

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BARFORD ST MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE CHURCH ON TUESDAY 10th JANUARY 2023 AT 7pm- subject to
later approval by Councillors.**

PRESENT: Cllr. J. Holloway - Chairman, Cllr. J. Cridge, Cllr. Mrs. N. Noel, Cllr. J. Avery,
Cllr. Mrs. M. Walker. Cllr. Wills, Vice Chair

Mrs. J. Childs, Clerk,

Cllr. N. Najjar attended for part of the meeting following his attendance at a meeting of
Fovant PC

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

VILLAGE MATTERS: Complaints had been received about the boundary wall at Cross
Cottage. Planning permission had been approved for the knocking down of the wall. It was
hoped that the Conservation Officer would ensure that it was replaced with an appropriate
construction.

Further concern had been voiced about speeding through the village. The Chairman was
pleased to report that the NAL sockets, agreed by former CATG, had now been installed.
These would enable the SID to be moved to different locations throughout the village and it
was hoped that this would have an impact on vehicle speed.

Questions had been asked about the possibility of further lighting in West Street. The
Chairman confirmed that there was no likelihood of this.

Cllr. Mrs. Walker reported that several residents had volunteered to take part in Community
Speedwatch. Cllr. Walker agreed to speak with Dinton PC.

APOLOGIES: No apologies

64.23 MINUTES: The draft minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th November
2022 were approved and signed.

65.23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: No interests were declared

66.23 MATTERS ARISING: There were no further matters.

67.23 FINANCE:

- i Payment of accounts: 2 cheques were signed totalling £55.05
- ii Expenditure for the financial year 2022 – 2023 was as expected.
- iii Councillors resolved to request a precept of £10,100.00 as agreed provisionally at
November's meeting of the PC.

68.23 REPORTS:

- i **Wiltshire Councillor:** Cllr. Najjar stated that the next meeting of the Area Board
would take place in March. The Chairman stated that he had discussed the purchase of a

lap top for the community as well as the Parish Council in order to be able to download data gathered by the SID in order to request police support for the speed limits within the village. Cllr. Najjar suggested a request through LHFIG to adjust the location of speed limit signs in order to slow traffic and agreed that as Barford St Martin had no Parish Hall a laptop could provide support, for example music, at community gatherings. A request for a grant from the Area Board could be considered. Councillors agreed to prepare a map indicating desired traffic speeds at various locations throughout the village. Cllr. Najjar noted that there was no pavement on one side of the road. Action

Cllr. Najjar added that budget setting was in progress, the position was challenging , that WC carried less debt than other Councils but that the WC precept was likely to rise.

Potholes should be reported on the My Wilts app. and Cllr Najjar noted the improvements to this.

ii Representatives on outside bodies: The Nicholson Trust remained concerned about increased costs being faced by all households and had emphasised that grants were available for any support required.

iii The Planning Committee: Planning Application PL/2022/09858 was discussed and Councillors requested the Clerk to respond by asking about any possible effect on the water table.

69.23 AREA BOARD/LHFIG (Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group): The Barford Community Group had been successful in obtaining an Area Board grant toward the fencing of the Play Area.

70.23: RIGHTS OF WAY AND AONB: Nothing reported. The muddy conditions were noted.

71.23: THE VILLAGE FIELD: The Chairman stated that the fencing of the Field would be undertaken in the spring.

Cllr. Mrs. Walker reported her attendance at the Playground Safety, Maintenance and Inspection course which she assessed as both useful and helpful. A register would be drawn up for monitoring the equipment and the Play Area itself. Action

Cllr. Walker added that the signs were being made, the fencing of the Play Area was complete, and a path and picnic tables were being considered.

The Clerk was asked to seek advice about a waste bin. Action

Cllr. Cridge asked about the presence of dogs in the Field and the Chairman stated that the use of the Field by dogs would be monitored.

It was reported that there had been an escape of water from the tap. The matter required attention in order to avoid an unnecessary higher bill. Action

72.23 THE CEMETERY, WEST STREET: Treatment of the lych gate required completion when the weather permitted. Action

Cllr. Cridge was concerned about the eroded surface of the parking area outside the Burial Ground.

73.23 ALLOTMENTS: There were 2 allotments vacant. A repeat invoice had been requested by one plot holder.

74.23 BUS SHELTER: Comparative costs for repair and replacement were not available. Cllr. Wills agreed to take responsibility for the shelter. Action

75.23 MONITORING OF ASSETS: Nothing further added.

76.23 CORRESPONDENCE: The Chairman received the latest issue of Clerks and Councillors Direct.

Parish Councils had been informed that it was likely that they would have to bear some costs of future parish council elections.

77.23 DATE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL FOLLOWED BY A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: These would take place on March 7th 2023 at 7pm in the Church.

78.23 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING: The meeting was closed at 9.12 pm.