**BARLING MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** held Thursday 12th June 2025, in the Barling Magna Parish Hall, Barling Magna, Essex.

Present: Councillors McKillop, Ashdown, Bright, McPherson, Glover and Cllr

 Steptoe (Chair).

Attending: Clerk Steph Raine

 RFO Sally Faulkner

 District and County Cllr Steptoe

 District Councillor McPherson

 District Councillor Williams

**MINUTES**

**30/25 The Chair to declare the meeting open**

30/25.1 Chair opened meeting at 7:01pm.

 30/25.2 Cllr Steptoe acknowledged and congratulated Cllr McPherson as

 the new Chairperson at RDC.

**31/25 To receive apologies for absence**

 31/25.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Edmunds, Myers and District

 Cllrs Efde, Marriott and Myers

**32/25**  **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**

 32/25.1 All Councillors declared an interest as all trustees of Barling

 Magna Parish Hall.

 32/25.2 Councillors McKillop, Glover, Ashdown, Bright, McPherson and

 Steptoe declared a financial interest as parishioners.

 32/25.3 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.

 32/25.4 Councillor McPherson declared an interest in any matters

 relating to the District Council. In any planning matter she reserves the

 right to change her mind when the matter is considered by the District

 Council.

 32/25.5 Cllr Bright declared an interest in the Payment request minute

 Number 35/25.1 due to receiving a payment.

 32/25.6 Cllr McPherson declared an interest in men’s and teenage mental

 health charity night. Minute number 37/25.1

**33/25 To approve the minutes of the previous meetings**

 33/25.1 Minutes of Meeting held 8th May 2025 proposed by Cllr McKillop

 and seconded by Cllr Ashdown. All Cllrs in agreement as a true record of the

 meeting.

**34/25 The meeting will stand adjourned to permit parishioners of Barling**

 **Magna to address the Council**

 34/25.1 None present.

**35/25 Financial Matters – to consider and approve.**

 35/25.1 RFO presented payment requests to Cllrs. Proposed by Cllr

 Ashdown, seconded by Cllr McKillop.

 35/25.2 RFO presented the reconciliations to Council.

 35/25.3 RFO advised that the council’s usual auditor was away with an

 illness. RFO asked for an extension and was granted 30 days. Rfo

 presented quotes for another auditor. Council agreed to go for lowest quote

 RFO presented at £200. Proposed by Cllr Glover and seconded by Cllr

 Ashdown.

 35/25.4 RFO presented report for new payment process. All happy with

 changes.

 35/25.5 Cllr McKillop asked about new payment procedure and if amounts

 can be changed. RFO assured her they can be.

**36/25 Clerks Report**

36/25.1 Clerk advised that she is awaiting a quote for clearing bins at the

 play space.

 36/25.2 Clerk presented bin quotes. Cllrs chose fido dog waste bin and

 Coniston waste bin. Clerk to order 1 dog waste bin and 2 waste bins.

 36/25.3 Clerk advised of Mrs Knights families request for a plaque to be

 placed in the wildlife reserve. Cllrs happy to accept. Cllr McPherson

 proposed that the Council pay for this. Seconded by Cllr McKillop. Clerk to

 speak to family regarding this.

 36/25.4 Clerk advised of additions to the website regarding the finance

 and wildlife page. Clerk to add these to the website.

 36/25.5 Cllr Steptoe advised of sign at the hall being dirty on the north

 facing side. Clerk to investigate getting this cleaned. Clerk to get post re

 varnished also.

**37/25 Correspondence**

 37/25.1 Clerk advised of email received from District chairperson

 McPherson regarding using the hall for a charity event. Cllrs all in

 agreement. Clerk to email hall manager to advise.

**38/25 Committee Reports**

38/25.1 Finance Committee – no meeting held

 38/25.2 Cllr Bright gave a report for the wildlife meeting that was held.

 38/25.3 Cllr Glover asked about placing a fairy garden in the wildlife

 reserve. Clerk to speak to volunteers.

**39/25 Parish Hall**

39/25.1 Cllr Steptoe advised that a power cut happened last Saturday.

 The food in the fridge spoiled. Cllr Edmunds has asked to change the

 socket in the kitchen due to it having a trip switch. All Cllrs happy.

 39/25.2 Cllr Steptoe proposed that the Council donate to cameo for the

 loss of food. Cllr McPherson proposed to take it out of the agm bank

 account. All Cllrs in agreement.

 39/25.3 Cllr Glover asked if Cllrs were happy for Mr Ashdown to continue

 to upkeep the flower boat at the hall. All Cllrs in agreement.

**40/25 Projects**

 40/25.1 Scarecrow Competition – Clerk gave posters to Cllrs to circulate

 40/25.2 October Quiz – To July meeting

 40/25.3 Photographic Competition – Clerk gave posters to Cllrs to

 circulate

 40/25.4 Christmas Lights Competition – Clerk to add to Septembers

 Agenda.

 40/25.5 Citizen of the year – Clerk gave posters to Cllrs to circulate

 40/25.6 Christmas Hampers – To Octobers agenda.

 40/25.7 Summer fair – Cllr McPherson to email dates so Clerk can

 advertise.

 40/25.8 VE Day – winners picked Clerk to advertise.

 40/25.9 VJ Day – Cllr Steptoe asked if the council wished to celebrate VJ

 Day. Cllrs happy to celebrate. Cllr McPherson to arrange a singer for the

 hall. Cllrs agreed on a budget for £300 for the singer.

**41/25 Planning Matters.**

41/25.1 25/00358/FUL – Land rear of white lodge barrow hall road – No

 comments to be made.

**42/25 Reports of meetings of outside bodies**

 42/25.1 RHALC – No meeting held

**43/25 Street Lighting**

 43/25.1 Cllr Steptoe advised of light o/s 291 Little Wakering Road

**44/25 To receive a report from the District and County Councillors for the**

 **area on any matters of interest**

44/25.1 District Cllr Williams advised on the following matters:

 . Tractor run

 . New administration – Planning policy committee

 . Housing targets

 . Highway rangers

 . Grey belt land

 44/25.2 District Cllr McPherson advised on the following matters:

 . You tube link

 . Mind – men and teenage mental health

 44/25.4 District and County Cllr Steptoe advised of the following matters:

 . RDC meeting

 . Devolution

 . Freight house

**45/25 At the chair’s discretion, to exchange information and items for future Meetings**

 45/25.1 Full council meeting to be held on Thursday 10th July 2025

 at 7:00pm.

 45/25.2 Personnel Committee meeting to be held on Monday 21st July at

 7:00pm.

**Exclusion of the press and public**

**46/25 Outstanding Items**

46/25.1 Outstanding items discussed. Cllrs happy with progress.

46/25.2 Timesheets received

 46/25.3 The Parry – Cllr Steptoe to work with Clerk to make sure all documents up to date. Ready to sign lease.

**47/25 Personnel Committee**

47/25.1 Cllr Steptoe wished to advise of RFO retirement. Personnel committee will discuss recruitment at their next meeting.

**Meeting closed at 8:26 pm**