

**MINUTES OF GREAT BARTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING ON
MONDAY 24th APRIL 2018 COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**

Item.	18 members of the public were present.																																																
1.0	<u>Election of Chairman</u>																																																	
	The Chairman of the Parish Council, Philip Reeve, chaired the meeting.																																																	
2.0	<u>Chairman's welcome and apologies for absence</u>																																																	
	Councillor Philip Reeve welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Maggie Dunn.																																																	
3.0	<u>To approve the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting</u>																																																	
	The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 2017 were signed as an accurate record of the meeting. Proposed Councillor Nicky Crouch, seconded Councillor Kate Trevitt, unanimous decision.																																																	
4.0	<u>Chairman's summary of the last year</u>																																																	
	Councillor Philip Reeve gave a summary of the last year including the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An unqualified audit had been received for 2016/17 and thanks were given to the Clerk who is the Responsible Financial Officer. • Details were given of the precept increase for this year and the explanation behind it. No grants are now being received from St Edmundsbury Borough Council following a phased decline from 2013/14. The contribution in 2013/14 was £5105 and declined to £1848 in the 2016/17 financial year. Revenue is being raised from newsletter advertising. 																																																	
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #008080; color: white;"> <th style="text-align: left;">Average percentage increase in Band D council tax levels set by parishes 2011/12</th> <th>2012/13</th> <th>2013/14</th> <th>2014/15</th> <th>2015/16</th> <th>2016/17</th> <th>2017/18</th> <th>2018/19</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">SEBC Parishes</td> <td>2.3%</td> <td>3.9%</td> <td>5.2%</td> <td>4.3%</td> <td>3.3%</td> <td>6.1%</td> <td>Not avail</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">GBPC</td> <td>11.4%</td> <td>7.3%</td> <td>9.3%</td> <td>4.0%</td> <td>3.4%</td> <td>1.3%</td> <td>5.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">GBPC budget</td> <td>£29715</td> <td>£31200</td> <td>£32760</td> <td>£32760</td> <td>£32760</td> <td>£32760</td> <td>£32306 + £600 N/L</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">GBPC budget increase</td> <td>-2.0%</td> <td>5.0%</td> <td>5.0%</td> <td>0.0%</td> <td>0.0%</td> <td>0.0%</td> <td>-0.01%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">Category Band 'D'</td> <td>£25.70</td> <td>£27.58</td> <td>£30.14</td> <td>£31.34</td> <td>£32.39</td> <td>£32.80</td> <td>£34.46</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Average percentage increase in Band D council tax levels set by parishes 2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	SEBC Parishes	2.3%	3.9%	5.2%	4.3%	3.3%	6.1%	Not avail	GBPC	11.4%	7.3%	9.3%	4.0%	3.4%	1.3%	5.1%	GBPC budget	£29715	£31200	£32760	£32760	£32760	£32760	£32306 + £600 N/L	GBPC budget increase	-2.0%	5.0%	5.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.01%	Category Band 'D'	£25.70	£27.58	£30.14	£31.34	£32.39	£32.80	£34.46	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of reserve funds held by Gt Barton Parish Council were given and the amounts earmarked for projects of £68,696. A general reserve of £15,563 is held. This has reduced in the last year from £25,595 and will be increased after the precept payment for this financial year. • The Council is 4 Councillors short and would like to have a full complement. • Since the Council took over the lease of Icepits Wood, the GB Icepits Wood Committee have ensured the pathways were passable, minimising the sail effect of ivy clad trees adjacent to properties and are developing management systems which will allow stakeholders the ability to undertake and manage their areas. • West Suffolk Operational Hub – The 3 Parishes of Gt Barton, Fornham St Martin and Fornham All Saints have been working together to object to the planning application for the hub. The Secretary of State has agreed that the application can go ahead. • Speeding – the Vehicle Activated Sign is places at different sites around the village and the data is being used for the Neighbourhood Plan. There is a new mounting post on East Barton Road. A second Vehicle Activated Sign has been purchased with better battery life. • Air Quality in The Street continues to be monitored. • An additional pedestrian crossing on the A143, in the vicinity of the garage, remains in the background. 																																																	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 65 planning applications were evaluated and the planning committee also gave feedback on the Bury Town Master Plan, Network Rails intended closure of the Cattishall Railway crossing and Taylor Wimpey on phases 3-4-5 of Moreton Hall development. • The progression of the crossing point on Mill Road. • Working with Suffolk County Council on verge cutting under the Community Self Help Scheme • Initiate review of Fornham Road/A143 junction • Leaving on the street light between The Coppice and Conyers Way • School Lane/Downing Drive link footpath – consultation now needed with the neighbours to progress • Community Speed Watch has volunteers but lacks a co-ordinator • Getting to grips with General Data Protection Regulations • Extending the lease of the allotment site for a further 10 years • The area South of the railway line will be included in the boundary for Rushbrooke and Rougham Parish Council • The North East/Berkeley development know as Barton Severalls will become a ward of Gt Barton • New litter pick date of 2nd June • Grass cutting contract continues to 2019 • School Road carpark – working with Havebury Housing to keep it a community facility • For grass cutting services at Conyers Green, a Horse Chestnut tree and plaque will be erected to Ronnie Whiting. The tree will be located following consultation with neighbours, to effect planting this Autumn • Into 2018 work includes – Transport Group looking at internal walkways within the village & verge cutting with Suffolk County Council, progression with the Neighbourhood Plan, continued dialogue with developers of the West Suffolk Operational Hub & possible new site for another affordable housing development. <p>5.0</p> <p><u>Report from Councillor Rebecca Hopfensperger</u></p> <p>Councillor Rebecca Hopfensperger had sent her apologies and a report which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suffolk passes 90% fibre broadband milestone as commitment to connect entire county is reiterated • Energy efficient grants are now available for local retail businesses in Suffolk • Suffolk County Council’s children’s services continue to improve following Ofsted pilot inspection • Suffolk is chosen as one of only 10 pilot areas to retain 100% of business rates • Fully funded first-time central heating systems for Suffolk residents • Additional £21 million to resurface and repair Suffolk’s roads • Revised GCSE and A Level results reflect progress of Suffolk students • New Chief Executive for Suffolk County Council • Highways dominates the majority of issues. Councillor Rebecca Hopfensperger is currently dealing with flooding on Livermere Road, outside the village hall and drainage cleansing in The Park, commissioned safety review of Fornham Road and The Avenue, contribution to Mill Road crossing point and more substantial repairs to the collapsed manhole cover outside the village hall on the A143. • Supporting Parish Council in their aim to take on some highways duties such as verge cutting • Reminded residents to use highways tool to report any issues. <p>6.0</p> <p><u>Report from Councillor Sarah Broughton</u></p> <p>Councillor Sarah Broughton thanked Councillor Philip Reeve for his hard work chairing the Council. St Edmundsbury Borough Council are also cutting costs and becoming more self-sufficient. They are well placed to face the future. There is no increase in Council tax from St Edmundsbury Borough Council this year. Investment is being made in the Post Office building on the Market Square. The air quality management area in The Street, which is being led by St Edmundsbury Borough Council, is still working to improve the air quality. The current plan is to try and move the pedestrian crossing next to the Post Office closer to the petrol station. Suffolk County Council are going to advise on the location and look at what funding is available.</p>	
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<p>7.0</p> <p>8.0</p> <p>9.0</p> <p>10.0</p>	<p>Thanks, were given to Councillors and residents who were involved in the objections to the West Suffolk Operational Hub. Councillor Sarah Broughton will Chair the liaison group which will meet regularly to monitor the development.</p> <p>Update on the Neighbourhood Plan Councillor Nicky Crouch gave an update on the Neighbourhood Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • So far: grant funding secured, consultant hired, questionnaire and housing needs survey completed, meetings with Berkeley Homes • Community Feedback – most important part of living in Gt Barton for residents is unspoilt countryside, a peaceful and safe neighbourhood and a safe place to live, it was important to reduce the traffic, 73% of you felt that the roads are not safe, provide some shops and other facilities and improve foot and cycleways. Just under half of residents felt that we should not plan for further growth with 22% responding that some growth would be acceptable if it delivered facilities for the village • Majority of residents would like a Neighbourhood Plan that: Controlled the quality of new housing (garden sizes, density etc), delivered small scale housing and conversion of redundant buildings, protected the existing character of The Park/Hall Park, did not allocate land for commercial development, encourage agricultural uses, pubs/restaurants and local shops and protected the existing greenspaces, woodlands, fields and character of the village • Majority of residents wanted to see the following improvements: Broadband, road safety and footpaths (top 3 requests), healthcare, facilities for the young and facilities for the old, for the existing facilities only the petrol station was regularly used by most of you (80%), the top 3 facilities most requested were: Village shop (90%) Post office (72%) Pub/restaurant (68%) • On the triangle, just under a third (29%) would support more development if it came with extra facilities for the village • Following a consultation event on 21/4 at the Village Hall feedback will be reviewed and the group can start writing the plan, secure further grant funding and technical support • Volunteers are still needed • For further information see http://greatbarton.suffolk.cloud/neighbourhoodplan/ or email the Neighbourhood Plan Clerk (Sheila Deare) on gtbartonnp@gmail.com <p>Handing out of grants A grant was given to the Community Woodland Group to help towards their insurance costs.</p> <p>Talk from Dr G Norris on the Clinical Commissioning Group and Ixworth Surgery Patients Participation Group Dr Norris explained the role of the West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Community Engagement Group (CCG) and how they are looking at healthcare and social services in our area, now and in the future. With people living longer and illnesses becoming more complex, healthcare services are under threat. In the future larger health centres will provide a wide range of services. The CCG are aiming to help GP practices link together and gain economies of scale. Patient involvement is the key to success. Dr Norris asked for any volunteers from the village who would be interested in becoming involved and sharing their experiences for a couple of days a year, to contact him.</p> <p>Speeding in the village Mr Cedric Pettitt from the Neighbourhood Plan working group gave a talk on speeding on the village: Explaining that it involves a number of associated aspects such as drivers, pedestrians, cyclists and volumes of traffic. Evidence from the Vehicle Activated Sign in the village shows that as the volume of traffic increases the speed drops. The new vehicle activated sign tells us the details of volumes time and speed and is currently installed on Thurston Road. Recent figures show that traffic volumes peaked at 110 vehicles per hour at 7am. The location of the VAS can be moved onto any road leading into the village the readouts taken can be catalogued to provide a history of activity on our roads. This is evidence for our needs to achieve requirements for road management. Police Speed control checks and monitoring on our roads also help to control speeding. Traffic volumes on the A143 have stayed fairly static at approximately 16,000 vehicle movements per day however the number of HGVs has increased. Feedback from the Neighbourhood Plan shows that 73% of residents said they didn't think roads in the Parish were safe.</p>	
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	<p>The new North East Development by Berkeley Homes will double the number of houses and cars in Gt Barton. Extra crossing points on the A143 will hopefully help slow the traffic down and a new roundabout will also be a major controller for speed.</p> <p>11.0 Village Views No items were raised by members of the public.</p> <p>12.0 Any Other Business Thanks were once again given to Councillors and the Clerks Linda Harley and Sheila Deare..</p> <p>There being no further business the meeting finishes at 9.20pm.</p> <p>.....Sign & Date</p> <p>.....Print name.</p> <p>CHAIRMAN</p> <p>Signed as confirmation that they are a true record.</p>	
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