

BARLING MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held Thursday 13th July 2023, in the Barling Magna Parish Hall, Barling Magna, Essex.

Present: Councillors Bright, Efde, McKillop (Vice Chair), McPherson, Glover and Steptoe (Chair)

Attending: County and District Councillor Steptoe,
District Councillors Efde and McPherson
Interim Clerk Sally Faulkner
Administrator Steph Rochester
Member of the public Ken Peirce

MINUTES

- 34/23 The Chairman to declare the meeting open.**
The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.03 pm.
- 35/23 To receive apologies for absence.**
Apologies were received from Councillors Ashdown, Myers and Edmonds. District Councillors Gooding, Williams and Myers.
- 36/23 To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct and with section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.**
36/23.1 All Cllrs declared an interest as all trustees of Barling Magna Parish Hall.
36/23.2 Cllr Steptoe declared an interest in any matters relating to the County or District Councils. In any planning matter, he reserved the right to change his mind when the matter was considered by the County and District Councils. He also declared an interest in St Mary's Church CIC, to which he has been appointed chairman.
36/23.3 Cllrs Efde and McPherson declared an interest in any matters relating to District Council. In any planning matter, they reserve the right to change their mind when the matter is considered by the District Council.
- 37/23 To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 8th June 2023**
37/23.1 It was proposed by Cllr McPherson, seconded by Cllr Glover, and agreed unanimously, that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2023 be approved.

38/23 The meeting will stand adjourned to permit Parishioners of Barling Magna to address the Council.

38/23.1 Member of the public queried an enforcement issue in Little Wakering Road. Which District Cllrs are looking into.

39/23 Financial matters

39/23.1 Clerk confirmed audit with internal auditor. Will be confirmed at next meeting.

39/23.2 The payment requests for July 2023 were received and proposed by Cllr Mckillop and seconded by Cllr Glover, agreed by all for chair to sign, subject to the payment to Does not being included.

	Payee	Description	£
Direct Debit	E.on	Parish Hall electricity (July 23)	45.81
Direct Debit	E.on	Parish Hall gas (July 23)	42.08
Direct Debit	British Telecom	Combined broadband and mobile (June 23)	46.74
BACS	Councillors	Allowances	244.40
BACS	ROSPA	Annual Inspection	90.00
BACS	Staff	July Salaries	1,958.16
BACS	PWLB	Loan	1,274.55
BACS	Essex County Gardens	Grounds Maintenance March	308.68
BACS	W&H Romac	Street Light repairs	623.62
BACS	P Shaw	WLR - expenses	116.97
BACS	RHALC	2022 and 2023 subscriptions	22.00
BACS	Scribe	End of year	46.80
		Total payments	4819.81

39/23.3 It was agreed to reimburse Mrs Cohen up to £50 for the planting.

39/23.4 Clerk advised unable to produce anything from scribe at present due to audit. Will have reconciliations at the next meeting.

40/23 Clerks Report

40/23.1 Cllr Steptoe advised draft lease for parry has been received and will be circulated to all Cllrs by clerk and admin for them to view. Proposed changes to be shared with Cllrs, it was agreed to set up a working party to include Cllrs Steptoe, Mckillop, McPherson, Bright and an invite to be sent to Mandy Cohen.

40/23.2 Admin advised Cllrs of updated quotes for PlaySpace equipment. It was agreed that clerk and admin would investigate funding for the purchase of the equipment. Clerk and admin were also asked to contact Sanctuary about an existing funding query.

40/23.3 Admin showed Cllrs quotes received to change the grass area to the left of the building to either grass crete or bodpave. Cllrs advised clerk and admin to investigate possible funding for this.

40/23.4 Admin advised she is awaiting information about hand dryers, and this will be a top priority and raised at next meeting.

Admin advised Cllrs that the new bus shelter outside Barling lodge will be diarised to later in the year.

Admin advised Cllrs that the notice board on bus shelter outside the parish hall will be moved to MuckingHall Road. Action is with District Cllrs Steptoe and Efde.

Admin advised Cllrs that the Barling sign will also be diarised to later in the year.

Clerk and admin advised website is still an ongoing matter and will be updated as soon as possible.

Admin advised that she is awaiting information regarding damp at hall and will have answers by next meeting.

40/23.5 Admin stated that Cllr Edmonds has emailed regarding update of honours and citizen of the year board. Quote received and will be actioned at next meeting.

40/23.6 Clerk advised that Steven Pavellin had emailed regarding salt bins. Those near Stonebridge, and the church needed filling. Cllrs agreed for clerk and admin to action this.

40/23.7 Clerk advised that Steven Pavellin had also emailed regarding a bus stop post and sign opposite the parish hall that had fallen, and preventative measures had been taken to prevent injury. Clerk asked Cllrs who the post belonged to. This will be investigated, and clerk and admin will advise accordingly.

41/23 Committee Reports

41/23.1 Barling Wildlife Reserve Minutes of last meeting were agreed, and clerk advised that all actions would be quoted and given to council at next meeting. Cllrs agreed that volunteers would set a date for a BBQ to which the council will donate £50 towards food. Proposed by Cllr Mcpherson and seconded by Cllr Efde.

41/23.2 Council received minutes of the Finance Committee meeting 29th June 2023.

42/23 Parish Hall

42/23.1 Cllrs asked for clerk and admin to send a letter of thanks to Mandy Cohen for planting flowers in the boat outside.

42/23.2 Clerk advised that hall hire agreement has been looked over and relevant updates will be made. Clerk asked to invite Gilly Gates to August meeting to add her input. Council agreed.

42/23.3 Clerk stated we had a donation of a 60-piece crockery set and Gilly Gates had sent an email stating how happy she was about this. It was agreed that a letter of thanks will be sent to the donator from the council.

43/23 Projects

43/23.1 Admin asked when the council would like us to advertise for the following projects, Scarecrow competition, photo competition and Halloween quiz. Admin also asked for dates to update the posters and if council would like new posters made. Council agreed dates and suggested keeping posters the same.

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44/23 Planning Matters – to consider and take any action

44/23.1 No planning matters received.

44/23.1 Cllr Steptoe advised Barling lodge is currently being investigated by District Planning and will update as and when.

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45/23 Reports of Meetings of outside bodies

45/23.1 No meetings taken place,
45/23.2 Rochford Hundred Association of Local Councils are meeting on 20th July 2023. Cllr McPherson agreed to go on council's behalf.

46/23 Street Lighting

46/23.1 Cllrs were asked to email Clerk/Admin the locations of outages.
46/23.2 Cllr Steptoe handed out maps and asked Cllrs to amend map with door numbers as per locations of lights.

47/23 Reports from District and County Councillors

47/23.1 Reports from District Cllrs were received including, Cllr McPherson advised she was chair of overview and scrutiny committee and will be working closely with the community.
47/23.2 Report from County Cllr was received including, Cllrs will be liaising with sat nav companies regarding trucks using a separate system to cars to stop them using inappropriate roads.
Essex opposed to new London extension so no signs being placed in Essex.
Essex is lobbying the railway companies regarding the closure of ticket offices.
Encouraging people to complete the survey on electric car charging points.
New pothole program announced.
Essex has conducted a bus user survey and encourage people to complete.

48/23 At the Chairs discretion, to exchange information and items for future meetings.

48/23.1 Council Meeting to sign paperwork for audit was set up for 28th July at 7pm
48/23.2 Next ordinary Council Meeting is on 10th August 2023 at 7pm
48/23.3 Items for next meeting to include update on St Marys Church
48/23.4 Cllrs have agreed to clear out Cupboard in parish hall on 31st July 2023 at 5pm????
48/23.5 Cllr Steptoe asked office to investigate new chain for chairman's chain of office.

Exclusion of the Press and the Public.

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it was resolved that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and the public be excluded, and they were instructed to withdraw.

49/23 Personell Committee

- 49/23.1 Minutes received from the Personnel meeting held on 29th June 2023.
- 49/23.2 Council agreed to recommendations made at personnel meeting proposed by Cllr McPherson seconded by Cllr Mckillop with a unanimous vote.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.46.

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