

Barnacre-with-Bonds Parish Council

MINUTES

Of the Parish Council Meeting which took place at Barnacre Memorial Hall on Wednesday 13th November 2024 at 7.30pm.

73.24 Present: Parish Councillors Fennell (Chair), Reilly (Vice Chair), Howell, Harkins and Ibison. 2 members of the public.

Apologies- Cllr Commander- Out of the Country on business & Cllr Webster - illness.

74.24 Minutes from the regular meeting held on 11.09.2024 were discussed, **it was resolved that Cllr Fennell would sign the minutes as a true record.**

75.24 Declarations of Interest - Cllr Reilly-Owner of Easywebsites.

76.24 To adjourn the meeting for a period of public discussion, to allow members to give a "for information only" update from any meetings / groups / visits / training courses attended since the last meeting, **the chance to review any information on Clerk's report & receive any update from Borough & County Councillors or Police.**

Meeting closed 19.31

The Clerk updated the Parish Councillors on the War memorial restoration at Calder Vale and the Quote received from Drycraft. The clerk is to contact Paul at Drycraft to reserve a date in 2025 for work to begin. Donation money and grant money received from the Champion Grant along with Parish Council contribution will be used to fund the restoration. Cllr Howell is to inspect the War Memorial.

The Parish Councillors introduced themselves to the two members of public present at the meeting.

Meeting re opened 19.39

77.24 **Climate change** – Cllr Ibison advised the council that the work with the Almshouses project is still ongoing and the project is moving along as expected. No new projects.

78.24 **Noventum Power – Barnacre Solar Farm** – Planning Application - **23/00902/FULMAJ**_revisions - Minutes produced by Cllr Howell from the meeting held between Barnacre Parish Council and Noventum Power on 09.10.24 were circulated to all cllrs prior to the meeting. The clerk advised Chris Atkinson at Noventum had confirmed via email he agreed they were a true representation of the meeting, and **it was resolved Cllr Fennell would sign the minutes as a true record.**

The Council went on to discuss a letter received from Noventum Power dated 18th October 2024 regarding an offer of a Community Benefit fund of £34,500 one off payment. Councillors discussed previous communications with Noventum regarding the preference for an annual payment for community benefit to help with projects within the Parish that come up throughout the financial year. The Council works with an annual budget and precepts accordingly. The auditing system is determined with income and expenditure system. **It was resolved that the council would work with Noventum regarding this issue and pursue an annual figure. The clerk will draft**

a letter to Noventum Power advising of the councils auditing system and reiterate the preference for an annual fund requesting clarification of Noventum's position and the reasons they have for rejecting this option. Letter will be sent to chair for approval.

- 79.24 **Parish Council Bank Account** – The clerk advised the council Lloyds bank will be changing the Treasurer Account currently held on 14/01/25 to a Community Account designed for nonprofit organisations. There will be a maintenance fee for this account of £4.25 per month. Councillors went on to discuss creating a task group to discuss Parish Council finance issues, minutes will be taken at meetings and any proposals put to full council for agreement. Councillors Fennell, Reilly and Howell will be included in the task group. **It was resolved that the £4.25 monthly fee would be paid whilst the Council looked at the other options available to the Council for banking and the finance task group would be formed.**
- 80.24 **Email Edith Gorst** – Edith Gorst was present at the meeting to advise the Parish Council of her concerns with visibility and parking for the construction workers at the junction of Calder House Lane with the B6430. Edith also had concerns regarding parking on the corner where Bruna Lane meets Ray Lane. Visibility is restricted on the blind bend with motorists having to use the wrong side of the road to pass the parked vehicles. **It was resolved that the clerk would report these problem areas to LCC Highways via the police road safety system and write to LCC highways regarding the junction at Calder House Lane due to its proximity to the Garstang Academy.**
- 81.24 **Garstang Christmas Lights** – **It was resolved a donation of £500 would be awarded to GTC. The clerk will advise Edwina Parry and make payment.**
- 82.24 **Biodiversity Grant** – The clerk advised that SS Mary and Michael's Catholic Primary School and Calder Vale St John's C of E Primary School both wish to partake in a project to encourage biodiversity. The schools have agreed to produce a short report following their chosen project with pictures where appropriate. **It was resolved a payment of £150 per school would be paid by the Clerk using the Biodiversity Grant money. The clerk will contact the schools for bank details and make payments.**
- 83.24 **VE Day 80th Anniversary celebrations** – Councillors discussed collaborating with other Parish Councils and GTC to discuss the VE Day anniversary celebrations. **It was resolved that Councillor Tony Fennell would attend the first online meeting and feedback to the Parish Council. The clerk will advise GTC.**
- 84.24 **Wyre Local Plan** – The parish Council discussed collaborating with GTC and surrounding Parishes in collectively addressing the concerns raised by GTC with Wyre Council. The Councillors discussed joining the meetings and agree it is a good idea to address issues with the same approach. Councillors want to continue to have separate written opinions directly from Barnacre-with-Bonds. **It was resolved, the clerk would respond to Edwina Parry and express the Councils interest in collaborating.**
- 85.24 **Consultation- Enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings** – Councillors agreed that this is a necessity moving forward but recognised that it was important to meet face to face when possible. **It was resolved Cllr Howell would complete the consultation.**

86.24 **Bowgreave Football Pitch** – It was resolved that this item would be discussed at the next meeting due to time constraints, and the clerk would add to the January agenda.

87.24 **Plaque for Queens Jubilee tree** – It was resolved that the clerk would get a price from Timpson's for the plaque with the agreed wording and Cllr Ibison would make a plinth in the early part of 2025.

88.24 **Planning applications / appeals, comments:**

- **Application Number: 23/00902/FULMAJ Proposal:** Erection of a solar farm together with associated infrastructure @ Land Off Strickens Lane, Barnacre - revised/additional information in respect of the above application.
A letter was sent from Barnacre_with-Bonds Parish Council in response to the revisions on this application:-

24 September 2024

Planning Application Number: 23/00902/FULMAJ

Proposal: Erection of a solar farm together with associated infrastructure

Location: Land Off Strickens Lane Barnacre-with-bonds Lancashire

Case officer: Mr Rob Clewes

The Barnacre with Bonds Parish Council have reviewed the additional information that the applicant has provided in relation to the above referenced planning application and wishes to add the following observations to its previous consultee response dated 18th October 2023:

1. Use of Castle Lane, Bonds as access to the northern section of the solar farm site

The Parish Council is concerned about the proposed use of part of Castle Lane for access to the northern section of this development. Castle Lane is a single carriageway road with no footpaths and any increase in traffic using it will have a major impact on road safety. Whilst the proposal is to use only a short section of the road to provide access to a haulage road that is to be constructed in the fields to the north of Castle Lane, this section of Castle Lane is in close proximity to the entrance of St Mary and St Michaels Primary School and Hummingbirds Nursery. So additional traffic associated with this proposed development will add to the congestion in an already difficult area where vehicles and pedestrians mix on a small section of narrow road.

The area of Castle Lane adjacent to the school and nursery entrance is extremely busy at the beginning and end of the school day and any additional traffic on Castle Lane will only give rise to further highway safety issues.

Castle Lane is also the access point for St Mary & St Michael's Church and access and parking to it is only possible via Castle Lane.

The Cornmill Nursing Home is located directly opposite the Castle Lane/Bonds Lane junction with staff, visitors and residents having to negotiate this difficult junction. Additionally, there are two footpaths (Footpath 100 and the Wyre Way) in close proximity to this junction resulting in pedestrians having to cross the road at this point as there is only a footpath on the eastern side of Bonds Lane at this point. This is particularly hazardous as the Castle Lane crossing point is in close proximity to a mini roundabout, bridge summit, and blind bends in both directions.

Bonds Lane is the primary southerly route out of Garstang and is used by not only the general public but a large contingent of children who live in Garstang and attend Garstang Academy who all need to cross this junction.

The Parish Council is concerned for the safety of children, parents and staff who attend the local schools, nursery, church and for all members of the local community who use this road.

Castle Lane is a single-track road with no footpaths and is also used extensively by the wider community for recreational activities such as walking and cycling. It provides access to a series of footpaths (FP15, 16, 17 and 18) that provide access to the wider countryside within Barnacre and the Bowland Fells. So, consideration needs to be given to protecting the safety of all pedestrians using this road and limit any increase in hazards and risks.

The Parish Council have been advised separately by the applicant that it is their intention to use Castle Lane for access on an extremely limited basis. They have further advised that they would only use it for approximately 20-25 vehicles movements, these being HGV movements over 7.5 tonnes bringing the heaviest equipment to the site. We appreciate that they have discussed their access proposals with Lancashire County Council Highways Department and if you are minded to approve their planning application then the Parish Council wishes to request that a series of stringent conditions on the use of Castle Lane are put in place to limit as far as possible the impact of these vehicle movements on the local residents, St Mary and St Michaels Church, St Mary and St Michaels Primary School, Hummingbirds Nursery and The Cornmill Nursing Home.

These should include:

- a. Avoiding peak school times (08.00 to 09.30 and 14.30 to 16.00), choosing appropriate times to avoid disruption to local residents i.e. not at night and weekends. Suitable manned traffic management during deliveries should be adopted to ensure public safety.
- b. Restrict access to delivery of large items of plant only. Castle Lane should not be used as a general access for all site vehicles.
- c. The temporary access haul road should be removed after all deliveries are completed, returning the fields to their current agricultural status. It should not become a permanent feature.

2. Use of Ray Lane as access to the southern section of the solar farm site

The Parish Council's comments in its previous consultation letter dated 18 October 2023 are still valid and we consider that utilising this route to the site will pose a significant risk to vehicles and pedestrians that use Ray Lane. We wish to reiterate again that the access route to the southern access incorporates the junction of Garstang Road (the B6430) and Calder House Lane. This is a particularly busy and dangerous junction in Bowgreave and is used by not only the public but a large contingent of children who live in Catterall and attend Garstang Community Academy who all need to cross this junction. Consequently, if you are minded to approve this application restrictions will be required for vehicle access to the site during the busy morning and afternoon weekday periods.

The Parish Council requests that Wyre Planning takes into consideration these comments when determining this application.

Signed.....Date.....

- **Application Number:** 24/00791/FUL **Proposal:** Change of use and extension to double garage and former dairy building to form 1.no 2 bedroom dwelling (Self Build) @Wildwood Cottage Turners Lane Barnacre. **This was discussed and resolved that there were no comments.**
- **Application Number:** 24/00819/FUL **Proposal:** Proposed two storey side extension and single storey front extension following demolition of existing detached garage @The Old Barn Arkwright Farm, Eidsforth Lane, Barnacre. **This was discussed and it was resolved there were no comments.**
- **Application Number:**24/00762/FUL **Proposal:** Proposed equestrian menage for commercial use in connection with existing livery on site @Turners Farm, Turners Lane, Barnacre. **This was discussed and it was resolved there was no comments.**
- **Application Number:** 24/00778/PAJ **Proposal:** Installation of solar PV panels on cattle housing @ Slack Farm, Keepers Lane, Barnacre. **This was discussed and it was resolved there was no comments.**
- **Application Number:** 24/00928/FUL **Proposal:** Proposed erection of 1.no 2-storey extension following the demolition of existing lean to, and the erection of detached garage with home office in roof space @ Dobsons Farmhouse Turners Lane Barnacre. **This was discussed and it was resolved there was no comments.**

88.24 Financial Transactions

It was resolved that the Chair would sign the bank statements showing the following transactions being authorised:

Date of Bank statement	Paid IN / OUT	Paid on	Paid to	Amount £	Payment method
11.2024	OUT	11.09.24	LALC TRAINING	£46.00	FP
11.2024	OUT	16.09.24	H.ADAIR (INSIGNIA REIMBURSEMENT)	£108.00	FP
11.2024	OUT	16.09.24	STARBOARD SYSTEMS (SCRIBE ACCOUNTS)	£72.00	FP
11.2024	OUT	25.09.24	H.ADAIR (CLERK'S SALARY)	£478.75	SO
11.2024	OUT	30.09.24	GARSTANG IN BLOOM	£21.60	FP
11.2024	OUT	01.10.24	EASY WEBSITES	£36.90	DD
11.2024	IN	04.10.24	CHAMPION GRANT SCHEME	£500.00	FP
11.2024	OUT	11.10.24	H.ADAIR (Jubilee Tree reimbursement)	£72.00	FP
11.2024	OUT	25.10.24	H.Adair (Clerk's Oct Salary)	£478.75	SO
11.2024	OUT	01.11.24	Easy Websites	£36.96	DD
11.2024	OUT	04.11.24	Autela Group Ltd	£75.05	FP
11.2024	OUT	07.11.24	H.Adair (Remembrance Wreaths)	£40.00	FP

CHQ – Cheque. SO – Standing Order. DD – Direct Debit. BACs – Bankers' Automated Clearing System. BGC – Bankers Giro Credit. FP – Faster payment.

88.25 Bank Balance – The current bank balance is £26,891.86. **It was resolved that this be noted.**

SignedDate.....

88.26 It was resolved that the following payments be noted.

MOP	Paid	For	Amount £
FP	H Adair	Jubilee Tree	£72.00
FP	Autela Group Ltd	Payroll services	£75.05
FP	H Adair	Remembrance day wreaths	£40.00

88.26 **Meeting Dates** – It was resolved that the meeting dates for 2025 circulated at the meeting are agreed and will be added to the website.

Meeting closed 9pm.

Signed

.....Date.....

DRAFT