

BARNT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

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Summons and Notice of Meeting

Members are summoned to the **Ordinary Parish Council** meeting to be held on **Monday 15th July 2024 at 7.00pm at 80 Hewell Road, Barnt Green, B45 8NF**

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 24/294 a) 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

24/289 Apologies

24/290 Parish Councillor Vacancy

24/291 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.

Cllr Hotham cannot comment on any planning applications due to his role as D Cllr at BDC and the possibility that he could be on the Planning Committee.

24/292 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.

24/293 11 Sandhills Road, Mr Dwight

In heavy and intense rain, the runoff and the limited drain capacity outside 11 Sandhills Road cause water to flow down the property's drive towards the house and garage. North Worcestershire Water Management (NWWM) has stated dealing with this flow is the responsibility of the homeowner. The resident has asked Barnt Green Parish Council to support him in challenging NWWM because the increase in housing over the years and consequent infrastructure for drainage is now inadequate.

24/294 Open Session – Participation to hear from:

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

24/295 To adopt previous minutes

- a) To approve adoption of the minutes of the Ordinary parish council meeting held on 17th June 2024, previously circulated but also attached.

24/296 Meetings / Training Attended

24/297 Governance arrangements

a) **Review of council policy:**

The following policies has been circulated prior to the meeting for review:

- (i) Freedom of Information Policy
- (ii) Home Working Policy

24/298 Consultations-

Bromsgrove District Council - Consultation on Revised Statement of Principles Under the Gambling Act 2005. BDC has undertaken their review and only very minor changes are being proposed. Any comments to be submitted by Friday 16th August.

Worcestershire County Council's new Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy. This first Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) Strategy for Worcestershire, sets out how the County Council and its partners intend to support the transition to electric vehicles and help to coordinate the roll out of accessible charge points across the County. The primary focus of this strategy will be on delivering electric chargers for communities and charging solutions for those specifically without dedicated off-street parking at home through the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) Fund. Details at:

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/have-your-say-electric-vehicle-charging-infrastructure-evci-strategy>

The consultation will run from 9th July until 3rd September 2024. The final strategy is expected to be published later this year.

24/299 Chairman's Report – A verbal report may be given during this agenda item.

24/300 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 from Network Rail	The Network Rail drop-in session will be held on Monday 5 th August between 7-9pm at the Friends Meeting House, Sandhills Road. A banner is to be ordered.
b) Sale of 80 Hewell Road / Redecoration of office	<p>The agent advised they are instructing the solicitor on the sale and will advise the EO when the change of ownership occurs. .</p> <p>The agent requested the salt and traffic cones that are stored at the rear of the building be moved and stored away from the premises. Barnt Green Surgery are unable to store the items temporarily due to renovation works that are due to start on the 5th August.</p>

	The meeting room requires redecoration once the dehumidifier is removed. A decision needs to be made about the extent of the works.
c) .gov.uk email and website address	The domain has been approved and the website will soon move to the new domain barntgreenparishcouncil.gov.uk. The EO's email address will then change to exec@barntgreenparishcouncil.gov.uk followed by the Cllrs email addresses.
d) Fence in Millennium Park	The OPC has removed the section of wire fencing that had fallen down.
e) West Mercia Police Town and Parish Council Survey 2024	Cllr Cholmondeley has completed the survey about policing in the local area, raising any concerns and identifying improvements..

24/301 Finance

- (i) To note the current financial position, income and bills for payment. See page 5 of the agenda.
- (ii) To be advised of any expenditure decisions taken by Executive Officer. See Monzo expenditure list page 7 of the agenda. A top up of £45.89 is requested to top up the Monzo card to £500.
- (iii) The two councillors that authorise the online monthly payments are to be named in the minutes.
- (iv) The Account Management Submission Form has been uploaded to the Unity Trust Bank to add Cllr Williams as a fourth signatory.
- (v) The Finance Committee met on the 8th July 2024 to carry out the quarterly finance checks and compared the actual income and expenditure against the budget as part of the budget monitoring process.

24/302 Environment & Community Wellbeing

- a) Bittell Road Playing Field children's play equipment. Cllrs Pardo-Roques, Williams and Hotham formed a working party and are to meet to consider the equipment options and contractor. Cllrs to consider the group's recommendations and agree a decision.
- b) Lack of departure screens and PA on Platform 1 at Barnt Green train station.
- c) Pollinator Site update. No action has been taken by BDC yet regarding the 2 x Japanese Knotweed stems on the pollinator site. Cllrs agreed at the June meeting that the Volunteer Group could not paint the wooden part of the fence bollard posts black. The volunteers would like to appeal that decision and state that they will add reflectors to the posts so they are visible at night and that any maintenance work required to new or replacement posts will be carried out by the volunteers. The camomile plants were ordered and are awaiting delivery.
- d) The Longlands, new pedestrian crossing update.
- e) Biodiversity. Community Orchard in Bittell Road playing fields
- f) Planters on Hewell Road and tiered planters. Quotes for winter planting to be discussed.
- g) Hedge on Hewell Road and trees covering streetlamp in Green Bank and other areas. Along the railway side of Hewell Road after Station Approach to the corner of Green Bank there are various hedges/trees that are blocking the streetlamps. The work to be carried out after the bird nesting season in September. Please see attached quotes to be discussed and a decision regarding the contractor and start date to be agreed.
- h) Wicksteed Park Inspection reports. Cost of the bridge and bridge end

timber is £1385, to include install is £1685 excluding VAT. The EO has been unable to source a like for like bridge that is more cost effective.

- i) Social Eats Street Food and Music Festival Saturday 7th September 2024.
- j) Millennium Park summer bouncy castle.
- k) The hand sanitiser by Millennium Park is broken and the sanitiser in Bittell Road playing fields is unused.
- l) Leg press guard is broken on the gym equipment in Bittell Road playing field. A quote from the supplier is being sought.
- m) Children’s Christmas Bespoke Motif Lights Competition. Competition entries have been received.

24/303 Planning

- a) Bromsgrove District Plan Update – Consultation Summer 2024.
- b) Responses to consultations received including:

BDC ref	Site Address	Proposal
24/00514/FUL	1 Poplar Drive, Barnt Green, Worcestershire, B45 8NQ	Two storey and first storey front extensions, pitch roof over and single storey extension to rear of existing side flat roofed garage
BGPC Recommendation: Barnt Green Parish Council has NO OBJECTION.		
BDC Appeal ref	Site Address	Appeal
APP/P1805/W/24/3342054	Land To The Rear Of 55 - 61 Fiery Hill Road, Barnt Green, Worcestershire, B45 8JX.	Erection of single storey dwellinghouse
<p>BGPC Recommendation: Previous comments submitted 22/8/23. There have been a number of applications to develop this site – all of which have been refused. Objections have related to the location of the site within the Barnt Green Conservation Area and its accessibility. SPD High Quality Design 4.2.11 states that: ‘New residential development should embody the particular characteristics of the built and natural environment in which it is located to provide a sense of place and identity.’ This proposed development, located to the rear of 55-61 Fiery Hill Road, does nothing to ‘retain or enhance the local character of the area.’ Whilst this application is single storey, as opposed to two storey, it is still a bulky development which fills much of the available site. Access to the site is also problematic being via a passageway which is as little as 2.5-2.8 metres for some 30 metres in one section. The lack of proper access was cited in the refusal to grant the appeal to the previous planning application for this site. Worcestershire Highways recommends a minimum track width of approx. 3.32 metres to allow delivery and other larger vehicles, as well as pedestrians, to pass along it. Barnt Green Parish Council recommends that this application should be refused.</p>		

24/304 Date and Venue of Next Meetings

Next Parish Council Meeting, Monday 16th September 2024 7pm at 80 Hewell Road.

E Choudry

Council Members: R Cholmondeley (Chairman), C Hotham (Vice-Chairman), P Perry, S Whitehand, O Pardo Roques, M Roberts and L Williams

Eleanor Choudry
Executive Officer
9th July 2024

Agenda Item 24/301 (i) To approve the current financial position and bills paid.

June Income Report

7	30.06.2024	£316.39	£0.00	£316.39	£ Credit interest	Unity Bank
6	30.06.2024	£444.00	£0.00	£444.00	£ Lengthsman refund	Worcestershire County Council

June Payments Report

61	30.06.2024	£42.33	£2.12	£44.45	Office Energy	Positive Energy
60	30.06.2024	£33.33	£1.67	£35.00	Office Energy	Positive Energy
59	30.06.2024	£18.00	£0.00	£18.00	Bank Service Charge	Unity Bank

July Payments Report

78	31.07.2024	£45.89	£0.00	£45.89	Petty cash top up	Petty cash
77	31.07.2024	£612.00	£0.00	£612.00	Outdoor Parish Caretaker	Andlin Cleaning
76	31.07.2024	£175.00	£0.00	£175.00	Grass Cutting - Millennium Park	John S Bishop
75	31.07.2024	£2,389.99	£478.00	£2,867.99	New VAS on Fiery Hill Road	ElanCity
74	31.07.2024				Pension contributions	Pensions
73	31.07.2024				Employers NI	HMRC
72	31.07.2024				PAYE	HMRC
71	31.07.2024				Salaries	Salaries
70	31.07.2024	£255.00	£51.00	£306.00	Repair to gym equipment in playing fields	Fresh Air Fitness
69	31.07.2024	£228.41	£45.68	£274.09	Grounds maintenance at playing field	Neil Hosking (Hosking Ground Maintenance)
68	31.07.2024	£148.95	£29.79	£178.74	Dog bags	JRB Enterprise Ltd
67	31.07.2024	£222.00	£0.00	£222.00	Lengthsman Work	Bromsgrove District Council
66	31.07.2024	£450.00	£90.00	£540.00	Millennium Park wetpour install	PlaySmart UK
65	31.07.2024	£345.00	£0.00	£345.00	Printing of the Bulletin newsletter	Heron Press
64	31.07.2024	£23.99	£1.20	£25.19	Street Light Energy	YU Energy
63	31.07.2024	£131.01	£6.55	£137.56	Street Light Energy	YU Energy
62	31.07.2024	£500.00	£0.00	£500.00	Grant Application	Bart Green Cricket Club

Agenda Item 24/301 (i) To approve the June Bank Reconciliation 2024

Bart Green Parish Council

Prepared by: _____ Date: _____
Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)

Approved by: _____ Date: _____
Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)

	Bank Reconciliation at 30/06/2024			
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2024			143,458.55
	ADD			
	Receipts 01/04/2024 - 30/06/2024			5,505.33
				148,963.88
	SUBTRACT			
	Payments 01/04/2024 - 30/06/2024			20,931.19
A	Cash in Hand 30/06/2024 (per Cash Book)			128,032.69
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements			
	Petty Cash	30/06/2024	0.00	
	Unity Bank Current Account	30/06/2024	2,390.68	
	Unity Bank Deposit Account	30/06/2024	32,140.66	
	Cambridge Building Society	30/06/2024	93,501.35	
				128,032.69
	Less unrepresented payments			
				128,032.69
	Plus unrepresented receipts			
B	Adjusted Bank Balance			128,032.69
	A = B Checks out OK			

Agenda Item 24/300 (ii) To be advised of any expenditure decisions taken by Executive Officer

Monzo Reconciliation up to 8th July 2024					
Voucher	Date	Description	Supplier	Expenditure	Deposit
		Opening Balance			500.00
12	01.07.24	Herb plug plants for pollinator site	Amazon	20.90	
13	02.07.24	A4 copier paper x 5 reams	Amazon	24.99	
					45.89
			Balance		454.11
			Topup Request		45.89