



**MINUTES OF BARNHAM AND EASTERGATE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD VIRTUALLY ON TUESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020**

**Due to the COVID19 Pandemic this meeting took place virtually using Microsoft Teams following government legislation allowing Parish Councils to undertake meetings in this manner until 2021.**

**Present: Chris Allington (Chair): Rob Bates: Phil Cramp: Andy Earwaker: Heather Kilroy: David Phillips: Isabel Thurston: Sue Wallsgrove:**

**In attendance: Alison Crabb (Clerk): Nina McMaster (Assistant Clerk): One member of the public**

- 1. Open Public Session** – One member of the public was present but did not wish to raise any specific issues.
- 2. Apologies – Parish Councillors: Ella Simmons: Dick New: Paul Ayling: John Robinson: Terry Bedford: County Councillor, Derek Whittington: District Cllr. Chris Hughes:**
- 3. Declarations of Interest**  
None declared at this point on the agenda.
- 4. County and District Councillor Inputs**

County Councillor Derek Whittington had given apologies and had nothing specific to report .

Isabel Thurston in her capacity as District Councillor mentioned the Development Control Committee meeting taking place on 2<sup>nd</sup> September at which the recent Tars Farm development application was being considered following the Council's objection and the ADC Planning Officer's recommendation to approve. She also mentioned the White Paper on Planning and would provide a further report once she had received a briefing at ADC.

- 5. Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

**Resolved: That the minutes of Barnham & Eastergate Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2020 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting and be signed by the Chair of the Council.**

- 6. Finance**

- 6.1** The Clerk had circulated a list of payments made since the last meeting and added that August salaries had been paid as had the deposit for the replacement windows at Eastergate Village Hall. All payments were **noted** and no issues were raised.
- 6.2** The Chair took the opportunity to inform Council that following a conversation with Dick New (Vice-Chair) about how the Council could recognise the contribution made by volunteers during the pandemic they had agreed to purchase 50 'Pin your Thanks' badges at a cost of £5 per pin with all proceeds going to NHS charities. He now sought the Council's retrospective approval to the purchase and explained that once received a suitable letter of thanks and distribution of the pins would be organised through the Assistant Clerk. Council **agreed** with

the proposed expenditure and distribution.

**Resolved:**

- 1. To note the payments that had been processed since the last meeting**
- 2. To retrospectively approve the expenditure of £250 for 'Pin your Thanks' badges for volunteers in the community.**

**7. Planning Matters – Report on each item led by Rob Bates (Vice-Chair of Planning & Environment Committee)**

**7.1 BN/84/20 – Angel's Nursery** - Application for variation of conditions imposed on planning reference BN/43/16/PL relating to Conditions 2 (Approved Plans), 8 (Access/Maintenance of Watercourse or Culvert) and 18 (Access and Associated Off-Site Highway Works).

Due to the deadline for response to the application and the previous involvement of the Council in respect of this site it had been agreed that Full Council consider the response to this application.

Rob Bates reminded Council that whilst the development on this site was going to happen (and it was of course a site identified for development within the current made Neighbourhood Plan) there was still an opportunity for the Council to influence how the development progressed to better meet the policies in the made Plan and the policies being developed in the emerging Revised Neighbourhood Plan.

He reported on a recent meeting held between Parish Council representatives and Redrow (the developer; namely Craige Burden) representatives at which the Council reps put forward the concerns of the Council in respect of several issues with the development as currently presented for approval. Those concerns were, in the main, met with a positive response from the developer and as a result the recommendation put to Full Council was to approve a 'no objection' response subject to the following issues being discussed between the Planning Officer, Michael Eastham, and the developer before a decision was made:

- Reconsider the design of the current three storey building in southeast corner to a 2.5 storey design (as this contravenes a policy in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan); Redrow agreed to review this;
- Incorporate design and landscape means to provide 'green glimpses' for the dwellings in the centre of the development; Redrow agreed to review this;
- Deploy materials sympathetic to the Barnham village setting to provide a sense of place to the standard Redrow designs used – i.e. Redrow confirmed their intention to use local Ibstock bricks, and would review changing the windows so they are not full uPVC; specific attention to be paid to those dwellings to be within sight from Yapton Road;
- Provide further and more detailed information in respect of the proposed landscaping plans for the site including the southern boundary, the SUDS (with native hedging not fencing), and planting of native disease-free trees, shrubs (about which Redrow will collaborate with Sussex Wildlife Trust);
- Lighting during construction and occupation to reflect the Dark Skies policy in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan and reflect the semi-rural setting of the site;
- Increased use of permeable and semi-permeable road surfaces on the site, specifically extending use northwards which Redrow agreed to review;

- Discuss with the Parish Council and the Barnham Community Hall Trust how direct access to Murrell's Field and Barnham Community Hall sites can be accommodated to improve permeability and connectivity with existing community.

Other issues were discussed at the meeting but the Parish Council was satisfied with the responses given by Redrow to meet those concerns. These included: entrances to the development – for temporary construction access and for future residents; provision of cycling and footpath link along northern boundary connecting to that planned for the adjoining site to the east; safe landscaping and protection of the SUDS; and flood risk and Southern Water issues.

**Resolved:** To submit a no objection response subject to the areas of concern noted above being addressed through discussions between the Planning Officer and Developer before a final decision is made on the application.

## 7.2 Update on Neighbourhood Plan Review Progress

Rob Bates wanted to publicly thank and recognise the enormous help given by many local volunteers to produce the final drafts of the Revised Neighbourhood Plan and Design Guide. The documents were in the final editing stage to enable them to be ready to move to the next step in the process towards approval of a new Plan, which is Reg14 public consultation.

Due to the current pandemic this consultation cannot take place in a public place and will therefore be undertaken through delivery of a leaflet to all homes in the Parish for response either by post, online, or delivery to various locations within the Parish. The current date for this consultation to commence is 14<sup>th</sup> September, but this is subject to final agreement on the survey questions and narrative, and receipt of suitable plans from the developers of the three sites that have been identified as potential sites to provide the necessary additional housing numbers imposed on the Council by ADC. Discussions have taken place with the developers of those sites to encourage them to each produce a 'Masterplan' document and vision statement to include matters that Councillors have raised with them during those discussions. It is hoped residents would feel more able to engage if they understood they have some influence over what would be delivered on the sites that are finally agreed for inclusion in the Revised Plan.

The Council **noted** the current position and acknowledged the work undertaken by all involved.

## 7.3 Update on BEW Strategic Development (SD5)

Since the last meeting the Chair of the Council and other Councillors have attended online meetings with developers of sites within the BEW Strategic Site and the Chair has attended one meeting of the ADC run BEW Advisory Group.

The Chair has also dealt with concerns brought to his attention by residents located close to the proposed realignment of the A29, particularly in relation to the noise mitigation plans for the route, and the lack of proper consultation and response from WSCC in respect of those concerns. The Chair was able to raise these concerns with Andrew Griffith MP who has taken the matter up with WSCC direct

The Chair highlighted his frustration at the lack of direction from the Chair of BEWAG to ensure that ADC Officers identified and addressed issues of concern with the project management of what is one of the largest Strategic Developments in the District.

The Council had also formally responded to the Framework Masterplan consultation put out to public consultation by Lichfields. That response was based on a 'RAG' analysis of matters identified by the Council and that analysis it was agreed would be used to track issues as discussions and applications move forward. A full copy of the response submitted is available on the Council's website for all residents to look at and if anyone wishes to ask any questions then please contact the Clerk or Chair – details also available on the website.

**8. Community Facilities Update**

Nina McMaster informed Council that plans were now in place to reopen both Community Halls in a safe and COVID compliant way with Barnham Community Hall due to open on 7<sup>th</sup> September and Eastergate Village Hall to open once the windows have been replaced. All groups are keen to return and efforts will be made to put on community events keeping within the COVID regulations.

The Sports Pavilion has been used by the Cricket Team successfully over July and August and Barnham Trojans will takeover for junior football from mid-September.

The Council **noted** the update.

**9. Report by Chair of the Council**

The Chair had covered issues he would have raised during discussions on other items on the agenda.

**10. Report by the Clerk of the Council**

The Clerk had no specific issues to bring to the Council's attention at this time, but in response to a question about attendance at meetings by the PCSO she said she was more than happy to invite Caroline to any future meetings and felt that she would receive a positive response.

**11. Date of Next Meeting**

**The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 7.30 p.m.**

**It was agreed that it would take place at Barnham Community Hall – with socially distancing measures in place. It was also agreed that any Councillor who would prefer to participate using Teams would still be able to. Members of the public would also need to still inform the Clerk if they wished to attend to ensure sufficient space was available if not participation via telephone would be made available.**

The Meeting Closed at 9.01 p.m.

**Signed by: .....**

**Chair, Barnham and Eastergate Parish Council**