



**MINUTES OF BARNHAM AND EASTERGATE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 4TH JUNE 2019 AT BARNHAM COMMUNITY HALL**

1. Open Public Session – no public present

2. Apologies

Apologies received from Ella Simmons, Stewart Pritchard and Rob Bates, together with County Councillor, Derek Whittington and District Councillor, Chris Hughes

3. Election of Vice-Chairman

As agreed at the Annual Parish Council meeting the election of Vice-Chairman was postponed until this meeting in order for Councillors to consider putting themselves forward for the role. The only nomination received was Dick New. Chris Allington proposed, and Heather Kilroy seconded his election to the role and all other Councillors present agreed.

Resolved: That Dick New be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Council for the year 2019-20

4. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were noted at this point in the agenda.

5. County and District Councillor inputs

In the absence of County Councillor, Derek Whittington, the Clerk informed the Council of one issue and that was the considerable dip that appeared on the main Barnham Road close to the speed camera to say that Mr Whittington was in touch with the Area Highway Office to get the matter investigated and resolved.

Isabel Thurston, in her role as District Councillor, reported that things were very busy at the new Council and she was going to have some major involvement on Planning. She also informed the Council that ADC would be considering the introduction of the Climate Emergency motion and she would keep Council informed of progress.

6. Minutes of Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 14th May 2019.

Resolved: That the minutes of Barnham & Eastergate Annual Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 14th May be approved as an accurate record of the meeting and be signed by the Chair of the Council.

7. ABE Community Land Trust

7.1 A representative of the ABE CLT had given a presentation to the Annual Parish Assembly, at which most of the Parish Council were present. The Chair reminded the Council of the aims of the

Trust which was to provide affordable homes for local people through working with Housing Associations who develop land. The Trust would be working with specific Associations to try and identify possible land or development opportunities within the Parishes that when houses were built could become houses that would be made available only to families living within the Parishes.

The previous Barnham Parish Council and Eastergate Parish Council had both resolved to support the Trust in their aims, but at that time they both agreed not to put forward any formal representative to serve on the Trust because they felt the conflicts of interest that could occur, particularly with planning, would not enable a representative to be fully involved.

The purpose of this item being on the agenda was for the new Parish Council to formally consider their position and after some discussion it was **agreed** that the Council would support the Trust as much as possible with their aims and aspirations. In terms of formal representation it was **agreed** that Andy Earwaker would look to attend a couple of meetings to see if he thought full involvement would be a possibility, if this proposal was acceptable to the Trust. He would then report back to a future Full Council meeting and a final decision on representation would then be made.

Resolved: The Clerk to write to the ABE CLT with the proposal that Andy Earwaker be nominated to observe a couple of meetings of the Trust with a view to the possibility of permanent nomination after a report back to a future meeting of the Full Council

7.2 The second element of the discussion was for the Council to agree to the Chair signing a letter to go to all residents in respect of undertaking a Housing Needs Survey – a draft of the letter had been circulated with the agenda, but the questionnaire had not been received. The Council **agreed** in principle but wished to see the questionnaire before final agreement could be given.

Resolved: That the Clerk obtain and circulate the questionnaire for comment and that the Chair be asked to let the Trust have a copy of his signature. The Clerk would also ensure that the new Logo for the Council would be made available to the Trust.

8. Finance

8.1 The Clerk circulated a list of payments for approval. The list included some retrospective payments. The Clerk informed the Council that the new bank account was now open and at the present time the first instalment of the precept had been paid into it but the previous Barnham and Eastergate Parish Council funds had yet to be transferred as closing the accounts was proving challenging. The only issue raised was the cost of the Litter Picker for the previous Eastergate Parish Council, but it was explained that this role was similar to a role undertaken by an employee of the Barnham Community Trust.

8.2 The Clerk was unable to produce a formal financial position at the present time but hoped to be in a position to do so for the next meeting.

8.3 The Clerk sought volunteers to be additional signatories to the new account and Dick New and Terry Bedford both agreed to undertake this role.

8.4 The Clerk informed the Council that the internal audit of the previous Barnham Parish Council accounts had now been undertaken and no significant issues had been noted. The Eastergate accounts had been prepared by the external accountant and were now with the internal

auditor. It was noted that the submission of the accounts for external audit for both sets of accounts would have to be approved by the Council at the meeting on 2nd July. In addition the Clerk hoped to bring forward grant applications for consideration at that meeting.

Resolved:

1. **That the payments and retrospective payments be approved**
2. **That the Clerk would arrange for Dick New and Terry Bedford to be added as signatories to the bank account (Unity Trust Bank)**
3. **That at the next meeting of the Council the final accounts for Barnham Parish Council and Eastergate Parish Council will be approved for submission to the external auditor.**
4. **Grant applications receive by both previous Councils would be put forward for consideration at the meeting on 2nd July 2019.**

9. Approval of Parish Council Logo

A draft logo had been produced and presented to the Annual Parish Assembly and following some comments that resulted in a revised logo the Council **agreed** to adopt the revised logo. This would now be used on all correspondence and documentation produced by the Council and would be used on the new website, which would also be amended to reflect the colour of the logo chosen.

Resolved **That the new logo as now shown on the top of these minutes be approved as the log of the new Council and will be used on all future correspondence, documentation and the website**

10. Report by Clerk

The Clerk had no significant issues to report at this meeting. However, it was noted that there was a need to add some additional standard items for the Full Council agenda in respect of reports on Outside Body meetings and also a report on Community Facilities. The Clerk also put forward some suggested dates for the proposed informal induction meeting that the Chair had suggested took place. A date of 27th June was agreed, subject to availability of those not present.

11. Planning & Environment Committee held on 28th May, 2019

The Council **noted** the draft minutes of the meeting of the Planning & Environment Committee held on 28th May, 2019. The main item of note was the need to move forward with the establishment of a Neighbourhood Plan Review Team.

Under this item the Chair introduced the issue of the lack of bridleways in the Parish and the apparent lack of inclusion of such provision in the green corridor proposals for the new A29. After a short discussion the Council **agreed** to look to include an appropriate equestrian policy in the revised Neighbourhood Plan. The Clerk was also asked to write to WSCC to establish why the riding of horses was prohibited on multi-modal use paths in the County.

Another issue raised under this item was a request from the applicant in respect of a planning application at The Piggeries in Church Lane for the Council to reconsider their response in respect of the future Gypsy and Traveller Rights issue on the site. The Council **agreed** not to change their comment in this respect and the Clerk would inform ADC of that decision.

Resolved:

- 1. To ensure that a suitable equestrian related policy was included in the revised Neighbourhood Plan**
- 2. That the Clerk would seek a response from WSCC as to why horses were prohibited from using multi-modal paths in the County**
- 3. The Clerk to inform ADC that they would not change their stance on the Gypsy and Traveller Rights issue related to the planning application at The Piggeries, Church Lane, Barnham**

12. Additional items from the Chair

12.1 Chris Allington, together with Nina McMaster had attended a meeting with Graham Maunders from Action in Rural Sussex who had been appointed by ADC to produce a report in respect of S106/CIL requirements for the BEW Strategic Site, particularly in relation to community facilities. The Chair reported that he had been unhappy with how some of the discussion had gone and the fact that he had been informed that the draft report would be shared only with ADC. As a result he had written to Karl Roberts, Head of Place at ADC, and had now been given an assurance that discussions on the draft would take place with the Parish Councils.

12.2 The Chair also took the opportunity to thank Councillors for their input to the latest version of the Draft Strategic Plan for the Council that it was proposed to formally adopt at the next meeting. Amendments to the document would now be made before circulating a final draft for consideration on 2nd July

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Full Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 2nd July, 2019 at 7.30 p.m. at Barnham Community Hall

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

Signed by

Chair, Barnham & Eastergate Parish Council