

PARISH OF BARLOW
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD ON 3 MAY 2021

Present:

Councillors J Rushby, J Siddall, I Herrmann, Hall, Brougham and T Booker

Also in attendance were Clerk Emma Smith

ANN1 Appointment of Clerk to the Meeting

Emma Smith, Parish Clerk for Barlow Parish Council was appointed as Clerk to the meeting.

ANN2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Crowley, Cllr Turner, Cllr Huckerby and Cllr Foster

ANN3 Minutes of the last Annual Parish meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 1 May 2019 be moved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

ANN4 Chairman's report

The Chairman presented their Annual Report for 2019/20 and 2020/21 to the members.

This is given at appendix A. The Chair's report was noted.

ANN5 Income and Expenditure 2019/20 and 2020/21

The Parish Clerk presented a report on the Income and Expenditure for 2019/2020 and 2020/21 This is given at appendix B the reports were noted.

ANN6 Matters raised by Parishioners

There were no Parishioners present and no matters had been raised.

ANN7 Matters raised by the Parish Council

No matters were raised.

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Chair 2 May 2022

For consideration at the Annual Meeting 2 May 2022

Appendix A

Barlow Annual Report 2019/20 and 2020/21

Introduction

Purpose of the Annual Report

The Annual Report is a way of communicating with the Parish on what the council is doing to meet the needs of the community.

By the Chair Cllr John Rushby

Lockdown last year prevented our holding an Annual Parish Meeting and so suspended a year end report resulting in this 2 year report. Councillors were automatically reelected for a further year and the Chair and Vice Chair remained in office.

I reported in 2018/2019 that our Parish Clerk, Emma Smith was sadly resigning her post to take up a Town Clerk's position elsewhere in Derbyshire and we recruited Helen Carrington as our replacement Parish Clerk. Helen's personal circumstances changed and so after 10 months left our employment, however we were delighted that Emma Smith who had remained as our Responsible Financial Officer agreed to resume the roll as Parish Clerk in addition to her other position.

I am very grateful for the valuable contribution that Emma has made to our Parish Council.

We nominated Emma for the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils, "Clerk of the year award" and we are delighted that she received the "Highly Commended Award" in October 2020. Well done Emma, richly deserved.

I thank all our Councillors for their dedication and enthusiasm and particularly thank Janet Siddall for her excellent support as Vice Chair.

Thanks also go to Cllr. Carol Huckerby for all her planning advice and her hard work as Chair of NEDDC last year.

Many thanks also go to Brian Wood our internal auditor.

Quite a number of changes have been made in the last 2 years.

The Speedwatch team is now operational, growing in volunteers, and in action regularly in the village increasing safety.

A new security entrance barrier has been erected at the village hall car park and smart new notice boards placed by the village hall gate and car park, also a Parish Council main notice board in the Parish Church area.

We have reviewed and acted on any amendments needed to outdated Bye Laws and examined deeds and all documentation including policies and standing orders.

Your Parish Council has put much debate into deciding progress on refurbishment of the village hall and this has been a significant priority for us.

We have tried hard to make a tired building fit for a variety of purposes, School, Pre- school, Carnival, Young Farmers, Keep Fit, Council Meetings and ready for bookings coming along, children's and adult parties, teas, dinners, retirement celebrations, memorial events, carnival events, weddings and business meetings. A lot of effort has gone into development and we have faced up to the cost as we believed the project so worthwhile.

We have moved all the hall storerooms around, reviewed and altered plug points, plumbing, added light fittings with LED mood lighting for hall events, knocked down walls, moved doors and built walls and opened up the hall more with French Doors out to the recreation ground enabling a marquee tunnel to be run directly to the doors for weddings and special events.

The hall, kitchen, toilets, corridors and committee room have all been redecorated to match remodeled and cleaned curtains.

Our new specially designed commercial kitchen has been completed enabling any Chef to feel at home, we have even provided new pots, pans, cutlery, cups saucers and plates for any catering event.

All we need now are more bookings for the hall to help contribute to the investment cost made for the future of the residents of Barlow and visitors alike.

Please consider our hall for your event as restrictions are lifted.

Parking is a problem in the village and has been for years however, we have had a parking line system completed at the Parish Church end of the village and in addition white mobility lines placed by the Lych gate crossing.

We have planted spring bulbs last year with the help of our school's Emerald Class, braving cold wet weather to plant 100 kilos of mixed bulbs opposite school and this year because of lock down the Councillors planted a further 100 kilos on the green opposite the Methodist Church and we hope to continue this each year to help brighten the village.

We are taking delivery of 30 trees this April, silver birch, rowan and wild cherry from the Woodland Trust which are being planted to help mitigate climate change.

We have also installed a new recycling bin to separate hall waste to demonstrate the need for green awareness.

Two new dedicated benches have been placed on the village green remembering 1914/18 & 1939/45 armed forces losses during those World Wars and we thank all the donors who generously made it possible for us to remember the sacrifice made for our safety.

Planning for the future, 2 new weatherproof picnic benches have been installed on the recreation ground and overgrown border hedge growth has been cut back.

It has been a particularly busy last 12 months with planning time spent and many project meetings and Council meetings held by zoom format owing to the lock down. We should have held a special open day in April 2020 for everyone to view the hall refurbishment but so many events were cancelled.

We have spent much time and expense on risk assessments and covid safety preparations for the hall & play area & have had to make the hall especially safe for the pre school key worker children attending.

Following the unprecedented problems caused by the pandemic, we are it appears with the vaccination programme progress, able to look forward later in the year to, "business as normal or near

normal” and it will be great to have some hall bookings back in place and our regular hall users back using our improved hall.

We have utilized our available lockdown time and made our village hall covid secure and are now planning a new open day later in the year when we can, not only show our refurbished hall, but at the same time consult with all the villagers on any further development plans that we are involved with and ask for your opinions and comments on them.

We do like to consult and most villagers know we listen and value your views.

Barlow is a special place and we on the Parish Council are determined along with your help to continue progress.

John Rushby

Appendix B

Income and Expenditure 2019/20 and 2020/21

2019/20

Expenditure

£

Training and Administration	3,579.19
Salaries	6,725.37
Hall Costs	48,157.53
Footpaths and Bridleways	3,275.01
Recreation Ground and Playground	850.98
Dog Bins	742.56
Loan	3,249.24
Section 137	1,370.00

Total Expenditure 2019/20 **67,949.88**

Income

Precept	29,127.17
Donations and Grant	635.78
Loan	25,000.00
Hall – Regular Hirers	4,275.75
Hall – Adhoc Hirers	2,677.00
Car Boot	28.00
Misc	911.40
Bank Interest	20.15

Total Income 2019/20 **62,675.25**

2020/21**Expenditure****£**

Training and Administration	4,327.90
Salaries	7,766.19
Hall Costs	7,556.46
Footpaths and Bridleways	4,091.70
Recreation Ground and Playground	2,324.52
Dog Bins	1,837.62
Loan	6,448.48
Section 137	617.00

Total Expenditure 2020/21 **34,969.87****Income**

Precept	30,050.00
Donations and Grant	21,176.83
Loan	0.00
Hall – Regular Hirers	4,106.68
Hall – Adhoc Hirers	0.00
Car Boot	0.00
Misc	3.45
Bank Interest	5.02

Total Income 2019/20 **55,341.98**