

# BARNT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Barnt Green Cricket Club, B45 8LN on Monday 18 October 2021 at 7.00pm

**Members present:** Cllrs R Cholmondeley, C Hotham, J Jagger, P Perry, M Roberts and S Whitehand

**In attendance:** Worcs County Cllr A Kriss from 19:43hrs  
Executive Officer, Tracy Bodley

### 21/055 Apologies

Cllrs J Nilsson, O Polton

**21/056 Declarations of Interest:** Councillors were 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.

None received.

### 21/057 To consider any dispensations

No dispensation requests were received.

### 21/058 Open Session Participation to hear from:

- a) **Members of the Public** – None present.
- b) **Supporting organisations**, Alvechurch & Wythall SNT, West Mercia Police.  
Not present.
- c) **Worcestershire County Councillor** – Adrian Kriss (Beacon division)  
Cllr Kriss reported that it had been a busy month for libraries ensuring promotion of the digital support project. The scheme enables support for access and training of technology for the community and business sector, harnessing ideas surrounding intellectual property and the value it brings with grant funding available upon application. The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee has met in regard to closure of Community Ambulance Stations and following investigations has concluded that operating through main hubs enables each ambulance to be fully equipped and staffed at shift change meaning more hours and staff are available to answer calls. It is reported that there has been an increase of abusive behaviour toward GPs with frustrations over access to remote and physical appointments. No abuse is acceptable, and complaints should be directed to Healthwatch and not voiced directly at surgeries or personnel.  
It was reported that a request had been made for lighting provision under the bridge at Sandhills Green, although lighting in the area is the responsibility of BGPC it was asked if LED lighting could be installed and spurred off from a neighbouring streetlamp. Cllr Kriss asked for requests for dropped kerbs to be forwarded to him – it was remarked that a dropped kerb was required on Blackwell Road by the post box.

Cllr Kriss left the meeting at 20:05hrs

### d) **Bromsgrove District Councillor** - Charles Hotham (Barnt Green & Hopwood)

Cllr Hotham reported on the following:

- i) District Plan Review – is still ongoing however it appears that there may be a change of attitude from BDC on 'duty to co-operate' with housing numbers preferring to be met by brown field sites. The revision of numbers remains

uncertain, but it is possible that these are reduced to meet Bromsgrove district housing need only.

- ii) Welcome back funding – A sum of £2,000 will be distributed to first tier councils but there are stipulations on what it can be spent on with spend needing to take place before 31 March 2022.
- iii) BDC Accounts have still not been fully reconciled due to a new accounting system, lack of personnel and Covid implications.
- iv) BDC are soon to recruit more HGV drivers to solve problems with brown waste collection. It is hoped that this would be on the basis of permanent employment.

**21/059 Revisit of Previous Resolutions** – Under article 7a of Barnt Green Parish Council Standing Orders, with written notice received from 3 members of the Council, minute reference 21/052 c) and 21/052 a) were requested to be revisited.

RESOLVED: That minute reference 21/052 c) and 21/052 a) be revisited for further discussion.

**21/060 Barnt Green Sports Club** - Permission had been requested at the September Parish Council Meeting 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. A report was re-circulated in advance of the meeting and further discussion took place. Arguments were made for and against the request and debate took place, with all in agreement, that the suggestion of nefarious activity in the alcove was not a material consideration.

Although views differed on the land and use, it was stated that it was important to remember the context of how 'Parker's Piece' came into the responsibility of BGPC.

It was remarked that there was sufficient space within the footprint of the site of the sports club to accommodate an additional court without extending into the alcove and given a similar request to use the area to plant trees was rejected on the grounds that it was too important an amenity to lose, it was questioned why only months later that this request was more acceptable. It was further remarked that the memorial bench seating recently installed in 2020 by a parishioner would have to be moved.

Clubs members were also asked for their opinion by a council member and those asked were not in favour of the request given that the club has space for 3 courts, 2 of which being grass courts fell into disuse following lack of maintenance.

Booking sheets identified that on one sunny Sunday morning only 1 court was booked, and it was noted that all club memberships only a certain number were active members.

It was also stated that there are currently approximately 3,500 residents in Barnt Green, of which 1,000 are over 65 years of age, all of which can if they wished use the alcove, but how many would use the sports club.

RESOLVED: That permission to investigate turning the alcove into a hard surface court be denied.

**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 it was established that key players could not attend the event and it was requested that the date be changed to accommodate availability. It was confirmed that both are able to attend if the date were moved to Saturday 27 November.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the Christmas Lights Switch On date be changed to Saturday 27 November at 5pm.
- ii) That a working group meet in January 2022 to review arrangements for 2022.
- iii) That the group consist of Cllrs Cholmondeley, Hotham and Jagger.

**21/062 To adopt previous minutes**

a) To approve adoption of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 20/09/2021.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting be approved as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

## 21/063 Chairman's Report

The Chairman stated that he had received an email from a resident who had strong objections to the license application for a Tap Bar at 18-20 Hewell Road and reported that he had responded asking them to redirected their concerns to Worcester Regulatory Services who are the licensing authority covering Barnt Green.

## 21/064 Executive Officer's Report

The council was advised of decisions taken under delegated powers, updated on ongoing matters and relevant office communications were reported upon.

a) Station Lift Update	<p>An update received on 15 October, reporting that design work continues, and intrusive survey works (including overnight borehole drilling, the aftermath of which is visible by Platform 1 lift position) have commenced and due to finish on 23 October. A series of design review meetings have been convened with the design contractor and project and engineering team. A meeting was also convened with West Midlands Trains to accelerate the LED 'Thorlux' lighting installation date at the station. As designs progress, cost estimates for the build will be produced which will form a business case submission to DfT early in the New Year which will inform the application for funds to deliver the project in 2022/2023.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
b) Station Maintenance	<p>A report that potholes and blocked drains on Station Approach has been forwarded for action to the Property Team and remarked that repair work is taking place.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
c) Pollinator Site	<p>A report that a car has driven into one of the wooden rope fencing posts has resulted in repair by the OPC. It was noted that a spare post and spike is stored in the shed in Millennium Park.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
d) Bittell Road Playing Field - Shed	<p>An update reported on the purchase of a metal shed for use by Total Football, with an estimated despatch date of 24/01/2022. A request has been made to the OPC to provide a quotation for laying slabs and installing in an approved location to be decided by BGPC.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
e) Healthwatch Worcestershire – Digital Access to Healthcare Survey	<p>A survey previously circulated to members, was requested to be completed and links and addresses were provided.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
f) Millennium Park – Forest Unit Rope Bridge Update	<p>Following a report that the rope bridge was broken, a purchase order has been raised to Wicksteed to carry out a visual inspection to identify work and materials required and it is advised that the lead time is currently 8-10 weeks. An update and cost will be provided once received.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>

g) Bromsgrove District Council – Pay & Display Card Only consultation.	<p>It was reported that BDC is conducting a consultation on new cashless new pay and display parking terminals. The closing date for submissions is 5pm on 22 October.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;">RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</div>
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**21/065 Finance**

- a) To note the current financial position and bills for payment

RESOLVED:

- i) That the current financial position be approved.
- ii) That the list of October payments be approved.

- b) To be advised of any expenditure decisions taken by Executive Officer. Minute reference 21/064 f)

RESOLVED: That the expenditure as detailed in minute reference 21/064 f) be noted.

- c) Office Lease Renewal – There were no further updates given.  
d) Bromsgrove and Redditch Citizens Advice Bureau 2020-2021 Annual Report.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted

- e) Engie Electric Vehicle Charging Point – It was reported that Engie are now in a position to sign the lease and an invoice has been sent for the annual rent.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

**21/066 Environment & Community Wellbeing**

- a) Wassail Walk – It was stated that the date for the walk is 28 December and the Orchard Owner is organising a bonfire, refreshments and music.

RESOLVED: That a meeting be organised scheduled for November with key players.

**21/067 Planning Applications**

- a) Members’ response to the following consultations:  
None received.

**21/068 Date and Venue of Next Meeting**

Next Parish Council meeting will be Monday 15 November 2021, 7pm, Barnt Green Cricket Club.

A request was received to place Food Festival 2022 on the next agenda.

The meeting ended at 20:35hrs

*Charlie Hotham*

Signed: Charlie Hotham (Nov 17, 2021 09:18 GMT) ..... Date: **Nov 17, 2021**  
Vice Chairman, Barnt Green Parish Council ..... 15/11/2021

Minute Reference 21/065 a) To note the current financial position and bills for payment.  
Bank Reconciliation 30 September 2021

	<b>Bank Reconciliation at 09/10/2021</b>		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2021		104,006.27
	<b>ADD</b> Receipts 01/04/2021 - 09/10/2021		35,943.42
			139,949.69
	<b>SUBTRACT</b> Payments 01/04/2021 - 09/10/2021		32,603.92
<b>A</b>	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>B</b>	<b>Adjusted Bank Balance</b>		107,345.77
	<b>A = B Checks out OK</b>		

Minute Reference 21/065 a) To note the current financial position and bills for payment.

### October payments to approve

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
109	Cutting Verges - Hewell Road	64.00	0.00	64.00
110	Grass Cutting - Millennium Park	120.00	0.00	120.00
111	Cut hedges and strim path	65.00	0.00	65.00
112	Continuous footpath lighting energy	12.94	0.65	13.59
113	Dusk to dawn footpath lighting energy	225.61	45.12	270.73
		4,932.11	265.56	5,197.67






# Barnt Green Parish Council Minutes 18 October 2021

Final Audit Report

2021-11-17

Created:	2021-11-16
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