**MINUTES OF BARNSTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MONDAY 12th FEBRUARY 2024 – BARNSTON VILLAGE HALL**

Present:

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

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| 1.00 | **Apologies for Absence**  Cllr Martin, Cllr S Barker & Cllr Loveday |
| 2.00 | **Declaration of Interest** - Nil |
| 3.00 | **Public Forum** – Nil |
| 4.00 | **District & County Councillors Report**  Cllr Regan attended the meeting and provided an update on the delayed domestic, trade and garden waste collections within the district.  The priority since the start of the disruption has been to collect non-recycling/residual bins, recycling bins and food caddies. A plan is in place to resume garden waste collections as soon as possible.  A discussion ensued and Cllr Burlend highlighted that there had been lack of communication from the district to the parish council regarding the disruption. Mr Peter Holt, CEO of Uttlesford District Council appeared on local news to apologise for the disruption and inconvenience caused, however the Parish Council felt that steps should be taken to keep Parishes better informed during such circumstances. The information that had been received was inaccurate and delayed.  Residents of Barnston have been vocal in expressing their opinion that this matter should be the subject of a review both to learn from the incident and to see if this oversight merits further action. The Parish Council requested the clerk to write to Mr Holt regarding this matter. **ACTION: PARISH CLERK**  Cllr Regan agreed to feedback the points raised to the district council. **ACTION: CLLR REGAN**  Cllr Regan confirmed that the planning application at The Skyline had been ‘called in’ on the basis off overdevelopment with insufficient parking. The Parish Council reiterated that it would welcome the redevelopment of the site with a suitable proposal.  Cllr Burlend reported on behalf of Cllr Barker that Council tax will increase by 4.99%. One reason for this increase (according to Cllr Barker) is the cost increase for home to school transport which has seen a 40% rise.  Cllr Barker is continuing to monitor the planning enforcement case at Haydens Barn. The Parish Council suggested a further deadline date should be issued for the wall removal. Cllr Barker will provide an update in due course. |
| 5.00 | **Road Safety**  Three road traffic incidents were reported. One occurred on Buttles Hill and involved one vehicle. Police attended and the vehicle was recovered.  Two incidents occurred on the Barnston bends; one involving a broken down vehicle and the other deer crossing the road.  A discussion ensued regarding the existing deer signage and whether improvements could be made. The clerk agreed to contact the Highways department concerning this. **ACTION: PARISH CLERK**  Cllr Hills summarised the Government deer control and management programme. Deer numbers have increased in recent years and deer management culling is required to reduce and maintain a sustainable population. |
| ` | **Parish Council Vacancy**  Since the previous meeting Cllr Burlend, Cllr Clyne, Cllr Jackaman and the Clerk held interviews for the vacancy.  Cllr Burlend summarised the applicant interviews and further correspondence that had been received from one of the applicants, withdrawing her application.  The Parish Council unanimously agreed to co-opt Mrs Lin Penny MBE. The clerk will write to both applicants to confirm the outcome and to thank them for attending the interviews. Co-option paperwork will be completed in due course. **ACTION: PARISH CLERK** |
| 7.00 | **Code of Conduct Review**  The Code of Conduct document was reviewed and agreed by the Parish Council. |
| 8.00 | **Minutes of Previous Meeting**  Minutes of the previous meeting (8th January 2024) were agreed as a true and accurate record and signed by Cllr R Burlend MBE (Chairperson) |
| 9.00 | **Action Points from previous Meeting**  The Clerk has reported the pothole located on the mini roundabout.  Abacus playgrounds have been instructed to lay the wet pour in the village hall play area around the new piece of play equipment. Locality Fund grant forms have been submitted to UDC and Cllr Jaggard has received the specification for the installation. Once the weather permits, the installation will commence.  The Clerk will review the boundary lines at the Nature Reserve with Cllr Hills and Cllr Jackaman.  Signage was attached to a bicycle which was being intermittently locked to the bench in one of the bus shelters. This appears to have remedied the problem. |
| 10.00 | **Clerk’s Report**  The VAT reclaim for 01 April 23 to 31 Jan 24 has been submitted for total of £4973.36.  A small tree came down in the recent storm on the far side of Watts Close Park. This has been cleared. Debris from around the car park entrance was also removed and tidied up.  Street light repairs have been undertaken in Watts Close and High Easter Road. Cllr Clyne confirmed that the lights opposite Broadgroves Cottage are now working.  Additional litter picks have been carried out along Buttles Hill.  The Clerk is awaiting dates from UDC for the Green waste skip service. As a result of the delay the household skip cannot be booked until these dates are received to avoid congestion in the village hall car park. |
| 11.00 | **Financial Position – Statement of bank account as of 31st January 2024**  The financial position as of 31st January was £6708.18 in the current account. |
| 12.00 | **Planning Applications**  UTT/24/0149/HHF | Re-submission of previously approved UTT/23/2374/HHF - Re-design the approved cart lodge to incorporate a home office above, addition of brick plinth to existing house and retention of existing dormer window. | Parsonage Farm, Parsonage Lane - Noted  UTT/24/0146/DOC | Application to discharge condition 3(biodiversity method statement) 4 (biodiversity enhancement plan) attached to UTT/22/1429/FUL | Sparlings Farm, Chelmsford Road - Noted  UTT/24/0018/DOC | Application to discharge condition 3 (details) attached to UTT/23/2754/LB | Barnston Hall Cottage, Parsonage Lane - Noted |
| 13.00 | **Planning Applications Determined**  UTT/23/2218/FUL | Extension and conversion of barn to residential use - 1 no. new dwelling. | Barn To The South Of Lanham Barn, Onslow Green – **Approved with Conditions** |
| 14.00 | **General Correspondence to note**  A resident has enquired about whether the Parish Council would provide a red telephone box for a book exchange, like one in the Parish of High Roding. The Parish Council discussed this and concluded that due to limited funds a heritage telephone box would not be feasible. However, the Parish Council welcomed the idea of a book exchange within one of the bus stops. Shelves could be installed, and signage displayed. The Clerk will liaise with the resident regarding this. **ACTION: PARISH CLERK** |
| 15.00 | **EALC – Various – Nil** |
| 16.00 | **Bus News – Nil** |
| 17.00 | **Any Other Business**  Cllr Clyne reported that a resident had been approached by an individual on several occasions asking for the use of an address for a Monzo bank account. Cllr Clyne urged the resident to report this incident to Essex police.  Cllr Clyne reported that the football posts are rusty at their bases. The Clerk agreed to instruct the maintenance team to repaint these.  Cllr Clyne and Cllr Jaggard highlighted the unsightly grass verge on High Easter Rd. Owing to the width of this road, vehicles are driving over this piece of land and this has created ruts and deep muddy ridges. Various suggestions were discussed, and Cllr Jaggard agreed to contribute towards the purchasing of two trees. Associated and visible staking would be required to deter vehicles from driving across this area. **ACTION: PARISH CLERK**  Cllr Jackaman requested that any outdated event signage located along Chelmsford Rd to be removed. **ACTION: PARISH CLERK**  High volumes of litter on both A120 off and on slip roads at the South Dunmow junction to be reported to Highways. **ACTION: PARISH CLERK** |

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| **February 2024** |  |
| James Todd & Co | £ 34.32 |
| Parish Clerk Wage | £ 455.50 |
| A&J Lighting | £ 59.88 |
| Landvista Ltd | £ 1485.00 |
| Barnston Village Hall | £ 14.25 |
| Landvista | £ 187.20 |
| UDC | £ 65.95 |
| HSBC | £ 8.00 |
| N Power | £ 270.50 |

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 11th March 2024, 7pm at Barnston village hall.

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