

Minutes of Barkway Parish Council
Held in the Reading Room on 11th March 2008 at 7.30pm

Present: K McCormick Chairman
I Sanders Vice Chairman
G Penning
R Atkins

Apologies: A Young
T Terry
J Cockerton

OPEN SESSION: District Councillor Howard Marshall reported on the following issues.

Travellers – Report.

430 letters received. 2 Potential sites. Clear message to Council – how to address issue EERA. Slight risk of this all happening again in the future. Working closely with Sandon Parish. Travellers would not choose the sites listed in this area.

16th May EERA Consultation. Chairman McCormick asked Mr Marshall for a copy of this report when it becomes available.

Chairman McCormick thanked District Councillor Marshall for the information received tonight.

Amendments to 12th February 2008: P3 Financial Funding granted £900.00 not as minuted £500.00.

MINUTES of 12th February 2008 were then approved & signed by Chairman McCormick.

MATTERS ARISING:

Hot Air Balloons: All in agreement to set-up a “Mock Launch” on the Recreation Ground. Only 3 Guests are allowed in the Balloon at anyone time. Chairman McCormick stated that the presentation to the Council had been excellent and very informative.

High Street Milestone:

Mr. Cliff is progressing with the painting of this item.

Post Box:

Clerk reported a meeting had taken place with Mr Renwick from the Royal Mail to ascertain the most suitable position for the Post Box. It was agreed that this would be sited near to the bench in Periwinkle Close. Clerk has written to Mr Renwick.

While discussing this item it was also decided that the Parish Notice Board would be re-sited besides the Bus Shelter (Periwinkle Rd side). Clerk to meet with Cllr Young to discuss the most suitable position.

P3:

Parish Map assembly is under production. June 8th Walk to be led by Mr Doig, Mr Iwan & Mr Harris this will start at the Village Pond where the Map is to be sited.

Cllr Penning reported a Working Party had met to dig out the ditch leading to the River Quinn. Mr Iwan bought all the necessary tools. Cllr Penning was joined by 4 residents who helped with the clearing of this area.

Recreation Ground:

It was reported that the cost of the bench which had been partly donated by Mr King when he had held a "Piano smash" to raise money for the Village would be £300 to include all fixtures and fittings. Clerk to place this order. It was suggested that a plaque on the seat should read "King Arthur's Seat" Piano Smash & dated.

Clerk asked that we organise a working party to rectify minor defects on the Play Equipment & safety surfacing.

Wheatsheaf Meadow House:

Chairman McCormick reported that an e-mail had been sent to Kevin Thompson requesting information update on the following items:

- a) Housing Survey - when will this take place
- b) Planning proposals for the site, nothing will be done until the Housing Survey has taken place.

Travellers Sites:

430 letters had been received (at present) – it would be excellent if it could be raised to 450 or more. More information can be viewed on the Barkway Web Site

www.barkwaysaysno.co.uk

Finance:

The following cheques were approved and signed:

S M B Neilson – Clerks Salary Jan/Feb/March 2008	£ 705.00
Zurich Insurance – Annual Parish Insurance	£1,652.76
NHDC – Emptying of Dog Bins for 2007	£ 467.55

PLANNING:

78 High Street, Barkway.

Highfield Farm: Proposed Dwelling House: Ref:08/00270/1

Application discussed in detail by the Parish Councillors and wish to oppose it on the following grounds:

The proposed dwelling is outside the village envelope and if approved would be seen as the "thin end of the wedge", as it could encourage further applications for dwellings that would similarly encroach on the open countryside surrounding the village. The size of the dwelling is considered to be totally out of proportion for the needs of an agricultural worker. Concern was voiced that, should the egg production business cease to trade on this site, the proposed dwelling would similarly cease to be used as a dwelling for an agricultural worker and therefore negate the reason for its original purpose.

Any Other Business:

Youth Club: The Social Club are in agreement that this is a possibility to start a Youth Club on their premises. Various items have to be addressed. NHDC are keen for these type of facilities within Villages. Clerk to find out what financial help is available. Mr & Mrs Stiles will be in charge of this project.

Housing Survey:

When the survey starts in Barkway a small group of people will be required to help. District Councillor Marshall offered his help with this.

Cllr Sanders informed the meeting that he would no longer be available to fulfill his position as a Parish Councillor at the end of the Parish Year. Chairman McCormick thanked Cllr Sanders on behalf of the Parish Councillors for his input over the past year.

Cllr Sanders agreed with Chairman McCormick that the Standing Orders for the Parish Council were out-of-date and would liase with Chairman McCormick on updating this item. Notices on the Parish Council Notice Boards of a Parish Councillor Vacancy would be placed on all the Notice Boards in Barkway when the position became available.

Chairman McCormick stated that he would be speaking to each Parish Councillor individually, to ascertain if they wish to continue as a Parish Councillor/Deputy Chairman.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed

Chairman McCormick.

Next Meeting: 8th April 2008 in the Reading Room at 7.30pm.