

# **BARKING PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting held at Barking Village Hall Annexe at 7.30pm on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

**Present:** Cllr R Fellowes (Chair), Cllr A Ross, Cllr M Bailey and Cllr M Smith

**Attending:** Lucinda Rogers (Clerk) and 4 members of the public

## **Bpc089/18 Apologies for Absence**

None received

## **Bpc090/18 Declaration of Interest and Requests for dispensation**

Cllr A Ross declared an interest in item 12a/iii/iv) planning matters DC/18/002695/02702 as she is a neighbour. No requests for dispensation had been received.

## **Bpc091/18 Public Forum**

Two residents expressed their objections to planning applications DC/18/02695 & DC/18/02702

## **Bpc092/18 Report from District Councillor Anne Killett**

Joint Housing Strategy

A Joint (i.e. Babergh and Mid Suffolk) Housing Strategy is under development and will be out for consultation between 17th September and 26th October 2018. Your input would be welcomed. The Strategy should set out how the council plans to tackle the following:

Increasing the delivery of new homes

Increasing options for older households and those needing accessible/supported accommodation

Making sure the housing stock is of high quality, safe, warm and affordable

Supporting the most vulnerable to obtain and sustain a home

Investment for income

CIFCO the long arm investment company has invested £25 million in 6 assets in the last year generating an annual income of £1.4 million. The aim is to invest the further planned £25 million (CIFCO borrowing £50 million overall on behalf of Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils at low interest) in the following 6 months. Opposition leader Rachel Eburne (Green Party) asked how risks are being monitored as the assets include high street retailers and this section of the economy is currently struggling.

Schools litter awareness competition

For the second year in a row a pupil at Somersham Primary School won the poster competition – her poster will be displayed on the dustbin lorries.

Close vote for increase in councillor's allowance

After debating a rise of 25% for the basic allowance for District Councillors (£4000 - £5000, backdated to the change to Cabinet format last year) there was a recorded vote with 16 voting for and 12 against. I voted against this as I thought we should consider this at the end of the term of the council, next year, before standing for election again. Two councillors of the administration party joined the opposition.

Community Fund

All councillors have been allocated £6250 for local projects, so any not-for-profit groups please contact me for help with any projects of benefit to the community which fit with the District Council's aims.

Redevelopment of the former MSDC offices in Needham Market

The council heard back from a design and planning team asked to propose options for development of the site. At a full council meeting on 21st June 2018 the option supported was for a mix of residential and retail development of the site. Other options which had been considered including commercial office space and care home provision were not thought viable. The proposal is for 99 houses and apartments on the 5.5 acre site. This is to be a mix of 1, 2 and 3 bed apartments and 2,3, and 4 bed apartments.

#### **Bpc093/18 Minutes of the Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman as a correct record

#### **Bpc094/18 Minutes of the Meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman as a correct record

#### **Bpc095/18 Clerk's Report**

The defibrillator child pads are with the defibrillator and the two sets of adult pads have been replaced as they had expired

The Clerk has received website training and is now able to update the site as required

The Annual auditors PFK Littlejohn have received the AGAR form and informed the Clerk that Barking Parish Council is exempt for 2017/18

The Forge have started work on the village sign

#### **Bpc096/18 Finance**

- a. The councillors reviewed and resolved to accept the Risk Assessment and management of the Council's finance
- b. All cheques signed and due for signing, as itemised in Appendix C, were authorised by the councillors. The councillors reviewed the Statement of Accounts against the budget and the bank reconciliation against the bank statements.
- c. No progress on the bank mandate change
- d. The councillors resolved that the old laptop for the Clerk can be disposed of
- e. The councillors resolved to approve the Clerk's permanent contract

#### **Bpc097/18 Noticeboard**

To be deferred to the September meeting

#### **Bpc098/18 Planning**

a. The councillors reviewed **Planning Application Land to the south of The Acorns, Willisham Road DC/18/02352** - Erection of 3 detached dwellings and resolved to support the application

*Cllr Ross left the meeting*

b. The councillors reviewed **Listed Building Application DC/18/02698 Fairfax House, Battsford Road** – Repairing roof timbers, replace roof batons, adding insulation and replacement of clay tiles and resolved to support the application

c. The councillors reviewed **Outline Planning Application DC/18/02695 Land to north of Homelands, Battsford Road** – Erection of detached dwelling and garage (access to be considered) and resolved to object to the application as it is not a suitable site for housing having regard for the historical setting of Grade II listed Fairfax House and Home Farm. It is situated on a bend in the road with poor vision and no footpath.

d. The councillors reviewed **Outline Planning Application DC/18/002702 Land to Eastern side of Battsford Road** – Erection of detached dwelling and garage (access to be considered) and resolved to object to the application as it is not a suitable site for housing having regard for the historical setting of Grade II listed Fairfax House and Home Farm. It is situated on a bend in the road with poor vision and no footpath.

*Cllr Ross re-joined the meeting*

e. The councillors reviewed **Planning Application DC/10 02149 4 Moat Farm Barns, The Tye** – Change of use from agricultural land to domestic garden land and resolved to support the application.

**Bpc099/18 War Memorial**

The councillors resolved to have a working party to clean and tidy the war memorial ready for the centenary. Clerk to obtain quotes to replace the rotting wooden posts.

**Bpc100/18 Data Protection**

To be deferred to the September meeting

**Bpc101/18 Village Hall Management Committee Report**

Cllr Bailey reported they are still hopeful to find voluntary team to redecorate the hall during the school summer holidays. The floor also needs renovation. The car park also needs resurfacing and extending. They are considering making an application for CIL money.

**Bpc102/18 SCC Highways – SID suitability sites**

Cllr Fellowes to complete the form indicating the position of the SID's

The Press and the Public were excluded from the following item due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

**Bpc103/18 Deed of Grant of Easement to development of 9 dwellings at Land north of 1Tye**

**Bpc104/18 Matters to be brought to the attention of the council**

The footway from Parsons Lane to Priestly Wood and at the corner opposite Barking Nursing Home are very overgrown – clerk to report to Suffolk Highways

**Bpc105/18 Date of the Next Meeting**

Date of next scheduled meeting will be on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm

Chairman .....Date .....