

**MINUTES OF AN EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL,**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 6th JANUARY 2020**  
**AT THE VILLAGE HALL, HEXTON ROAD, BARTON-LE-CLAY AT 7.30PM**

Present: Councillors Mr L Davison-Williams (Chair), Mrs B Thomas (Vice-Chair), Mrs G Gardner, Mr J Selley, Mr J Roberts, Mr N Day, Mrs V Jones and Mr A Channon

In attendance: Mrs C Callen (Clerk) & 3 members of the public

Minutes: Mrs C Callen

**19/473 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Mr J Paxton and Mr K Taylor

**19/474 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – There were none.

**19/475 PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORTS/UPDATE**

475.3 **To acknowledge proposed traffic scheme consultation regarding Harlington Road, Sharpenhoe and consider any response if appropriate**

A member of Streatley Parish Council was in attendance and confirmed that they were in favour of the scheme proposed for Sharpenhoe, to reduce the speed limit and introduce calming measures. This has been a campaign for many years.

An ex-resident of the village who is now a toxicologist, specialising in the effects of non-exhaust pollutants, then addressed the meeting. She advised that from her research, there is a 47% increase in pollution for each raised table, caused by brake dust. This can affect people's health, increasing the risk of developing lung and heart complications, impacting those with asthma and weakening the immune system. She recommended the use of average speed cameras as a safer option for traffic calming.

(Councillor Channon arrived at 7.36pm)

Members then debated the proposed traffic calming measures. Councillor Gardner **PROPOSED** that the following comments be submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council, together with supporting evidence to be provided regarding the health impact of raised tables, **SECONDED** by Councillor Day and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

*Comment – Barton-le-Clay Parish Council strongly supports the need for speed reduction through Sharpenhoe Village. However, they would question why the Local Authority has not considered alternative measures for implementing the traffic calming, for instance the use of average speed cameras. The Parish Council would like to bring to the attention of the Local Authority the recent research evidencing the health impact caused by raised tables.*

2 members of the public and Councillor Selley left at 7.53pm

475.1 **To consider new planning applications or delegate authority to respond to committee:**

**CB/19/04198/FULL, 9 York Close** – Side two storey extension and front single storey extension. Councillor Gardner **PROPOSED** the following objection, **SECONDED** by Councillor Roberts and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**:

**OBJECT:** *The Parish Council has raised an objection regarding the loss of onsite parking proposed. York Close is very narrow with limited street parking. The Parish Council is concerned that there are no plans to show alternative onsite parking availability.*

**CB/19/004081/FULL, 16 Windsor Road** – Proposed rear and side extension to an existing dwelling. A member of the public was in attendance and provided additional information regarding the proposed plans.



After discussion, Councillor Gardner **PROPOSED** the following objection, **SECONDED** by Councillor Roberts and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**:

**OBJECT:** *The Parish Council has concerns that where additional bedrooms are included on a planning application, the applicants should include adequate parking provision in their plans to prevent on-street parking congestion. With this application, the loss of onsite parking with the garage conversion, and the addition of an extra bedroom in the independent living space, means that there is only parking for two cars onsite, to serve a 4-bed property. On this basis, the Parish Council objects to the plans in their current format. However, having spoken to the applicant, it is understood that there are future plans to alter the front layout of the property to accommodate 3 cars. If this is addressed in the current plans then the Parish Council would withdraw their objection.*

1 resident left at 8.13pm

**CB/19/04184/FULL, 20 Mill Lane** – Demolition of dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling. Following discussion regarding the proposed 4/5 bedroomed dwelling proposed, Councillor Gardner **PROPOSED** no comments to be made, **SECONDED** by Councillor Thomas with 6 in favour and 1 against.

475.2 **To consider attendance at the Development Management Committee on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020 regarding planning application CN/19/00887/FULL, M1/A6 Link Road**

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk would resend the previous comments submitted and advise that no councillors were available to attend. The Clerk was also requested to check with Ward Councillor Shingler that he would be attending the meeting on behalf of the Village.

**19/476 APPROVAL OF DRAFT COMMITTEE BUDGET AND EAR-MARKED RESERVES**

476.1 **Exempt Business** – No members of the public or press were present.

476.2 **Review and approval of Draft Pay & Personnel Sub-Committee Budgets 2020/21**

The Draft Salaries include a 2% uplift pending confirmation of the NALC agreed rates, new staff salaries projection and contingency for a possible change in working hours for staff members. The allowance of £4k for a new groundsman to shadow the existing full-time groundsman for 3 months has been proposed from Policies & Resources Budget and taken from General Reserves as a one-off transfer to EMR321 in 2019/20, rather than Precept. No queries were raised and Councillor Davison-Williams **PROPOSED** a Salary Precept for 2020/21 of £103,003. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Day and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

476.3 **Review and approval of Draft Policies & Resources Committee Budgets 2020/21**

A £500 increase in budget for S137 Grants is proposed, with a further increase to be considered next year. Cost savings of £500 have been negotiated in respect of the Parish Skip. An increase in the cost of the Annual Audit has been budgeted to allow for a new Internal Auditor to be engaged. No queries were raised so Councillor Davison-Williams **PROPOSED** a Policies & Resources Committee Precept for 2020/21 of £38,437. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Day and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

476.4 **Review and approval of Draft Burial Ground Committee Budgets 2020/21**

The draft budgets include an additional £2k transfer to the new burial ground project from a legacy payment received 2019/20. A further £3k was proposed to this EMR for 2020/21. No further funds were considered necessary for the pathway repairs. Based on the last two years income levels, it was felt that £10k should be budgeted for in 2020/21. Councillor Channon **PROPOSED** a Burial Ground Committee Precept for 2020/21 of £1050. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Davison-Williams and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

476.5 **Review and approval of Draft Highways & Environment Committee Budgets 2020/21**

It was proposed that the one-off cost for the tree survey of £5k should be taken from General Reserves in 2019/20, rather than Precept, with the work to be undertaken in March. Following



discussion, it was felt that £4.5k was sufficient to be transferred to the Road Calming reserve as there are no current plans in place and any trial proposed for Bedford Road or with speed signs would be cheaper for the year 2020/21. Councillor Davison-Williams therefore **PROPOSED** a Highways & Environment Committee Precept for 2020/21 of £8420. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Roberts and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

476.6 **Review and approval of Draft Leisure Committee Budgets 2020/21**

The budgets include £3.5k towards new play equipment, with Grant funding to be sought for 50% of any purchase planned. Following discussion, Councillor Channon **PROPOSED** to put £1k into the Heritage Garden reserve, **SECONDED** by Councillor Day and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. An increase in Allotment rents will be considered in due course. **ACTION – Assistant Clerk to investigate comparisons with other allotment sites regarding cost and services provided for discussion at committee meeting**. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** a Leisure Committee Precept for 2020/21 of £11,355. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Day and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

476.7 **Review and approval of Draft Sports Field Committee Budgets 2020/21**

Following discussion, Councillor Davison-Williams **PROPOSED** a Sports Field Committee Precept for 2020/21 of £10,630. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Roberts and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

476.8 **Review and approval of Draft Planning Committee Budgets 2020/21**

Councillor Gardner outlined the need for sufficient funds to be held for Consultants to be engaged to support the Local Plan proposals. Councillor Davison-Williams requested that the Planning Committee consider engaging an independent consultant to undertake capacity analysis for the Village with regards to development. This will be added to the next committee agenda. Councillor Gardner **PROPOSED** a Planning Committee Precept for 2020/21 of £2,000. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Thomas and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

19/477 **APPROVAL OF 2020/21 PRECEPT**

477.1 **To review General Reserve Fund**

Councillor Davison-Williams referred to the General Reserve year-end projection. This reflects the overspend due to increased provision for one-off costs. Good practice is to maintain 6 months running costs in reserve, but not to hold more than required without it being allocated to a specific purpose. There were no further queries.

477.2 **To approve 2020/21 Council Precept**

Councillor Davison-Williams **PROPOSED** the approval of the Council Precept for 2020/21 of £174,895, representing a 2.7% increase. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Thomas and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

19/478 **ITEMS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA**

It was agreed that Terms of Reference would be established for each Committee at their next meetings and also a review of the strategic plans for the medium/long-term for the Ear Marked Reserves.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

**I certify these minutes are a true and correct record of the Parish Council Extra-Ordinary meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**Dated this the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020**



**COUNCILLOR L DAVISON-WILLIAMS  
CHAIRMAN**