

BARNT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

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Summons and Notice of Meeting

Members are summoned to the **Parish Council** meeting to be held on **Monday 18 October 2021 at 7.00pm at Barnt Green Cricket Club, Cherry Hill Road, Barnt Green, B45 8LN**

Parish Councillors are hereby summoned to attend.

The meeting is open to the press and members of the public who are welcome to attend all or part of the meeting but may only speak during the allocated time as listed under agenda item 21/058 below. The public may ask questions or raise concerns regarding matters on this agenda or for future consideration.

There is no expectation on the council to respond to any comments made at this time.

Meeting Agenda

21/055 Apologies

To receive apologies from absent members and record the reason for absence.

21/056 Declarations of Interest: Councillors are reminded that to ensure transparency and retain public confidence in the council's decisions they are required to -

- a) Keep their Register of Interests form up to date;
- b) Declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and any Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) in agenda items and the nature of those interests.

21/057 To consider any dispensations

Written requests for the council to grant a dispensation to a councillor (as per Localism Act 2011, s33) must be with the Executive Officer before the meeting starts.

21/058 Open Session – Participation to hear from:

- a) Members of the public
- b) Supporting organisations, e.g. Safer Neighbourhood Team, Footpath Warden
- c) Worcestershire County Councillor – Adrian Kriss (Beacon division)
- d) Bromsgrove District Councillor - Charles Hotham (Barnt Green & Hopwood)

21/059 Revisit of Previous Resolutions – Under article 7a of Barnt Green Parish Council Standing Orders, written notice has been received from 3 members of the Council to revisit Minute Reference 21/052 c) Barnt Green Sports Club Request for Permission in principle to be granted to seek investigation to turn the alcove at Bittell Road Playing Field into a hard surface court.

A second request has also been made to revisit Minute Reference 21/052 a) due to unavailability of key players for the previously approved date.

21/060 Barnt Green Sports Club - Permission request for BGPC to approve in principle the Sports Club seeking investigation to turn the alcove at Bittell Road Playing Field into a hard surface court. Please see report first circulated in September 2021, page 5.

21/061 Christmas Lights Switch On Date - As per minute reference 21/052 a) a resolution was made to host the Switch On event on 4 December. Following this resolution a request was made to Father Christmas and Blackwell Brass Band to attend on this date. Both parties were unable to attend due to other commitments, however they are available on Saturday 27 November. Members are requested to re-address its decision and move the Christmas Lights Switch on to Saturday 27 November at 5pm.

21/062 To adopt previous minutes
To approve adoption of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 20 September 2021, previously circulated but also attached.

21/063 Chairman’s Report - A verbal report may be given during this agenda item.

21/064 Executive Officer’s Report
To be advised of any decisions taken under delegated powers, receive updates to ongoing matters and list any relevant office communications since the last council meeting.

a) Station Lift update	An update was requested on 11 October 2021 and will be reported at the meeting should it be received.
b) Station Maintenance	A report has been received from the Station Manager that the issue of potholes on Station Approach has been raised with the Property Team and Network Rail and a request made through BGPC and forwarded to the Station Manager of blocked drains and cascading water has also been forwarded to the Property Team. Further updates will be forwarded once received.
c) Pollinator Site	It has been reported that a car has driven into one of the wooden rope fencing posts. The OPC investigated and repaired the bollard. For noting, BGPC has a spare post and spike should replacement be required in the future.
d) Bittell Road Playing Field - Shed	Following a resolution 21/051 d ii) at the Parish Council Meeting of 20 September, a metal shed, with shelving and hooks has been ordered from the preferred supplier. Order confirmation has been received with an estimated despatch date of 24/01/2021. A request will be made to the OPC to provide a quotation for laying slabs and installing in an approved location to be decided by BGPC. Notification has been received by Total Football to acknowledge the increase in rent to £200 from 1 January 2022 to include exclusive use of the shed. Total Football have expressed that thanks be conveyed to the council for its decision and support.
e) Healthwatch Worcestershire – Digital Access to Healthcare Survey	Previously circulated to members, a request has been received for completion of the healthcare survey. Paper copies can be received by calling 01386 550264 or by emailing info@healthwatchworcestershire.co.uk or alternatively the survey can be completed online by using the link: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HWW-Digital
f) Millennium Park – Forest Unit Rope Bridge Update	Following a report that the rope bridge was broken, the OPC stated that a new upright post and fixing was required. A request was made to Wicksteed, the playground equipment provider, to carryout a site visit to quote for the work. A reply stated that the most cost effective way for an engineer to carryout a site visit was to book an inspection at a cost of £60. A purchase order has been raised and it is advised that the lead time is currently 8-10 weeks but if an inspector is in the area

	before this it may reduce the lead time. An update and cost will be provided once received.
g) Bromsgrove District Council – Pay & Display Card Only consultation.	A press release has been received and forwarded to councillors in advance of the meeting regarding a consultation on new pay and display parking machines to be cashless terminals. The survey can be accessed using the link: www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/consultations and the closing date for submissions is 5pm on 22 October.

21/065 Finance

- a) To note the current financial position and bill for payment. See page 4 of the agenda.
- b) To be advised of any expenditure decisions taken by Executive Officer. Please refer to agenda item 21/063 f) for noting.
- c) Office Lease Renewal – An update has been requested on provision of the new lease and will be provided at the meeting if one is received.
- d) To receive Bromsgrove and Redditch Citizens Advice Bureau 2020-2021 Annual Report covering a grant award from BGPC in that same financial period.
- e) Engie Electric Charging Point Engrossment Lease – Notification from BGPC solicitor has been received to report that Engie are now in a position to sign the lease, previously ratified by BGPC at minute reference 21/035 d) on 19 July. An invoice has been forwarded for the annual agreement of £1,000.

21/066 Environment & Community Wellbeing

- a) Wassail Walk – Communication has been received from the local orchard and the footpath warden who co-host the event with BGPC. The proposed date is set for Tuesday 28 December with the Orchard Owner organising a bonfire, the wassail with dancing and music. Refreshments will also be provided consisting of apple juice and cider served either hot or cold.

21/067 Planning

- a) To consider response to consultations received including:
None to consider.

21/068 Date and Venue of Next Meetings

Next Parish Council Meeting, Monday 15 November 2021, venue to be confirmed.



Tracy Bodley
Executive Officer
13/10/2021

Council Members: R Cholmondeley (Chairman), C Hotham (vice-Chairman), J Jagger, J Nilsson, P Perry, O Polton, M Roberts and S Whitehand

Agenda Item 21/065 a) Bank Reconciliation 30 September 2021.

	Bank Reconciliation at 09/10/2021		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2021		104,006.27
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2021 - 09/10/2021		35,943.42
			139,949.69
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2021 - 09/10/2021		32,603.92
A	Cash in Hand 09/10/2021 (per Cash Book)		107,345.77
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash 30/09/2021	0.00	
	Cambridge Building Society 30/09/2021	64,187.34	
	Unity Bank Deposit Account 30/09/2021	42,329.35	
	Unity Bank Current Account 30/09/2021	716.58	
			107,233.27
	Less unrepresented payments		
			107,233.27
	Plus unrepresented receipts		112.50
B	Adjusted Bank Balance		107,345.77
	A = B Checks out OK		

Agenda Item 21/065 a) Bills for payment. - October Payments to approve

October Payments				
Voucher	Description	Net	VAT	Total
94	Printing of the Bulletin newsletter	270.00	0.00	270.00
95	Salary	1,486.90	0.00	1,486.90
96	Dog bags	137.50	27.50	165.00
97	Dog bags	137.50	27.50	165.00
98	Grass Cutting - Millennium Park	120.00	0.00	120.00
99	Grounds maintenance Verges High Street & Orchard Croft	32.00	0.00	32.00
100	Landline and Broadband	39.27	7.85	47.12
101	Grounds maintenance at playing field	266.72	53.34	320.06
102	Room Hire	50.00	10.00	60.00
103	Grant award	500.00	0.00	500.00
104	Entertainment - Community Walk	75.00	0.00	75.00
105	Annual Accounting Software	468.00	93.60	561.60
106	Outdoor Parish Caretaker	450.00	0.00	450.00
107	Pension contributions	186.67	0.00	186.67
108	Lengthsman Work	225.00	0.00	225.00
		4,444.56	219.79	4,664.35

Agenda Item 21/060 Barnt Green sports Club – Proposal to extend sports facility into Bittell Road Playing Field alcove.

Please see excerpt below of an email to the Chairman from a representative of Barnt Green Sports Club

'You suggested it might be helpful if I were to write an email to you for sharing with the committee ahead of the next public meeting so you have an opportunity to consider my request in advance. With this in mind, I have attempted to capture the salient points briefly below.

The directors of the club have for some time now been looking into long term sustainability of both the club as an ongoing entity as well as the sporting facilities that will continue to facilitate the health and welfare goals for all participants. As part of the project, we have to consider a number of factors which include the fabric of the main building structure which is long past its intended lifetime. This means significant building work will be required in the near future to replace and rebuild those parts in most urgent need. Given this reality alongside the fact our membership is at a record high at just over 800, we are considering how to potentially incorporate improvements such as additional squash, badminton and tennis courts to make sure there is adequate capacity for the members to enjoy their recreational exercise.

Tennis is the largest membership section of all the sports and these numbers mean we could justify the construction of an additional court, but if we were to do that in the space we currently have available, this would restrict our options for the future addition of squash and badminton facilities, not to mention the potential restriction (we have not yet checked with relevant authorities) about bringing floodlighting closer to the houses on Margesson Drive. With this in mind, I considered alternative ideas and it occurred to me that the parcel of land just beyond our furthest tennis court could be ideal if we were able to do some form of deal with the current owners/lessors.

It is apparent from utilising the lower tennis court on any given evening that this piece of land is often used for nefarious purposes so we felt that a change of use may benefit the community in two ways; firstly it means that this secluded space is no longer available for antisocial night-time use and secondly, we would be able to continue to offer healthy sporting facilities to the community and increase the number of people able to exercise at the same time.

Additionally, we have been thinking about how to open this up to the wider community so it does not become the sole benefit of members. You may be aware of the partnership we have at Lickey where we have backed our head coach in providing skills and fitness training at the municipal facilities. In addition to this, we have recently trialled a pay to play facility for non-members backed by the LTA which was popular and we could extend this with more facilities.

It is useful background to state that all the land and buildings of Barnt Green Sports Club are subject to covenants restricting its use which means it could never be used for any purpose outside of providing sports and physical recreation facilities. This effectively renders the land and buildings worthless in terms of their value to any outside party and we would anticipate bringing any new land within this same covenant so it would enjoy the same protections for future generations.

Clearly any transition of land will attract costs which would likely be not insignificant so my hope at this stage is purely to establish an agreement in principle that this is an idea the parish council would be open to so we could then approach the land owners subsequently to ask the same question. Only with both your agreement and that of the ultimate land owner would we then seek to incur an expenses. Furthermore, we would be open to different alternatives for the effective transfer of the land including but not limited to outright purchase, novation of the existing lease or even subletting from the parish council.'

Background information:

In 1994 BGPC entered into a 99 year peppercorn lease for land known as Bittell Road Playing field from Birmingham City Council with its use specified as 'solely for the provision of a village sports and recreation field'. It is possible that selling a portion of this land would be a material change as it would remove this portion from being a public facility. Given the ownership is with

Birmingham City Council assent would ultimately come from this body and no formal deal would be struck with BGPC meaning the Parish Council would be unlikely to benefit financially from any sale of land.

Members are asked for their views and if it wishes to approve an agreement in principle in order that the Sports Club can undertake further investigation into the proposal.