

BARTESTREE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**HELD ON TUESDAY 9 MAY 2015 at 7.20pm
IN BARTESTREE VILLAGE HALL**

MINUTES

Present:

Chair Mrs W Soilleux; Mr G Davies; Mrs J Karayiannis; Mrs F Matthews; Mrs L Hoppé; Mr S Garner and Mr M Wilson

In Attendance:

Mrs E Wilson (Clerk)

Members of the public - 6

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs D Greenow (Ward Councillor); N Shore; D Forrest and R Williams

2. **Declarations of Interest:** None Received

3. **To Adopt the Minutes of the Parish Meeting held 10 May 2016**

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman

4. **Chair's Annual Report**

The Chairman presented her annual report and a copy is attached to these Minutes.

5. **To Receive a report from Diana Caroline Hopton Charity**

The annual report was previously circulated and is attached to these Minutes

6. **Questions from the public:**

None received

The meeting closed at 7.25pm

Signed by:
Chairman

Date: May 2018

Bartestree with Lugwardine Group Parish Council

Chair's Report 2016/17

This year has once again been a very busy but also a very successful year with three major achievements: the completion of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, the defeat of the Gladman appeal and the Parish Clerk achieving Qualified Clerk Status.

The year began with the appeal by public inquiry into the refused planning application to build up to a hundred homes off Longworth Lane by Gladman Developments. The public inquiry began exactly a year ago on May 10th 2016. It was held at Herefordshire and Worcestershire Group Training Association in Holmer Road, Hereford, where we convened all day, every day for eight days with an additional half-day dedicated to a site visit. The venue and procedures resembled those in a court of law and Appeal Inspector, Mr. David Wildsmith, conducted the process in a very professional way. Each party, Herefordshire Council and Gladman Developments, was represented by its own barrister and chosen expert witnesses. It was a fascinating process to observe and be part of. On the fifth day, local residents had the opportunity to present their views and submit themselves to questioning by the opposition's barrister. All did a most commendable job due to their passionate feelings and help and advice from the Herefordshire Council Planning Team. I would like to place on record our sincere thanks to Mr. Ed Thomas, Principal Planning Officer, for the enormous amount of time and effort that he put into fighting this public inquiry to bring it to a successful conclusion.

At the same time, the group parish had to play its part by getting as far ahead as possible with its Neighbourhood Development Plan before the public inquiry began and to keep going with it to near completion before the appeal decision was made by the Secretary of State. The discovery that not only did the Neighbourhood Development Plan have to be completed but so did the two supporting documents, the Consultation Statement and the Basic Conditions Statement, added to the pressure and the workload. However, all the hard work was more than compensated for by the successful outcomes of the appeal not being upheld and the Neighbourhood Development Plan being adopted on 1st December 2016.

The third success was that of Eve becoming a Qualified Clerk in September 2016. In addition to all the usual council work, she has found time to successfully complete the 25 sections of the CiLCA course. Well done, Eve! You are our first Qualified Clerk.

During the year, the number of planning applications for new homes reached 148, which means that we are only four short of our minimum target number until 2031, with four more pending a decision. This achievement and the adoption of Herefordshire Council's Local Plan and our Neighbourhood Plan seems to have stemmed the number of planning applications for the time being. Since I starting writing this the planning application for the four has been approved so that our minimum target of 152 has now been achieved.

In July we changed to a new website with Scot as Webmaster and Mark Millmore as advisor. There were a few hiccups to start with but it is running well, although there is still more information to be added when time permits.

One Parish Plan action is continuing to be implemented with the change of more stiles to kissing gates. This has been managed by Eve and our PRow Officer, Lin, who as Tree Officer has also been very busy monitoring the tree work requested and, on occasions, not requested but just carried out.

The Play Area on the Village Hall site is now eleven years old and has required some refurbishment of some of the pieces of play equipment. I would like to thank Rob Francis, who does an excellent job carrying out the weekly checks.

I would also like to thank Vice-Chair, Geoff, for his support throughout the year and Eve for her hard work and doing her best to keep me on the straight and narrow in negotiating my way through all the rules and regulations. Finally, thank you all for giving up your time to be on the Parish Council, particularly if you work as well. We may not always agree but in general we have worked together well and achieved a great deal in the last year.

Wendy Soilleux
May 2017

Diana Caroline Hopton Charity

Report for Annual Parish Meeting 2017

The Diana Caroline Hopton Charity owns two almshouses, which continue to provide accommodation for two sets of tenants who have been in occupation for some years. The Charity's reserves remain high and the financial base is sound.

The issue of right of access across the unadopted road is in the process of being resolved by obtaining a 'Deed of Grant' from the owners of the road. A further issue of one tenant parking on the road is being resolved by the provision of an area of hard standing within the curtilage of the property.

The Trustees are:	Dr. G Barnes	Chairman
	Mr. J F Baldwin	Treasurer/Secretary
	The Revd. Prebendary J Davies	
	Mrs. S W Soilleux	
	Dr. Richard Henderson	

J F Baldwin
May 2017