



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BARROWDEN PARISH COUNCIL HELD VIRTUALLY ON WEDNESDAY 8 JULY 2020 AT 7.15 PM

Participants: Gordon Brown (Chairman), Tony Batchelor, Mike Ferrow, Peter Jones, Karen Payne, The Clerk

4 members of the public attended.

COUNCIL MEETING

1. **Apologies were received and accepted** from Norman Pridmore.
2. **Declarations of interest** were received from Gordon Brown and Karen Payne in respect of their County Council responsibilities.
3. **Standing Orders were suspended** to permit an Open Forum of up to 30 minutes duration.

OPEN FORUM

John Gough, Planning Director at Mick George Ltd, stated that the market for limestone from Wakerley Quarry had increased and longer operational and maintenance hours were needed in order to fulfil all contracts. He confirmed that dust suppression reservoirs were still under construction. In response to questions from councillors he promised to give a date by which the reservoirs would be completed and stated that the Duddington to Fineshade haul road would be re-surfaced with tarmac to reduce the noise of the empty lorries as soon as drainage work had finished. Councillors argued that it would be a gesture of good will if Mick George Ltd were to monitor dust and noise in Barrowden on a continuous basis, but he said that there were no plans to do so.

Fiona Hayes asked why the Council had not intervened more promptly to ensure that planning permission and listed building consent were obtained for alterations at the Exeter Arms and what steps were envisaged now. It was **noted** that this matter was an agenda item to follow.

Shani Keoghan stated that insufficient attention was paid by the Council to anti-social behaviour in the village. She asked that advice on dealing with such behaviour be made available to residents. **Agreed:** To publish relevant official guidance in the parish magazine and by village email.

COUNCIL MEETING CONTINUED

The Minutes of the meeting of 10 June were **approved** for signature, subject to correction of a misspelling in the heading.

Matters arising from the Minutes of 10 June

No response had been received from Burghley Estate re the incursion of weeds on the Mill Lane footpath. **Resolved:** To pursue the matter with Burghley.

Communications

Email of 14 June from Shani Keoghan. **Resolved:** To refer the proposal to leave the village greens unmown to a village poll.

Letter of 18 June from Roger Ranson of RCC re SCI. **Agreed:** No comment to be made.

Approved: The proposal by Hugh Cripps to hire a power scythe at a cost of £50 in order to cut grass at the dog walking area, subject to Hugh preparing a risk assessment and assuming responsibility for the work.

Email of 24 June from Keep Britain Tidy. **Resolved:** To defer action until Level 1 of Covid Guidance had been reached and to review the matter at the September meeting of the Council.

Email of 26 June from Stacey Potter: **No action** to be taken.

Noted: Email of 29 June from Fight4Rutland.

Email of 29 June from Shani Keoghan: Covered by an agenda item under Planning.

Email of 30 June from Mark Symes: Covered by an agenda item under Planning

Noted: Dossier of letters from residents re Wakerley Quarry.

Proposed environmental impact scoping opinion by Augean re the landfill site at Kings Cliffe. **Agreed:** No comment to be made. Mike Ferrow had visited the site and advised that the Augean plans were sound.

Finance

Noted and approved: Financial measures taken by the Clerk/RFO under delegated powers since 5 June as per schedule (attached).

Noted and approved: A **reconciled bank statement** showing a balance of £28,313.34 as at 25 June.

Approved: A payment to the Secretary/Treasurer of the Barrowden Trust for 2 hours worked 1 April to 30 June.

Council Policies

Approved: A revised version of the Council's Planning Policy, subject to a final revision by Mike Ferrow..

Confirmed: The Council's Expenses Policy as adopted in 2017.

Planning

Noted: That planning approval and listed building consent is being sought by the landlord for alterations at the Exeter Arms.

Noted: Application 2020/0559/CAT Fell 32 cricket bat willows on land south of Mill Lane.

Resolved: 1) To oppose planning applications 20/00029/MINVOC and 20/00030/MINVOC lodged with Northamptonshire County Council by Mick George Ltd to extend operating and maintenance hours at Wakerley Quarry, on the grounds that additional hours would have an adverse impact on the residents of the Welland Valley and in particular Barrowden as a result of additional noise and dust. 2) In the event of Northamptonshire County Council approving the planning applications to request that planning conditions be amended to ensure that the measurement of noise and dust is carried out on a continuous basis and the results published instantaneously or as soon as practically possible thereafter and that continuous streaming of the quarry operations be initiated in order to demonstrate compliance with the planning conditions.

Approved: Planning application 2020/0570/FUL Single storey rear extension 3 Morcott Road.

Other Matters

Approved: Renewal of the Barrowden Recreation Ground and Village Greens Trust insurance with effect from 17 August 2020 with BHIB at a premium of £183.91.

Approved: The Outstanding Issues List as revised on 10 June. **Agreed:** The Clerk to check with NALC about progress on the Council’s SCA proposal.

Agreed: To sign the Armed Forces Covenant.

Resolved: To appoint Clive Holland as a trustee of The Barrowden United Charities with immediate effect.

Confirmed: The next meetings of the Council to take place on Wednesday 12 August, should urgent business arise, and Wednesday 9 September.

The Chairman confirmed that the village email is completely independent of the Council and congratulated its volunteer editors on their commitment over a number of years.

The Chairman stated that emails and phone calls to councillors following previous clarification of the matter concerned could amount to harassment. He stated that the correct procedure for pursuit of any issue was an email or letter to the Clerk requesting that it be an agenda item.

..... ChairmanDate