

**Minutes of Barkway Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Reading Room on 8 December 2009.**

Present: K McCormick (Chair)
R Davidson (Vice Chair)
G Penning
V Styles
A Terry
G Baker

Apologies: J Cockerton

Minutes: Approved and signed as read.

Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

Election of New Chair: Cllr. McCormick proposed that Cllr. Davidson become Chair. This was seconded by Cllr. Styles and approved by all.

Cllr. McCormick thanked the Councillors for their support during a difficult year. He will continue being a Councillor.

Cllr. Davidson took over the meeting and thanked Cllr. McCormick for all that he had done.

Election of New Vice Chair: Cllr. Baker volunteered to take on this role, this was seconded by Cllr. Styles and approved by all.

Parish Plan:

It was reported that good progress is being made. The 1st part of questionnaire had been distributed and already some responses had been received. All data received back will be analysed. There is concern about the effectiveness of sending out 2 questionnaires in quick succession.

Precept 2010/2011:

It was proposed that the Parish Council should apply for a 5% increase in Precept for this forthcoming year. This will give us an annual Precept of £12,212. It is hoped that this will help cover increased energy costs which are rising by much more than the cost of inflation. This proposal was approved by all.

Finance:

Receipts since last meeting:

Football Fees - £240.00

Cheques approved and signed at the meeting:

Tom Bentley – Street Cleaning 4 weeks (including a one off payment for sweeping slippery pavement) - £70.00

Catharine Toms – Clerks agreed monthly salary - £287.00

Catharine Toms – Clerks expenses - £48.97

(Keys cut for new Councillor £4.50, 2 x bottles whisky as thank you presents re: Bonfire Night £40.00, black refuse sacks for Tom Bentley £4.47)

C A King – Grass Cutting and Pavillion cleaning - £216.00

AOB:

Cllr. Styles reported that there had been an attempted burglary in Barkway, a suspicious person had been seen. Residents should be vigilant and if planning on being away can complete a Police 'Unoccupied Premises Form', so that the Police Community Team are aware.

The Website is to be redesigned.

The Bollards are now back in place on Royston Road and reflectors have been ordered.

Cllr. Terry reported that the Royston Town Football Club have donated and fitted 2 new heaters in the Pavilion. John Penny is about to retire and a replacement needs to be found from March 2010.

The Community Group have asked about possibility of using the Reading Room for their meetings/activities. The Parish Council welcomed the proposal. Cllr. Baker will contact Jean Pooley to ask for more details.

The Risk Assessment Report on the Reading Room has been completed. The resulting recommendations are now being followed up.

Sue Neilson has announced that she wishes to resign as Parish Clerk after over 22 years service to the village. The post will now be re-advertised as a permanent position.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.45pm

Date of next meeting: 12th January 2010, in the Reading Room 7 for 7.30pm

