

BARROW cum DENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF BARROW VILLAGE HALL ON Monday 10th February 2025

Present:

Cllr Pearson Cllr O'Brien Cllr Welbourn Cllr Holmes Cllr Bragg	Cllr Wesley Cllr Cousins	Clerk in attendance: Minutes taken by Rachel Chilton
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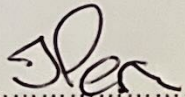
Minute Ref		Action
6700	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Steer Cllr Pettitt Cllr Rawlings Cllr Ford	
6701	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS None.	
6702	PUBLIC FORUM: 13 members of the public present MOP – is the land allocation in the Neighbourhood Plan instead of or in addition to West Suffolk Council Local Plan? Parish Council response noting this has been mentioned previously. The Parish Council state that we view it as an alternative site and not in addition to the Local Plan sites. MOP – If the Local Plan is accepted will the Parish Council drop the Neighbourhood Plan? Parish Council response – not at this point. MOP – Do you think that West Suffolk Council will drop Bury Road site if the Neighbourhood Plan is made? Parish Council response – we have no evidence to support this. General discussion over Government change, housing numbers and Devolution and support for West Suffolk Council Local Plan. MOP – repeat ask of the first question raised whether the Parish Council see any future scenario of the Local Plan sites and the Neighbourhood Plan sites. Parish Council response – we cannot say that's not possible but we have been clear that the Parish Council do not view the site in the Neighbourhood Plan as an alternative to that in the Local Plan. MOP – Increase in general fly tipping and litter, is it in the Parish Council's remit to organise a litter pick. Parish Council response – we have tried this before and it was unsupported by the Parish but where we report fly tipping it is removed promptly. We could try to organise a litter pick in the future. MOP – The Neighbourhood Plan allocation for Barrow is 165 dwellings plus a care home but that will be in excess of the 165 allocation? If the care home is approx. 80 places that means we need to take that away from the 165 allocation.	

JP

	Parish Council response - it's not individual dwellings its 1 building. General discussion over allocation numbers and buildings and the size of the area to be developed. MOP – What guarantee do we have that if the building isn't taken on as a Care Home that it will not be turned into a home for multiple occupancy? Parish Council response – the facility will only be built if a care organisation fund it and build it. MOP – The GP surgery were consulted and they have said they couldn't stretch to 165 further residents. How will the Parish Council go forward to explore the dilution of the medical care for the current residents. Parish Council response – this is not something that would be discussed/decided by the Parish Council, it is for higher than Parish Council level. MOP – People travelling to work at the care home will need public transport facility. Parish Council response – the bus service in Barrow is poor but it's not fair to assume that the people working there will need public transport. MOP – Increase in burglaries and thefts in the village, have we had any better contact with the Community Support Officers? Parish Council response – we have spoken to them to try to encourage further engagement. The budget constraints they are under it is unlikely we will see a higher presence than we have currently. We have a report for later on in the meeting. General discussion over the incidents in the village.	
6703	Minutes of the last meeting Amendment Proposed: Cllr Welbourn Seconded: Cllr Bragg	
6704	To receive the County Council Report Cllr Soons sent apologies.	
6705	DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT Cllr Houlder not in attendance.	
6706	Community Police Report See attached.	
6707	Community Infrastructure a) The Street Cleaner vacancy has been filled. b) Requested up to date data as the dates don't appear to match when they said the survey took place. We believe we have been sent someone else's data. c) We should be able to seek a grant but we do need 3 quotes, only in possession of 1 at the moment.	(c) Clerk and Cllr Wesley
6708	Neighbourhood Plan Update See attached.	
6709	Community Facility – S106 Monies Update read by the Clerk, they have put forward two of the 3 quotations and have requested the full drawdown of the available S106 funds. We await the approval.	

SP

6710	Village shop Query raised regarding the planning permission granted and build-up of rubbish outside. There is no breach at this stage and all rubbish that accumulated over the Christmas period due to delayed collections has now been cleared.	
6711	Devolution deal for Suffolk Suffolk CC are on the fast track process for Devolution. The Parish Council should not be affected but we are keeping an eye on this.	
6712	Horringer Podcast Cllr O'Brien has been contacted by the host and they would like to expand into Barrow. Parish Council requires further information.	Cllr O'Brien
6713	Barrow Benefice update The post is being advertised. They are still running the same number of services. Cllr O'Brien to get further information and post on website.	Cllr O'Brien
6714	Fete and Flower Show See attached report.	
6715	VE Day It was agreed we would light the beacon outside the Village Hall on 8 th May at 9:30pm	
6716	SALC Report attached.	
6717	Financial Matters General discussion regarding the precept, we did not put forward an increase this year so you should see this reflected in your bills. To approve accounts. Approval proposed by Cllr Wesley seconded by Cllr O'Brien Payments accepted; proposed by Cllr Wesley seconded by Cllr O'Brien Invoices approved. – Discussion over writing to those who have not paid. All in favour.	Clerk
	Cllr Rawlings joined at 8:24 following attendance at another pre-booked meeting.	
6718	Planning Applications for Consideration DC/24/1865/CLE – Parish Council to respond and request whether there is a timeframe for the mobile home to be on site.	Clerk
6719	Planning determinations N/A	
	DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday 3 rd March 2025 in the Committee Room of Barrow Village Hall at 7:15pm. The meeting was closed at 8:30pm	

Signed:  (Chairman) date: 3/3/25

COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT – 2nd December 2024

MESSAGES CASCADED - NONE

REPORTED CRIME FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2024 = 11

All recorded crimes are on or near the location mentioned below.

CATEGORY	LOCATION	TIMELINE/ACTION
V & S	Barrow Rd, Denham	No data available
V & S	Dale Tree Rd	No data available
V & S	Simpson Way	No data available
Public Order	Coalpit Lane	No data available
Public Order	Orchard Farm Barns	No data available
Public Order	Brittons Crescent	No data available
Other theft	Stoney Lane	No data available
Other Theft	Johnson Rd	No data available
All other crime - Drugs	Watson Way	No data available
All other crime – Criminal Damage and Arson	Poplar Close	No data available
All other crime - vehicle	Sharpes Hill	No data available

Last month I reported that there had been 3 crimes categorised as ‘Criminal Damage & Arson’ (figures for September). I followed this up with our Community Police Officer to confirm if these were arson and whether or not there was any prosecution pending etc. I also wished to establish whether or not there was a trend developing within the community. The Police response is as follows:

“I know you are wanting to know local crime statistics, but I have to be very careful what information is disclosed as there is no formal sharing agreement. If these were reported, then they will or have been investigated and the officer dealing will be in /or has been in contact with the victim or reporting person. All relevant persons should be updated throughout the investigation”.

“I can confirm there is no new trend taking place in Barrow”.

I have written back stating that in the past we had been able to obtain from their website on the progress of each reported crime but was no longer available. I had noted she had referred to there being no formal sharing agreement; in this respect I asked whether we could enter into such agreement and what was the procedure. To this I am waiting for a response.

Christmas Campaign Drink & Drug Driving

Suffolk’s emergency services and Roadsafes partners have joined together to launch this year’s Christmas campaign highlighting the risks of drink and drug driving.

East Anglian Community Fund - Community Fund North East Discussion at Parish

The campaign will run from Sunday 1 December 2024 until Wednesday 1 January 2025. Our officers will be covering the entire county, breathalysing every driver they stop. If caught driving over the limit, you could face six months' imprisonment, be fined an unlimited amount and be banned from driving for at least a year.

Ralph Rawlings

2nd December 2024

Questions Asked

How will fund be paid

It is the intention that monies are paid direct to the Parish Council, for us to manage the fund, oversee award decisions, administration and reporting. This we understand is permitted.

Communication with Residents

This has been raised at meetings in the past, as the community are clearly aware of our intention. Prior to the Referendum, we will produce a booklet detailing the facts relating to the proposed development. This will include the terms of West Suffolk's Local Plan, what impact the new NPV (National Planning Policy Framework) will have on West Suffolk Council and subsequently us, and we will provide details of the Community Fund.

Process to be adopted to select projects to be undertaken

This is a point to be discussed, however there will be a main criterion that any project undertaken should be to the benefit of the whole community. In addition, we intend to set up a 3-5 Committee which can include members from the public, particularly those with some experience of managing such projects, and at the outset, reporting to the Parish Council.

Barrow-cum-Denham – Community Fund Notes for discussion at Parish Council Meeting 2nd December 2024

Response to questions posed, by email received from resident.

1. This topic has been mentioned many times at past meetings, however it is timely to summarise the current position.
2. We did announce back in March that we had negotiated with the landowners of the Barrow Hill sites, for a Community Fund of £500k to be established, which has been agreed.
3. This will be conditional on the basis that planning permission is granted by West Suffolk and that the houses are built and sold, and our NP is 'made' (i.e. has passed referendum).
4. When the dwellings are sold, then payment can be made.
5. Should be emphasised that this is in **addition** to S106 monies.

Questions Posed

How will fund be paid

It is our intention that monies are paid direct to the Parish Council, for us to manage the fund, oversee award decisions, administration and monitoring. This we understand is permitted.

Communication with Residents

This has been raised at meetings in the past, so the community are already aware of our intention. Prior to the Referendum, we will produce a Newslink detailing the facts relating to the proposed development. This will include the status of West Suffolk's local plan, what impact the new NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework) will have on West Suffolk Council and subsequently us, and we will provide details of the Community Fund.

Process to be adopted to select projects to be undertaken.

This is a topic to be discussed, however there will be a main criterion that any project undertaken should be to the benefit of the whole community. In addition, we intend to set up a Sub-Committee (which can include members from the public, particularly those with some experience of managing such funds) to work on this matter, reporting to the Parish Council.

Advice from West Suffolk

We raised this matter with the Planning Department when discussing our NP prior to submission, at which time they advised this was not in their remit, but they would refer this to the Families & Communities Department who would contact us. They did however state in their response that there is an option for the recipient of the funds (i.e. Parish Council) to manage the fund, as previously stated. As we had not heard from F & C department, we contacted them by phone for confirmation and followed up with an email to which we are awaiting a reply.

Was it included in NP Submission

Reference was made to the Community Fund in the NP submission, however as there are no financials mentioned in NP plans, no specific details are provided.

Ralph Rawlings

Fete Update

10th Feb 2025

Flower show schedule is prepared; ready for printing; cost £178 – will be submitting an invoice to Gabby. Once printed Jane to take to various clubs in the village – any ideas?

Met with Kirsty Ford and Tina Wesley – Kirsty a great help; we have followed her last schedule pretty much.

We have judges for the flower show and for the produce entries.

We do need about 14 volunteers for the flower show

Publicity up and running on social media. Will be getting some A3 posters printed; will need a banner

Fete – we have managed to get several sponsors ; any ideas for more? Sponsors so far – Cocksedge, Valliant's, All Homes Estate Agents, Rougham Hall nursery, Willow?

Funding for the Village Hall – applying to locality budget for £550; ostensibly for Village Hall Project. - Pete

We want to provide free bouncy castle etc for the children – rationale being that happy children = happy parents staying and spending money on other stalls.... Cost £400.

3 Horseshoes to provide the Bar, also the Horse Box bar along with food stalls

Various stalls and fun activities planned, including tug of war, fancy dress, football penalty shoot out, Tchuk ball demonstration, dance demonstration, terrier racing, school children doing something

We do need about 14 more volunteers for the fete to man the stalls

Considering a tractor tun and display?

Planning a 'best dressed home competition' to run over the weekend – Pete

SALC

10th Feb 2025

JS attended the strategic away day on Monday 3rd Feb.

Main focus of the day was the impact of Devolution on SALC

Depending on what Devolution looks like, SALC could be replaced.... Or only one ALC needed if Counties work together.

There will need to be a body to support Parish Councils and councillors

SALC have strengthened their team to accommodate this and would hope to be the surviving ALC

There will be a serious impact on Parish Councils – possibility of more responsibilities – will there be more resources ? Will councillors need more training? This could impact on Parish ability to recruit new councillors as people may not want the additional responsibility.

Big issue at the moment is that no body really knows what devolution will look like....although it seems that Norfolk and Suffolk will have one mayor so it makes sense that the two counties will work together.

Other news

SALC 75th Anniversary Celebrations

1st July at the Atheneum,. Bury St Edmunds; there will be a film, lunch, speeches, etc

Hoping to attract all the movers and shakers in the local authority world as well as Parish councillors.

We met **the new team** – the team has been strengthened to create new resources, provide more support for clerks; they are being more proactive in the support they give new clerks – check how they are getting on. Kley people to help Rachel – Clare and Sophie.

There is lots of training to help with tackling violence and anti social behaviour. Sent Ralph the information the Police have produced.