

Barley with Wheatley Booth Parish Council (BPC)

Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on at 1800hrs on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at Barley Village Hall

**Present:** Cllr. D. Heap (Chair) Cllr. L Hunt Cllr. R. Seymour Cllr. J. Connor  
Cllr. S. Umpleby Cllr. R. Fowler Cllr. D. Goldsbrough

**In Attendance:** C. Heap Acting Clerk

**Public:** L. Stevenson & G. Birtwell (Barley Mow), T. Robbins (Barley Garage), F. Rigg, L. Richards, A. Bateman, B. Hargreaves, C. & R. Turner, L. Rushworth, M. Wilkinson, R. & S. Statham, K. Lund, S. Nicholls, (Pendle Inn), M. Dibb (Lancashire Constabulary).

1.	1	<b>Apologies:</b> Cllr. C.Lionti	<b>Absent:</b>
		<p><i>Members are reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests. A Member must generally declare a disclosable pecuniary interest which he or she has in any item on the agenda. A Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest may not participate in any discussion of the matter at the meeting and must not participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting. In addition, the Council's Standing Orders require a member with a disclosable pecuniary interest to leave the room where the meeting is held while any discussion or voting takes place.</i></p>	
2.		<b>Councillors Declaration of Interest:</b> Councillors S. Umpleby & D. Goldsbrough declared an interest in any voting relating to Resident Parking Permits.	
3.		<p><b>Introduction by Chairman</b></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed residents to the extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council and informed them that the reason for the meeting was principally to give residents the opportunity to raise concerns regarding village parking and for members to give consideration to the parking issues and to consider any action that could be taken to restrict the inconsiderate parking on the Turning Circle (TC) and other areas.</p> <p>By way of background to the meeting the Chairman reminded Councillors of the following during this year.</p> <p>a) Pubs were closed for much of the early part of the year due to Covid 19 restrictions, re-opening on 12<sup>th</sup> April but only allowing customers to be served outside.</p> <p>b) The Barley Mow had converted its car park to accommodate an outside eatery/beer garden in early April, as permitted by the government to assist the hospitality sector to recover from CV19 pub and restaurant closures, resulting in there being no car parking spaces available for guests or visitors of the Barley Mow.</p> <p>The Barley Mow can continue to function without a car park until March 2022 when elements of Covid support to the hospitality sector will be withdrawn and car parks will have to be re-established.</p> <p>c) On 17<sup>th</sup> May the Pendle Inn and the Barley Mow were permitted to serve guests and visitors inside and this attracted more visitors to these village centre establishments.</p> <p>With visitors attracted back into the village centre to visit the pubs there has been an increase in the use of the Turning Circle as a car park, more people have been ignoring the informal resident parking arrangements (lines and signs) and parking outside</p>	

residents' homes and there has been a frequent and obvious increase in congestion in the village centre.

On 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021 the Parish Council wrote to the Barley Mow and the Garage to remind both businesses that the PC does not permit parking on the Turning Circle between 08.00 hrs and 18.00 hrs and explaining the reasons for this.

The letter went on to point out that the Parish Council had previously agreed to allow parking in the evening on the TC to support their business and to relieve parking congestion so allowing residents who live in the village centre a better chance of finding a parking place outside or close to their homes.

These issues have also been reported in two recent village newsletters where the Chairman asked for respect and neighbourly approach between residents and businesses.

Over the last few weeks, it has become clear that little respect is being shown for the request not to park on the TC or for the 'informal' Resident Parking Schemes.

The Chairman said that he and other Councillors have been approached by residents who are distressed at the situation and reported: -

- the TC is full of vehicles most days,
- inconsiderate parking is causing congestion and safety concerns,
- concerns that a vehicle cannot turn around safely due to the TC being full of cars,
- concerns about occasional congestion and gridlock situations that develop which causes delays to local residents, buses and potentially emergency services.

Over the last few weeks, the PC has been monitoring the situation and looking at who has been parking on the TC and photographing the congestion in the Village.

Two of the three businesses in the village are clearly significantly adding to the problem: -

**The Garage** – No longer a major offender on the TC but on occasions has too many vehicles attending the premises meaning that vehicles are parked on the road – and given their size are adding to the congestion.

**The Barley Mow** – There has been an obvious disregard to the request not to use the TC as each day there are staff parking on the TC and residents and Councillors have heard these staff advising customers to park on the TC as there are no rules to stop them. Barley Mow staff have been heard instructing visitors to 'ignore the sign' the PC has erected informing of no parking between 8am and 6pm. It was reported that once vehicles start parking on the TC other vehicles soon follow.

The Chairman informed the meeting that he had recently received written complaints from Village Centre Residents regarding the parking issues. The Chairman said there were too many letters to read all of them out but selected one letter which had been signed by 5 No residents and read the content of the letter to the meeting. The letter reported upon:

- parking problems for residents in the village centre,
- a proposed Resident Parking Scheme,
- a lack of dialogue between the residents and the Barley Mow,
- having to tolerate loud noise levels and anti-social behaviour until late at night,

The Chairman added that later this month the PC are likely to remove the Covid 19 road signs at the entrances to the village as the government removes CV19 restrictions. The Chairman said he thought the signs had served to discourage visitors parking within the village centre and it was possible that the parking situation would deteriorate once the signs were removed.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the PC were at an advanced stage of introducing parking enforcement restrictions on the Turning Circle.

4. **Public Participation**

**Mr Frank Rigg** (Pendle Row) said that it is currently intolerable living on Pendle Row due to the inconsiderate parking and noise from the Barley Mow preventing him sleeping until after midnight on occasions. Congestion had led to his, and a neighbour's car, being damaged and asked when the restrictions on parking on the TC would be implemented, what format they would take and what could be done about the noise levels from the Barley Mow late in the evening?

The Chairman informed that negotiations were in the advanced stages with a company called Park with Ease and it was hoped a system of issuing parking tickets and imposing parking fines would be in place sometime in August.

The Chairman informed the meeting that various parking restriction options had been considered including barriers, chains, ropes etc. However, as access was necessary for turning movements (delivery vehicles, waste collection, mobile Library etc) and it was essential to provide a passing facility to prevent congestion, the Council agreed that a parking enforcement system was the most suitable.

**PC Dibb** suggested that if noise was a problem for residents, they should contact the 'Noise abatement team' at PBC. The Chairman commented that the Barley Mow intended that customer should move inside the building later in the evening to minimise noise, this might happen once the current Euro's football competition was over.

**Bob Hargreaves** (Hargreaves Farm) confirmed the farm needs the full TC to be available for their deliveries. The Chairman added that the TC space was also necessary for deliveries to the other businesses in the centre of the village.

**Lesley Stephenson** (Barley Mow) said suppliers had had problems with access for their deliveries due to residents implementing the unofficial 'Residents Parking' scheme and also positioning "no parking cones" outside their properties which was illegal. The Chairman agreed that the "no parking cones" should not be used by residents and this was the Council's position. He added that if the turning circle was clear then delivery vehicles would have good access to all businesses.

**Gary Birtwell** (Barley Mow) confirmed they are taking the parking situation very seriously. He said they have had to conform to the Covid legislation which has allowed them to convert their car park for outdoor service until March 2022. He pointed out that the car park only offers parking for 12 vehicles when in use. Mr Birtwell asked if there could be negotiation with PwE for their staff to park on the main car park. Chairman suggested this could be discussed with the Council outside of the meeting and should include Park with Ease who now lease and manage the car park.

**Stuart Nicholls** (Pendle Inn) expressed his concern that when parking enforcement is applied to the TC visitors to the Barley Mow may try to use the Pendle Inn car park for their convenience. If this proves to be the case Thwaites may introduce a barrier charge system but credit their patrons. He added that the Pendle Inn closes at 9pm most evenings.

**Chris Turner** suggested opening the main car park in the evenings to allow parking for Barley Mow patrons and added that resident parking permits were needed to deal with the explosion of visitors to Barley.

**Tom (The Garage)** said he had tried to be considerate to residents parking and not to park outside houses on Pendle Row when residents are home. He pointed out that it was not just the businesses that were causing the congestion and that visitors to the village had increased significantly.

**Annette Bateman** – asked if there was any other land available outside the village which could be utilised for parking but the Chairman pointed out that this would be at the

discretion of the local land owners. **Linda Richards** added the village was lucky to have a large car park which could be used better to offset the lack of respect shown for residents.

**Lynn Rushworth** commented that stopping parking on the TC may move parking to other parts of the village. The Chairman responded this may be the case but it was important to keep the TC clear of vehicles for aesthetic, safety and congestion reasons and that the situation will improve when the Barley Mow car park re-opens

**Chris Turner** asked Cllr Umpleby if she would lead on applying for 'Residents Parking' as she had already commenced researching the scheme. Cllr Umpleby agreed to lead but said she would need assistance from other residents. Cllr Heap said the residents had previously applied for the scheme in 2015 and been refused but that the present informal scheme had been implemented by PBC Councillor J. Starkie to support residents.

**Cllr Fowler** suggested that the PC could support an application for 'Residents Parking'.

**Cllr Heap** said that a formal vote to support any application could only take place once the content of any application is known and presented to Council for consideration. Following discussions, the chairman commented that there was support in principle for a resident parking scheme from the Council.

**Cllr Fowler** suggested the Barley Mow tell staffs not to park on the TC and suggested the Garage approaches the Pendle Inn to agree providing parking spaces during the week. He reported he had contacted LCC to request they move the new bus stop, which was located close to the Garage, back to the turning circle. He added that the newsletter should encourage residents to report problems to Parish Council.

**PC Dibb** confirmed that there had been one breach of Covid legislation by the Barley Mow on their early visits. These had been immediately resolved and subsequent visits he had with the Licencing Officer at PBC they had found acceptable compliance.

5. **Chairman's Update**

**Car Park Management System – Park with Ease (PwE)**

Access to the back-office systems is being arranged for Cllrs Goldsbrough, Hunt and the RFO. Once some of the software problems are resolved the Council should be in a position to download payment and usage reports

PwE have reaffirmed their intention to support the PC with parking enforcement on the Turning Circle. They have requested proof of ownership of the land by the PC (land registry documents have been provided) and advised the PC would need to lease the land to PwE for a nominal rent to satisfy the DVLA requirements.

It was **RESOLVED** for the Chairman to progress a lease arrangement with PwE and then bring the lease to a Council meeting for endorsement. The Council would also need to agree if any evening parking would continue to be permitted. **Action: Chairman.**

**Roles, Responsibilities and Key Tasks allocated to Councillors**

The Chairman confirmed he had spoken to all Councillors about their individual roles and responsibilities allocated to them and they had all responded affirmatively. Individuals confirmed they were satisfied with the responsibilities allocated to them.

The Chairman said over the coming weeks he would progress to share information with individual Councillors that they will need to carry out the necessary functions associated with their responsibilities. **Action: Chairman**



**Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**

The Chairman reported that he had been contacted by Newchurch and Roughlee Parish Council's suggesting arranging a joint event for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations next year. It was **RESOLVED** that Barley should participate with arranging an event. A nomination for an organising committee member will be required at the next meeting.

**WhatsAppGroup**

The Chairman reminded that the WhatsApp Group was established to share information and was not intended, or suitable, as a debating forum and not a decision-making forum for issues which have to appear on a meeting agenda.

**6. Finance Officers Update**

The current holding in the bank was £39,074.37.

**Financial Matters:** The following payments were approved / ratified for payment:

	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
June	Came & Co Insurance	518.90
	British Gas Electric Direct Debit	30.55
	JRB Dog Gloves	103.14
	Lloyds Jones Toilet Supply	200.20
	Bob Hargreaves Remove 5No Moles Village Green	100.00
	Spare Toilet Keys RFO	12.00
	Internal Auditor - DH	63.60
	Gatekeeper Salary	180.00
	Clerk Salary	246.40
	RFO Salary	168.80
	HMRC	103.80
July	Wilkinson June Toilet Clean	220.00
	Dewhurst Paints Best Kept Village	19.16
	UU Waterplus Toilets Water	48.29

**Pendle Borough Council Capital Grant Application 2021**

The Chairman informed that the Council could apply for a capital grant from PBC and suggested grant funds could be towards either new Handwash facilities for the car park toilets or towards a new height restriction barrier for the car park. It was **RESOLVED** to apply for a grant for the replacement of two handwash appliances. **Action: RFO.**

**7. Reports from Councillors & Borough Councillor**

Cllr Goldsbrough reported that he requested two companies to quote for the repair of damaged playground matting, however only one Contractor had responded. The quote for the works was £500.00. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the quote and instruct the Contractor to proceed. **Action Cllr. Goldsbrough & RFO**

8 Date of the next meeting: 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021, (agenda items by 5<sup>th</sup> August 2021).