



**MINUTES OF BARNHAM AND EASTERGATE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 14th MARCH 2023 AT BARNHAM COMMUNITY HALL**

Present: Chris Allington (Chair): Phil Cramp: Andrew Crawford: Dean Holden: Heather Kilroy:
Finn Middleton: John Robinson: Isabel Thurston: Sue Wallsgrove: Chris Wells:
Penny Wycherley:

In attendance: Alison Crabb (Clerk): Trevor Bence (WSCC): 8 Members of the public: Peter Cleveland and Rebecca Tier (in respect of Item 7)

1. Open Public Session

Richard Blott, representing the residents of Eastergate Lane, gave a brief presentation on the work that a small group of residents had undertaken to get support for making an application to WSCC for a TRO for Eastergate Lane. The detail of the application would be to seek a reduction in the current speed limit from 40 mph to 30 mph (or even 20 mph if at all possible, although felt unlikely to achieve that) and to put in some form of traffic calming in terms of pinch points along the length of the Lane. The support that had been received from residents had been over 90% and the Group were now seeking formal support from the Parish Council to their application as that support, together with that of the County Councillor (which had already been given) was vital to the TRO applications succeeding.

Following a brief discussion the Council **agreed** to formally support the residents in their application and a suitable letter of support would be forwarded to Mr Blott for inclusion with the application. The funding of such a scheme should come from WSCC, but the Council also gave preliminary support for some sort of financial support if necessary, although that would be subject to further discussion when more details of the cost were known.

Resolved:

That the Council support the Eastergate Lane Residents' Group application to WSCC for the implementation of a TRO to reduce the speed limit and implement traffic calming measures along the length of Eastergate Lane. Any potential financial contribution should the application successful would require further discussion and decision at a future meeting of the Parish Council. The Clerk would send a letter to Mr Blott informing him of the Council's support.

2. Apologies for absence

Simon Parkin: David Phillips:

3. Declarations of Interest

Finn Middleton – Southern Water Employee – declaration already noted

4. County Councillor, District Councillor and PCSO Updates

County Councillor, Trevor Bence, mentioned the recent announcement in relation to the postponement of the Arundel A27 Bypass Scheme and encouraged the Council to join with other local Parish Councils to submit a statement of common ground. Sue Wallsgrove would be the Council's representative at any meeting to put such a statement together.

District Councillor, Isabel Thurston, informed Council that ADC's Chief Executive had resigned after just over a year in post. He had made plans for improvement that had been supported during the budget approval process (which had been difficult but after two attempts had been finally approved) and it was hoped that his successor would be able to take his plans forward.

PCSO, Caroline Wilson sent apologies for meeting, but had circulated a brief update report which was noted with no issues raised.

5. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24th January 2023

Resolved:

That the minutes of Barnham & Eastergate Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 24th January 2023 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 details of payments made since January 2023. All payments were **noted**, and no issues raised.
- 6.2** The current financial position was noted including the anticipated end of year bank balance of £62,000
- 6.3** The appointment of R S Hall and Co as the internal auditor for the 2022/23 accounts was approved.
- 6.4** The Chair sought and obtained approval to the purchase of two new mobile phones with contracts for the Clerk and Assistant Clerk, Planning.

Resolved:

- 1. To note the payments made since January 2023**
- 2. To note the current overall financial position**
- 3. To approve the appointment of R S Hall as the Internal Auditor for the 2022/23 accounts.**
- 4. To approve the purchase of two mobile phones under contract for the Clerk and Assistant Clerk (Planning)**

7. BN/195/22 – Land north of Barnham Road and East of Fontwell Avenue – Hybrid application

Peter Cleveland, on behalf of Barratts, had distributed a selection of plans relating to the application, including the main site plan. He then introduced the item by explaining that the application under consideration was a hybrid application – a full detailed application for the housing site and an outline application for a 70 bed care home on the north-west corner of the site.

He went on to explain that once planning permission was successfully received it would enable the developers to complete the purchase of land, which includes the land for the northern arc of the A29 realignment and that at this point the land will be handed over to WSCC for a peppercorn sum to enable construction to commence.

He explained that the site would provide 551 homes (1-4 bedroom and a mixture of 2, 2.5 and some 3 storey buildings), open spaces in particular focused on maintaining existing green gap routes that run north-south. There would be two access points, one on Barnham Road opposite Eastergate Village Hall and a second one near Halo, which would be used initially for construction traffic only.

The site, together with Warwick Nurseries and Boweries should contribute towards the existing parish facilities and we are currently investigating the details of the S106 agreements associated with those sites to confirm this will be the case.

He took questions and responded to the satisfaction of those who asked them and also took away the following key points which would also be included in the formal response to the application that would be finalised at the meeting of the Planning & Environment Committee on 21st March:

- To share the draft Construction Plan with the Parish Council, if possible, before submission to ADC as the Council were keen to ensure certain elements were included particularly around the movement of site traffic during key periods of the day.
- Drainage matters – both surface water but more importantly waste water.
- Energy saving measures – is there a potential for solar panels and air source heat pumps to be included in any homes
- Tree selection for new planting

8. Planning & Environment Committee (Sue Wallsgrove, Chair of Committee presented items)

- 8.1** The minutes of the meeting of the Planning & Environment Committee held on 31st January were noted.
- 8.2** Sue Wallsgrove had no major issues to mention but was pleased to inform Council that they were seeing many more of the applications they objected to being refused due in the main to our strong Neighbourhood Plan.

9. Community Facilities in the Parish

- 9.1** Assistant Clerk (Community) updated Council on community facility activities and in particular mentioned MAMF at Murrell's Field in June. She also informed Council that her and the Chair of the Council were looking at a potential grant application to BIFFA for funding support for the extension projects at both Halls.

10. Working Party Updates

10.1 Community Resilience Team – In the absence of David Phillips the Assistant Clerk (Community) and Penny Wycherley informed Council that the Working Party had had a further meeting which was attended by a WSCC Emergency Team rep and St. John Ambulance and excellent progress was being made. The plan would be updated, the ability to connect the generator to the air source heat pumps was being investigated, volunteers were signing up and a list of equipment requirements was being put together.

10.2 People, Places and Spaces Working Party (PPS) – Penny Wycherley updated Council on recent discussions held between herself, Simon Parkin and Andrew Crawford.

- The group discussed the need to focus on the development of a strategy to maintain and enhance a sense of community within the villages
- It was agreed the active links on projects with the Community Trust would need to be built into the projects and at a strategic level

- It was agreed to seek out key community individuals to promote networks.

The Group were also looking into bringing forward proposals in relation to the following:

- Community benches – creating a space for people to sit and socialise
- A Community Garden to include some seating and to promote wider planting in other areas
- Open Gardens event in 2024
- Rewilding of small areas of publicly owned land
- The story of our Parish – to build on the work previously undertaken by Sandra Lowton

The Council noted the detail of the plans to take forward the projects and it was agreed to that the Group would continue to work up the plans to put them forward for public support as part of the Parish Assembly on 23rd May.

11. Outside Body Meeting updates

- 11.1 Arundel Bypass ERF** – nothing to add since the scheme has been postponed
- 11.2 ADALC Conference** – Sue Wallsgrove and Sarah Jolley attended on behalf of the Council. They reported an interesting and potentially useful meeting and that the Council should consider joining the group in the future.
- 11.3 Meeting with Inspector Durkin** – Sue Wallsgrove briefly gave details of various Operations that were reported on including racing on the A259 and issues at the railway stations.

12. Report by Chair of the Council

The Chair had recently updated and circulated the Council's Strategic Plan which he felt showed the impact the Parish Council was having on the community it serves and the progress it was making on some of its strategic aims. The revised Plan would form the way forward for the Parish after the elections and would be approved at the first meeting of the new Council.

The Chair had recently drafted a response to ADC's Infrastructure Development Plan for the BEW site that he would share with Cllrs once submitted. The key being that the Plan fails to include the previously agreed commitments to infrastructure requirements put forward by the Parishes.

13. Report by Clerk of the Council

The Clerk informed the Council of the process for nominations for election to the Council and the help that she and Sarah Jolley could give those who are planning on standing.

14. Date of Next Meeting of the Council

Due to the forthcoming elections on 4th May there is currently no meeting scheduled until after that date therefore it has been agreed to put a potential meeting in the diary for Tuesday 25th April. The meeting will only take place if decisions are required that cannot be undertaken under the Council's Scheme of Delegation.

The first meeting of the new Council, which will be the Annual Meeting, will take place on Tuesday 23rd May, 2023 at 6.30 p.m. at Eastergate Village Hall. The meeting will be followed by the Annual Parish Assembly at 7.30 p.m.

At this point the Chair closed the meeting to the public as it was RESOLVED that Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 because of the nature of the business to be transacted the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of all items within Part Two of the Meeting

15. Staff Matters

The Council **resolved** to award annual increments to the Clerk and Assistant Clerk (Community).

The Meeting Closed at 9.45 p.m.

Signed by:

Chair, Barnham and Eastergate Parish Council