


**Minutes of Barkway Parish Council Meeting  
Held in the Reading Room on 9 May 2011 at 7.30pm.**

- 1. Present:** R Davidson (Chair)  
G Baker (Vice Chair)  
S Alsop  
A Terry  
J Cockerton
- 2. Apologies:** K McCormick
- 3. Councillor's Declaration of Interest:** None received. \* Corrected by resolution on 20/09/2011 
- 4. 4.1 Minutes:** Approved and signed as read.
- 4.2 Matters Arising:** Red telephone box – Cllr. Davidson reported that there was still no communication back from BT.

The meeting closed for the Public Session

**5. Public Session:**

**5.1** On behalf of the youth of the village, Jake Cockerton made a presentation to the Council and handed over a signed petition regarding a request for installation of skate ramps in the Recreation Ground. Some investigation on costing had already indicated that a half-pipe would cost in the region of £17,000. It was thought that currently about 12 children would make use of this ramp but it would be an ongoing facility. As this would be something that could not be paid for out of the Precept, it was suggested that Grants could be investigated and in addition to that, the younger members of the village could think about possible fund raising events in order to help pay for this. Cllr. Davidson thanked Jake for his presentation and acknowledged receipt of the petition.

**5.2** On behalf of Cokenach Cricket Club (CCC), Mr David Collins was in attendance to request if the Council would consider an agreement to share the power supply with them, from the Pavilion on the Recreation Ground across the field to their new Cricket Pavilion, as in order to get their own dedicated supply it was proving too costly to install. This would involve having a new 3 phase supply into the Rec. Pavilion, which CCC would pay for at a cost of approx. £1700. CCC would then fit a sub meter and would reimburse the Council for a share of the standing charge and any power used by them. It was agreed that some sort of formal agreement should be drawn up to protect the interests of both sides. As the powerhead in the Pavilion had recently been condemned it was agreed that CCC could arrange to have this changed by EDF (at no cost to either party) as soon as possible. It was concluded that in principle the Parish Council had no objection to the power share arrangement but would need time to consider the finer details before giving a definite go-ahead.

The public session then closed.

**6. Council Administration:**

**6.1 Clerk's remuneration and qualification**

6.1.1 The due appraisal was set to take place at the forthcoming Finance meeting on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June.



6.1.2 Cllr. Baker had been in consultation with HAPTC in order to establish the correct salary level for the Clerk, this was still to be confirmed. It was reported that a CiCLA qualification would enhance the level.

### **6.2 Quality Parish Status (QPS)**

6.2.1 Further to the Clerk and Cllrs. Davidson and Alsop attending a recent Parish Council Networking Meeting, where the benefits of QPS were discussed, there was thought there that with future Government spending cuts, spending preference may go towards Parish Councils with QPS. However it was also pointed out that as the Clerk needed to be CiLCA qualified (by completing a training programme and compiling a lengthy Portfolio of evidence), it put a lot of additional work pressure on the Clerks, who were already working many hours and some felt that the benefit of QPS did not outweigh this. The Parish Council, in spite of this, felt they would like to go-ahead if possible and register for QPS in the near future. The Clerk agreed that she would look to complete her Portfolio of evidence for submission in the Autumn, as her current workload was still high with the forthcoming Audit and associated work.

### **6.3 Councillor Vacancy**

6.3.1 It was agreed to try and co-opt a new Councillor, ideally to hold the Portfolio of Pavilion Project. It was proposed that the forthcoming Bulletin would include an advert and that a job description needed to be compiled in order to define the role. Cllr. Baker informed the meeting that there was no requirement for a legal notice from NHDC to be displayed and no timescale involved.

### **7. Annual Parish Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> May:**

Cllr. Davidson reported that he was preparing the Annual Report. It was thought that about 60 people may attend. A suggestion was made and agreed that all Parish Councillors should wear name badges.

### **8. Parish Council Networking Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> April at St Ippolyts:**

This had been attended by about 30 people from 10 Parish Councils. It was reported that the evening had not been a great deal of benefit in attending although the Grants information had been quite informative.

### **9. Pavilion / Youth Club Project:**

A meeting of the sub committee had taken place the previous week but there was no further progress to report. It was thought that the design needed re-working. Cllr. Baker reported that it now transpired that the £50,000 PACIF grant had come with restrictions. It would not be physically awarded until funding for the full cost of the project was in place. A Project Plan was needed swiftly in order to apply for further sources of potential funding.

### **10. Balloons on the Recreation Ground:**

The request from Mr Such of Burrs Lane to renew his agreement with the Parish Council to tether and launch his hot air balloons from the Recreation Ground was put before the Parish Council. After discussion it was decided not to grant renewed permission for safety reasons, as the vehicular access was too close to the children's play area. The Clerk would advise Mr Such of the Council's decision. CT



**11. Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012:**

It was agreed that a celebration should be organised for the village by the Parish Council. It was noted that the budget calculations for the Precept application for 2012/13 would need to take this into account. It was suggested that a Parish Councillor would need to project manage the event and that arrangements needed to be put into place soon. Cllr Alsop agreed to be Project Manager for the event. SA

**12. Fund Raising:**

Casino Night 14<sup>th</sup> May – final arrangements were discussed and put into place.

**13. Portfolio Reports:****13.1 Planning and Highways**

13.1.1 The Wheatsheaf Meadow House redevelopment was due to start in August. Cllr. Terry was requested to find a place to store the materials that were due to be recycled for the Pavilion Project. AT

13.1.2 Due to the Wheatsheaf Meadow House works it was agreed that the bus stop at the end of Periwinkle Close could be moved 2ft to the left.

13.1.3 A scheduled quarterly meeting had taken place with Gary Henning from Highways. Cllr. Davidson and the Clerk had attended. 20 different issues were raised. These were all noted and Mr Henning agreed to investigate and report back on these in due course.

13.1.4 Report from the Speedwatch Group – 12 sessions had taken place so far. The highest speeding recorded was 65mph and the lowest recorded speeding was 36mph, an average being 44mph. There were no repeat offenders, so it was thought to be having a positive effect.

13.1.5 To enhance the Speedwatch effort, it was reported that the children of Barkway School had designed a 10ft banner. It was proposed and agreed that £300 should be spent on having 3 banners produced which would be positioned on the 3 entrances into the village.

13.1.6 Cllr. Davidson reported that lack of accurate traffic survey data was preventing Barkway from getting funding from Highways to address some of the issues identified. Equipment needed for this was different from the equipment current being used by Speedwatch. It would record all traffic. This data would then be used with the Police to encourage more Police operated speed checks and with Highways to get road improvements.

**13.2 Young Persons Affairs**

Cllr. Cockerton reported that planning permission had now been submitted for the School Tree House environmental classroom. The grant for which had come from the Yacobs Foundation – which aims to provide support for development of young people in the community.

**13.3 Environment**

This information is being withheld pending resolution of outstanding query

Cllr. Alsop also reported that a price of £80 had been agreed with Arthur King in order to clear the overgrown vegetation around the Wagon Wash.

Further to some correspondence from NHDC, Cllr. Alsop was going to contact some land owners regarding a Diversion Order dating back to 2006.



**13.4 Police**

There was nothing to report.

**13.5 Grants and Communication**

Cllr. Baker reported that the website had 916 hits in April.

For the next edition of the Bulletin, content would include amongst other things, the new Portfolio structure, a message from our new District Councillor Gerald Morris and a thank you to our outgoing District Councillor Howard Marshall, the Chairman's Annual Report and Accounts and an article about the Queens Diamond Jubilee in 2012, inviting ideas on how this could be celebrated in the village. It was agreed that included in the distribution of the Bulletin, should be a 'buy a brick leaflet', relating to sponsoring of the new Pavilion.

**13.6 Leisure**

Cllr. Terry reported that the football season was now over and that some maintenance works were being planned for the children's play area and equipment.

**13.7 Special Projects**

There was nothing to report.

**14. Finance****Financial Report:****Parish Council Account:**

The Parish Council bank balance at 09.05.2011 was £12,755.02

**Receipts since the last meeting:**

£605.00 – Barkway Village Hall – Toilet Hire for Market Day

**Cheques paid since the last meeting:**

£715.00 – Barkway Village Hall – Toilet Hire for Market Day

**Payments since last meeting:**

£21.00 – Eon - Direct Debit Electricity Pavilion

£10.00 – Veolia – Direct Debit Water Pavilion

**Payments to be authorised at this meeting:**

£8.40 – Gordon Baker expenses – stationery

£31.50 – Barkway Village Hall – Hire of hall for APM

£39.83 – Catharine Toms, Clerk's expenses – stationery and stamps.

£195.00 – T Drake – Grass cutting on the Rec. x 3

£60.00 – Tom Bentley – Street Cleaning x 4

£380.00 – Catharine Toms – Clerk's agreed salary £300 + monthly office exps. £30.00

**Reading Room Account:**

Bank Balance at 09.05.11 was £108.52

Receipts since the last meeting: None

**Payments since the last meeting:**

£19.00 - Eon Direct Debit for Electricity

**15. Correspondence:**

None to report.

**16. Date of next meeting:** Monday 13th June in the Reading Room at 7.15pm for 7.30pm start.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 9.30pm

**Amendment of Minutes of Barkway Parish Council Meeting  
Held in the Reading Room on 9 May 2011 at 7.30pm.**

It was resolved at a Parish Council meeting on 20 September 2011, that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 May 2011, approved and signed by the chairman at the meeting on 13 June 2011, be amended in the following respect to correct an inaccuracy subsequently discovered:

**Item 3: Councillor's Declaration of Interest:** G Baker, S Alsop, J Cockerton (re: Item 13.3 Environment, Highfield Farm)

 20/09/2011

