

BARLING MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held Thursday 12th October 2023, in the Barling Magna Parish Hall, Barling Magna, Essex.

Present: Councillors Myers, Edmonds, McKillop, Glover, Ashdown, Bright and District and County Cllr Steptoe (Chair)

Attending: Clerk Sally Faulkner
Admin Assistant Steph Rochester

MINUTES

- 95/23 The Chairman to declare the meeting open**
The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.03 pm.
- 96/23 To receive apologies for absence**
Apologies were received from Cllr Efde, Cllr McPherson, Dc Cllr Williams, Dc Cllr Myers and Dc Cllr Gooding
- 97/23 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**
97/23.1 All Councillors declared an interest as all trustees of Barling Magna Parish Hall.
97/23.2 Councillors Ashdown, McKillop, Myers, Glover, and Steptoe declared a financial interest as parishioners.
97/23.3 Councillor Steptoe declared an interest in any matters relating to the County or District Councils. In any planning matter, he reserves the right to change his mind when the matter is considered by the District and County Council.
- 98/23 To approve the minutes of the previous meetings**
98/23.1 Meeting held 14th September 2023 proposed by Cllr McKillop seconded by Cllr Myers.
98/23.2 Meeting held on 28th October 2023 proposed by Cllr Ashdown seconded by Cllr McKillop.
- 99/23 The meeting will stand adjourned to permit parishioners of Barling Magna to address the Council**
99/23.1 No parishioners were present at the meeting.

100/23: Financial Matters – to consider and approve

100/23.1 Clerk presented payment requests for October 2023 proposed by Cllr Edmonds and seconded by Cllr Ashdown.

100/23.2 Clerk advised that the figures for 2022/2023 are in progress and she will be able to present them by next month's meeting.

100/23.3 Clerk advised reconciliations are also in progress and will be presented by next month's meeting.

100/23.4 Clerk advised AGAR audit has been completed.

100/23.5 Admin presented a draft copy of the reserve policy. She advised the Council figures will be approved in the budgeting meeting and she will update and present. Proposed by Cllr Edmonds and seconded by Cllr Bright.

101/23 Clerks Report

101/23.1 Admin presented new quotes for vice chair chain of office. Cllrs chose one for admin to order. Cost agreed at £125 Proposed by Cllr Steptoe and seconded by Cllr Glover.

101/23.2 Admin presented report on bleed kits. Cllrs advised they wished to receive more information.

101/23.3 Admin presented quotes for a battery recycling bin for the hall. Cllrs wish admin to investigate companies who provide and collect for free.

101/23.4 Clerk advised she has been in contact with Richard Edmonds and is awaiting quote of honour boards. Update will be available by next meeting.

101/23.5 Clerk advised Southend Scouts and cubs groups had sent a letter offering two tickets for the palace theatre. Cllr Edmonds and wife Lynda will be going on behalf of Barling Council.

101/23.6 Clerk advised Rochford District Council has asked for the Council to advertise their budget survey Council agreed.

102/23 Correspondence

102/23.1 Biodiversity Guide received.

102/23.2 Clerk advised that new Cllr training was available gave Council information if they wish to book.

102/23.3 Clerk advised the Great Wakering Community Winter Newsletter article has been written including dates of all meetings, mentions of Cameo and where the defibrillators are placed in the parish.

103/23 Committee Reports

103/23.1 Finance Committee – No meeting held

103/23.2 Wildlife Reserve Committee – No meeting held

104/23 Parish Hall

104/23.1 Clerk presented a draft of the hall rental agreement. Admin sent to hall manager Gilly Gates. Hall manager happy and all Cllrs agreed to start using the agreement.

104/23.2 Admin advised she has spoken to Glendinning Electrics and is awaiting public liability information and will arrange a date when received.

104/23.3 Admin asked to buy new first aid boxes must be wall mounted. Council wishes to have a notice placed in the hall for locations of boxes and an accident book.

104/23.4 Council asked for admin to contact the hall manager to source bins for the toilets. Preferably a pedal bin.

104/23.5 Cllr Glover advised that a new boat for the plants outside of hall has been offered for free. Cllr Glover and Mandy Cohen will handle the boat.

104/23.6 Council asked for an official letter to be written to Mrs Cohen for the volunteer work she provides to the Council.

105/23 St Mary's Church

105/23.1 Cllr Steptoe advised bat survey and main survey has been carried out he is just awaiting a copy of the report. Clerk asked if CIC report can be sent to the local residence once received.

106/23 Projects

106/23.1 Scarecrow Competition – Council asked for competition to be announced before the school holidays next year. Council also asked for winners prize to be bought and to invite the winner of this year's competition to the next council meeting.

106/23.2 October Quiz – Council advised the hall manager and Mrs Cohen have quiz in hand.

106/23.3 Photographic Competition – Council advised closing date is December. Admin and Clerk to advertise more on social media.

106/23.4 Spring Quiz Night – Council advised they wish not to have one.

106/23.5 Citizen of the year – Admin advised that Cllr McPherson asked to nominate a parishioner. Clerk advised forms are in one drive and to send out. Council asked for social medias to show citizen of the year Competition.

107/23 Planning Matters – 23/00302/FUL

107/23.1 Appeal notice received, no additional comments as BMPC objected when application submitted.

107/23.2 District Cllr Steptoe advised Barling tip has applied for an extension to continue as a waste facility.

108/23 Reports of meetings of outside bodies

108/23.1 Rochford Hundred Association of Local Councils meeting is next week Cllr McPherson to go to represent Barling Parish.

108/23.2 Cllr Steptoe advised of meetings being held in Rochford airport hotel in regards to noise pollution. Cllrs Edmonds, Bright and Ashdown wish to go.

109/23 Street Lighting

109/23.1 Cllr Steptoe advised admin of two lights out. Admin asked to email details.

110/23 To receive a report from the District and County Councillors for the area on any matters of interest

110/23.1 County Cllr Steptoe advised Council of the following matters:

- . De-evolution consisting of 3 levels suggested by government.
- . Better control on public transport
- . Improvement of local skills and skills provision
- . Environment
- . Health scrutiny committee
- . Tree Project offered ten trees.

111/23 At the chair's discretion, to exchange information and items for future Meetings

111/23.1 Full council meeting to be held on Thursday 9th November 2023 at 7pm

111/23.2 Finance meeting to be held on Thursday 23rd November 2023 at 7pm

111/23.3 Revisit location of defibrillator at other end of Parish

Exclusion of the press and public

112/23 Outstanding Items

112/23.1 Council agreed Chair and Vice Chair to meet with Clerk to prioritise.

113/23 Personnel Committee

113/23.1 Clerk and admin asked to leave whilst Council discuss staffing matters. Council agreed to up admins hours to 24 per week whilst slowly reducing clerks' hours down to 5 per week.

113/23.2 Admin advised training is going well. Three courses have been completed two of which are core courses.

113/23.3 to be considered as part of the budget meeting.

Meeting closed at 8:55pm