**MINUTES OF BARNSTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MONDAY 13th DECEMBER 2021 – BARNSTON VILLAGE HALL**

Present:

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| Cllr R Burlend MBE - Chairman | Cllr S Barker | Mrs Fay Jupp (Clerk) |
| Cllr D Jackaman -Vice Chairperson | Cllr J Clyne MVO | Cllr D Sellens |
| Cllr M Jaggard | Cllr J Hills | Cllr S Tuttlebury |

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| 1.00 | **Apologies for Absence**  Cllr C Day, Cllr R Jones, Cllr P Singleton, Cllr P Lavelle, Cllr K Kirkham |
| 2.00 | **Declaration of Interest** – Nil |
| 3.00 | **Public Forum** – Nil |
| 4.00 | **District & County Councillors Report**  Cllr Barker attended the meeting and provided an update on the Covid 19 situation within Uttlesford.  Cllr Jackaman thanked Cllr Barker for her assistance addressing the reduced number of stops on the revised X30 bus route. Cllr Barker confirmed that additional stops will be added to the route from January 2022.  Cllr Barker confirmed that a culvert drain on High Easter Rd is pending an inspection from the Highway Officer. Cllr Barker enquired as to whether the adjacent ditches along this section near to Wells Tye Green had been cleared. Cllr Jaggard agreed to look into this. A general discussion ensued regarding the process of repairing the drain. **ACTION: CLLR JAGGARD**  Cllr Clyne raised concerns regarding the lack of clearance of the road drains along Chelmsford Rd. The blocked drains and gullies between The Mission and The Chase have been reported via the online Highway portal.  Cllr Barker agreed to speak to the Highway department regarding this issue. **ACTION: CLLR BARKER** |
| 6.00 | **Road Safety**  No recent incidents were reported. |
| 9.00 | **Minutes of Previous Meeting**  Minutes of the previous meeting (8th November 2021) were agreed as a true and accurate record and signed by Cllr Burlend, Chairman. |
| 10.00 | **Action Points from previous Meeting**  The street lights outside no 19 and no 49 Watts Close have now been repaired.  Cllr Clyne reported that one of the broken drain covers in Watts Close has been repaired.  The clerk confirmed that the price increase for the park gym insurance would be £18.87 per year. The Council agreed to proceed with this increase.  The clerk confirmed that the width of proposed gate into the park gym has been increased for mower access. The cost increase is £44.40. |
| 13.00 | **Clerk’s Report**  The village hall has been booked for the forthcoming Parish Council meetings in 2022.  The clerk confirmed that £1000 has been awarded through the Community Project Grant for a new park bench. The Parish Council agreed to locate this within the village hall park. The option of a recycled plastic picnic bench was discussed and the clerk agreed to obtain prices. **ACTION: PARISH CLERK**  The clerk confirmed that no funding was granted through the Community Initiative Fund for the park gym.  The clerk will meet with the fencing contractors on Monday 20th December to discuss the exact location of the gym fence, prior to installation. Cllr Clyne agreed to finalise this with the clerk. **ACTION: PARISH CLERK** |
| 14.00 | **Financial Position – Statement of bank account as at 30th November**  The financial position as at 30th November 2021 was £25529.05 in the current account. |
|  | **2021/2022 Budget and Precept (previously circulated)**  The Precept was discussed in detail for 2022/2023 and it would consist of a 1.5% increase.  The anticipated increase is in the region of £1.76 per year per household.  The Precept was agreed at £28586.50. The paperwork was completed and signed by both the Chairman and Parish Clerk. |
| 17.00 | **Planning Applications - Nil** |
| 18.00 | **Planning Applications Determined**  UTT/21/2706/LB | Strip paint from windows and doors and re-paint | The Old Rectory Parsonage Lane – **Withdrawn** |
| 19.00 | **General Correspondence to note -** Nil |
| 20.00 | **EALC – Various – NIL** |
| 21.00 | **Bus News (ST) - Nil** |
| 22.00 | **Any Other Business**  Cllr Burlend reported an alleged breach of planning control at an address in Onslow Green. The Enforcement Officer confirmed that the matter is closed as no evidence of a breach was found.  Cllr Burlend informed the council that a rat infestation near to Watts Close park had been reported to the Environmental Health department. Cllr Burlend confirmed that an area of long grass within the park had been cut shorter and will be maintained at this length.  A general discussion concluded that food waste in compost bins and feeding birds may also contribute to the problem.  Cllr Burlend reported that planning application UTT/21/2234/OP Sparlings Farm, has been reviewed by the Highway Authority and is deemed not acceptable for reasons relating to visibility splays and accessibility. |

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| **December 2021** |  |
| Wicksteed Leisure Ltd – (Deposit to be paid) | £ 26,174.93 |
| James Todd & Co | £ 31.20 |
| HSBC | £ 8.00 |
| Mrs F Jupp (Salary) | £ 503.90 |
| Barnston Village Hall | £12.75 |
| Landvista Ltd | £897.00 |
| Bell Fencing | £44.40 |
| Landvista Ltd | £ 59.40 |
| **DIRECT DEBITS/STANDING ORDERS** |  |
| EON | £ 120.97 |
| A & J Lighting | £ 220.68 |
| A&J Lighting | £ 59.88 |
| UDC | £ 57.11 |

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 10th January 2022, 7pm at Barnston village hall.

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