

Barton in Fabis

Parish Council Newsletter

July 2023



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QUARRY – THE FIGHT BEGINS (AGAIN!)

NEW PLANNING APPLICATION TO COME

The next phase in our battle against the quarry and those who wish to destroy the landscape around the village has begun!

The applicant has submitted what is called a 'Request for Scoping Opinion' – this is done ahead of a planning application to ask the County Council to confirm what the applicant needs to include in their 'Environmental Impact Statement'.

The Parish Council and the SAVE campaign group have submitted a detailed response to this document.

We will obviously update villagers when we have further details of the new planning application (expected in the autumn) and on our plans for the next phase of our battle. Please remember that if this quarry were to go ahead it is likely to lead to other sites all around the village, particularly by Rectory Place and Little Lunnon – **so this is a fight that involves us all!**

Local elections

Gotham Ward, Rushcliffe Borough Council

Rex Walker and Andrew Brown were elected – the Parish Council congratulates them both and look forward to working with them.

Barton in Fabis Parish Council

Bill Harrison, Allan Kerr, Diane Harrison, Julian Coles and Lizzy Mossop were elected unopposed.

Following a meeting of the Parish Council, Bill Harrison was elected as Chair and Allan Kerr as Deputy Chair.

Allan has served for a considerable period as an excellent Chair for several years and asked to stand down and take a break to give some time to other issues. The Parish Council would like to thank him for all his efforts and leadership.

Bev Angell remains as Clerk and again the Parish Council would like to thank him for all his efforts over the year.

Who does what in Local Government?

We have had several requests for a brief explanation of what the various Councils actually do – so here goes and we hope you find it useful!

We have three levels of council:

Barton in Fabis Parish Council (BPC) - nothing to do with the Church which has a Parochial Council.

Councillors: BPC has 5 councillors who are not paid.

Responsible for looking after and promoting the interests of the local community and lobbying the relevant councils and other bodies on issues from maintaining roads and verges, planning applications, to major infrastructure projects such as the quarry. We have a limited budget to improve the village e.g. the installation of finger posts, tree planting. Some larger Parish Councils maintain public spaces, playgrounds and burial grounds.

We also work closely with our neighbouring parishes in a **5 Parishes Group** (chaired by Rex Walker) on areas of mutual interest such as the Freeport to maximise our 'clout'.

Rushcliffe Borough Council (RBC)– Gotham ward: includes Barton, Gotham, Thrumpton, Ratcliffe on Soar and Kingston on Soar and now Fairham Pastures.

Councillors: Rex Walker & Andrew Brown. Councillors receive an allowance, currently about £6,000pa.

RBC is the middle tier responsible for:

- Decisions on most planning applications and planning enforcement.
- Housing and homelessness (with partner Metropolitan Housing)
- Processing benefit claims
- Environmental Health and dealing with litter, fly-tipping, dog fouling etc
- Waste collection, emptying household bins and bins on some public land.
- Owning and maintaining a lot of open areas
- Collecting council tax and running elections – in both cases for the other council layers as well as itself.
- Leisure Centres, Edwalton Golf Course, Rushcliffe Country Park at Ruddington and others
- Local facilities like playgrounds, playing fields, community halls, public toilets etc for West Bridgford, which does not have a parish council

See: <https://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/>

Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) – Leake and Ruddington ward.

Councillors: Matt Barney & Reg Adair. Councillors receive a basic allowance of around £16,000pa.

NCC is the third tier responsible for:

- Roads but not major highways
- Education and schools
- Waste disposal
- Social care
- Strategic plans for the County e.g. Minerals and Waste plans
- Planning applications for major infrastructure e.g. quarries

See <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/>

There are also elections at various times for Member of Parliament and the Police Commissioner, and coming soon an elected Mayor for a new Combined Authority.

Annual Parish Meeting

Thank you to all those who attended the Annual Parish Meeting, your support is very welcome – the Parish Council will pursue the issues raised, many of which are covered in this newsletter.

East Midlands Airport

The first draft of the airport's **Noise Action Plan 2024-2028** has now been published and following pressure from the 5 Parishes Group, we are pleased that there is a section on training flights including proposals to reduce the hours that they operate over Barton and surrounding villages from 8am to 8pm to 8am to 12pm and 2pm to 4pm. This is very welcome, however we will continue to push for more flights to the south of the airport and increasing the variation in circuits to 'spread the load'.

We will be contacting every house to ask you to support these moves as part of the consultation process.

Noise complaints

Just a reminder if you are disturbed by excessive aircraft noise, **please register your complaint by email to community@eastmidlandsairport.com or by phone 0845 1088540 or filling out the online Noise Complaint form at <https://complaints-eu.emsbk.com/ema5>**. A time of the incident and if possible, the airline involved is ideal.

The more complaints are registered, the more notice the airport will take of the impact on local people in this area.

Nottsbus On Demand

We now have a great new 'on demand' bus service which our County Councillor (Matt Barney) has been heavily involved in establishing. This can be pre-booked for trips around the South Rushcliffe area including the tram, train station, the airport and to visit friends and relatives and even local pubs – all at only £2 a trip (less for more than one person). For more details: 0300 5008080 or www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/nottsbusondemand

Fairham Pastures Development

The construction of the new entrance to Fairham off Mill Hill roundabout is progressing to plan and access to the industrial area is expected in April. Access by the general public down the road into the housing area and on to Gotham is expected to be complete by July 2023.

House building has started with first occupations starting in December 2023.

There are announcements expected imminently on occupiers of some of the industrial buildings but this information is commercially sensitive so is not being made public yet. The developers are hoping that the industrial area will provide up to 4000 jobs when it is fully occupied.

The school, medical centre and other public areas are not expected to be available until 2026, partly because the demand will not be there and partly because a significant amount of design work is still required.

(See also comment from Borough Councillor Rex Walker below)

Ratcliffe on Soar: Local Development Order / Freeport

The power station is due to close at the end of September 2024 in line with government policy to end coal-fired power generation. The site is part of the East Midlands Freeport, which is a government initiative to encourage innovation and job creation. Rushcliffe Borough Council has worked with Uniper, owner of the power station, to explore options for the redevelopment of the site.

Most recently, it consulted on a revised draft Local Development Order (LDO) which would grant planning permission for new development at the Ratcliffe on Soar Power Station site.

(See also comment from Borough Councillor Rex Walker below)

Strawberry Woods

As reported last time, Strawberry Woods is the woodland on the hill between Barton and Gotham overlooking the valley. Many villagers will have walked through this beautiful wood which is an important landmark and haven for wildlife.

The current owners of Strawberry Woods have approached Gotham Parish Council and the local community with a view to selling 57 acres of the woodland.

A small group of volunteers has explored the feasibility of purchasing the land, how its potential can be enhanced through active management, and how its long-term future can be protected for the next generations.

An agreement, in principle, has been reached to acquire the woodland, and a Community Interest Company formed to ensure that, if successful, the wood would be retained for public good forever.

Gillian May, who is leading the project, has given the following update:

“Following a well attended public meeting we have received positive feedback and much community support for the purchase and maintenance of the Strawberry Wood.

We are currently in the process of appointing key board members who will have specific roles in obtaining funding and putting together business and management plans for the regeneration of the Wood.

Our aim remains to obtain funding from both the private sector and the Government Community Ownership Fund. Preliminary discussions with both sectors has been encouraging.”

Floodbank repairs

Works have been completed by the Environment Agency to repair and improve the floodbank at the end of Chestnut Lane.

Parking around the village

Several villagers have raised the issue of parking on verges and pavements around the village which causes an obstruction to pushchairs and those with reduced mobility.

May we issue a plea for everybody to park with consideration and not access – please mention this to any contractors or friends and relatives visiting you.

Motorbike noise

Following complaints from villagers concerning motorbike racing taking place along Green Street (old A 453), particularly at weekends, the police have taken action and

the problem has reduced significantly. Following discussions at the Annual Parish Meeting, PC Kelly Carlile has asked that if an incident occurs that we **continue to report it with registration numbers if possible**. please ring 101 and make a report as this will increase the priority that the Police give to this matter.

This road is well used by cyclists, walkers and horse riders and we continue to be concerned that there could be a serious accident.

Grass verges

We are very aware that following a wet May, that grass verges are very overgrown and in particular, visibility exiting the village from Manor Road is very restricted. We are pressing for the County Council to cut these as soon as possible after the backlog caused by 'no mow May'.

We would like to thank Neil Windross at Barton Lodge and Roger Stones at Keeper's Cottage for their work in keeping the area at the top of New Road clear throughout the year.

Whilst on the subject, we would also like to thank Tony Austin for maintaining (for many years) the strip on Manor Road alongside the old wall and all those around the village who contribute in a variety of ways to keeping frontages tidy and to maintaining 'common' areas.

Dog walking and fouling

We ask all owners to keep their dogs **on a lead at all times** whilst walking them round the village.

Dog fouling continues to cause significant problems in some areas particularly from the floodbank and local footpaths. There are also reports of 'dog poo' bags being left on trees and bushes. We appreciate that the majority of dog owners are very responsible, but please use the bins provided for the purpose around the village or take your dog's mess home for disposal.

Free trees for the Coronation

We recently distributed a free tree and wildflower seeds to every house and from the many messages received these were very well received. Please remember to keep them well watered in the current dry spell. Thank you to Lizzy Mossop for organising this initiative.

The Parish Council will also be planting some larger specimen trees with a plaque at the entrance to the village at the top of New Road once the grass has been mown.



Planning Applications

Oliver's Yard

As previously reported a Planning Application (**22/00379/FUL**) was submitted and refused in May 2022 by Rushcliffe Borough Council.

Following an appeal by the applicant, The Planning Inspectorate have confirmed that:

*“planning permission is **granted** for use of building for mixed agriculture and grounds maintenance, including replacement of wall and roof materials with new cladding and blockwork”*

Chestnut Farm

21/03205/REM Residential scheme for 3 dwellings – **Permission refused**

Following a large number of objections, the application was refused. The decision notice from Rushcliffe Borough Council states:

“The scale of the dwellings, elevated ground floor levels, raised window heights and raised rear terraces of the proposal would result in a harmful and unacceptable impact on the amenities of neighbouring properties.

The massing scale and proportion of the proposal would be inconsistent within its location in the village.”

The applicant has lodged an appeal against this decision with the Government's Planning Inspectorate.

Plum Tree Cottage

23/00401/FUL New double garage, conversion of existing garage, alterations to vehicular access – **Permission granted**

Top Yard Farm – building works

Development is in the last few weeks and the builders are working to leave site in a better state than before. Plots are selling now, with the first residents now in.

We welcome the new residents to the village and look forward to seeing them at one of the Village Hall events in the future (see below).

If any residents have issues with the development and its impact, please get in touch with Lee Sharpe who is present on site.

Messages from our local councillors.



County Councillor: Matt Barney

Email: cllr.matt.barney@nottsc.gov.uk Phone: 07788 682696

"I would like to offer my congratulations to the newly elected Borough Councillors and pass on my thanks to Barton Parish Council for their ongoing commitment and work on behalf of our community.

I have now been elected as County Councillor for two years, and so I thought I might take the opportunity to provide an update on some of the concerns that I have been working on since elected.

Road Safety

In 2021 there were tragically 27 recorded deaths on Nottinghamshire's roads and two of these happened within weeks on one stretch of our local roads. For this reason, road safety has been a key priority to me, targeting my efforts on the most notorious hotspots. There is still much to achieve, however, I am pleased that this June, significant improvements will be made to the Crossroads near the University of Nottingham Sutton Bonington Campus. New interactive signs will be placed on all four approaches, with surface and upgraded stop signs being added. I hope this will go some way to reducing the regular accidents that occur at this junction. I am very grateful to the University of Nottingham for their generous support over the last 24 months and for their contribution of £50,000 that together, with NCC funding will complete the works.

I am also happy to report that NCC are supporting my campaign to reduce the speed limit on West Leake Road, between East Leake and West Leake from 60 to 40 mph. The consultation for this will happen soon.

Schools

The new primary school build continues in East Leake and is on track for full opening this September. This represents a £13million investment in our community.

Adult Social Care

It has been my privilege to serve on the Notts County Council Cabinet as portfolio holder for adult social care over the last 12 months. Every day, I am in awe of our more than 6000 incredible staff who look after and support over 24,000 people across our County. We face a number of significant challenges in this area, not least with recruitment of staff. I am so privileged to experience the very best of our society and can't even begin to thank those, who work so hard bringing vital life-line care and support. Just this week, I have met a number of staff who have worked for NCC for more than 35 years in different care roles. These people are TRUE HEROES who can never be thanked enough!

On Demand Bus

Following the drastic news that residents of Sutton Bonington, Normanton on Soar and Zouch were going to lose our longstanding bus service, we set about doing all we could to ensure that this vital community transport was maintained. I was pleased to present a petition, supported by a number of parish councils and signed by over

1600 residents. I was also so grateful for the support of Ruth Edwards MP and NCC. The result of this campaign is that we have secured the new on demand bus services, that not only operates in the existing area, but across the whole of West Rushcliffe and up to the airport and SEGRO site. The service seems to have been very well received and I have been inundated with positive reports, not least from those who have discovered how many bus stops there are near all our local pubs! So please download the app, and use this new service. We have funding in place for 3 years, but continued operation will be dependent on use. So far it looks like the two buses we have operating in the zone are going to be working flat out! <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/travel-notts/travelling-by-bus/nottsbusondemand>

Finally, I hope that you all had an enjoyable Coronation weekend. God Save King Charles III.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of any assistance”
Many thanks Matt



Borough Councillor: Rex Walker.

Email: cllr.rwalker@rushcliffe.gov.uk Phone: 07812 146386

“I was honoured and delighted to be re-elected to serve as your Borough Councillor for a further four years in May’s election. Thank you for all the support given. I look forward to continuing to work closely with the Parish Council, the 5 Parish partnership and others. Cllr Andrew Brown now also represents the Ward and we will work together for the interests of all the residents and villages.

Ratcliffe on Soar Redevelopment - Local Development Order

This is a process aimed at speeding up the Planning Application process. We understand this will go to Full Council for decision in July. There had been two significant barriers:

1) National Highways.

There have evidently been ongoing discussions between parties resulting in an updated response in April, having previously not recommended approval. The updated response introduces a trip generation cap for the interpeak period, alongside a trip generation cap for the AM and PM peak periods. The wording of this condition would enable a smaller proportion of the LDO site to come forward prior to the need for any further transport assessments or highways mitigation.

Accounting for decreases in vehicular movements due to power station closure, the view is that all of phase 1 and some of phase 2 can come forward under the cap.

They admit this will only work in practice with effective monitoring and enforcement. Various site-wide and plot-specific plans are required to achieve this.

2) Gypsum deposits

In February 2023, British Gypsum made a representation on the LDO, raising the prospect there may be recoverable gypsum deposits under the hill in the north east corner of the Ratcliffe site.

If deemed viable to do so, British Gypsum will look to recover these mineral deposits in this area of the site ahead of the implementation of the LDO.

Survey work has started and will last several months. In the event British Gypsum conclude that extraction of existing mineral deposits is viable, a separate full planning application would need to be prepared by them and submitted to Nottinghamshire County Council for determination, as the Minerals Planning Authority.

We will receive a detailed update and have opportunity to scrutinise/input via the Local Development Forum committee in late June (on which I sit).

I have received initial indication that lobbying for democratic involvement in the 'certificate of compliance' process (similar to reserved matters applications) has been successful and there will be a process to input and, if necessary, have an expedited 'call in' for determination by senior Officers/Cllrs where there are concerns from community/Ward Member(s).

Solar

The Planning Application for a solar farm at 'Stocking Lane (W Leake/Kingston) was unanimously refused at planning committee in March. The official reasons for this were:

- Substantial harm to green belt by virtue of openness, visual amenity and bridleway users*
- This harm not outweighed by benefits of renewable energy production*

Other factors that could be seen to have impacted the decision:

- Significant volume of local opposition (a full public gallery)*
- Effective lobbying of Councillors*

Fairham Pastures

We expect development to accelerate over the coming months and years. You may well have seen the progress on the commercial land and now the first residential area. The planning applications which have come forward so far have been through a rigorous pre-application vetting stage to ensure compliance with the site-wide masterplan and design code. This is a process that I think has worked well and produced better plans at first submission than we usually see.

As the houses become occupied by people new to the area, but also no doubt some who are friends and relatives, I am conscious of the ways in which we need to create and sustain positive links with the new community at Fairham whilst retaining the individual identities of the villages."

Rex



MP: Ruth Edwards.

Email: ruth.edwards.mp@parliament.uk Phone: 0207 2193549

"I hold regular surgeries to listen to and help constituents with problems they might be having. These issues can range from getting a driving licence renewed, visa delays, issues with benefit applications or concerns about crime. To book a surgery, get in touch by emailing or phoning me."

Ruth

Barton Village Hall Events

There is always a warm welcome at 'The BVH' when the bar is open and at special events. We are pleased to pass on details of future events:

EVERY WEEK

Bar Open Friday: 5.30 – 9.30pm and Sunday 1.00 – 4pm

JUNE

Date to be confirmed **Casino Night with Chinese food**

SEPTEMBER

Saturday 9th **Flower and Vegetable Show**

Friday 29th to Monday 1st **Beer and Wine Festival**

OCTOBER

Saturday 28th **Halloween Disco**

NOVEMBER

Date to be confirmed **Race Night**

DECEMBER

Saturday 9th **Christmas Tree Lights switch on**

Friday 22nd **Christmas Social Night**

Saturday 30th **"Not a New Year's Eve Party"**

EVERY MONTH

Normally last Friday of the month **Bingo**

2nd and 4th Tuesday (excl August) **Legendary BVH Breakfast**

**Further details for all events: Barton Community Facebook or Village Website:
Bartoninfabis.org.uk**

Other contacts and Parish Council

Facebook Community Site



Some of you may be aware that there is a community page on Facebook which some may find interesting and increasingly informative as life returns to normal. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1692510507582700>

Reporting Council problems

Download the MyNotts app from the County Council: e.g. street light not working, road repairs

Contact Rushcliffe Borough Council 0115 9819911: e.g. fly tipping, bin not collected or contact a member of the Parish Council

Police contacts

Police Non Emergency 101

PC 1530 Kelly Carlile 07725 925330 Email: Kelly.carlile@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

NHS 111

Power cuts 105

Severn Trent Emergencies 0800 783 4444

Parish Council contacts:

Julian Coles	Diane Harrison	Bill Harrison <i>Chair</i>	Allan Kerr <i>Deputy Chair</i>	Lizzy Mossop
☎ 0772 5068012	☎ 0115 983 0640	☎ 0115 983 0313	☎ 0115 983 0596	☎ 0771 4088183

Clerk to the Council: Bev Angell ☎ 0115 983 1237
Clerk@bartoninfabispc.org.uk

Parish Council website: bartoninfabispc.org.uk