

Barton in Fabis Parish Council



Minute Book 2008

Barton in Fabis Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 28th January 2008
at 8:00 pm in The Village Hall, Barton in Fabis, Nottinghamshire.

This meeting was originally scheduled for 21st January but was postponed due to illness.

PRESENT

Cllr. P Kaczmarczuk (Chairman), Cllr. CW Harrison, Cllr. J Coles, Cllr Sue Davies,
Cllr R Newcombe.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Roger J Hawkins (Clerk)

391. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Lynn Sykes and T Vennett-Smith

392. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19th November 2007 were agreed with no amendment and signed by the Chairman.

393. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 380; Wendy Honeyman-Smith had held a number of meetings in the area but there had been no further progress and funding was now a potential problem.

Cllr. Sue Davies reported that she had made some progress with the Welcome Pack and hoped to have it typed up shortly.

Cllr. Newcombe agreed to try and obtain a quote for the proposed improvement to the pavement and verge on Manor Road and Rectory Place.

Cllr. Sue Davies doubted the need for a bus shelter and certainly not one with a seat.

Cllr. Sue Davies reported that she believed there was a bus service available that could be organised to go from the village to the supermarket once a month and agreed to get details and report back.

Cllr. Bill Harrison told the meeting that he believed the works associated with the Severn Trent water main would not be completed until the water main itself was commissioned.

The delay on completing the new road ramp was entirely due to a delay in the electricity pole being moved. It was understood that because the ramp is to be constructed outside the 30 mph zone that the ramp has to be considerably over engineered.

394. REGISTRATIONS OF INTEREST AND CODE OF PRACTICE

None given.

395. COUNTY REPORT

The clerk reported that Cllr. Lynn Sykes had limited funds for community projects.

396. VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT

Cllr. Harrison reported that there had been some progress with resolving some of the road drainage problems. The County drainage team had been in the village on a number of occasions attempting to clear the drains by jet blasting and there had been some improvement on Manor Road. A key issue remained the repair of the damaged drains on private land at the end of Chestnut Lane and the County was not prepared to do more work until this had been resolved. The total budget for the whole of the County for road drains was only £900,000.

397. **NET**

A report on the proposed extension to the NET was still awaited; the best chance of the scheme not going ahead was probably insufficient funding.

398. **A453**

The clerk read a letter from Pat Harrison objecting to the submission by the Parish Council on the proposed A453 dualling, this was noted.

Publication of draft orders had been postponed again and was now unlikely to happen until the summer.

It was noted that construction of the Parkway Station had started.

399. **PLANNING**

There was a brief discussion on the proposed eco town at Kingston and it was noted that a government announcement was expected in February when a short list of 10 possible sites would be identified. The Chairman told the meeting that he believed it unlikely the site at Kingston would meet the eco criteria.

400. **FINANCE**

Accounts for Payment. The financial statement was approved and six cheques signed to a total value of £386.00 including £9.28 VAT.

It was proposed and agreed unanimously that the Parish Council reserves should be allocated as follows; a fund to fight against possible unsuitable development, £23,000, possible purchase of land, £5,000 and general contingency, the balance, approximately £2,000.

It was agreed to purchase appropriate road signs warning traffic to slow down due to floods.

The clerk apologised to the Council for the lateness of the audit completion 2006-07; this was due to an oversight on the new audit regulations. The deadline for the 2007-08 audit is the end of July, a month earlier than last year.

401. **RIGHTS OF WAY**

Nothing to Report

402. **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following items of correspondence were noted; Nottinghamshire CC, Travel & Transport briefing December 2007; Rushcliffe BC, Members Monthly December 2007; Corporate Strategy 2007-11: Emergency Plan: Living for Tomorrow Winter 2008; GOEM East Midlands Regional Plan, report of the panel: NET Evidence on behalf of Promoters; Councillors Commission, report 2007: Communities & Local Government, Orders and Regulations Conduct of Local Authority members in England. A Bio-Diversity seminar on 7th February at the racecourse

The clerk was asked to investigate possible CCTV contractors.

Cllr. Bill Harrison and the clerk had attended a police surgery at Gotham.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as Monday 17th March 2008

The meeting ended at 9.25 pm

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 17th March at 7:30 pm at
The Village Hall, Barton in Fabis, Nottinghamshire.**

PRESENT

Cllr. P Kaczmarczuk (Chairman), Cllr. CW Harrison, Cllr. J Coles, and Cllr. Sue Davies.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Roger J Hawkins (Clerk), Cllr. Lynn Sykes (Nottinghamshire CC) and Cllr. T Vennett-Smith (Rushcliffe BC)

403. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr R Newcombe.

404. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 21st January 2008 were agreed with minor amendments and signed by the Chairman

405. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr. Sue Davies informed the meeting that she was in negotiation with a local bus company to see if a monthly schedule could be arranged to take residents to the supermarket.

It was noted that restoration of the land affected by the new water main had stalled, this was assumed to be due to a delay while the pipe is tested.

It was noted that the trees along the line of the new section of road to be built to accommodate the new flood bank and which had been planted by the Parish Council many years earlier had been removed together with hedging. Disquiet was expressed at the design of the ramp over the bank and the unnecessary need to construct this to a specification for a 60 mph road. Cllr. Lynn Sykes agreed to make representations to the Highways Department.

Cllr. Sue Davies told the meeting that progress had been made on the Village Welcome Pack and a draft copy would be available shortly.

406. REGISTRATIONS OF INTEREST

None given.

407. COUNTY REPORT

Cllr. Lynn Sykes explained that the EDI funding was intended for community projects and as such the parish council's proposal to improve the verge near Little Lunnon was not eligible. A better source of funding would be the County's BBC initiative and the clerk agreed to submit an application when appropriate.

Cllr. Lynn Sykes left the meeting

408. DISTRICT REPORT.

Cllr. T Vennett-Smith confirmed that he was able to make a financial contribution to the purchase of a brush cutter to help the Parish Council maintain the various rights of way in the parish.

Cllr. T Vennett-Smith told the meeting that he considered the eco town proposal to be poorly thought out and there had been insufficient consultation. He had signed a petition objecting to the scheme and was fully aware that this might be considered as being against the code of conduct.

A meeting was scheduled with Sue Healey at Rushcliffe BC to discuss Clifton pastures in the absence of a Local Plan.

Cllr. T Vennett-Smith left the meeting at 20.35

409. VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT

Road Drainage; there had been some success clearing the drains and gulleys on Manor road near the Old School House and the Village Hall and the road now drained. In view of this it was agreed not to go ahead with the purchase or flood road signs. A major problem remained that of the blocked drains on private land at the end of Chestnut Lane but the clerk was aware that the County Highways Department had made contact with the owner and a result was awaited.

The footpaths were in some places overgrown and in need of attention, works by the County some years ago have not helped in the long term as the natural drainage was affected. The City end of the path is in much better condition.

It was proposed and agreed that the footpath in the vicinity of the old pig farm would be better rerouted to its original line and the clerk was asked to contact the County Rights of Way about this change.

Litter; litter from the Barton fest had still not been removed, Cllr. Bill Harrison agreed to follow up.

Dog Bins; the clerk had received a request for dog bins to be installed but the suggested sites were on private property and not possible.

Flood Alleviation; a new Flood Warden Information pack had been produced and circulated to Flood Wardens.

410. A453

StreetWise had been asked to clear the verges to the A453 but had claimed that a schedule had to be agreed with AMScott. The clerk agreed to continue pressing for action as the litter was the worst that had been seen.

The clerk reported that he had spoken to Shifeek Hussain to be told that there was a further delay to issuing draft orders. A response to the Parish Council's letter could be expected soon.

411. PLANNING

The clerk told the meeting that central government was keen to develop and introduce a standard planning application form for all planning authorities.

412. FINANCE

The financial statement was agreed and four cheques approved for signature totalling £337.21

It was proposed and agreed to make a donation of £50 to the Barn Owl Trust and thereby sponsor a nesting box for five years.

It was proposed and agreed to adopt the Internal Audit programme proposed by the clerk with minor amendments and to appoint Richard Holmes as internal auditor.

413. CLERK'S BUSINESS

The clerk briefly reported on an excellent bio-diversity seminar recently attended in Nottingham.

The clerk informed the meeting that he would be having a minor operation on his hand and would require some clerking assistance, members agreed to make enquiries.

414. FLOOD BANK

Cllr. Julian Coles told the meeting he had had correspondence with the Environment Agency over the removal of the trees and was not entirely convinced that the agency appreciated the strong feeling over the trees and thought we should watch developments closely to ensure they were replaced to our satisfaction.

The Environment Agency had thanked the Parish Council for erecting signs asking users to stay of the newly seeded flood banks.

415. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was agreed to defer other agenda items until the next meeting

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as Monday 19th May 2008.

The meeting ended at 9.35 pm

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 19th May 2008
at 8:00 pm in the Village Hall, Barton in Fabis, Nottinghamshire.**

PRESENT

Cllr. P Kaczmarczuk (Chairman), Cllr. CW Harrison, Cllr. J Coles, and Cllr. Sue Davies.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Roger J Hawkins (Clerk), Mrs Pat Curtis, assistant to the clerk, and Nick le Mare and Simon White from the Environment Agency and Andy Higton, Jackson Civil Engineering.

The Chairman invited Nick le Mare to update the council on the status of the engineering works on Manor Road and explain the reasons for the design decisions. There was a discussion on the speed limit in force on Manor Road and the consequences of this on the design and whether the 30 mph limit could be extended towards the A453. It was suggested that to extend the limit could take between 2 and 3 years. It was noted that the Environment Agency accept that mature trees should be planted to replace those removed and that there would be consultation on this when appropriate.

416. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed and agreed unanimously that Paul Kaczmarczuk be elected Chairman for the year 2008-09

417. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr. Lynn Sykes (Nottinghamshire CC) and Cllr. T Vennett-Smith (Rushcliffe BC).

418. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 17th March 2008 were agreed with minor amendments and signed by the Chairman.

It was noted that a brush cutter had been purchased with financial support from Cllr. Trevor Vennett-Smith and the clerk was asked to make enquiries regarding the insurance implications.

419. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

It was proposed and agreed unanimously that Bill Harrison be elected Vice-Chairman for the year 2008-09.

It was agreed that Cllr. Bill Harrison should take responsibility for rights of way in the parish and Cllr. Julian Coles act a Flood Warden.

420. REGISTRATIONS OF INTEREST

None given.

421. COUNTY REPORT

None

422. DISTRICT REPORT.

None

423. VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT

Road Drainage. The risk of flooding outside the Village Hall and the Old School House has now been significantly reduced following work by the Nottinghamshire CC. However the problem has moved further along Manor Road and at its junction with Brown Lane the road appears to flood more frequently. It is assumed the problem is with the silting of the Chestnut Lane drain and the poor drainage on the fields beyond the lane. The clerk was asked to write to Nottinghamshire CC to see what progress has been made in consultations with the land owners.

The flood problems on Rectory Place are more difficult to resolve and the clerk was asked to write to Mr Morley.

Right of Way. The Chairman reported that the footpath under the woods was in poor repair and users were leaving the path to make unofficial routes. The clerk was asked to arrange an on site meeting with The Rights of Way department to discuss options.

Litter. Cllr. Bill Harrison reported that he believed the litter problem on Trent Field had been removed. Litter remained a problem on Barton Lane and Green Street but Streetwise had promised to agree a litter-picking schedule with Amscott.

Dog Bins. The clerk had received a request from residents on Trentside to install dog bins on the lane leading from rectory Place, this would be difficult as it was private land but it was agreed to investigate the possibility of putting signs in place.

Grass Cutting. Cutting was taking place either too early or too late but in either case it was being cut far too short resulting in damage to the verges. The clerk agreed to talk to NALC to see if a combined representation could be made.

CCTV. Dumping was still a problem in the entrance to Barton Lodge but Rushcliffe BC had erected signs and this did appear to have a beneficial effect. There were problems with installing CCTV not least being cost and maintenance.

424. A453

No further information received

425. PLANNING

Eco Towns. An extra ordinary meeting had been held by Rushcliffe BC to consider eco towns but this had been a largely politically stage managed event and of little practical importance. RAF Newton was still considered the favoured option.

426. FINANCE

The financial statement was agreed and six cheques approved for signature totalling £759.81.

Barton in Fabis Parish Council

The clerk announced that a meeting with the internal auditor had been arranged and the accounts and annual return would be available at the next meeting.

It was proposed and agreed unanimously that the Parish Council reserves should be allocated as follows; a fund to fight against possible unsuitable development, £23,000; possible purchase of land, £5,000 and general contingency, the balance.

427. CLERK'S BUSINESS

The clerk thanked Mrs Curtis for her assistance with the note taking and minutes. Arrangements for the Parish Annual Meeting were confirmed.

428. FLOOD BANK

It was noted that the reseeded areas appeared to be recovering and the Parish Council notices had probably helped to discourage users from trespassing on the banks.

429. CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from Cllr. Martin Brandon-Bravo regarding the threat of extensive house building in the area was noted.

430. ANY OTHER BUSINESS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Cllr. Sue Davies reported that the Welcome Pack had been largely rewritten and would be available shortly. The Chairman offered to look at designing a front cover which would be printed professionally.

It was noted that Cllr. Sue Davies was investigating the possibility of organising a bus to take residents to a local supermarket either monthly or bimonthly

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as Monday 21st July 2008.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 21st July at 8.00 pm
in The Village Hall, Barton in Fabis, Nottinghamshire.**

PRESENT

Cllr. P Kaczmarczuk (Chairman), Cllr. CW Harrison and Cllr. J Coles.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Roger J Hawkins (Clerk), Cllr. Lynn Sykes (Nottinghamshire CC) and Cllr. T Vennett-Smith (Rushcliffe BC)

431. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Sue Davies.

432. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19th May 2008 were approved and signed by the Chairman

433. MATTERS ARISING

The clerk confirmed he had make enquiries regarding the insurance implications of the brush cutter and had been advised to add the equipment to the council's asset register and increase the insurance cover. It was agreed to accept the quote from CC Ltd of £55.00. The Chairman explained that he had the necessary safety equipment and would offer training to anyone who wished to borrow the equipment.

There was a discussion on the unsatisfactory grass cutting regime. Cllr. Lynn Sykes confirmed that much of the County was unhappy at the way and frequency at which the verges were cut. Cllr. Trevor Vennett-Smith reported that Gotham PC had funded some additional grass cutting but this would not continue indefinitely.

It was noted that fires continued to be a source of complaint and the Parish Council and Environment Agency had received complaints. Cllr. Trevor Vennett-Smith reported that he had also complained about fires burning near the A453, in all cases it was believed waste had been imported.

434. REGISTRATIONS OF INTEREST

None given.

435. COUNTY REPORT

Cllr. Lynn Sykes reported on a letter received from the company hoping to develop the eco town at Kingston who complained that they felt they had been treated unfairly. However, it was now generally recognised that there was very little chance of this development ever taking place. RAF Newton and Cotgrave remained possibilities.

Cllr. Lynn Sykes confirmed she had funds available from the EDI and would like to give preference to youth and environmental related activities.

The County Council meeting had been cancelled last week due to the strike of local council employees.

436. DISTRICT REPORT.

Cllr. Trevor Vennett-Smith reported that Rushcliffe BC continued to develop partnership working with Charnwood BC and there would probably be sharing of office accommodation in the future but the location was unknown.

437. VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT

The clerk told the meeting that in addition to any grants available from either the Cllr Sykes or Cllr Vennett-Smith there were three main sources of funding; the

Small Environmental Scheme (Rushcliffe BC) and BBC and neighbourhood grants (Nottinghamshire CC). It was agreed to submit an application to improve the pavement leading to Little Lunnon and members agreed to help identify suitable contractors.

438. **A453**

The clerk reminded members that the Highways Agency had invited interested parties to a meeting on Thursday afternoon to discuss the latest proposals, which now showed the scheme without a link road from Mill Hill island. The decision for this had been taken on financial grounds, as the likely cost was £1.0M. It was understood the County Council would not be objecting to this proposal.

439. **PLANNING**

It was expected that the Regional spatial Strategy response would be published tomorrow and this would be followed by an 8-10 week consultation period.

440. **FINANCE**

The Financial Statement was approved & 5 cheques for a total of £1579.11 including £80.88 VAT were approved and signed

The Annual Return was approved together with the annual governance statement and the clerk authorised to return to the external auditors.

The year-end accounts were approved.

441. **CLERK'S BUSINESS**

The clerk confirmed that three people had shown an interest in the casual vacancy on the Parish Council but to date only one written response had been received.

The clerk reported briefly on an SLCC Regional Conference recently attended.

442. **FLOOD BANK**

No further information was available on a possible start date

443. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The clerk confirmed he had not received any notification from BT that the red phone box was under threat of removal.

The meeting ended at 9.35 pm

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 17th September at 7:30 pm in The Village Hall, Barton in Fabis, Nottinghamshire.

PRESENT

Cllr. P Kaczmarczuk (Chairman), Cllr. CW Harrison and Cllr. J Coles, Cllr. Sue Davies and Cllr. Judith Bowerman

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Roger J Hawkins (Clerk), Cllr. Lynn Sykes (Nottinghamshire CC) and one resident. Cllr. Trevor Vennett-Smith had sent apologies.

444. CO-OPTION TO FILL CASUAL VACANCY

It was proposed and agreed that Judith Bowerman be co-opted to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of R. Newcombe.

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Bowerman to the council.

445. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 21st July 2008 were approved and signed by the Chairman

446. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND CODE OF PRACTICE

None given

447. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The clerk reported that he had been unable to obtain quotes for the proposed improvements to the verges on Manor Road. It was agreed an alternative based on regular weed killing, reurfing and regular grass cutting should be investigated and quotes obtained. In recognition that the County Council neither cut the grass at the correct time of year nor did a good job it was agreed to obtain quotes for cutting the verges within the village three times a year at times to be agreed with the contractor.

It was noted that there was considerable disquiet throughout the County about grass cutting.

Cllr. Judith Bowerman highlighted the problem of poor sight lines at the junction of Manor Road and the A453 when the grass verge had not been cut. The clerk reported that AMScott had been reactive during the year in cutting the grass when advised that there was a problem but this needed monitoring.

It was noted that a new regular event for children up to the age of five had started in the Village Hall for dance and movement and the council wished the new venture every success.

448. COUNTY REPORT

Cllr. Lynn Sykes informed the meeting that funds were still available from the EDI and anyone was welcome to apply but that she had a preference for supporting projects for young people and the environment.

The clerk reported that the road drainage problem had been resolved near the Village Hall but the road was now more susceptible to flooding at the junction of Brown Lane and Manor Road. Cllr. Lynn Sykes agreed to follow up with the Highways Department.

449. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The clerk reported that a copy of an application for a snack bar on the A453 had been received. It was agreed not to object but to ask Rushcliffe BC to take note that

litter was always a problem with these facilities and to make a conditional decision based on litter management.

It was noted that CPRE had issued a leaflet entitled "Stop The Madness" in response to the government's response to the Regional Spatial Strategy Report that amongst other issues raised the critical point about housing numbers. It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council endorse the leaflet and circulate to all houses in the village together with a Newsletter asking everyone to respond.. The deadline of 17th October was noted.

Cllr. Lynn Sykes left the meeting at 8.30 pm

450. **A453**

The clerk had tried to get an update from the Highways Agency but without success but it was assumed there had been no progress. Minutes produced by Laing O'Rourke for the meeting held to discuss the latest proposals for dualling were noted.

451. **NET**

The Chairman reported on correspondence recently published in the Evening Post that had criticised the Parish Council. This centred on observations that upwards of 2500 golden plover over wintered on the part of the proposed site for the terminal the subsequent amendment to the criteria used to define a SINC. However, it was extremely unlikely that this would be a critical factor in any planning decision.

It was recognised that responses often had to be made quickly but it was agreed that correspondence should be circulated to members in a timely manner.

The clerk reported that Eric Foxley who had experience of objecting to the NET had volunteered his assistance, this was noted.

452. **FLOOD BANK**

The clerk reported that three road closure notices had been issued by the County Highways Department on behalf of the Environment Agency and all had been withdrawn at the request of the Agency and work was now unlikely to start until March 2009.

It was agreed the clerk should write to the Environment Agency expressing concern at the delay.

453. **FINANCE**

The monthly Financial Statement was approved & two cheques totalling £197.96 approved and signed.

It was agreed to make an ex gratia payment of £30 to the recent assistant to the clerk

It was agreed to set the Chairman's allowance at £50 for 2008-09

To consider advance payment for meetings

It was agreed to reimburse the clerk £100 for the use of a personal computer.

The clerk had been asked by the Village Hall to consider paying for the hire of the hall with one cheque in advance for the year. It was proposed and agreed to do this and make any adjustments for heating at the end of the year.

The clerk reported on a letter received from the Sherwood Foresters Memorial Committee asking for a donation of £30 to support the commissioning and erection of a memorial in Belgium. The clerk advised that it was a grey area whether or not the Parish Council had the power to make such a donation but that Derbyshire Association of Local Councils had ruled in favour. It was proposed and agreed to make a donation.

454. CLERK'S BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

A letter had been received from Martin Paeslar asking for the Parish Council to clear the ditch at the bottom of New Road. It was agreed to monitor the situation.

455. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence were noted: Rushcliffe BC Licensing Act 2003, Strategic Housing Profiles; Nottinghamshire CC Registration Service consultation; National Waterways festival 2009; Erewash BC local development Framework.

456. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Sue Davies reported that the Welcome Pack was nearly finished Cllr. Sue Davies reported a faulty streetlight and asked the clerk to report to Highways.

The clerk was asked to investigate alternative meeting dates other than a Monday evening so that meetings could start at 7.00 pm and advise members accordingly

The meeting ended at 9.25 pm