



Annual Parish Meeting

*Remote using Zoom

**Thursday 22 October 2020
at 7.30pm**

*The Coronavirus Act 2020 s.78 and The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

NOTICE OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

A G E N D A

1. To receive apologies for absence
2. To approve minutes of previous Annual Parish Meeting of 25 April 2019 (attached)
3. Matters arising from those minutes
4. To receive the following reports
 - County Councillor
 - District Councillor
 - Cambridgeshire Constabulary
 - Chair of Council and Chair of Council's Committees
 - Responsible Finance Officer – Year End Accounts and Precept
 - Village Organisations/Clubs Reports
5. Any Other Parish Business

B. Waters

(Chair of the Parish Council)

Date: 13 October 2020

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**Bar Hill Parish Council
Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting
held in The Octagon at 7.30 pm
Thursday 25 April 2019**

Present: B Waters Chair of Parish Council and District Councillor
S Jenkins Vice-Chair Parish Council
55 members of the public/representatives of village groups/Councillors

In Attendance: Bar Hill Parish Clerk

- 1. Apologies:** Representatives from the following organisations:
PCSO
Tennis Club
Health Walks
- 2. Welcome Representatives from Highways England**

B Waters, Chair, opened the meeting and welcomed the representatives from Highways England, Mr Bob Pettipher and Mr John Akester, the new Stakeholder Manager Integrated Delivery Team, for the Bar Hill section.

Mr Pettipher introduced Mr Akester who would be taking over from him and had been shadowing him for a few weeks. The scheme was on time and within budget.

Mr Akester said that there would be significant changes in June in respect of the bridge access and slip road access at Bar Hill as the old bridge was removed and the new bridge introduced. There would be a house to house newsletter drop in the next couple of weeks and the mobile visitor centre would be at the Tesco carpark. This would not be the final change, there would be further changes in 3-4 months and Highways England would keep the village informed. The East bridge would be used so that the old bridge could be removed and the west bridge finished. There would be traffic light traffic controls.

There were many questions from the public. There would be further changes at Dry Drayton, including alignment work before it was finally finished. There would be further changes at Lolworth and the difficulties with manoeuvring the current temporary junction was noted; changes would include shallower turn on the final road layout. Warnings signs would be put in as necessary.

A member of the public asked why Bar Hill had not had a second entrance created during A14 works. Mr Pettipher said Highways England had no control over County Council roads, ie Bar Hill roads. Highways England could only focus on the A14. Connections with Northstowe, dual carriageway, would be the responsibility of the County Council.

Questions were asked about the A14 acquiring motorway status and the Highways England representatives confirmed this would be between M11 junction and Brampton. The status would not change carriageway width nor speed but would be restrictive for some vehicles so arrangements were required for motorcycles, agricultural vehicles, cyclists etc. They would use the parallel running local access road.

Members of the public were concerned about the state of the entrance road and carriageway at the first road traffic island at Bar Hill and asked if this would be renewed or re-surfaced. Mr Akester said this would be made good and had been better cleaned over the last few weeks. Works needed to be finished at the Girton junction, which at the earliest would be early next year, before local access road would be ready for use.

A member of the public asked why so many trees were being cut down and some marked with red and white tape at the Dry Drayton flyover. Highways England representatives said the carriageway was to be made a bit wider but also a ditch was required; it would be right up against hotel and golf course, and included pipeworks. They would replant in consultation with the hotel. The marked up trees were awaiting assessment for wildlife activity etc by the ecologist who would



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decide whether the trees could be removed or kept. The replacement tree programme would clearly be using smaller trees but for each one removed, two would be replanted.

Complaints made about closures which were supposed to be from 9pm until 6am; drivers were being denied access at 8.45pm. Highways England representatives to take this back as although workmen may be prepping area, eg putting out cones, they should not actually close it off until 9pm and then it was guided by volumes of traffic etc.

Parish Councillor R Hall asked if there was any consultation with Tesco to regulate when customers leave the Tesco car park to free up and control gridlock situations that were frequently occurring. Mr Akester said Highways England could not dictate to Tesco when people could shop or use Tesco car park. They had worked closely with Tesco; this store was hugely successful and well used, ranking in the top 10 of the whole country. They had been very generous to Highways England, allowing them use of the carpark for shows etc.

A member of the public asked if Bar Hill would have a slip lane as now on the A14 or a short slip road and they were told it would be a long slip lane similar to the present.

Chair asked about the noise from the bridge demolition on 21 June and proposals for 24 hour working. The Highways England representative said the old bridge would be demolished during the day time but prepping would begin from about 2am.

A member of the public asked about landscaping and greenery. Highways England representatives advised that plans would be available and thousands of trees planted, areas grassed etc. There was 25 bridges on the scheme. Pedestrian ones to be done next.

Eastbound traffic from Bar Hill would have to go up to Cambridge to get on to the A14 at Girton for Newmarket. Agricultural vehicles would have to have access to their fields etc.

The Chairman thanked the representatives for attending and they and County Councillor L Harford left the meeting at 8.10pm to go to the Lolworth Annual Parish Meeting.

3. COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Chair advised that the PCSO was unable to attend but the report was included in the pack for everyone to review.

4. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Chair introduced Parish Councillor G Tamulonis who would explain about Neighbourhood Plans.

Parish Councillor G Tamulonis said Cottenham, Histon and Waterbeach were in the process of developing a Neighbourhood Plan for their village. The aim was to help local communities play a direct role in planning in the areas they live and work. The Plan would set the parameters for the for shaping future use of land, as desired by the local community; preserving the values, personality and unique characteristics that define the community. A shared vision of where people want housing, shops, leisure, workplaces etc., sympathetic to the surrounding area and meeting the needs of the local community. The Government was devolving more responsibilities to local level; it would form part of the statutory Local Plan of the District Council and influence planning applications.

A grant of £8000 was available to prepare the plan with a further £8000 to help sort any complex technical issues. It would supplement the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. It not only covered the community desires for housing and business development but also protected green spaces such as village greens, open space, woodland etc. In Bar Hill the community might want to address control of business expansion, transport access (cycling, walking, disabled facilities). People know the village and he asked for people to come forward to take the proposals forward



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and reach consensus for what was required for Bar Hill for the future. The process would take two years or so and would have to be approved by referendum of the village. Further details:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning--2>

<https://www.rtpi.org.uk/planning-aid/neighbourhood-planning/>

<https://www.planninghelp.cpre.org.uk/improve-where-you-live/shape-your-local-area/neighbourhood-plans/what-is-neighbourhood-planning>

Parish Councillor Tamulonis asked residents to consider:-

- Does Bar Hill need a Neighbourhood Plan
- What issues do residents have.
- What do residents need to get SCDC to recognise
- What do residents like about Bar Hill
- What do residents want to protect
- It would need a group of people from the village to steer the development of any proposed Neighbourhood Plan – Who would come forward to serve and push the project forward.

The Chair thanked Parish Councillor Tamulonis for his presentation and asked that any members of the public wanting more information or willing to assist in the project, to please contact him.

5. SINGLE USE PLASTICS INITIATIVE

The Chair introduced Parish Councillor M Vinnell who would give information about Single Use Plastics Initiative which was supported by the Parish Council.

Parish Councillor M Vinnell explained about the problems of Single Use Plastics. They are non-biodegradable and last forever. They have become integral part of packaging for food sales particularly in supermarkets for health and hygiene purposes. They have become a global problem. Nationally and globally something had to be done to reduce use. He was confident the law would be changing and there would be change within the next 5 years to reduce SUPs. Everyone had become good at recycling but now people needed to change their mindset to significantly reduce use of SUPs. Change had started with the Government imposing a charge for plastic bags. Recently, the Iceland supermarket chain had reduced packaging and were selling toothpaste unboxed. Bamboo toothbrushes were now available although as a member of the public pointed out this in turn could cause other problems by depleting stocks of a resource in those parts of the world where it grew.

The Parish Council was implementing the initiative to reduce the use of Single Use Plastics and had signed up to using the lessplastic.co.uk infographics as part of an awareness campaign for residents and businesses in Bar Hill and he was liaising with the school. He urged people to think about measures they could adopt to reduce the use of Single Use Plastics in their everyday life.

Parish Councillor M Vinnell said he also wanted to touch on the subject of **Flooding** and referred to the event affecting Bar Hill in the summer of 2014: Floods could not be totally prevented but they were possible to mitigate and manage. He had been looking at reports and the Environment Agency, Local Flood Authority (Cambridgeshire County Council), Anglian Water, District/Town/City/Parish Councils, Highways and Drainage Authorities/Boards all had responsibilities and a role to play in managing water. In Bar Hill the water runs off the fields, into Dam Brook which runs through the middle of the village, across the Golf Course via water channels and into the system at the A14. It appeared there had been some insufficiency of the drainage channels on the last A14 upgrade but he was pleased that with the current upgrade it was a much better standard and would get the water away from the village. Channels had been cleared, opened up, and improved. The Parish Council had now had works undertaken to improve flow through Dam Brook.

A member of the public said there was blocked drains at Gladeside and the Council had done nothing about it despite him reporting it and there had been no road sweeper for 2 years. Parish Councillor M Vinnell thanked him for flagging this issue and said this was a County Council



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responsibility and he would follow it up; he was meeting with the County Council officer responsible for flood protection to discuss a Community Flood Plan, setting out contingencies and emergency procedures etc. People could register with the Environment Agency's Flood warning system on their website and when Cottenham Lode, which is where Bar Hill water finishes up, is getting full, warnings would be issued. He felt the A14 works regarding drainage would massively improve drainage for Bar Hill. Parish Councillor R Hall said that from historical records, Gladeside had been built on a brook.

Parish Councillor M Vinnell also advised that the Council was looking at what projects could be put forward for the benefit of the whole community under the **A14 Community Fund** and **A14 Legacy Fund**. This followed an informative meeting at the A14 Swavesey compound earlier in the month and had been briefly discussed at the last Council meeting. A small group of Councillors were looking at this on Monday to try to specifically identify potential projects and he sought feedback from the public. One thought from the Council was a replacement scout hut to create a community centre/pavilion building providing accommodation for scouts and other groups and toilets for the community, and pathway to link village hall across the village green to the school. The public needed to tell the Council what they wanted for Bar Hill.

A member of the public said this was the first the scouts had heard about proposals to remove the scout hut and asked that they be consulted. Parish Councillor M Vinnell confirmed that they would be consulted.

A member of the public asked if the Council had any liaison with Tesco as their car park was often flooded and the drains could not take all the water from the tarmac and roof. This item was referred to the Chair of the Environment and Amenities Committee who had regular liaison with Tesco Manager and Parish Councillor M Vinnell would also raise with the County Council at his meeting with the Flood Protection Officer.

The Chair thanked Parish Councillor M Vinnell and suggested people contact him or speak to him after the meeting on these issues.

6. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF 26 APRIL 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2018 had been circulated.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2018 be approved and signed by the Chair. Proposed Parish Councillor R Hall, seconded Parish Councillor D Halls

7. MATTERS ARISING

Resident at Hollytrees said that under item 7, second from last paragraph, it had been noted that lumps of concrete/debris and flytipping had been revealed following the hard cut back of the hedge along the spinepath and this would be looked into but she said it had not been cleared up and it was a nuisance when dealing with her rubbish bins. The debris included glass and barbed wire and slippery mud. Chair thanked the resident for flagging and said this would be reviewed again. Councillors

8. REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

The Chair drew the attention of the meeting to the report in the pack from the County Councillor Lynda Harford.

County Councillor Harford had been at the meeting earlier and was expected to return at the end of the meeting if anyone had any questions.

9. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

The Chair advised that her District Councillor's report was included in the pack and asked if anyone had any questions.



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It was noted that there had been no further news on progress with the housing development proposed on the site at the Hallmark Hotel, nor the changes on part of the industrial area off Trafalgar Way, ie Norman Way.

10. REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Chair presented her report on the activities of the Parish Council over the past year.

She said that Councillors would be available on the last Monday of the month at the Parish Council Office from 10am to 12 noon (subject to public holidays) for members of the public to drop in to raise any concerns about parish matters. On the first session three Councillors had also attended the Happy Hour session at The Octagon where they had been very well received and a member of Happy Hours confirmed it had been very useful. The Councillors would review queries and take to the Environment and Amenities Committee or Full Council for follow-up as appropriate.

She thanked the Clerk, Councillors and her Vice-Chair for all their hard work and the skills and knowledge each brought in an ever increasing workload.. She thanked the Councillors who had given the talks earlier in the evening. She also thanked Parish Councillor Pope for the enormous amount of time he committed to helping the Council in its management of all the trees and green spaces, the Ranger Service and investigating residents' concerns about trees and grounds maintenance each week. His efforts and commitment were immeasurable.

The Environment and Amenities Committee had been very busy as could be seen from the report from the Chair of this Committee, Parish Councillor D Halls, whom she thanked for all her work, together with all the Councillors serving on this Committee who so freely volunteered their time and expertise for the benefit of the village. She was sad to report that Francine Cox and Alban Milroy had now left the Council and gave thanks for all their input to help the Council. She also thanked Malcolm for all his work as Responsible Finance Officer, Kate the Office Assistant who joined the team last summer, and the play inspector who carried out the weekly inspections of play equipment and play areas.

Further information about the specific activities carried out over the year were included in her report in the pack.

11. REPORT OF ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE CHAIR

Parish Councillor D Halls, Chair of the Committee, had submitted her report in the pack.

Picking out some of the most important areas of work covered by the Committee over the year she said a Ranger Service had been introduced and the results of their work was very evident all around the village. All the tree works highlighted for either removal, felling or pollarding in the Tree Survey Report had now been completed for this year. The flooding issue in the Horseshoe/Village Green area had been rectified and the Committee was now considering re-seeding, and introducing wild flowers and new trees to the area. After a delay because of an active water vole population, the work on the Hollytrees Stream/Dam Brook had been given the go ahead and was now being completed. This year's grasscutting programme for all the Council's green spaces had commenced in March. The play areas were inspected weekly with an annual inspection to ensure it was kept well maintained. A new picnic table would soon be installed at the Jubilee play area.

The Chair thanked Parish Councillor Halls for her report and asked members of the public if they had any questions.

A member of the public reported that the contractors had missed cutting back the verges on some of the spinepaths at Hollytrees/Foxhollow. This would be checked out. Councillors



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12. ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR END 2018/19

The Chair said that the year-end accounts had been prepared and were included in the pack. There were no questions raised.

(Final year end accounts would be posted up at the Council office and on the website in accordance with statutory procedures)

13. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

The Chair drew the attention of the meeting to all the reports from the various village organisations in the pack and said the number of reports indicated just how much goes on in the village – so much for all age groups. If anyone had ideas for other things they would be welcome to let the Parish Council know. Reports had been received from Community Markets, 8 O'Clock Club, National Women's Register, Bar Hill Short Mat Indoor Bowls Club, Royal British Legion Bar Hill Branch, Happy Hours Senior Citizens Club, Bar Hill Church, Girlguiding, Bar Hill Health Walks, Bar Hill Library, Neighbourhood Watch, PlayPals Toddler Group, Bar Hill Pre-School, Bar Hill Residents' Association, Bar Hill Fete and Festival, 1st Bar Hill Scout Group, Bar Hill Village Hall Management Committee. Late submissions were Memorial Garden and 3G Astro Facility – to be added to pack.

14. ANY OTHER PARISH BUSINESS

The Chair reminded everyone that the Council had two vacant seats to fill and anyone interested should contact the Clerk for further information and how to apply.

A member of the public asked if the Parish Council would be cleaning off the graffiti that had appeared on some of the bus shelters some months ago and suggested pressure washing or sand blasting. The Council was trialling anti-graffiti paint on one of the bus shelters and would be reviewing effectiveness over the coming months before committing to having all the bus shelters done as it was a very expensive process. Other suggestions were made for the Council to consider including using the walls as advertising space in order that the revenue could be used for bus shelter maintenance. Another member of the public asked who was responsible for the bus shelter on the Tesco site as it was collapsing. The Chair said the bus shelter belonged to Tesco and asked if it was dangerous. The member of the public said it could be if there was a lot of wind. This matter would be flagged with Tesco by the Environment and Amenities Committee Chair. It was noted that there had been several areas in the village where graffiti artists had been at work on private property including the office. A member of the public asked if any of the residents had CCTV covering the areas which could be used for prosecution. Councillors

There being no other business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.15pm and invited everyone to stay on for refreshments.

Signed

Dated.....

County Councillor's Report to Bar Hill Annual Parish Meeting - October, 2020

By rights this report should cover the year beginning April 2019 and ending March 2020. However, as we are all only too well aware the last 6 months have been so momentous and wrought so much change in our lives that it is impossible not to include reference to them, particularly as what has happened in that time is responsible for delaying an annual parish meeting that would normally have taken place in May or thereabouts.

Highways

Looking back to April 2019 one of the items I reported was the significant archaeological finds during work on the A14C2H scheme. We were told about three Anglo Saxon villages, an abandoned medieval village, 100,000 year old woolly mammoth tusks and a woolly rhino skull, a Roman supply depot and rare Roman coins dating from the third century. Archaeologists from both the A14 team and the County Council had been working together on these finds and in a public vote they had been awarded the prize for 'Rescue Project of the Year'. I hope you will forgive me for referring to that and comparing it with the issues Bar Hill residents have been bringing to my attention since then. The project is complete; the road was opened early. Through- travellers may have been enjoying the new road for some months but, for Bar Hill, the road is still not complete. No prizes there then.

In January 2020 negotiations were starting between County Highways and Highways England on the handover of responsibility for maintenance of a total of approximately 27km of dual carriageway and 5km of slip roads [part of the original A14] as well as sections of new or improved local roads like the A1307. A legal agreement, part of the Development Consent Order, requires a plan to be agreed with the council, specifying the condition of the roads being handed over. These negotiations continue and include a claim by the council for compensation for the deterioration of some of the roads for which it is already responsible and which have suffered degradation and damage due to the diversion routes that the A14C2H project has necessitated over its duration. At my request, the roundabout at Bar Hill has been included in that claim.

I was successful in securing funding for maintenance work to the perimeter road and, whilst this addressed some immediate needs, it was not sufficient to deal with investigation/rectification of the underlying cause for continual issues on sections of the road. This remains on my agenda.

Surface water drainage has caused issues during the year but more latterly real concerns have been raised by those residents living in properties that have previously suffered flooding. I am continuing to work with the myriad organisations who have responsibility for surface water drainage in the village. Most positively though I have now seen a proposal to change the policy for highways maintenance of its gullies which, in principle, I support although I will be scrutinising any change to ensure that it gives greater reassurance to residents.

Environment

The past year has seen the council really start to move forward its ambitions for a greener, cleaner future. The May meeting of council included a motion proposing

that the council should develop an Environment & Climate Strategy. There was also a second motion which acknowledged the work that the council was already doing to tackle poor air quality outside schools through a 'no car zone' pilot and called for further work to see how to increase its impact. Despite this positive evidence of the council's commitment to protecting the environment, proceedings were much enlivened by the protest mounted both outside the building and inside the chamber by Extinction Rebellion. As the year has progressed so have new green policies with a plastics strategy and then changes to the council's management of woodlands and other environmental assets. November saw both councils approve the first joint Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Corporate Energy Strategy.

That same May meeting saw the council also progress its decision to lease Shire Hall and relocate its headquarters to Alconbury Weald. The public and press were excluded from this debate but, before leaving, one protester sang a version of Woody Guthrie's 'This Land, Our Land' suitably edited to lay claim to the ancient rights of access to Castle Mound. I'm not sure that its poignancy would be felt on Zoom! Work on the new HQ is on budget and on schedule and the building is due to open in Spring 2021.

In October last year the council introduced its e-permit scheme for those visiting the household recycling centres with a van or trailer. Nobody foresaw then the need that there would be some six months later for everybody to make a booking for a visit. We didn't know then that Covid-19 was coming and that there would be many changes to normal every day activities necessitated by something called social distancing.

Education

October also saw some good news with an announcement of increased school funding. Locally our schools had for some time struggled with some really difficult financial challenges and, at that time, there was hope that this would provide some welcome relief. There was also news that the agreement would allow for progress on the implementation of the National Funding Formula, delivering promised gains in full for areas like Cambridgeshire, that historically have been underfunded.

Roll forward to October, 2020 and the latest announcement is for additional funding to support schools to help their pupils catch up following the Covid-19 lockdown and the enforced period of home schooling.

Health & Social Care

At this time last year the council's health committee was delivering on its responsibility for public health by agreeing to fund free NHS health checks for those between the ages of 40 and 75. These checks were designed to help detect health issues at an early stage, before they could do any real damage. Acknowledging the increasing adverse impacts of stress and in tune with the new universal recognition of the importance of mental health to overall wellbeing, Public Health England and the NHS launched 'Every Mind Matters'. This on-line resource shows people simple steps they can take to be better prepared for life's ups and downs. Following the first phase of Covid-19 it has been highlighted that, among other impacts, isolation is becoming the new pandemic with a potentially significant effect on health and wellbeing. Demand for mental health support services has increased dramatically.

Locally the NHS through its Clinical Commissioning Group has acknowledged that it has to consider more carefully, if there is a major second wave of the virus, the balance between Covid and non-Covid services.

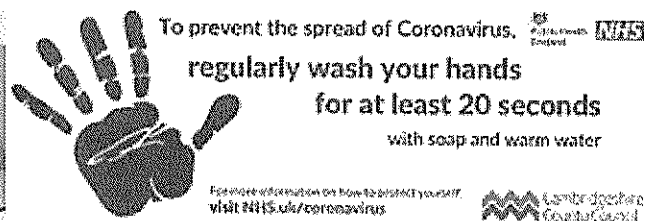
The county council has continued to progress its Think Communities strategy, putting communities at the heart of everything that it does. As part of this the two Neighbourhood Cares projects which connect social care much more to the community in which those receiving the care live, have progressed well.

Locally we saw a new provider take on the contract for Maple Surgery. It has been a difficult few months for them as the start of their contract coincided with lockdown. It is good to see though that there is a very energetic Patient Participation Group in place and the new provider is listening to the feedback that its members provide at regular meetings.

I finish this report with my usual thanks to Bar Hill Parish Council and Clerk who do a great job of maintaining so many of the services that make the village a good place to live, and to my district council colleague who also wears the hat of parish council chairman. This year I have, too to pay special tribute to the organisers and volunteers of the Covid-19 support group that has done tremendous work supporting the older and vulnerable members of the community through a very difficult time. My thanks also to all the residents who take the time to contact me. Please do continue to get in touch with your comments and questions.

Take care. Stay safe.

Lynda - lyndaharford@icloud.com; 01954 251775/07889 131022; follow me on Twitter: @2whit2whoo



**Annual report to Parish Council from
District Councillor Bunty Waters - 2019-20**

I would like to start by thanking the huge effort from voluntary organisations, individual residents, village groups, charities and Parish Council, within the Bar Hill ward during the Covid-19 outbreak. What a challenging year this has been.

Given the difficult circumstances that this pandemic has put individual residents in (whether that be because of social isolation, difficulty in accessing food or prescriptions, the stress of being furloughed, the pressure on business, not being able to see relatives, events being delayed, and the distress caused by caring for friends and family with Covid-19) it has been hugely important that the community pulls together and we all play our part in helping each other.

My main role as District Councillor has been to answer resident queries, signposting them to the relevant information. This has not always been easy because the information that Central Government is putting forward is ever changing as the science and evidence base moves forward.

I have met with fellow Councillors and the CEO over Zoom once weekly to make sure that I am up to date with the work SCDC is undertaking and to make sure I am fully briefed from a District perspective.

Quick grant funding for small businesses - The Government has made around £20 million available for small businesses to help them weather the Coronavirus outbreak; this money has been processed and distributed by the District Council. It is estimated that around 2,000 businesses in South Cambridgeshire will be eligible for this pot of money that the Chancellor Rishi Sunak has provided. SCDC believes that 75% of businesses that are eligible have been awarded grants. The grant takes two forms, the first being a Small Business Grant Fund that is applicable to businesses that pay little or no business rates, their grant is for £10,000 to meet ongoing business costs. The second is the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure grant again for businesses with a rateable value of under £15,000 a £10,000 grant is available. For businesses with a rateable value of between £15,000 and £51,000 they will receive a higher grant of £25,000.

Financial Support from central government to local government for the additional burden that has fallen on local government has been provided in two tranches, *on a per capita basis*, £46k in the first tranche and £1.57m in the second tranche. The Local Government Network and the Local Government Association has ensured that the work and pressures of local government have begun to be heard in Westminster.

Business Support: Grants and Relief The Business Support Unit, was enhanced in terms of coverage and staff, have been setting up networks of communication with businesses of all sizes, but especially SMEs, across the District and the City.

The Unit has ensured that grants and other types of relief have been administered and that businesses are aware of the routes to financial assistance, as well as the various means of access to advice. Officers and councillors have been working

closely together, both centrally and across all Wards. Eighty four per cent of the almost 2,000 businesses eligible for support have been contacted. If registered for business rates village halls were eligible for rates' relief and they have been contacted and encouraged to apply. This is an impressive result: officers and councillors have worked together to ensure that the message is heard and businesses claim what they are entitled to.

A further tranche of funding to help local businesses has been awarded to local government but without criteria. South Cambs and the City are working closely on how best to draw up criteria for the spending this latest amount of money, £1.6m. I am pleased to say that I was able to inform Bar Hill Parish Council of these funds and they received their share. The Business Support Unit will be maintaining contact with businesses through and beyond this crisis. A Business beyond Covid strategy is well under development.

I hope that South Cambridgeshire will continue to be one of the best places to live in the UK with interesting employment opportunities and rural villages where people want to live close to a vibrant city. Our district in some ways is a victim of its own success with many of the employees working in skilled jobs.

Cllr Bunty Waters
SCDC Councillor, Bar Hill Ward
07734 690580

BAR HILL PARISH COUNCIL – CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 2019/2020

A warm welcome to you all for this Annual Parish Meeting for 2019/2020, I am Bunty Waters Chairman of the Parish Council.

My thanks to all the Parish Cllrs, Mervyn Pope, Doris Hall, Geof Tamulonis, Brian Howard, Roger Hall, Darren Scholes, Sue Jenkins, Anthony Mitchell, they work hard for the village and this is increasing each month, they are unpaid volunteers and give their time, not only for meetings but work around the village. Doris Halls, Chair of Environment and Amenities, Malcolm Cox, our Responsible Finance Officer, who ensures that the money is spent wisely on village matters and to my Vice Chair, Sue Jenkins, who all give much support. We are also well supported by Kate Flack, our Office Assistant, and Sue Bell, our Parish Clerk who works so hard and guides us Cllrs through the incredible amount of work which this Parish Council has. I am indeed thankful to have their knowledge to ensure the Parish Council is on the right path. Grateful thanks too, to County Councillor Lynda Harford for her work throughout the year.

This village requires a great deal of work, you will see a breakdown of how we spend the money throughout the year in your APM pack on behalf of the village.

Councillors need to meet, at various times, with contractors, so their time is used to discuss the requirements and ensure getting value for money.

'Meet the Councillors' - The Council began meetings with the residents and Councillors on the last day of the month at the Parish Council office, these proved very successful as it gave them opportunities to discuss any problems and concerns, sadly, due to Covid 19 these are temporarily stopped.

November brings the budget meeting to set the village precept, discussion takes place for the following years and what the village needs are, the Parish Council are looking 3 years ahead for planning.

I am pleased to say that the PC have engaged an Arboricultural Consultancy company to help us manage the trees in the village, it is very important to have professional reports so that knowledge of the health and feasibility of the trees is known and documented. I am encouraged as you will see in the Environment and Amenities report.

The PC deal with a great many tree requests, in fairness trees cannot just be removed, however, when a query/request comes into the PC office it is inspected, discussed at the Environment and Amenities and main Council meeting and action taken if necessary. Cllr Pope who has an enormous amount of experience with trees is the PC anchor man giving much of his time to ensure contractors are familiar with the work being requested. As the village ages, built in the sixties on clay, with climate change with the increasing severe weather, there are more stories of subsidence. The Parish Council refer to the insurance company when the Council is informed who will deal with reports from the property concerned.

We are told the A14 is finished, not in Bar Hill it hasn't, still with those cones surrounding the gyratory, that is the roundabout which residents are getting really fed up with but HE hope to have all this finished by the end of October, we shall see!! and hope they fill in the potholes surrounding the roundabout?? However, the A14 Legacy fund for which we put in a very good bid, we understand, will be putting in a pathway from the Village Hall round to the corner of Hanover Close. There are also funds to be paid from the A14 for land taken and these you can see on the detailed paper from the RFO, the Parish Council are waiting for this to be finalised.

Litter and dog fouling continues to be a problem on the village, even though there are a great many bins in strategic places, thank you to all who do litter picking on various occasions and some every day.

The Parish Council had hoped to have meetings and advice from the CCC Flood Prevention Officer, these have been put back due to Covid 19.

Each month the Council receive Planning Applications for the properties around the village and on the Industrial site. One of these at Norman Park is the demolition of existing industrial buildings and erection of buildings **B1(c)**: Light industry appropriate, General Industrial Landscaping, and a change to the existing site. Ref: 20/02381/FUL which is now approved.

Our Clerk has put together a very comprehensive Corona 19 virus plan and has spent a great deal of time to ensure the safety of herself, all staff and Councillors, the office has been closed to all public.

A Covid 19 support scheme was started in the village in April and the Parish Council donated £500 to the Scheme.

The Councillors then began to meet via Zoom, this has now become quite agreeable and works well.

A new application has been submitted and approved for changes to the proposed plans at the Hallmark Hotel site, this is from Wellington who will build for Sanctuary Housing. There are changes still being submitted from them.

Parking continues to be a problem on the village, the PC are always asking that residents park thoughtfully with consideration to others but this is not always the case, however, highways are for the use of vehicles and the PC has no jurisdiction over the roads.

Viking Way was never adopted by Cambridgeshire CC as were the other roads, although the PC have contacted CCC it was advised that it would not be adopted. Work this year has been on clearing the drains which have caused some flooding.

The PC Website holds a lot of up-to-date information on not only what the Parish Council does, but areas which are affecting the village, if you have any queries and can't access the website please ask Sue Bell, our Clerk who will help you.

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG)2.1 has a dedicated Councillor who is updating the Councillors, its aim is to ensure public sector websites and mobiles apps are accessible to all users, especially those with disabilities.

The PC publish all agendas, accounts monthly on the noticeboard, so residents can access what is happening here in the village.

We have been very sad to lose Councillors this year, I thank them greatly for the contribution in their time as Parish Councillors and their work for the village.

Of great sadness is the retirement of our Clerk, Sue Bell, I felt quite panicked when she gave in her notice, as in 'what shall we do' but I do wish her very well for her future and those plans of other things to do. An enormous thanks to her for incredible hard work that she has done whilst in her role as Clerk and how she has helped us as Councillors. Sue has kindly agreed to stay on for a short time while we look for a new Clerk, I really do thank her as she will be incredibly difficult to replace.

My report does not even cover all the work which we undertake but gives a small flavour of a very busy Parish Council.

Environment and Amenities Committee Report 2019/20

Parish Councillor D.Halls, Chair of the Committee would like to thank the Parish Clerk, Office Assistant and Parish Councillors for their ongoing input in keeping the Village clean and tidy making it a pleasure to live in Bar Hill.

The Environment and Amenities Committee has been restricted during this year because of Covid-19, Total Lockdown and Government Restrictions. We have been working towards catching up because of all the missed days that the Pandemic has caused.

We hired a new contractor for the village groundwork and footpath maintenance as the previous one was unable to return. We are steadily going through our long list of outstanding work that needs attending to.

Haydens have again been asked to prepare a tree survey report which highlights the management of trees in the village that need the removal of dead branches, felling and some that need pollarding. The E&A endeavour to assist with residents' requests (for example; large trees near to their properties) and meet their needs. We also strive to maintain a balance between maintaining a healthy, aging tree population in the village and the increasing risk of any future problems of managing and controlling any problems that might arise in the future.

We would remind residents that Tesco are responsible for all their tree and shrub maintenance - including the area opposite and to the side of the Parish Council Office. We are in regular contact with Tesco and The Mall Management Company who are responsible for their areas to be kept clean and tidy.

Drainage – In the Horseshoe/Village green area work was carried out in the early months of this year.

Further work is planned for the Dam Brook from Brookfield to Hollytrees this Autumn.

Grass Cutting by the present contractor in and around the Village continues to give a tidy appearance.

Because of Covid-19 a Litter pick by Community Volunteers could not be held this year.

Play Equipment - This is inspected weekly and the Play Inspection Company carry out an annual inspection ensuring the equipment is kept well maintained. The use of this equipment had to be stopped and controlled following Government Guidelines due to Covid-19. There are some outstanding repairs to play equipment but again due to Covid-19 there have been some delays with contractors and obviously safety is absolutely paramount but hopefully everything will be back in full use very soon. The area to the rear of Jubilee Park has been seeded and landscaped and a new picnic bench was purchased. In time hopefully with the addition of the trees and shrubs we purchased and the spring bulbs supplied very kindly by the Community Market this area will be a lovely place for the village to enjoy.

Litter and Dog bins - these continue to be emptied weekly by SCDC but if any should be missed please contact SCDC to advise directly. Dog waste can now be put into litter bins.

We are very grateful for the resident who regularly volunteers to Litter pick around the village.

BAR HILL PARISH COUNCIL**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE year ending 31st March 2020**

<u>2018/19</u>	<u>Detailed excluding VAT</u>	<u>2019/20</u>	<u>Accruals</u>
	INCOME		
131000.00	Precept	139000.00	
16.63	Share Dividend	30.58	
1574.73	Authority Contributions	670.73	
130.05	Bank Interest	396.74	
360.00	Garage Rent	195.00	
6250.00	Farmhouse Rent	6470.00	
6523.20	Loans & Repayments	6523.20	
0.00	A14 Money	23700.49	
440.00	Other Receipts	402.50	
146294.61	Total Income	177389.24	
	EXPENDITURE		
32625.07	General Admin - Salaries	35492.69	
8219.79	Office Costs - Print/Stat/Utilities etc	5163.70	
6725.56	Insurance	9645.15	5750
1125.65	Professional- Audit & Accounting	1201.43	
10635.58	Legal & Professional	1741.00	12250
	CAPALC/SLCC	783.05	
600.00	Petty Cash	690.00	
21741.98	Environment - Grasscutting	22547.66	
25239.87	Trees/Shrubs/Hedges	21632.00	
5210.00	Viking Way	0.00	4350
2519.50	Fences/Signs/Footpaths	0.00	700
18217.17	Stream & Flooding	26658.00	
	Ranger Services	4088.25	
2537.20	Community Facilities - Street Lights	544.60	
875.00	Community Support	502.41	1900
4097.83	Litter	2184.00	
5921.39	Play Equip Maint & Inspect	3239.95	4000
371.50	Nature Reserve/Village Green	800.00	
75.00	S137 Grants	75.00	
14879.70	Commercial Maintenance Village Assets	6926.88	11400
6523.14	PWLB Loan	6523.14	
	Interest Paid (Deposit F/H)	15.62	
36296.32	Capital Expenditure	14541.14	
-600.00	Adjustments - R/E Petty Cash	-690.00	
	Total Expenditure	164305.67	40350
203837.25	GRAND TOTAL	204655.67	
-57542.64	SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR YEAR	-27266.43	

Prepared by Malcolm Cox - RFO

Approved by

Approved by full council..... 18th June 2020

BAR HILL PARISH COUNCIL - BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDING 31ST March 2020

Current Assets

Box 8: Total Cash & Short term investments	266128.49
add debtor - HMRC VAT	4630.21
less creditor - Insurance	-8618.48

Box 7: Balance Brought forward 262140.22

The net balance reconciles to the cash book receipts and payments

Opening Balance	249056.65
plus receipts in year (cash book exc VAT)	177389.24
minus payments in year (cash book exc VAT)	164305.67
Closing Balance	262140.22

Prepared by.....Malcolm Cox.....

Approved by.....

Approved by full council.....18th June 2020.....

ASSETS & LIABILITIES
Year Ending 31st March 2020

2018/19		2019/20
	ASSETS	
33777.74	Yorkshire Bank - current	11204.55
45021.45	Yorkshire Bank - deposit	90213.73
107854.29	Lloyds Treasurer	102338.91
67714.09	Cambridge Building Society	67883.38
29.52	Petty Cash	25.17
254397.09		271665.74
	DEBTORS	
6761.76	Uncleared debtors	
11113.88	VAT Recoverable	4630.21
46513.19	BHVHMC (loan liability)	42332.33
64388.83		46962.54
	CREDITORS	
-23216.08	Unpresented cheques	-5537.25
	Insurance Creditor	-8618.48
-46513.19	PWLB (loan)	-42332.33
-34000.00	Allocated Reserves C/F	-40350.00
-103729.27		-96838.06
215056.65	NETT ASSETS	221790.22
	Represented by:-	
35279.53	General Fund	35921.25
161.07	T Flanagan Bequest	161.07
1562.50	Deposit on Farmhouse	1645.00
65000.00	Reserves in CBS	65000.00
	A14 Reserve	18223.99
113053.55	Capital Receipts	100838.91
215056.65		221790.22
Accruals	34000.00	40350.00
Box 7	249056.65	262140.22

Prepared by Malcolm Cox

Approved by

Approved by full Parish Co Council

..... 18th June 2020

Report of Responsible Finance Officer

The Precept was set at £139,000 comprising

Cultural, Environment & planning Environment/Maintenance Assets less rents received	£68090
Highways, Footpaths, Lighting Commercial Amenities	£11800
Corporate Management Office, Professional, less other income	£59110
TOTAL	£139000

In planning for our future projects, we are pleased to have received the monies for the compulsory purchase of land and temporary use of land from Highways England for the A14 Improvement Scheme, of which we have had 90% (£23735.66) with balance expected soon, See Income and Expenditure schedule. That amount is broken down as follows:-

Total amount received	£23735.66
Land purchase (PC Assets)	£2326.50
Professional Fees	£3150.00
Interest element	£35.17
Severance and injurious affection	£18223.99

The 10% balance payable upon final completion of scheme will be broken down thus:-

Total amount to be received	£2633.39
Land purchase (PC Asset)	£258.80
Professional Fees	£350.00
Severance and injurious affection	£2024.89

There will eventually the sum of £20248.88 for the benefit of the Village Community. There may be other sums and costs due upon final completion when assessed by Highways England

Further income to go towards projects to benefit the community will be Section 106 monies once the Hallmark development starts. Of course, we will look for other grant aid where we can bring improvements for the village. We are currently working with Highways England for monies from the A14 Legacy fund to provide footpath across village green.

Bar Hill Allotment Society

The Covid Virus lockdown has made the allotments very popular this year, more so than any of the previous 15 years I have been a member. We have gone from having a dozen plots not being used back in March 2020 to having every plot used and a waiting list of 15. There are 3 main reasons for this;

Firstly we were able to get out into the open air during the lockdown which was good for mental and physical health. As most people were furloughed or working from home this led to the plots being better maintained than I have seen them, helped along by the freakishly good weather.

Secondly we have a lot of new members who have brought fresh ideas to the table and a lot of enthusiasm.

Lastly the supermarket shortages meant that growing your own veg and fruit became attractive. Not only were most of us self sufficient in fruit and veg but the "swap table" was also used much more than usual.

I have personally instigated a much stronger adherence to the rules, particularly those affecting bonfires. Using a combination of emails, signs, word of mouth, and the occasional bucket of water we have avoided upsetting the Villagers with unwanted smoke, and this will remain a priority.

In summary the allotments are thriving and will hopefully continue to do so.

Rob Lawrence

Chairman Bar Hill Allotment Society

Bar Hill Cricket Club

Bar Hill Cricket Club were unable to start any activity until mid-July. A "mini-season" was organised by the Cambridgeshire Cricket Association and the adult first eleven was able to complete a handful of matches, as well as friendlies against Girton and Elsworth.

With no cricket possible for the majority of our season, and with restrictions in place when we were able to start, we took the difficult but logical decision to only field one adult team (rather than the planned two) and to not offer any youth cricket - as well as weekly training, we had entered Under-10 and Under-13 teams in the Cambs Youth Cricket League so, before the pandemic struck, we were planning to be very busy.

We will aim to reinstate all these activities (though the age groups may change) next season and will update via the Bar Hill News, social media and other means when we know more.

The other frustration was the lack of opportunity to use our new net on the village green - installed with help from the Parish Council and the A14 fund - though there will of course be plenty of opportunities for future use.

We'd like to thank the Parish Council and the Village Hall Management Committee for their support and hope that 2021 brings brighter news for all village organisations and wider society.

8 O'CLOCK CLUB April 2019 - March 2020

In April 2019 we celebrated our 46th Birthday party and 50 members attended.
Speakers in 2019

Talk on the Millennium tower at Bury St Edmunds Cathedral by the man who was in charge of the building works

The Sick children's trust who own 2 houses on the Addenbrookes site for use by families of children who are in the children's ward long term

In July we held our garden party. It was a lovely sunny evening and 29 members attended where we enjoyed a buffet and cocktails

September was our enrolment evening and we all enjoyed a glass of wine and a chat.

In October just as the nights were drawing in we had a wonderful speaker getting us in the mood with "Ghostly tales" and we were all enthralled.

The following month we enjoyed hearing from a lady who had studied on a textile course. She then went on to work for the BBC and the Royal Opera House before setting up her own business.

December was time for the Christmas meal provided by a chef which was lovely.

Our speaker in February took us into the world of pantomime with "There is nothing like a dame". At our March meeting the speaker had to cancel at the last minute so we had a quiz evening which went down well.

Barbara Page

Happy Hours Senior Citizens Club

The Club has continued throughout the past year with the usual mix of games, quizzes and entertainment. We celebrated our Birthday with a party and Christmas, last year with a lovely meal in the Sports and Social Club.

We have continued with our popular lunch time meals as well as tea/coffee and biscuits or cake in the morning and afternoons.

Our numbers continue to drop and without more members it will be difficult although we have a planned advertising in place, which unfortunately Covid19 has brought to a stop. In the present circumstances it is not know when the Club will reopen.

Helen Collins
Chairperson

BAR HILL INDOOR SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

We continue to meet in the school on Friday evenings during term time. We have about 16 members. We do not play in any leagues and do not take the game that seriously. All the members enjoy meeting with each other and having a pleasurable evening.

Barbara Page

LGBT Bar Hill

We are an LGBTQI+ group open to all LGBTQI+ members, their families, friends and supporters who either live or work in Bar Hill.

As editor of LGBT Bar Hill I am pleased to announce this year has had the most engagement from residents in Bar Hill. We have reached 1048 people with our most popular post and received over 300 post clicks this year. We are delighted to have 67 members and 69 followers and we are always welcome new members.

Sadly most Pride events have been cancelled this year and face to face meetings have not been possible due to Covid-19, this has caused concerns over social isolation and we hope that LGBT Bar Hill has helped in some small way.

We thank the Parish Council and other village organisations for their diversity policies and hope that Bar Hill will have a bright and gay 2021.

Anthony Mitchell

Maple Surgery Patient Participation Group

Prior to the handover of the contract from Malling Health Care to MKGP in April 2020 the PPG had an excellent relationship with Dr Rasool, but a cooler relationship with the provider. It is unfortunate that Dr Rasool felt unable to TUPE over to MKGP. Few would disagree that Dr Rasool provided the patients of the Maple Surgery with excellent medical care. I know that I am not alone in being able to say without his diligence it is unlikely that some of us would be here today. Dr Rasool will be missed by us all. I personally miss his friendship. Hopefully, once Covid19 allows, the village will be able to recognise Dr Rasool's contribution to our health and wellbeing in a meaningful way.

It is unfortunate that Covid19 has prevented MKGP, which is a GP led consortium based in Milton Keynes from holding a public meeting with the residents of the village. I think it is fair to say that MKGP have been working hard to put in place systems and processes that will have a positive impact on patient care. Unfortunately Covid19 and dictates from the NHS and Public Health England, have forced a situation whereby physician/patient face-to-face interface has been made difficult in the extreme.

Despite the mis-information on social media MKGP have managed to deliver good and I would argue better patient care in a difficult situation. This has included increasing the number of GP led appointments, the appointment of a new lead physician Dr Anna and more recently the appointment of a new (prescribing) nurse practitioner who will support Dr Anna. I know that the recruitment process has been long and arduous in the extreme, not helped by the lockdown. MKGP would be the first to acknowledge that there have been some issues, many of which were not of their making. It is fair to say that the prescribing issues that were common place are now a thing of the past. That is not to say that there will not be the occasional individual problem. The practice has now been restructured with clear roles and responsibilities with patients to able to access the pharmacist or practice manager as the need arises. It is fair to say that when issues have been brought to the attention of MKGP e.g. the carers register these matters have been resolved very quickly.

Once Covid19 restrictions allow MKGP will be hosting a formal meeting with the residents of Bar Hill. As we all recognise that may not be some time soon. In the interim MKGP have now been allowed to open up the surgery, appointments can be booked in advance, nurse led clinics are up and running and so on. The PPG look forward to working with MKGP and feel that the relationship with the new provider will be much improved on the one we had with Malling Health.

Dr Derek Ford
Chair Maple Surgery PPG

National Womens Register

Due to Covid 19 the Bar Hill NWR group has not been able to meet as our gatherings are in member's houses. This is a great shame as the organisation is celebrating its diamond anniversary this year. Rather than meeting up with other groups to share their experiences of NWR each area is contributing to a national scrapbook.

We have managed to meet up in groups of six and maintain some of our discussion groups. Some of our members are in the vulnerable group so email has been a useful mode of communication.

I pleased to say our membership level has been maintained.

We look forward to getting back to normal as soon as possible.

Karen Hayden
Local organiser.

Bar Hill Scouts

Over the past year, Bar Hill Scouts have grown and developed as an organisation. This time last year, while the Beaver Colony and Cub Pack were strong, the Scout Troop was still a fledgling group. With some excellent leadership and volunteers who have been willing to go above and beyond, Bar Hill Scouts has grown.

We now have renewed enthusiasm from the election of a new Group Scout Leader and chair of the committee, and have done some significant renovation to the Scout Hut. Even during the challenges of COVID when other local Scouting groups such as Over and Northstowe have been unable to meet, Bar Hill Scouts have continued with Zoom meetings.

We are also one of the only Scouting groups locally who have already been able to restart face to face Scouting, having spent many hours finalising risk assessments to make sure that a return to face to face Scouting is done so as safely as possible.

We hope that Scouting in Bar Hill will continue to grow, to provide adventurous activities for the boys and girls in our local area. If you're interested in joining either as an adult volunteer or have a child who would like to join, please e-mail david.wright@barhillscouts.org.uk.

Bar Hill Tennis Club

On behalf of the Club Committee I would like to submit this short report on behalf of the Club.

We are able to report a successful year despite the challenges we have all faced with membership numbers up (20+) and a good interest in "one-off" hires of the courts which has resulted in a substantial increase in our annual income ensuring that we remain financially secure.

Unfortunately we are still struggling to get players down to our Club nights which are held Tuesdays and Thursdays during the season and we are in real need of enthusiastic members wishing to join our very small committee. We would very much like to encourage younger players to join the club and support the possible expansion of our junior membership.

We have been helped this year by our new web site www.barhilltennisclub.co.uk which enables membership applications to be processed on-line and membership payments to be made electronically. People wishing to make general enquiries or would like to hire the courts can also do so on-line.

Our annual membership fees have remained unaltered for a number of years and are very competitively priced at £40 for adults, £80 for family membership and £15 for juniors. Membership allows players to play throughout the year and our floodlights ensure that play can continue on the dark winter nights when weather conditions are favourable. Although our Club nights formally ceased at the end of September some members are playing on whilst the weather remains favourable – any newcomers welcome!

Over the last few years we have tried a number of initiatives to try to encourage membership including previously the offer of free membership on Club nights Tuesday and Thursday.

We would welcome any new members (whether experienced or novice tennis players) or anyone interested in trying to help us promote the Club.

For further information please visit our web site www.barhilltennisclub.co.uk

Paul Chubbuck (Secretary)
07983435104, Email: [tennisclubbarhill@gmail](mailto:tennisclubbarhill@gmail.com)

Bar Hill Village Hall Management Committee

Like most organisations throughout the country it has been a very different 12 months and not one that anyone would have anticipated. We closed the Village Hall in line with government guidelines in March, but are pleased to report that we re-opened on the 14th September 2020. Our regular hirers have been very loyal to us and the majority of them have re-started their various classes. We are still unable to hire the hall for larger events such as birthday parties.

We have not been able to move forward the accreditation to Hallmark Stage 1 during this time, but have continued to receive support from Cambridgeshire ACRE who have updated Trustees with information throughout the lockdown period.

We have worked closely with our two tenants providing support to both during this time.

Unfortunately, further repair work had to take place to the balcony and this has given the Trustees considerable concern. However, the work is now complete and the balcony safe to use once again.

We continue to review our policies and ensure that the Village Hall complies with necessary legislation.

We are looking at funding to enable us to install LED lighting in the Village Hall to save on energy costs and to help the environment.

We are working on a number of small projects, one of which is looking at an online booking system. We were part way through a trial of the system when lockdown started.

Our Caretaker/Bookings Clerk continues to be an asset to the hall and we are very proud of the way she liaises with our hirers and her dedication to keeping the hall spotlessly clean.

Finally, the Trustees would like to thank the Parish Council who have been a great support during the last year and we are extremely grateful and pleased to be able to work with them. We look forward to this continuing during the next 12 months for the success of the Village Hall.