in favour of the idea and hope that it will lead to families considering taking on their own plot. It was noted that some glass remains on the site, the Assistant Clerk will follow this up with the tenants concerned.

**25/547 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA – for information only.**

Members considered the request to erect a storage structure/small shed on allotment plot number 49a. The application meets the criteria, and a deposit payment will be taken. Councillor Tebb **PROPOSED** the approval of the request, **SECONDED** by Councillor Mikkelson with **4 IN FAVOUR AND 2 ABSTENTIONS**.

A review of the Committees Risk Assessments will be included in the next committee agenda.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 10.00pm