



Bar Hill Parish Council
Minutes of *remote Annual Parish Meeting
held at 7.41 pm on
Thursday 29 April 2021

Present: B Waters Chairman of Parish Council and District Councillor
S Jenkins Vice-Chair Parish Council
L Harford County Councillor
5 Councillors plus 12 members of the public/representatives of village groups

In Attendance: Bar Hill Parish Clerk and RFO

The Chair read out the notice regarding arrangements for Zoom meetings and asked for confirmation that all participants were in a quiet private place. Participants were reminded that Zoom does collect some data of users and everyone was asked to confirm they were happy with this arrangement before proceeding, which they did.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. She thanked those who had submitted reports and said there would be an opportunity for questions; people could use the chat box to put questions forward.

1. Apologies: Cllr G Tamulonis
Terri Lewis from Bar Hill library
Karen Austen Community market.
Kaye Fuller from Allotment Association, and the National Women's Register.

2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting OF 22 October 2020
The minutes of the meeting held on 22 October 2020 had been circulated.
Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 October 2020 be approved and signed by the Chairman.
Proposed Parish Councillor A Mitchell, seconded Mr M Pope

3. Matter arising
There were none.

4. CCC/Arcadis Flood Protection and Dam Brook/Hollytrees Stream BW
The Chairman reported that the long-awaited Arcadis report had only recently been received by the Parish Council and therefore it had not yet been received by the full Parish Council. The report would be discussed at a future meeting. The Chairman thanked Councillor Mitchell for his initial comments and asked if there were any questions. There were none.

5. To receive proposals from the community and discuss options for working together with residents for planting up and enhancement of village green space amenities at various locations in the village (Community Amenities Working Party) SJ/BW
Councillor Sue Jenkins was invited to speak about the Working Party that had been set up to engage with residents regarding green matters and planting around the village. A number of councillors had volunteered, and they were now waiting for members of the public to join them. One member of the public had volunteered, but the council [WP] were looking for another 4 to join them. Cllr Jenkins invited anyone who might be interested to let the Clerk know. There were no questions.



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6. To discuss possible ideas for A14 compensation monies and consultation process BW

The Chairman said that the residents of Bar Hill had been very stoic as to how they had put up with the A14 works disruption for the past 5 years. The A14 team took some land under compulsory purchase. They had come back with some money for the village totalling just over £18k. She said that they deserved a lot more. It wasn't very much but there were things that could be done around the village. The Chairman asked for any suggestions.

A member of the public reported that there had been a survey on the Bar Hill Community Facebook page regarding the monies. Out of 179 respondents, 51% said that they wanted to spend it on a skate park and that 29% wanted it spent on a path for the perimeter road. [Mr Caswell] He asked the Clerk to note that he had raised the poll in the meeting and the results had been recorded.

Members of the public and Parish Councillors discussed the Facebook Poll and ideas for a Parish Council consultation to be published in the Bar Hill News. It was felt by Cllrs Stockton and Potts that reference should be made in the Parish Council consultation to the results of the Facebook poll to ensure that all voices were heard. This would also validate the Facebook results if the overall village consultation results were roughly in line with the Facebook poll. Various formats were raised as to whether it would be a set multiple choice or an open form. Concerns were voiced over how best to include all villagers as there could be barriers to uptake for some residents who did not have access to technology or preferred to reply on paper. Discussions followed regarding who would and how best to count the votes to ensure the results were fairly counted.

Parish Councillor A Mitchell stressed to members of the public that there were vacancies on the Parish Council and the best way to ensure inclusion was to join and help with the work needed to run the village. Attendees discussed this matter at length.

A member of the public [B Wells] volunteered to count the results and give an independent verification that the votes had been cast correctly. BW thanks interesting offer will come back to you.

7. A14 Legacy Fund: Project for installation of new footway from Village Hall across to school and along front of MUGA and tennis courts to Hanover Close BW

The Chairman reported that 18 months previously, Bar Hill had been offered a share in £1m as one of 27 villages as a contribution from Highways England in compensation for disruption during the A14 development. Further, the Parish Council was in discussion with Highways England about the installation of a footpath running from the church to the village hall. This was felt to be the best way to reach the most members of the community.

The Clerk shared their screen to show the proposed path. The chairman described the route and the ownership of the surrounding land, and asked if there were any questions.

Members of the public raised issues regarding the drainage of the land, and discussed the remedial work that had been done to improve this. The Chairman assured them that this had been raised with the contractors during discussions regarding the pathway. [Bob Wells/Mervyn Pope]



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Councillor Potts asked the Clerk to clarify the proposed surface. It was bonded aggregate.

Attendees discussed other similar paths using the same surface in the area, such as at Cherry Hinton Hall and Northstow Village Green. A member of the public offered that this could be a good lower cost option for paths around the perimeter road. Councillor Mitchell commented that because this is not a CCC standard pathway that it might not be adopted by CCC for maintenance in future. This would have to be budgeted for in the precept in future years.

A member of the public [GCaswell] asked if the residents had asked for this pathway. Councillor A Mitchell responded that a pathway to link the Jubilee Park play area to the other areas on the Village Green had always been intended. The money for the play equipment had come available first and now these monies offered an opportunity to put the path in place without having to raise the money from the village. Attendees discussed again that there were vacancies on the Parish Council if residents wished to be involved in the democratic process of making decisions for Bar Hill.

The member of the public suggested that the PC ask the residents if they want a path here instead of just spending the money before it is built and too late for people to object,

The Chairman moved to bring forward Agenda item **14. To receive the Reports from the County and District Councillors**. County Councillor L Harford had given apologies to leave early as she had another meeting to attend in a neighbouring village. LH's report was included in the pack. There were no questions raised.

The Chairman thanked LH for attending. LH reported that she was now at the end of the current 4 County Councillor term. She thanked everyone in Bar Hill for their support, Bunty Waters as District Councillor, the Parish Council, and all the residents of Bar Hill as working for you and with them had been an absolute pleasure. She wished the attendees a good rest of meeting and looked forward to seeing you next time in Bar Hill. LH left the meeting at 8pm.

District Councillor Bunty Waters report was included in the pack. There were no questions raised.

8. To report on Launch of new Bar Hill Parish Council website GT

Councillor GT was not yet in attendance. The Clerk explained that in order to meet the new WACG accessibility requirements for all councils, councillors had considered quotes from several companies in November 2020 and had commissioned a new website to be built. The first stage of the work had been completed, a working prototype produced and councillors would be working to get the website finished and launched in the coming months. The new website had been designed to be more accessible and to encourage more interaction with the community in addition to hosting the Parish Council's regulatory required documentation.

As one of the Councillors on the Working Party for the Website and Social Media, Councillor A Mitchell added that residents should know that Councillors are not able to comment as individual councillors but only as a corporate body. It can therefore take some time to respond to items that need to be discussed at a PC meeting where formal statements need to be provided. There were no comments or questions from attendees.



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- 9. To receive Report of Chair of Parish Council BW**
- 10. To receive Report of Chair of the Environment and Amenities Committee SJ**
- 11. To receive draft accounts for the financial year ending 31 March 2021 RFO**

Reports from the Chair of the Parish Council, Chair of Environment and Amenities Committee, Year End Accounts and Precept had been circulated with the agenda pack prior to the meeting on the website and hardcopy made available to anyone on request.

The Chairman asked if there were any questions on the above reports. There were none.

12. To receive the Community Police Officer's Report (if any)

The Chairman reported proudly that Bar Hill's PCO Mani Bujar for many years had left to attend training to become a Police Officer. It was hoped he would be able to stay in South Cambridgeshire and return to Bar Hill in the future. There was no report.

13. To receive short Annual Report and Accounts from representatives of Village Organisations/Clubs/Charities

The Chairman commented that reports from a number of village organisations had been circulated with the agenda pack prior to the meeting on the website and hardcopy made available to anyone on request. She was very pleased to see that some representatives were on the call and asked if any of them would like to speak. No one wanted to speak.

The Chairman invited the representatives from Maple Surgery to speak following the report they had submitted.

Parish Councillors and attendees asked questions regarding future permanent GP recruitment, the extension of opening hours for phone lines to take appointments, new intercom system, new prescriptions system, funding for GPs and number of GPs per resident. Concerns were expressed that even though the number of houses and residents in Bar Hill had not changed over the years, the number of doctors had fallen. Residents were concerned at the fall in service level this meant. They understood that it was the system rather than the staff at the practice and asked if the majority of patients lived locally.

It was reported that GP recruitment continued to be a challenge as it did nationally. Two GPs had been recruited in the last year but unfortunately for several reasons those posts had not worked out. It was the right decision that was to the benefit of the staff and the patients. There were several interviews taking place in the coming weeks. GPs from Locum agencies were being used, but the surgery was trying to use the same GPs consistently to give patients some continuity of care. An advanced nurse practitioner, physiotherapist and more pharmacy colleagues were being recruited. The surgery was also working closely with 8 other surgeries in the area as a PCN network recruiting jointly for social prescribers, pharmacists and physios. These different skillsets would reduce the demand on GP time when minor ailments could be seen by other clinicians.

Historically the telephone lines had opened at 8am with appointments able to be booked from 8.30am. Patients had found this frustrating and so appointments were now able to be booked from 8am. On Mondays and Fridays all appointments were now bookable on the day. On Tuesdays-Thursday there were a proportion of appointments that were bookable up to 28 days in advance.



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An intercom system had been installed at the front door. Patients could now just press the buzzer, speak to the receptionist, and be granted access. It was apparent that it had been frustrating gaining entry to the surgery with the doors being locked due the pandemic. Queues had been forming and people had been waiting outside. The new system was working well.

Prescriptions had been a big issue for residents. The surgery had put a lot of patients on repeat dispensing so that patients did not have to order repeat medications themselves; these would be ready for them as prescribed at their pharmacy of choice. Good feedback had been received from both patients and pharmacies. Several pharmacy staff would be joining the surgery to help.

The surgery staff were working with the school on a mini medics project to give first aid training to the pupils in the hope that this would grow some Bar Hill GPs and encourage them to become doctors in the future.

It was possible in the past that the surgery had been structured differently as a private partnership, which would have meant the funding would have been different to the current situation. It was fortunate that a small surgery like Bar Hill has not been swallowed up into a larger surgery. Approximately 90% of the patients were local. Surgeries could now take patients from anywhere; patients did not now need to live in a catchment area with the caveat that they would not receive a home visit. Many villages did not have a surgery and a lot of GPs did not want to be in a single handed practice. The staff were doing their best to keep it up and running and provide a service for everyone. The staff thanked everyone for supporting them.

Councillor A Michell reported as an individual and secretary of the PPG that they would always welcome new members. Contact the surgery to apply. He assured all present that the PPG would continue to keep working with the surgery and asking questions for residents.

He also spoke as a Cambridgeshire and Peterborough foundation trust NHS governor and gave information regarding local current finding for GP surgeries. If residents had concerns over GP numbers, they should contact the clinical care commissioning group. You should feel free to contact them. He reported that these groups would be merging at some point in the future. The new entity would be more collaborative between what happens in hospitals and surgeries, a lot more consideration given to working with local councils to look at NHS patients holistically. Issues like funding then should be easier to resolve because there will be a better understanding of patients of a whole.

15. Any Other Parish Business

There was none.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.52pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.

Signed Dated.....
