



Barton St David Parish Council

Clerk to the Council: Caron Potts
Withy Lane Farmhouse, Silver Street, Barton St David, TA11 6DD.
Telephone 01458 850875 Email clerk@bartonstdavidparish.gov.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 19th May 2025

Present: Cllrs S Jackson (Chair), D Rowley, E Rice and M Love .

In Attendance: C Potts (Clerk) and 6 members of the public

Public Questions – it was asked if we were going to mark VJ Day on 15th August. **Action Cllr Love** to research and **Cllr Rowley** to raise with VH.

AGENDA

Meeting commenced at 8.21pm

42.25 Apologies for Absence and to consider the reasons given -

A Hicks

42.25 Declarations of Interest - none

44.25 Exclusion of the Press and Public - none

45.25 Minutes of previous Parish Council meetings

Confirmed and signed as a correct record, the minutes of the April Parish Meeting and approved the Annual Parish meeting held on Monday 28th April.

46.25 Planning

Applications - none

Decisions

24/02413/FUL Proposal: Ground mounted solar panels. Location: Land At Smallmead House OS 9121 At Butts Drove Gosling. Decision: Application Permitted with Conditions

47.25 Resolutions

1. Workplan Updates and Actions

a. Flooding, Drainage, Infrastructure – Cllr Jackson

Mill Road – No update RESOLVED carry forward.

Gully cleaning and jetting took place last week and thanks were expressed to Simon Chamberlain who supervised the operation again. A review meeting is still to take place. RESOLVED Feedback at next meeting.

b. Highways and Traffic

Cllr Love is going to liaise with the Speedwatch team. **Action Clerk** to provide contact details.

Action Clerk to upload photo's of the new village signs onto the website.

c. Village Hall & Playing Field Trust – Cllr Rowley

Grateful thanks were passed on for the approval of the grant for the new flat roof. Work will commence on 28th July. RESOLVED grant monies to be added to next month's payment schedule – **Action Clerk**.

d. Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Jackson

A draft plan is being put together which will be put to the village for consultation for 6 weeks in the summer.

The new Somerset Local Plan for Housing will not be published until 2029, our NP, once ratified will take precedence. Central Government are revising their Planning Framework and it is not clear how that will affect the number of new houses rural communities are expected to provide.

e. Website Management – Clerk

The redesign is nearing completion and has been well received. Individual pages need to be checked by their 'owners'. RESOLVED Clerk to continue managing. **Action Clerk** to contact page owners for sign off/any amends.

f. Communication – Cllr Jackson

Broadband FTTP

Cllr Jackson has had a meeting with 2 of the managers in Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) in which they gave me a clear understanding of the situation and the next steps. Key points:

- Many providers across the country have decided not to deliver broadband as they had previously stated – the providers' investors have 'tightened their belts' as they are not seeing a return for their investments – less and slower revenue from paying customers than they had anticipated. So it's not just Gigaclear and it's not just Barton.
- Building Better Digital UK (BDUK) is the central government organisation responsible. They run something called the Open Market Review. This maps, across the country, the status of highspeed broadband for all premises. This is updated and reviewed every 3 months. The last review was completed in Jan and the results will be shared with CDS and Somerset in a couple of weeks.
- This latest review should reflect Gigaclear's decision – ie the Review 'map' should show that there is no provider of highspeed broadband to the Silver Street area.
- BDUK will then analyse the latest review results and decide what to do to fill the gaps. This analysis takes about 2 months.
- For our case, as there is no provider for the Silver Street area and as it is not commercially viable (because the costs outweigh the money a provider would make), it is likely that BDUK will decide to subsidize the provision of highspeed broadband – ie re-introduce the voucher scheme. And this is the route to get Gigaclear or another provider back in.

Not great news, and it is all going slower than led to believe last year. However, the lack of highspeed broadband in the Silver Street area should be clearly demonstrated in BDUK's latest Open Market Review; and that should lead to a decision to subsidise a solution and re-introduce the voucher scheme. RESOLVED Continue chasing up. **Action Cllr Jackson** to re-engage CDS at the end of July.

g. Footpaths & hedges and Environment & Trees – Cllr Love

There is still uncertainty over which trees have TPO status, currently Cllr Love believes it is only a Weeping Ash? Cllr Love would like the Black Poplar at Tootle Bridge, the Lime Tree by the playing field and the Oak at Jarman Hill. RESOLVED proceed with investigation so that the identified notable trees can be included in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Identifying old hedges for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan was also discussed. RESOLVED more information required. **Action Cllr Rowley**.

h. Asset Management and Review

- Bus Stop update & quotes

The Clerk has now received a second quote from Les Hawes for £1100 + vat compared to £3498 for the original one. This one excludes a solar light. RESOLVED Les Hawes quote approved. **Action Clerk** to confirm. Cllr Jackson will liaise with Les. Peter Farent will provide a key to the gate to enable access.

Cllr Rice has requested 3 quotes for electronic signage but hasn't had any responses. RESOLVED update if any progress is made.

The Slinky Bus requires access to the app to communicate in real time, this is an issue at the bus stop. RESOLVED explore the option of a mobile mast. **Action Cllr Rice**.

- War memorial

Cllr Love has arranged a meeting to discuss what needs doing. She is keen to preserve and record on display the names and dates of the people on the memorial before they become illegible. RESOLVED Cllr Love to explore options.

2. Second Defibrillator

- Location. The best (easily accessible to most people) still need to be determined. RESOLVED more investigation required **Action Cllr Rowley**.
- Quotes have been obtained by the Clerk. One like our current one a Rescue Sam would be £649 plus £550 for the cabinet. RESOLVED put on hold until location is determined. **Action Clerk** new information sticker for existing cabinet is required.

3. Grant applications

The Clerk confirmed that the village hall grant to be paid to them rather than the builder for guarantee and warranty purposes.

4. PC Administration Matters

- Carnival CPR and Defibrillator demonstration and training £60 +vat RESOLVED approved. Action Clerk to add to payment list.
- Land registration fee and addendum to make the PC Custodian Trustees of the Jubilee wood. £1500 + Vat. RESOLVED approved. Clerk to add to payment list when invoiced.
- Payment of the Online invoice for drainage work £3072 as per quotation. RESOLVED approved.
- Payment of Jump printing cost for May newsletter - £72. RESOLVED approved.

5. Any updates requiring Resolutions - none

48.24 Actions from minutes not already covered / carried forward

FINANCE

49.25 Accounts for payment

Reviewed and approved items of expenditure.

1. Clerk's salary including 5 days holiday and 1 Bank holiday for May £496.16
2. SALC planning application training course for Cllr Love £30
3. Internal auditor invoice £120

50.25 Bank reconciliation and cashflow

Agreed and verified the bank reconciliation figures on 9th May 2025 against the bank statements and cashflow.

Current Account £1166.34, Saving (instant access) Account - £ 46112.05, TOTAL £47278.39

51.25 Items for next meeting on Monday 30th June – VJ Day

Meeting Closed 21.28

Signed

Dated