

Minutes of Barkway Parish Council
Held in the Reading Room on 13.03.07 @ 7.30pm

Present: C A King Chairman
 K McCormick Vice Chair
 C Williams
 G Penning
 A Young
 T Terry
 I Sanders.

Chairman King invited Vice Chairman K McCormick to take the first part of the meeting relating to the proposal of change of use of Highfield Farm land from Agricultural to Residential.

Cllr McCormick welcomed Mr William Wells, the agent for Mr Stokes, the owner of the above land to the meeting.

Mr Wells explained to the meeting that Mr Stokes intended to build a House on the land once Agricultural usage had been lifted. The surrounding area on the site would be mixed planting with trees and shrubs. A letter had been sent to all adjoining property owners and the Parish Council with all the relevant information.

Procedure : Mr Wells had no objection to answering questions from the Parish Councillors. Cllr's Penning & Terry asked how do you identify a "modest building".

Mr Wells: It would be a 4 bed/3reception property with landscaped gardens & garage.

Cllr Young: Queried access from the site and also from Burrs Lane.

Vice Chairman KcCormick then asked Mr Wells if he would speak to the adjoining property owners who were present at the meeting. Mr Wells stated he was happy to do so. The Meeting was then opened to the following Residents; Maureen Bromfield & Mary Forrest (Dendelyons) Mr Cooms (87-89 High Street) & Mr & Mrs G Blake (91 High St).

Mr Cooms asked why Agricultural Land was being altered to Private use when this area was outside the Village Boundary. Mr Wells stated that the business was no longer viable & the chickens had been moved to his other property. It was stated that Mrs Lindsell wanted to move to live over here as this is the area she travels in.

Miss Bromfield & Miss Forrest asked why the change of use was necessary when Mr & Mrs Stokes had already moved from Highfield House & where now proposing to move back. Again Mr Wells explained the reasoning as stated to Mr Cooms.

Mr & Mrs Blake stated that this application would be detrimental to the area, changing from Agricultural to Residential use and would set a precedence for further land outside the Village Boundary to be used for building.

Vice Chairman McCormick thanked Mr Wells & the above residents for attending the meeting. Mr Wells would be delivering all the relevant paper work to the Parish Clerk. This would be then circulated to the interested parties.

This part of the meeting then closed.

Chairman King then took the Chair & thanked Vice Chairman McCormick for chairing the above Planning Meeting.

Minutes of the 13.02.07 were duly agreed & signed by the Chair.

Matters Arising:

P3. Parish Map - This is now near to completion. Mr Doig had sent photos of the RAF wooden mast alongside the still existing steel mast. Cllr Penning will send these to Mr Jon Harris for possible inclusion on the Parish Map.

Byway 2 (open to all traffic) is being used by 4x4's and Motorbikes causing deep ruts along this Byway which is making it impassable for walkers. Cllr Penning has spoken with Mr Bell (Rights of Way) who stated it might be made into a restricted Byway when funds are available. It was suggested that residents should contact the Police when motor bikes were seen using the Byway. The far end of this Byway in the Parish of Reed is in a far worse state than in Barkway. It was suggested that residents, if possible should take the registration numbers of the vehicles if possible & inform the Police.

Kissing Gate – Newsells. Clerk to write again to Mr Powles of Newsells Bury asking permission to replace a Stile with a Kissing Gate.

Recreation Ground:

RoSPA Safety Check List received from Cllr Williams. All is in order.

Footballers: It was reported that both football teams playing at the weekend had left the lights on. Clerk reported this to Mr J Penny. Quotes are needed for replacement exterior doors to the Pavilion & surrounding guttering & woodwork. Pavilion floors need painting. Clerk to speak to Mr Penny.

Notice to be placed in the Pavilion to advise that additional cleaning has been required and if the state of the interior is in future left in an unacceptable state a cost will be incurred. Clerk to advise Mr Penny.

Grass Cutting: Serviceteam will no longer be able to cut the Recreation Ground. Clerk to obtain quotes from Mr James Law, Mr Steve Scott, Mr Bullard & one other company for providing this service.

Minor remedial work is still outstanding on the swings. Clerk will meet with Cllr Terry on site to discuss these items.

Archery: Cllr Terry is organizing a meeting with people in Royston who run an Archery Class with the view possibly of having Archery on the Rec in the Summer when football is not played. Meeting was planned for last Sunday but weather conditions were not suitable.

Trees: 3 Horse Chestnut Trees were planted in place of the dead ones on the verge of the Cambridge Road, Barkway. Cllr King will clear all the debris by the new trees. Mr Potter asked if the ivy covering the trees on the side of the road before the turning to Buckland could be removed. This will be dealt with at a later date. Clerk to thank Mr. Potter for all his work so far on this item.

Web Site: Cllr Sanders reported that Mr Richard Atkins was unable to up-date the site as he did not have the necessary software – Cllr Sanders reported that the Parish Council could buy the Software. cont...

Web Site: continued from previous page.....

Mr Atkins would be happy to then proceed with the updating the site on a monthly basis. Cllr Sanders has the necessary site name & password. The meeting agreed that the necessary software should be purchased.

Notice Boards: Still awaiting completion. Clerk will chase.

Reading Room Cottage: Clerk to write again to Mr Wallace regarding the use of his sewer to allow us to install a toilet and small kitchen area.

History of Barkway: Cllr McCormick has been given some early photos and postcards of Barkway. These are to be used for the proposed Reading Room display. Clerk to write to Mr Cording and thank him for these items.

Summer Event 23rd June 2007 7.30pm-Midnight. Cllr Terry reported that this Event is all going to plan. Zurich Insurance are aware of the event & once numbers are confirmed we will be told if there will be an one-off extra charge. This amount, if required will be taken from the funds raised at the event.

Annual Parish Meeting – Village Hall 16th May 2007 @ 8pm

Clerk to send invites to all the Barkway Organisations, County & District Councillors & Police. Mr Christopher Blount will be our Guest Speaker.

FINANCE: The following cheques were approved and signed:

Oakwood Business Systems – Laptop	£ 902.40
Royal British Legion – Wreath	£ 18.00
S Neilson – clerks ¼ Salary, & Book Voucher £101.75 for Mr J Penny –re: Football	£ 806.75
Sole Partners Web Hosting 2007/2008	£ 293.75
Zurich Insurance – Annual Parish Insurance Premium	£2,037.33
G Bentley – 4 weeks Street Cleaning	£ 60.00
T Terry – Cost of Oak Posts for Footpath	£ 20.00

Planning : Highfield House – change of use of land from Agricultural to Residential- Unanimously **Objected** to on the basis that this will set a precedence and is outside the Village Boundary.

CORRESPONDENCE: Items were placed in the box for perusal by Councillors.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Cllr Terry produced the following information – All in agreement to go ahead with the purchase. Clerk will place the order.

Purchase of Play Equipment: The following items are to be purchased

Picnic Table – seats 8 small children	£ 630.00
2 Cradle swings to replace worn ones	£ 150.00
2 Benches @ £290.00 each	£ 580.00
Whirly bird cradle seat	£2,538.00
2Bench Grass Anchors	£ 116.00

Total Cost of items: £4,014.00 + VAT

More funds may be available to buy 1 more item. Information at next meeting.

Prices are being obtained for replacing the entrance doors to the Pavilion. Cllr Terry will bring these to the next meeting.

District Local Plan (development) Cllr Sanders will speak to District Cllr Marshall and report back at the April meeting.

Clerk to report to Highways that there are some very deep potholes in Burrs Lane.

The meeting thanked Vice Chairman for chairing the first part of this meeting relating to Highfield Farm plans.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm

Signed by Chairman C A King