

BARNT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

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Environment Committee Meeting

Thursday 20th September 2018 at 2pm in
the Parish Council office, 80 Hewell Road, Barnt Green, B45 8NF.

DRAFT MINUTES	
Members Present	Cllrs R Briggs (Chairman), R Cholmondeley, J Jagger
Members not present	Cllr H Rone-Clarke
In attendance	Gill Lungley, Executive Officer
E18-10	Apologies No apologies received.
E18-11	Declarations of Interest None
E18-12	The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time Not required at this point in the meeting, however a member of the public arrived during the meeting to comment on concerns regarding the amount of leaf-fall in Fiery Hill Road and the apparent reluctance of anyone to take responsibility for it.
E18-13	To approve the minutes of the meeting held 11/06/2018 Following amendment, the minutes of the meeting held 11/06/2018 were approved and signed. The amendment was to minute number E18-06(a) the word 'able' in the second paragraph to 'unable'.
E18-14	Update on previous matters a) Lengthsman scheme: this is working well with the Lengthsman having divided the parish into 4 so that each sector is attended to once a month. b) Drainage issues: Thomas Curwell, officer for North Worcestershire Water Management will attend the parish council meeting on 19 th November to report on the current situation. c) Pollinator encouragement: working with Rachel Banner, the site of open land off Green Bank Drive has been identified as the most promising to start the scheme. Arrangements had been made with a contractor to clear the grass and rotovate prior to sowing a wildflower seed selection, following which the area is to be appropriately fenced to prevent parking, and interpretation boards to be installed. d) Black Pear Tree: WCC officer would be asked advice on suitability.

- e) **Playing Field:** issues raised at the last meeting had been dealt with:
- Entrance gate has now been tidied of spare cable ties etc.
 - The hedge and weeds at the car park entrance have been cut back;
 - Weeds against the car park fence have been treated;
 - Footpath plant creep – not believed to be a problem;
 - Damaged litter bins at both north-end and south-east have been removed;
 - Nettles at north pedestrian gate have been removed;
 - Tree on path by the stream has been removed;
 - Grass under the play equipment and benches has been strimmed;
 - One new litter bin has been installed near to the south pedestrian entrance.
- f) **Millennium Park:** no issues of concern. Members asked if it would be possible to install a drinking fountain now that there is a water supply available (the tap is kept locked to prevent loss of water).
- g) **Village Centre Parking**
 Cllr Jagger had visited all the shops to ask about their parking provision; it would appear that most are well catered for and do not use on-road parking. There is therefore no demand for workers' parking spaces at the Social Club. Also, the survey would imply that the people who use on-road parking are customers, residents, visitors and/or commuters.
 The Council would ask if the station car park could be laid out differently to accommodate more cars and if land to the side of the railway could be used.
- h) **Commuters' car park**
 No further progress to report.
- i) **Bus shelter**
 The Outdoor Parish Caretaker (OPC) had refreshed the internal structures over the summer.
- j) **Planters and hanging baskets**
 The summer planting had done well this year with the extra watering provided by the OPC and support from admin staff, whereas the hanging baskets had suffered from the high temperatures in June/July. Members would like to see more trailing plants in the tiered planters.
 It was agreed to order the winter bedding plants via Where Next Association.
- k) **Canopy over shops 28-30 Hewell Road**
 The restaurant had been flooded earlier in the year and was undergoing complete refurbishment, following which the landlord was intending to carry out external repairs and decoration.
- l) **Review of footpath lighting**
 Members would prefer the option of replacing all lights (from sodium to LED) in one go and to do this after Christmas.
- m) **Stile to footpath no. 500**
 The footpaths officer at Worcestershire County Council would be contacted for support to enable better access at the top of the hill both sides of M42 footbridge.
- n) **Sandhills Lane resurfacing**
 Work is to start on resurfacing Sandhills Lane and Bittell Lane on 28/09/2018.
- o) **Village Entrance improvements**
 Residents have asked for environmental improvements to the approaches to the village entrances; parish councillors are keen to see how the pilot site for wildflower planting at Green Bank proceeds before identifying further sites.

