

THE GREEN CHARITY BARRINGTON

Minutes of the Annual Meeting

held in the Village Hall on May 6 2009

Present: Councillors Fletcher (Chairman), Cooper, Day, Hardman, Reeder, Van de Weyer, Whybrow
Curator of the Green Brian Northrop
17 Members of the public

The Meeting opened at 8.50 pm.

1 **Apologies for absence** : None given.

2 **Chairman of the Trustee: Review of the year**

The Trustee held 10 formal meetings during the year, the majority after Parish Council Meetings. Most of its activities are related to the maintenance, appearance and preservation of the Green. The Green has been used for a fair, vintage car displays and of course football and cricket.

Parking of vehicles on the Village Green remains a continuing problem and the Trustee has investigated reinforcing media to prevent damage where parking is essential. Installation costs appear to be quite high. It is only by written concession from the Charity that parking can be permitted on the Village Green.

Building work to houses around the Green often requires contractors' vehicles, skips and materials to be placed on the Village Green and a small charge per day will continue to be made with damage repair at the cost of the user.

Minor repair work on the many Permitted Way roadways was carried out as part of a rolling schedule and will continue as required. This work is funded by the Permitted Way Licence scheme. High repair costs are anticipated for 2009, when major works will be undertaken, for which quotations have been sought.

Maintenance of the trees planted on the Green has become costly. In addition several chestnut and oak trees are being carefully monitored for disease.

As from 1st September 2007, the new Trustee issued Permitted Way Licences for either one year 2007-2008, renewable annually, or for four years 2007-2010, with payment by Standing Order or by cheque.

The Trustee submitted an Application to the Planning Inspectorate in August 2008, to deregister 0.4 acres of the Village Green, in exchange for a total of about 1.8 acres of adjacent land owned by CEMEX. This Application having followed due process nears completion and has been a major administrative project for such a small Charity to accomplish.

Clarification on points of detail with regard to the legal status of The Green Charity, its role and functions was coming forward as a direct result of the work being carried out on the land exchange and deregistration. The Green Charity is not considered in law to be a legal entity: its legal functions had to be carried out by Barrington Parish Council as Trustee to The Green Charity. At the present time, no information had been received by the Clerk which would lead to any change in the day-to-day management of The Green Charity as currently carried out, but this remains open as further detail comes forward.

Chairman of the Trustee: Review of the year continued

In closing his Report, the Chairman thanked Simon Lake for auditing the Accounts. Thanks to Margaret Goding for her administration of the Charity and to Brian Northrop for his support and advice in his role as Curator of the Green.

3 Financial Report

The Audited Accounts for 2007-2008 had been circulated to all residents in advance of the Meeting together with the draft Accounts for 2008-2009.

4 Attendance record for 2008-2009 Trustee Meetings (9)

Laura Cooper (7), Anne Day (9), Tony Fletcher (9), Judy Hardman (8), Malcolm Reeder (4), Aidan Van de Weyer (9).

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Informal open forum for discussion

In connection with damage to the Village Green roadways by large vehicles, Colin Gilbert explained that he and his neighbours ensured that their refuse bins were placed at the edge of the Green, so that the refuse collection vehicles did not have to negotiate, and potentially damage, the access roadways. The Chairman thanked him and his neighbours for their thoughtfulness.

The Chairman confirmed that there were diseased trees on the Green, and their progress was being carefully monitored.

Keith Barnes asked about the revised legal status of the Green Charity: the Chairman said that the Green Charity could reclaim VAT, because of its close links to the Parish Council, its Managing Trustee. However, all invoices had to be addressed to the Parish Council.

A plea was made for an end to the large quantity of dandelions on the Village Green, particularly at West Green.

Concerns were raised about the Village Green roadways and spurs. The Chairman and the Clerk emphasised that the Trustee was willing to visit to discuss any issues on an individual basis:

The discussion ended at 9.30 pm.

Signed

Date **May 19 2009**