

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT BARTON PARISH COUNCIL ON
MONDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2017 COMMENCING AT 7.15 PM**

Item.	Members Present : Councillor Philip Reeve chaired the meeting together with Councillors Peter Fisk, Eddie Gibson, Matthew Parker, Maggie Dunn and Kate Trevitt. 1 member of the public was present.	
1.0	Public Session	
1.1	No items were raised under the Public Session.	
2.0	To receive County Councillor's report from Rebecca Hopfensperger	
2.1	Councillor Rebecca Hopfensperger reported that Suffolk County Council's budget has been approved along with the 3% adult social care precept.	
2.2	The clerk will forward to Councillor Hopfensperger details of the quote for the Mill Road safety scheme along with the design. Beccy will then chase the confirmed quote for implementation of the scheme.	RH
2.3	The sign requested by the Montana Care home cannot be supplied from Councillor Hopfenspergers budget as they are a business. The signs for 'elderly people and small children crossing' had been refused by Suffolk County Council as they do not fall within the criteria, due to the volume and speed of traffic and there being a path. This will be referred back to Suffolk County Council.	RH
2.4	There was an update on the closure of Westley Bridge.	
3.0	To receive Borough Councillor's Report from Sarah Broughton	
3.1	Councillor Sarah Broughton reported that the Bury Town masterplan consultation is starting on 27/2 and details of drop in sessions around Bury will be published. The Clerk will put the details on the website.	LJH
3.2	The Air Quality Monitoring Scheme consultation for the A143/The Street finishes on 3/3.	
4.0	The Village Website There was a brainstorming session on improving the content and raising the profile. The following items were raised: Including pictures of Councillors, having a WSOH page, is the national news page relevant, extra pictures for the gallery, our village update, using the events calendar, updating local information, having a 'comments' box, including a 'clubs' tab, including a consultation/to do tab, things on in Gt Barton, current planning applications, change the contacts to contact us, remember that it is a Parish Council website and not a village website. The clerk will make some changes for the Councillors to review at the next meeting.	LJH
5.0	Chairman's welcome, reminder about the filming of meetings and to receive apologies for absence Councillor Philip Reeve welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were accepted from Councillor Nicky Crouch.	
6.0	(i) To receive members Declarations of Interest – Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests which they have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item is reached &, when appropriate, to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item. (ii) Council to consider any new written requests for dispensation and/or requests which have been received prior to the meeting	
6.1	There were no declarations of interest and no requests for dispensation.	
7.0	To sign the minutes of the Council meeting on 16th January 2017 to stand as an accurate record. The Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Council meeting on 16 th January 2017 as an accurate record. Proposed Councillor Peter Fisk, seconded Councillor Matthew Parker, unanimous decision.	
8.0	Chairman's Report	
8.1	Councillor Philip Reeve reported on the Air Quality Monitoring consultation and Taylor Wimpey's phase 2 development on the land currently in Gt Barton but with the boundary being changed to include it under Rougham and Rushbrooke. There will be a meeting with Taylor Wimpey next week.	
8.2	The Clerk advised the Councillors of the tours of the Houses of Parliament that they are able to attend.	
8.3	Details of the meeting with the Villages Community Forum and representatives from St Edmundsbury Borough Council's planning department, Suffolk County Council's Highways, County Councillor Rebecca Hopfensperger and members of Gt Barton's Neighbourhood Plan committee were given.	

8.4	Two properties which back onto Icepits Wood have complained about the trees. Councillor Philip Reeve has advised them of the surveys the County Council took and the work carried out. Questions were asked about the current boundaries of these properties whose fences are not in line with the boundaries from the map of the wood.				
8.5	Suffolk County Council's Community Arrangement scheme, where Parish Council's arrange some of the services currently provided (e.g. verge cutting) was discussed. The services can be topped up with the Parish's own funds to improve the service if required. This pilot is starting in February 2017 for roll out later in the year.				
9.0	<u>Items arising from January's Council meeting:</u> (a) Councillor Hopfensperger will confirm if the street light between Conyers Way and The Coppice can be kept on at night. (b) Following a resident making a list of all the footpath signs that are broken or damaged in the village, Suffolk County Council will get these repaired/replaced in the next few weeks.	RH			
10.0	<u>Following further quotes obtained by Councillors Matthew Parker and Philip Reeve, Council to consider the pedestrian crossing point on Mill Road</u> Councillor's Philip Reeve and Councillor Matthew Parker are waiting for alternative quotes. Councillor Rebecca Hopfensperger is chasing Suffolk County Council for their definitive quote.	PR/ MP RH			
11.0	<u>Interest Rates on Notice Savings Accounts</u> Following information on various savings accounts offering the best rate of interest, from the Clerk, the Council resolved to invest the amount of £25,000 currently held in their general reserve, with Secure Trust's 120 day notice account. Proposed Councillor Philip Reeve, seconded Councillor Kate Trevitt, unanimous decision. All rates given were from institutions covered by the FSCS. At 8.20 pm Councillor Eddie Gibson left the meeting.	LH			
12.0	<u>Review draft lease agreement and title documents for Icepits Wood and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Parish Council and the Gt Barton Community Woodland Group, following recommendations from the Icepits Wood committee</u> This item will be carried forward to March's meeting.	LH			
13.0	<u>Council to consider the new Heads of Terms from Suffolk County Council for an extended lease on the allotment site on Green Lane</u> The Parish Council resolved to sign the extended lease of 15 years between Suffolk County Council and Gt Barton Parish Council for the letting of 1 acre of land to the North of Green Lane, Gt Barton, for the purpose of allotments. Proposed Councillor Philip Reeve, seconded Councillor Matthew Parker, unanimous decision. This had been reviewed by the Allotment Association who are happy with the document.				
14.0	<u>Resignation of Councillor Michele Faiers and Councillor recruitment</u> Councillor Michele Faiers has resigned from the Council following a 6 month leave of absence, as she has moved out of the village. Councillor Eddie Gibson will put a notice in the newsletter for Councillor recruitment.				
15.0	<u>Clerk to carry forward 1 weeks holiday to the 2017-18 financial year</u>				
15.1	The Council resolved that the Clerk can carry forward 1 weeks holiday to the next financial year. Proposed Councillor Philip Reeve, seconded Councillor Kate Trevitt, unanimous decision.				
16.0	<u>Consider the Annual Parish Meeting 2017 for inclusion in February's newsletter</u>				
16.1	Councillors agreed to ask the Mayor and the Police Crime Commissioner to attend. The agenda will be informal and refreshments will be provided. The Clerk will confirm if alcohol can be served during the meeting.	LH			
17.0	<u>Consider the following planning application :</u> <table border="1" data-bbox="352 1682 1437 1816"> <tr> <td data-bbox="352 1682 715 1749">Land Adj to 2 Oaks, East Barton Rd</td> <td data-bbox="715 1682 1077 1749">DC/17/0145/VAR</td> <td data-bbox="1077 1682 1437 1816">Variation of condition 2 of DC/15/0885/FUL to enable use of revised plans for 1 two storey dwelling</td> </tr> </table>	Land Adj to 2 Oaks, East Barton Rd	DC/17/0145/VAR	Variation of condition 2 of DC/15/0885/FUL to enable use of revised plans for 1 two storey dwelling	
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	Further details were requested on the variations before the Council can comment.				
18.0	<u>Updates on village projects/matters:</u>				
18.1	I. <u>Progressing the School Lane/Downing Drive link footpath</u> – The clerk has provided Councillor Philip Reeve with a chronological list of the work carried out so far on improving the footpath. He will review this and pass to a third party to try and establish a way forward. The Clerk reminded Councillors of the following information received from Suffolk County Council's Rights of Way department : The 20+ years of usage, to establish the route				

<p>18.2</p>	<p>has become a public footpath, must be by the public at large, as of right and without interruption with no evidence that the landowner did not intend to dedicate them to public use. Anecdotal evidence of public usage is not enough for a way to be recognised as a public footpath through long usage. The matter would have to go to the Planning Inspectorate for adjudication if there were any objections. The main criteria of a request receiving priority, to add a path to the Definitive Map or to divert or extinguish existing paths, is if it would improve the rights of way network and contribute to the Council's published Rights of Way Improvement Plan. Our path does not fit this category and therefore it could be several years before it is even looked at.</p>																																																																	
<p>18.3</p>	<p>II. <u>Update on the Neighbourhood Plan</u> – Councillor Philip Reeve reported that the drop-in session had been a success with 145 people attending and staying to chat and express their views. The approximate cost for providing a questionnaire for each resident is between £2,500 to £5,000. Community Action Suffolk provide software for £300 which provides the necessary surveys including business, youth, household and housing needs. 2 people have resigned from the working group due to pressure of work and illness. Councillor Nicky Crouch is going to contact the school, the Scout group and The Den Youth Club to see how they can be involved and look at designing an NP logo. The Clerk is working with the NP Clerk and Chairman to improve the NP page on the website.</p>	<p>NC</p>																																																																
<p>19.0 20.0</p>	<p>III. <u>Purchase of the School Road carpark from Havebury Housing</u> – A further meeting had been held with Havebury Housing. The valuation of the carpark has been updated and each party will share the legal costs. Havebury Housing, representatives from the Holy Innocents Church and the developer of Forge Bungalows are liaising on this matter. The Parish Council will confirm the Heads of Terms are agreeable.</p>																																																																	
<p>21.0 21.1</p>	<p>Councillors Reports - There were no reports. Clerk's Report – All Councillors had received a copy of the Village Hall's AGM, there were no questions. The vandalism on the VAS has been reported to the police. The Council's email address will be changed from May 2017. This will be included in the newsletter. Councillors were reminded to update their Register of Interest forms. A new village information/Neighbourhood Watch Facebook page has been set up. There was a discussion on a spring litter pick and a date of 1st April 2017 was set. Councillor Maggie Dunn offered to cook hot dogs for everyone after the pick. The Clerk will arrange with St Edmundsbury Borough Council. The council agreed to put a 'Please Close' sign on the double gates at the playground. The 'Adopt a Kiosk' scheme has received our enquiry.</p>	<p>LJH LJH</p>																																																																
<p>21.0 21.1</p>	<p>Finance a) <u>Payment of Accounts</u> – The Council resolved to pay the following accounts. Proposed Councillor Philip Reeve, seconded Councillor Kate Trevitt, unanimous decision.</p>																																																																	
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21.2**b) To receive a financial report from the Responsible Financial Officer including details of reserve budgets and spending against them**

The clerk reported the bank balances at 31st January 2017 as:

Current A/C	£44,592.63
Bus Reserve	£40,378.30
TOTAL	£84,970.93

Other Credits received	None
Business reserve account interest	None

RESERVES	BALANCE
Small Projects	£10,154 - (Items paid this month: Mole Repellants £33.98) earmarked : £3,000 School Lane footpath, Mill Rd crossing from PC £2,750 & from Freedom Church £1,750 = £2,654)
Neighbourhood Plan	£4381- Items paid this month : S Deare NP Clerk salary £216, Extra hous L Harley £81 items for drop-in session £377.70 (earmarked : S Deare salary £2,036 and LJ Harley extra hours £95, drop-in event = £2,250)
Youth Project	£1,038
General	£25,595
Allotments	£ 377 (Paid this month: £50 rent to SCC, received £100 from Allotment Association for rent for year)
Asset maintenance	£ 4,425
Asset acquisition	£5,956
Village Sign	£444 balance earmarked for restoring the old sign.
Icepits Wood	£16,443 (earmarked : £15,000 pump track)
Total reserves	£68,813

Amounts to nearest '£'

Expenditure for the NP drop-in event was confirmed: Hall hire for Saturday £94, Map printing £222, banner £31, postcard printing £50, name badges £6.37, large postits £9.38, pens £4.99, Sheila refreshments £10 = £427.74 .

External Auditors for 2017-18 are PKF Littlejohn LTD.

Declaration of compliance has been submitted to the Pensions Regulator.

Nest Pension Scheme does not operate a net pay arrangement scheme. Payments each month are calculated automatically by entering the Clerk's gross salary including any overtime, less the non-pensionable amount of £486 per month. The employer's contribution of 3% and the employee's contribution of 5% less tax relief is then calculated and paid to NEST by D/D.

21.3

c) The bank reconciliation for January 2017 had been checked and agreed by Councillor Nicky Crouch.

21.4

d) Risk assessments including confirmation of which assessments have been carried out – there were no items arising from the risk assessments which include a weekly check of the playground.

21.5

e) The council resolved to pay the Clerk 7 hours extra for work carried out for Neighbourhood Plan and drop-in event. Proposed Councillor Philip Reeve, seconded Councillor Kate Trevitt, unanimous decision.

21.6

f) The Council resolved to purchase a second Speed Indicator Device from Westcotec, which

	includes 'Slow Down', data collection and 2 spare mounts with tamtorque clips at an approximate cost of £3,250, which will be taken from the General Reserve. Proposed Councillor Maggie Dunn, seconded Councillor Kate Trevitt, 4 Councillors voted for this and 1 against. A quote had also been received from Standard Signs for comparison purposes.							
<u>21.7</u>	g) The Council resolved to purchase a set of vibrating mole repellents for the playground for £33.98. Proposed Councillor Philip Reeve, seconded Councillor Kate Trevitt, unanimous decision. To be taken from Small Projects Reserve.							
<u>21.8</u>	h) The Council resolved to increase the following budgets : Mileage to £ 180, Employers NI to £800, HMRC to £900, Clerks salary to £10,500 and newsletter to £1,850. Total increases = £910 (from Small Projects reserve). Proposed Councillor Philip Reeve, seconded Councillor Kate Trevitt, unanimous decision.							
<u>21.9</u>	i) The Council reviewed the quotes for maintenance work on trees on Parish Council land and resolved to accept the quote from BF Tree Care for £250.00 for maintenance work on the 2 Oak trees by the Church and various trees on the triangle junction between the A143 and Church Road. Proposed Councillor Peter Fisk, seconded Councillor Mathew Parker, unanimous decision.							
<u>21.10</u>	j) The Council reviewed the funds in their village sign reserve of £400. Councillors Philip Reeve and Peter Fisk will review the restoration of the old sign.	PR/ PF						
<u>21.11</u>	k) Confirmation of amount spent for the Neighbourhood Plan drop-in event – this had been covered in the clerk's financial report.							
<u>21.12</u>	l) Purchase of replacement Horse Chestnut tree on Conyers Green. The clerk has written to the residents around the green and received no comments. The Council resolved to spend up to £150 on a replacement tree and support. Proposed Councillor Philip Reeve, seconded Councillor Maggie Dunn, unanimous decision. Councillor Peter Fisk will arrange this.							
<u>21.13</u>	m) The Council resolved to send Councillor Maggie Dunn and The Clerk on the SALC planning course. Proposed Councillor Philip Reeve, seconded Councillor Peter Fisk, unanimous decision. To be taken from the training budget.							
<u>22.0</u>	Planning <u>Council to sign the minutes of the planning committee meeting on Monday 13th February to stand as a true record and to consider the completed applications from St Edmundsbury Borough Council.</u>							
<u>22.1</u>	The Council resolved to sign the minutes of the planning meeting on Monday 13 th February to stand as a true record of the meeting. Proposed Councillor Maggie Dunn, seconded Councillor Peter Fisk, unanimous decision.							
<u>22.2</u>	The Parish Council supported the following application :							
<u>22.3</u>	<table border="1" data-bbox="352 1364 1437 1431"> <tr> <td data-bbox="352 1364 751 1431">1-4 Forge Bungalows, High Street</td> <td data-bbox="751 1364 1015 1431">DC/17/0090/LB</td> <td data-bbox="1015 1364 1437 1431">Single storey rear extensions including associated alterations</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="352 1431 751 1464">Hundred Acre Wood, The Park</td> <td data-bbox="751 1431 1015 1464">DC/16/2675/HH</td> <td data-bbox="1015 1431 1437 1464">Retention of new double garage</td> </tr> </table>	1-4 Forge Bungalows, High Street	DC/17/0090/LB	Single storey rear extensions including associated alterations	Hundred Acre Wood, The Park	DC/16/2675/HH	Retention of new double garage	
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Hundred Acre Wood, The Park	DC/16/2675/HH	Retention of new double garage						
<u>22.4</u>	<p>They commented that they would like to see the garage at Hundred Acre Wood restricted for personal use only and not for commercial purposes.</p> <p>Gt Barton Parish Council supported the following planning application and commented:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="352 1559 1437 1592"> <tr> <td data-bbox="352 1559 751 1592">Tavistock, Livermere Road</td> <td data-bbox="751 1559 1015 1592">DC/17/0120/HH</td> <td data-bbox="1015 1559 1437 1592">Single storey rear extension</td> </tr> </table> <p>The Council were happy with this application as long as the foundations are not detrimental to the root system of tree no. T5 and no damage is done to the tree during construction.</p> <p>Clarification of the changes for the following application were sought, in the absence of any covering letter :</p>	Tavistock, Livermere Road	DC/17/0120/HH	Single storey rear extension				
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<u>22.5</u>	<table border="1" data-bbox="352 1727 1437 1827"> <tr> <td data-bbox="352 1727 544 1827">Land Adj 2 Oaks East Barton Road</td> <td data-bbox="544 1727 767 1827">DC/17/0145/VAR</td> <td data-bbox="767 1727 1437 1827">Variation of Condition 2 of DC/15/0885/FUL – Appeal ref AP/16/0008/REF-to enable use of revised plans for 1 two storey dwelling</td> </tr> </table>	Land Adj 2 Oaks East Barton Road	DC/17/0145/VAR	Variation of Condition 2 of DC/15/0885/FUL – Appeal ref AP/16/0008/REF-to enable use of revised plans for 1 two storey dwelling				
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<u>22.6</u>	<p>Gt Barton Parish Council objected to the following planning applications and made comments:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="352 1861 1437 2036"> <tr> <td data-bbox="352 1861 544 2036">Land West of Ixworth Road, Thurston</td> <td data-bbox="544 1861 767 2036">Mid Suffolk DC 4963/16</td> <td data-bbox="767 1861 1437 2036">Outline Planning Application sought for up to 250 new dwellings, open space and associated infrastructure, up to 2.4 Ha of land for Thurston Community College, 2 Ha of land for the provision of a new Primary School, including details of access on land West of Ixworth Road</td> </tr> </table>	Land West of Ixworth Road, Thurston	Mid Suffolk DC 4963/16	Outline Planning Application sought for up to 250 new dwellings, open space and associated infrastructure, up to 2.4 Ha of land for Thurston Community College, 2 Ha of land for the provision of a new Primary School, including details of access on land West of Ixworth Road				
Land West of Ixworth Road, Thurston	Mid Suffolk DC 4963/16	Outline Planning Application sought for up to 250 new dwellings, open space and associated infrastructure, up to 2.4 Ha of land for Thurston Community College, 2 Ha of land for the provision of a new Primary School, including details of access on land West of Ixworth Road						

Gt Barton uses the services available in Thurston and will be directly and adversely impacted upon by any pressures on local facilities as a result of this and other proposals in the village. The Parish Council remains concerned about the cumulative impact of these proposals for residential development in Thurston and expects the LPA to fully consider this before determining this proposal.

They are especially concerned about the impact of additional traffic on the Bunbury Crossroads and expects the LPA to ensure that this impact is properly assessed and considered. This crossroads is already congested and requires urgent work to address existing capacity and road safety issues. Committed development in the local area is yet to be delivered and will exacerbate these existing issues. These committed proposals must be taken into account alongside the impact of this and other proposals, in Thurston.

Furthermore, the proposed education provision as part of this proposal does not include any commitment from the education providers and as such the impact of this proposal on education provision is unclear.

Gt Barton Parish Council notes that the infrastructure improvements could be funded through the CIL payments liable for this site. They expect the LPA to ensure that projects are already in place to receive this funding and so ensure that infrastructure impacts are appropriately mitigated. If this cannot be confirmed, we expect the LPA to seek infrastructure improvements via other sources, e.g. S106 obligation.

The following item is being referred to the Secretary of State. The Council maintains its original objection and commented:

22.7

7 Diomed Drive	DC/16/1414/FUL	(i) 1 dwelling (following demolition of existing garage) two storey side extension to existing dwelling; (iii) 2nd bay detached garages; (iv) associated vehicular access works
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The Parish Council wish the inspector to note that they are in the process of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. The emerging policies of the plan will reinforce the existing protective policies for this area, which this proposal is contrary to.

Councillors considered the following applications which had been approved:

22.8

Brookmead House, Thurston Road	DC/16/2358/HH	Detached summer house
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22.9

The clerk confirmed that a resident who is a member of the Icepits Wood committee will carry out an inspection of the trees around the paths after a named storm.

23.0

Correspondence

23.1

No items of correspondence had been received.

24.0

Urgent Business

It was confirmed that the Council had contacted the Post Office Ltd as they wish to retain the service in the village.

25.0

Closing Public Session

25.1

No further items were raised.

25.2

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 20th March 2017.

25.3

There being no further business the meeting finished at 10.20 pm.

25.4

.....Sign & Date

26.0

27.0

.....Print name.

CHAIRMAN
Signed as confirmation that they are a true record.

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