

Minutes of the Barham Annual Electors' Meeting held on Monday 15 April 2019 at 7.30pm in Barham Village Hall

Present:

Parish Cllr David Wood (Chairman Barham Parish Council), Parish Cllr David Tamsitt (Vice-Chairman), Parish Cllr Ernie Mullett, Parish Cllr Stephanie Hollowday, Parish Cllr Sarah Goulden, Parish Cllr John Brooks, Parish Cllr Liz Minter, and Parish Cllr Patti Earl.

Canterbury City Councillor, Cllr Simon Cook

18 residents

Clerk to the Council, Amanda Sparkes

Apologies - Apologies for absence were received from:

Parish Cllr Stuart Eccles.

Kent County Councillor, Cllr Michael Northey

Diana Forrest, Kentish Gazette correspondent.

Neil Fraser, St John's Church Parochial Church Council.

Barham Preschool.

Barham Bowls Club

Susan Foster, Barham Poppy Appeal

Kay Greig, Coffee Stop

Welcome - The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for coming.

Minutes of the 2018 Annual Electors' meeting held 25 April 2018 - These had been published on the website since the last year's meeting. They were accepted as a true record. There were no matters arising.

Chairman's report

Cllr Wood explained that he would start by talking about the parish council's finances. An income and expenditure breakdown for 2018-2019 had been distributed on the seats. He explained that the precept had been increased slightly for 2019-2020 for a number of reasons, including the loss of a cushioning grant from Canterbury City Council; committed expenditure; and to give a contingency for the new councillors starting their four-year term from May.

Cllr Wood advised the donations recorded are £300 to the primary school towards them cutting the village green and £10 for a "Lost Words" book for Barham Primary School.

Cllr Wood invited residents' questions on finance. A resident asked where the dog bag dispenser shown as purchased as a new asset was. Cllr Wood explained this had been linked to the possibility of a 'wormery' at South Barham Road – where with restrictions dog poo can be put in the wormery and the worms then eat it and eventually the wormery produces compost. However the company took the order for a wormery and payment of £179 and subsequently collapsed. The dog bag dispenser therefore has not yet been installed and the location for it needs to be resolved. It may be located at South Barham Road or the Brickfield Recreation Ground.

Cllr Wood explained that this was the last meeting of the parish council as it stands. The 02 May elections have been uncontested and eight candidates putting themselves forward are deemed elected and there is one vacancy. The parish council can co-opt someone to this vacancy if anyone is interested.

Cllr Wood asked to record thanks to all the councillors, commenting that they have been very supportive and tolerant of his chairmanship. He explained that three councillors are standing down – Cllr Sarah Goulden, who has completed one term of office and given incredible advice over her term; Cllr Patti Earl who has given her time over more than one stint, and also Cllr David Tamsitt who has served four terms, some of the time as Vice Chairman.

Cllr Wood explained he wanted to draw residents' attention to a recent consultation by Kent County Council (KCC) where the outcome and decision by KCC is to introduce a charge for the disposal of rubble and plasterboard and similar from 02 June 2019 at all the 18 waste sites in the county. They will charge £2 per black bag. Cllr Wood advised that Barham Parish Council was one of over 200 organisations who responded to the consultation with 85% of those responding

opposed to the introduction of a charge. However KCC has assured members that the proposal won't increase fly tipping. The complication is that it is Canterbury City Council or private landowners who pay to collect fly tipping.

Cllr Wood reminded residents that the parish council does try to publish current consultations on the parish council website.

For planning, there have been 30 planning applications in Barham, with nothing considered contentious in the parish. An application for development at Highland Court outside the parish was made and refused – Cllr Wood asked to record thanks to Cllr Simon Cook and Mike Sole for their efforts for this.

Cllr Wood commented that a parish council aim is to increase sustainability, improve the community and respond to residents' requests. The parish council continues to progress requests from the 2016 Village Survey where able.

In the last year the parish council has provided:

- an electrical supply to the village green, which will assist with fetes and other events in future;
- a new bench at The Shrubbery
- two new bus shelters at Derringstone Hill
- a Play Tower at Brickfields Recreation Ground (after consultation at a village fete)
- made the Brickfields Recreation ground more accessible by fencing off a large area to become sheep free – and provided two picnic benches within that area. (The row of fencing has kissing gates provided to stop motorcycles obtaining access.)
- several new trees at the village green and the old cricket field – the Men of Trees donated and also helped plant these, and have promised to donate more next winter. The parish council gave them a donation well below the actual costs of all the donated trees.

Cllr Wood advised the council is currently replacing the concrete seats on the green (assisted by a CCC capital grant).

Cllr Wood explained that crocus bulbs on Valley Road were provided and planted by residents and he would like to encourage others to donate and/or plant more.

Cllr Wood explained that three Leases have all come up for renewal or introduction recently:

- The latest is for Barham Football Club who were the speakers at last year's Annual Electors Meeting. They now have 70 plus members, which is to be applauded. The Lease for them (to lease the old cricket field) is now in its final stages and will be given for 30 years – the minimum the Club need to secure grants for building a pavilion.
- The Tennis Club Lease has also just been renewed. Their annual rent has risen from 50 pence per year to £52.
- (For information, the third Lease was given to Barham Allotments Association in November 2016 for their allotment gardens site at Brickfields Recreation Ground).

Cllr Wood advised that Cllr Liz Minter crusaded for better Christmas lights throughout the village in 2018. Cllr Minter commented that residents' efforts were much appreciated, the village looked lovely, and she hoped it will encourage more this year.

Cllr Wood explained that the parish council put up large reusable commemorative poppies (provided by the British Legion) throughout the village in November 2018. The parish council also offered a first aid session with the village's Community First Responder which was well received, and the Community First Responder has kindly offered to run another session if there is enough interest from residents – there needs to be 12. A resident present explained that the Community First Responder was visiting The Wives Club next year to run something similar.

Cllr David Wood, Barham Parish Council Chairman 2018-2019

Kent County Councillor Michael Northey

Cllr Wood explained that Cllr Northey normally attends and/or gives a report for the meeting, but nothing appears to have been received this year.

Cllr Wood then invited CCC Cllr Simon Cook to give his report.

Report of Cllr and Leader of Canterbury City Council Simon Cook (Canterbury City Council – Barham Downs Ward):

Cllr Cook gave the following report to the meeting:

It has again been a very busy year for the City Council and as we draw to the end of this council cycle, it has been a privilege to have been your councillor for the last four years.

In Barham there has been plenty to do. Assistance with bin collections and yellow lines by the Shrubbery as well as getting footpaths cleared in The Grove. I've been able to help with council grants to the village for new benches and the football club which received money for new goals. I was also very happy to speak against the Highland Court planning application earlier this year and very pleased that it wasn't approved.

After speaking with residents on Out Elmstead Lane, I've been able to ensure that KCC have a protocol with Highways England to put signage on the A2 in the event that the Nailbourne flooding closes the bottom of the road. The signage should slow the traffic down to enable a safer access on to the A2.

Lorry parking remains an issue across the ward and I've been successful in getting some unauthorised lay-bys closed. The long term solution however is to get lorries a proper place to park and I'm very pleased that we're now putting forward plans to develop a proper lorry park by Brenley Corner with Swale council.

We seem to have made real progress on fly tipping and we've made it very easy to report it on our website. Some cases are easier to deal with than others - and I definitely got my hands dirty getting tyres out of the embankment by Dover Road with John Fisher! After much to-ing and fro-ing with Serco who would not agree to take them out of the embankment we did this ourselves.

Across the district, you'll know that we're in the final stages of introducing ANPR (number plate recognition) car parking in the city. This makes parking much more seamless as well as only charging you for the time you use. I'd really encourage everyone to get an online account - it'll mean you never have to use a payment machine again.

There was an accident today on the A2 – the Serco crew were out with their large lorry putting cones out in preparation for a litter pick, and their lorry was hit by a HGV. Thankfully, no one was hurt.

Finally I'd like to thank the parish council for all their help and support. They do an incredible amount for the parish and it's been great to work alongside them.

CCC Cllr Simon Cook

A resident asked for more information about the proposed lorry park. Cllr Cook explained that CCC are looking to develop a lorry park near Brenley Corner in conjunction with Swale Borough Council, with access via the roundabout. The site is identified and Highways England and Kent Highways Service are both supportive. If this proceeds both local authorities would borrow the required funding from the government. A business case is being

prepared and the lorry park should pay for itself. Cllr Cook explained that there is a benefit to a lorry park provision because CCC is unable to clamp lorries currently as there is nowhere for them to park – but once lorry parking is available CCC may apply for a power to clamp. There would be a charge to park. Cllr Cook commented that just ticketing at present does not incentivise better parking, and that feedback from Ashford Borough Council who have provided lorry parking is that their fly parking has significantly improved.

Following up on the report of the accident that day, a resident explained that following a recent vehicle breakdown he had learned that for breakdowns on any major road or motorway, the AA park 100m behind a broken down vehicle in order to protect their worker.

Residents' comments and questions

A resident asked if the March litter pick event which had been cancelled due to high winds had been rescheduled. Cllr Wood advised this is now set for 18 May 2019 from 2pm-4pm starting in the village hall. The date is later than hoped for but is down to hall availability.

A resident suggested that the parish council could consider having hand-held litter pickers available at the village shop for walkers to use and return. The Clerk will add this to the next parish council meeting agenda.

A resident explained their interest in securing affordable housing in the village – his interest is as a resident, ex parish councillor and ex Clerk. The last three editions of the Kentish Gazette have highlighted the housing crisis for local people. He commented that there have been three Housing Needs Surveys commissioned in the last 27 years and that children born to families in the village cannot afford to live in Barham. Cllr Wood explained that the project to look at an exception site for affordable housing was delayed while the central Government Right to Buy legislation and its impact on rural exception sites was resolved. But the parish council is now working with the Housing Enabler at Action with Communities in Rural Kent who has been in contact with the landowner of two of the most suitable sites in the village. The landowner's response is currently awaited but when it is received, Cllr Wood and the Clerk will attend a meeting with him and the Housing Enabler, so the parish council will have involvement from an early stage.

A resident commented on the increase in the number of TIR lorries using the Elham Valley as a route to get to the Channel Tunnel and how the road past Breach towards Elham is totally unsuitable for them. Cllr Wood commented that signage does exist and the problem is worsened by lorry drivers using sat navs designed for cars. Cllr Cook commented that he believed KCC can designate roads as not suitable for lorries, which the Police can then enforce. (This item will be added to the next parish council meeting agenda.) A resident commented that a lot of the offending lorries seem to come from Gomez. Cllr Cook explained that he has spoken to the manager of Gomez, mostly about parking locally, and the manager has offered to speak to all the parish councils locally after the May elections and this could be a topic.

A resident asked about who is responsible for emptying the bins in the village. This is down to CCC/Serco. The resident advised that the one by the bus stop at Derringstone Hill is being missed. Cllr Cook kindly agreed to report this.

A resident asked about who pays if a bin is damaged or lost by Serco. Cllr Cook explained that in these instances Serco offer a free of charge replacement. But for wear and tear, the householder must pay for replacements themselves. Third party damage to bins would be considered on a case by case basis.

A resident asked if the parish council has any planned expenditure. Cllr Wood advised yes, for:

- The new seating on the village green (assisted by a capital grant from CCC)
- £5,000 as a kick-start grant to the Barham Football Club when their new lease is signed
- Other projects are considered as things come up and where budget allows. Cllr Wood asked residents to give ideas to the parish council via the Clerk.

Presentation by David Tamsitt on the Nailbourne Community Foundation

David Tamsitt explained that he is a Trustee of the Nailbourne Community Foundation and had been invited by Michael Pearson who was not able to attend tonight to speak on behalf of the Nailbourne Community Foundation. He also introduced his colleague Anita Robson who is also a Trustee. He gave his report as follows:

Nailbourne Community Foundation what is it?

It is a registered charity limited by guarantee, formed in 2017.

Who are the Trustees?

Michael Pearson founder chairman of trustees, former chairman of Nailbourne Community Shop Association. Sarah Adamson former treasurer of NCA.

Anita Robson who links with Church and Fifth Trust, Andrea Thomas healthcare background, Nicki Gooderham, school link. And myself with a parish council background knowledge.

There is also a non-voting shop representative, currently Anne Wells.

Our aim is to maintain a broad representation of local interest within the Trustee appointments.

Why was it established?

1. Established primarily as a charity to assist the village store in managing uncommitted surplus in a tax efficient way.
2. Established to separate the trading arm shop and shop committee from the responsibility of distributing surplus funds for local benefactors and causes as in line with the stated objectives of the village store.

I like to see it as two arms of the same organization; the Village store being the trading arm and the Foundation being the charitable arm of the same entity.

When was it set up?

Established approximately two years ago following approval to form at the village store AGM . Foundation has had the benefit of two financial years' donations from the store.

Objectives of Foundation

To manage and distribute funds accumulated by the trust to support local initiatives projects for the benefit of the community and or individuals.

Who is eligible for a Grant?

Grants are open to anyone in the local area Barham and neighbouring villages /environs.

How do you apply for a Grant?

We have a simple one-sided grant application form that applicants can request. This is then considered by the trustees. Urgent /emergency hardship requests can be fast tracked by emailing phoning the chair.

What has it achieved to date?

Anita Robson, Trustee, ran through a list of good causes supported to date:

- i) Anita explained that one of the first groups helped was the Scouts, who started with nothing. They were washing cars and raised £200 and the Nailbourne Community Foundation match funded this with another £200. In a matter of months, they now have

70 plus Scouts and 13 leaders. The Nailbourne Community Foundation gave them a similar grant this year.

- ii) The Nailbourne Community Foundation tried to give a cheque towards the Pensioners Lunch but it was refunded as not required
- iii) Barham Football Club were given £2,500 towards goal posts and a couple of other smaller awards.
- iv) Barham Pre School - the Nailbourne Community Foundation has made a commitment of £2,000 to be given in £500 intervals, as this is felt to be a much needed support group for mothers with babies and toddlers.
- v) The Nailbourne Community Foundation gave a grant for trees in the Barham churchyard. Trees were purchased from the Fifth Trust (Anita explained she had had to declare an interest and not take part in this grant), and the crew from the Fifth Trust together with Barham school children planted these new trees.
- vi) The Nailbourne Community Foundation has also donated £1,200 to the Fifth Trust photography project.
- vii) Cllr Tamsitt explained the provision of defibrillators for the village has been discussed by the Shop foundation. The Kent Community Safety Team has given Barham two defibrillators. One will go into the shop/hall, and the trustees have agreed for this. The second location is to be confirmed, and may be the Church. Anita explained that a future project to be supported by the Nailbourne Community Foundation is the provision of a cabinet for the defibrillator at the hall – cost for this is estimated at around £700.
- viii) Anita explained that the Nailbourne Community Foundation is also considering an emerging application for a garden project at Barham Primary school – there are ongoing discussions as other funding sources are required.

Members of the foundation

We also have a membership scheme within the Foundation. You can be one too!

Still early days for members, over 20 signed up. It would be good to have more.

Role of members

To take an active interest in the NCF, its work and grant activity. To attend AMG to hear about activity in the previous year and put questions to the trustees.

Key take away messages

- The Foundation is here to compliment and support the work of other groups, charities and individuals for the benefit of the local community.
- The Foundations establishment frees the shop committee up from having to consider and manage charitable giving in line with its objectives and constitution.
- It is a tax efficient way to manage uncommitted surplus's that can put to good use within our community.
- We invite all groups and local organisations including the PC to bear the foundation in mind for grant opportunities and a funding source for financial support for your local projects and initiatives.

There was a round of applause after the presentation, and questions invited. A resident asked about the area covered. Cllr Tamsitt explained it was predominantly Barham and Kingston. Cllr Minter explained that she had been the original Chair when the Foundation was set up in 2005 and the original rules were that it would be just these two areas as they had given funds.

A resident suggested the need for more publicity, especially around assistance for individuals. Cllr Tamsitt advised The Nailbourne Community Foundation is working on its profile and is in discussion with the Shop committee for a The Nailbourne Community Foundation noticeboard in the shop, space permitting. A resident suggested notices could also be considered for the Church. Cllr Wood reminded everyone that Barham Parish Council offer space on the Barham Parish Council website to promote all the village organisations.

In answer to a question raised by Cllr Minter, Cllr Tamsitt confirmed that The Nailbourne Community Foundation are now consulting with people who are shareholders in the shop to ensure transparency but that there is still more work to do. Cllr Minter advised that the NCS was established in **2009**. People in the village(s) bought shares and/or gave loan notes (interest free loans for 5 or 7 years) and this raised £13k. The villagers therefore funded the shop and are the NCS shareholders. (They are currently not represented on this charity so Cllr Minter was questioning whether they would be. For information, the group were match funded by KCC thanks to KCC Cllr Michael Northey - KCC helped under its rural regeneration fund. Through this the group were therefore able to set up the Post Office and a basic shop which then went on to be developed as it is today.)

Resident Kay Grieg and Coffee Stop

Cllr Patti Earl asked to record thanks to resident Kay Grieg (formerly Crouch) for establishing Coffee Stop, which has proven to be a huge asset to the village. For people who struggle to get out this gives an opportunity once a week to meet people. Cllr Earl asked to record a tribute of the residents and parish council gratitude to Mrs Grieg.

There was a round of applause given for this.

Closure of meeting

Cllr Wood then drew the meeting to a close, advising that he had one last person to thank – the Clerk, Amanda Sparkes. He commented that she is the most valuable and wonderful Clerk he has ever come across.

There was a round of applause.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

There was then the opportunity for further refreshments and reading of the village organisations reports:

Barham Allotments Association Report to Barham Parish Council 2019

- Our site continues to be fully occupied and productive, with new members joining during the winter. They took over one of the largest plots.
- After much deliberation the Association decided against having a shed on site. The money kindly donated for that purpose was returned and the plot that had been reserved for the shed was split in two. Half is being used as a seating area and the other half was taken over by an existing member. This brings the total number of our plots to 14.

- Although the plots are currently all filled, people do of course move on and plots subsequently become available. If you would like to join our waiting list, or have any other enquiries please contact barhamallotments@gmail.com or come down to the site at Brickfield Road Recreation Ground to have a chat with any of us working down there. We'll always welcome a rest!
- Whilst our interest lies mainly in growing plants, we do endeavour to have the odd social in the pub. We also have a general meeting at the beginning of each year to report on the past year, arrange finances and to set out our plans for the new year.
- Disappointingly, we recently suffered a second break-in, with resultant damage: internal fencing and young fruit trees were damaged.
- Some rabbits have appeared on the site. We are working round this as best we can. We cannot do much about this unless we spend heavily on fencing the whole site.
- To end on a positive note, the wildlife hedging that was planted last year appears to have survived the drought of the summer and some of it is now coming into leaf.



BARHAM BOWLS CLUB

Valley Road Barham Canterbury CT4 6NX

Report of Activities Year April 2018/19

Outdoor Bowls April to September

Our season began in early April with our annual maintenance programme comprised interior/exterior decorating, general improvements to the interior of the buildings external grounds and playing surface of the green.

Play commenced on the 22 April with our annual competition for the Gambier Cup. We played a large number of friendly matches both at home and away. We also played in the East Kent Mixed Triples league. Barham competed very well in the league and for the second time in three years won the one day event finals held at Faversham. The final day of play was on the 22 September, which was a match between the club teams.

Indoor Short Mat Bowls October to April

The short mat sessions held in the village hall and continues to gain in popularity with increasing numbers in attendance. We continue to take part in division 2 of the East Kent Sort Mat Bowls League.

Fund Raising

Fund raising events comprise monthly social evens during the winter months. These events are open to club members and the local community. The funds raised from these events are used to carry out improvements to the club facilities.

We are also looking to obtain grants to replace the men's changing room, clubhouse cladding and roof.

Brief Résumé of Barham Bowls Club

Barham Bowls Club was founded in 1930 and caters for bowls players of all ages and abilities (including beginners). We have qualified coaches who are dedicated to teaching new bowlers all aspects of the game and helping to improve the skills of the more experienced players.

Barham is a small, relaxed, friendly club. Although competitive we don't take ourselves too seriously and play the game with a lot of good humour.

New members especially local residents of any ability are always welcome. We will be holding outdoor taster days on the mornings of the 14th May and 11th June or Thursday evenings (by arrangement). If you are interested in giving short mat bowls a try why not come along one of our short mat club sessions, which are at 14.00 on Wednesday afternoons from the beginning of October to the end of March.

Further details about the bowls club and contact information can be found on our section of the Barham Parish, Barham Village Hall Web Sites or by email to barhambowlsclub@gmail.com



Report to Barham Parish Council – Barham and District Horticultural Society

Sue Strange Chairman.

March 2019

Thank you for inviting the Barham & District Horticultural Society to report to you. This is my first year as the new Chair. After 15 dedicated years our Chairman Tim Bines, is now retired as Chairman and is our new President, following the retirement of Brig. Maurice Atherton. Both served the society extremely well and helped to keep it the thriving and active group, it is today.

Our aim continues to be a friendly, active, local open society which promotes and stimulates interest in all aspects of gardening - from growing vegetables, flowers, shrubs and trees to the quiet enjoyment of gardens and their wildlife. The Society was founded in 1895 and currently has over 250 members drawn from a wide area around Barham - members range from enthusiastic active gardeners to those with a less active interest in gardening who often just wish to enjoy participating in the society's events and activities. We would love to increase our membership with more children and new families coming to the village and local area. As the new Chair, I would love to remove the mystique that you need to be a highly competitive, experienced gardener to join this group, and take part in our shows. We really are for everyone who can grow anything in some soil, but also floral art, cookery and photography. It's all about taking part and having fun. A chance to be sociable within your community. Each month we write up a newsletter for the parish magazine, plus a page of gardening tips, specifically for jobs to do that month.

Throughout the year we have arranged a wide variety of talks that take place in either Kingston Barn, but mainly in Barham Village Hall. This year we held a Spring Plant Sale and mini show. We hold our main annual Show, in September and informal meetings in the Duke of Cumberland. The Autumn Show is a highlight of the Society's year giving members and non-members a chance to display and compare. Outings are another key feature of the Society's year taking groups of members to see gardens or events and we round off the year with an AGM and social which always proves popular. In addition, our members benefit from a seeds discount scheme with Suttons and discount at The Vineyard Plant centre.

Our annual membership fee remains at £5.00 per person and £10.00 for family membership. The Society is run by a committee elected at an AGM every year. We have our own website (<http://www.barhamhortsoc.co.uk>) – with links to other websites including Barham Parish Council. We use

both Barham and Kingston Village Halls as venues for talks/meetings and are most grateful to the Village Hall Committees for their help and support over the years.

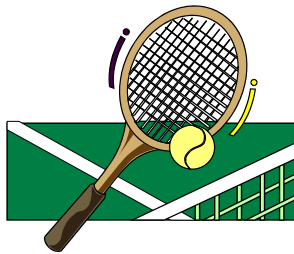
Last year specific activities included:

Wednesday 10th January 2018	Annual General Meeting
Friday 9th March	'Water features and their benefits' This is an illustrated talk by Kevin Tooher.
Wednesday 11th April	'Chillis are good for you' This is an illustrated talk by Steve Weller from Chilli Farm
Saturday 14th April 10:30am	Plant Sale
Wednesday 9th May	'Gardens of Canterbury Cathedral' An illustrated talk by Philip Oostenbrink
Friday 8th June 1.00pm	Visit by car to Boldshaves, Woodchurch, Ashford
Saturday 4th August 8am - 18.00pm	RHS Flower Show - Hyde Hall
Saturday 1st September 2.30pm	Annual Show
Wednesday 10th October	'Tales from Chelsea Flower Show' a Flower arranging demonstration by Mig Kimpton
Wednesday 14th November	'The Good Wood—a shared experience'

**For the year 2019 we have the
following:**

**All events take place in Barham Village Hall at 7.30pm
unless otherwise stated.**

Wednesday 13th February	Illustrated talk by Jo Arnell 'Extra productive vegetable growing'
Wednesday 13th March	Illustrated talk by Kent Wildlife Trust 'Gardening for Wildlife'
Monday 8th April Kingston Barn	Illustrated talk by Caroline Halfpenny 'Principles of Garden Design'
Saturday 13th April - 9am	Plant Sale and Mini Spring Show
Wednesday 8th May	Illustrated talk by Janine Doulton 'Gardening in the shade'
Saturday 8th June - 1pm	Visit by car to Timbers in East Farleigh See page 5 For full details and booking form
Saturday 6th July - 9am	Coach trip to Wakehurst Place —National Trust (including guided tour) See page 7 For full details and booking form
Saturday 17th August— 11.15am	Visit by car to Mig Kimpton's garden Including lunch and flower arranging demo See page 9 For full details and booking form
Saturday 7th September - 2.30pm	Autumn Show -
Wednesday 9th October	Illustrated talk by Nick Bailey '365 Days of colour'
Tuesday 19th November Kingston Barn	Illustrated talk by Kevin Tooher 'Indoor plants including conservatory plants'
Wednesday 8th January 2020 7pm	AGM (Annual General Meeting)



Barham Tennis Club

The Club, which sets itself out to provide a quality facility for the area, has had a good year in that membership levels have grown for each of the past 4 years and by 10 % this past year. The courts and mini-tennis courts, which were re-laid 8 years ago, are still in excellent condition. It is planned for the courts to be repainted in 2 years' time and the development fund, which accumulates each year, is designed to allow the courts to be re-surfaced every 14 years.

In recognition of the contribution given to the club, by both Ewart Clough - a founder member - and Gordon Underwood, who was treasurer and coach for many years, two benches were provided and sited beside each court in their memory and given with our thanks for the work they did.

The committee, all of whose members have now served for over 20 years, are looking to attract new members to the committee to ensure that the facility flourishes in to the future, so that if anyone is interested in helping out, they would very much welcomed to join the team and should contact Simon Cavalier (01227 831367)

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FRIENDS OF BARHAM CHURCH 2019

Our mission on The FRIENDS is to KEEP THE BUILDING SAFE for others to enjoy. WE PAY FOR FABRIC MAINTENANCE AND BUILDING WORKS.

This year our fund raiser for the Friends was a Battlefield tour to Paschendale led by our very own resident expert, Professor Mark Connelly to mark the 100-year anniversary of WWI.

Mark is not only an expert on this subject of WW1 but is a gifted and sensitive speaker. On the way to the sites of the battlefield we learned so much about the socio-political drivers contributing to the war. We learned of the dilemmas of the military commanders at the time and Mark was careful to explain that this was not a war "of Lions led by Donkeys" – a popular phrase in the press since, neither was this just an a thoughtless sacrifice of life. At the time this war was considered absolutely vital to the stability of Europe and people going to this war generally believed in what they were fighting for.

We probably all grew up believing that Passchendaele was only memorable for the awful mud in which men, horses and equipment disappeared but we also learned much more about how the tactics of the battle were affected by the weather and how advances were made.

We learned new and curious things that some of us had never considered like the entrepreneurs who set up along the routes to the battles providing fish and chips to the soldiers. At one stage we passed the spot where one of our number had lost a relative and that was very moving.

We also saw the thoughtfulness of the architects who designed the memorials. During the First World War a political decision was made not to repatriate the bodies as it would quickly differentiate between officers and men based on their family's means. This was tough on the families who did not have a grave to visit but it meant that the men lay with their fellow soldiers that they had fought alongside and, when asked, this was supported by commanding officers. The families whose sons were identified were allowed to put an inscription on the gravestones. However, for so many thousands the inscription is a chilling "Known only unto God". No one on this tour could fail to be moved and in Tyne Cot Cemetery as we walked amongst the rows of the fallen; silent, thoughtful and grateful.

After an excellent set meal we went to the Menin Gate where it was actually very hard to hold back the tears. The moving ceremony has taken place every night (apart from during the second world war) since the 1920s as a tribute to the fallen.

A beautiful sunny day, an excellent tour by Mark, with superb drivers, was only marred by a 5 hour delay on the Channel Tunnel. However, as one of our number said

"the overwhelming response was benign acceptance, good humour and care for each other. Surely no one can spend the day at Tyne Cot and the like and dare moan at a little hitch in a journey in an otherwise smooth running, intensely moving day of experiences. It served us well to keep things in proportion!"

After a big effort last year we managed to attract a handful of regular subscriptions to the Friends but do realise that, with so many calls from charities and organisations, that The Friends is not going to get many regular subscriptions. However, people do rally for an event and we have decided that, when funds are needed, that the Friends will do an event to fund raise for a specific thing, as we have done for the church decoration.

Barham & Kingston League of Friends for Kent & Canterbury Hospital

2019 report for the Annual Village meeting.

Our regular events continued over the past year.

Two jumble sales, one in the autumn & another in the spring, they both were well supported & did well. Items remaining were passed on to other charities – Pilgrims Hospice & Catching Lives.

Our coffee morning in June, held in Kingston at the home of Liz & Ken Gregory, was well attended.

Due to other commitments we were unable to hold a stall at the Hospital Fair in August but sold our fair share of raffle tickets.

The collecting pot situated in Barham village shop continues to do well, thank you to all those who contribute.

The Christmas coffee morning, this time, was combined with Barham parish Church, proceeds being divided equally. A very friendly & relaxed atmosphere was experienced by all those who attended. No decision has been taken as yet regarding a repeat of the arrangement for the coming year.

Funds raised over the last year amounted to £2,049.97 but costs were £151.92, resulting in £1,898.05

We have paid £2,500.00 for the refurbishment of a clinic room & special treatment chairs. A further sum of £3,251.88 has been promised for Hoists, an Ultra Sound Scanner & a departmental courtyard refurbishment. All the equipment purchased is for use at Kent & Canterbury Hospital.

A welcome source of funding is through Gift Aided Donations from Barham & Kingston residents.

Our next event will be our coffee morning & cake sale planned for Saturday 8th June 10.30-12.00 at 74 The Street, Kingston. We hope for good weather to enjoy the garden & views across the fields.

Liz Gregory

Chair

15/3/19

Annual Parish Report for The Friends of Barham Primary C of E School April 2019

This year, the Friends of Barham school has continued to arrange a wide range of events for the pupils at Barham C of E Primary School and for the local community.

At the start of the academic year, under the guidance of a new committee, the PTA was rebranded as 'The Friends of Barham School' (FOBS), to encourage involvement and support from a body wider than just the school parents, to include former parents, neighbours and local businesses.

The aim of the FOBS is to enhance each child's school experience through social events and by providing additional resources. This is especially important with the present government spending squeeze on school funding and provides a way for us to help make sure the children have a range of facilities and experiences.

Funds are raised through a variety of events including the Summer Fete, Christmas Fair and Easter Daffodil Tea, all of which are open to visitors. It was lovely to welcome support, donations and attendance at our events by lots of our village neighbours this year.

The FOBS funds coaches to the Christmas pantomime, ice lollies on the last day of school, crackers at the Christmas Lunch, freebie Movie Nights with popcorn, and school discos. All Year 6 School Leavers receive a book with a commemorative book plate to remember their time at the school, funded by the FOBS.

This academic year, the main focus for FOBS investment has been the onsite swimming pool which can no longer be supported by the school's Sports Fund received from the Government. Barham School has had a swimming pool in its grounds in excess of 35 years. Generations of children have benefited from this facility. Swimming is an essential life skill but sadly statistics show that 1/3 children school leave primary school unable to swim. Barham school is justly proud that this facility is offered and that no child has ever left Barham School unable to swim. Having the swimming pool on site enables the school to guarantee lessons for all pupils, without the inconvenience and cost of having to rely on offsite facilities.

The FOBS is committed to keeping this facility operational for the school and has been maintaining the facility including a new boiler which was fitted in the autumn, thanks to a generous donation by local businesses. The pool is also being given an upgrade with the addition of new radiators, which will enable to children to use the pool for a longer period of time throughout the school year. Work is still required to replace the flooring in the changing area and bring the facility back to a good standard.

The FOBS is open to anyone who has a connection or interest in the school. The group meets on a regular basis and has its AGM held in September. We appreciate that many parents and carers, work and have a number of commitments, and often feel they don't have enough time to get involved. However, every contribution helps, whether you are able to take part in the organisation, planning events or helping on the day(s), it all makes a difference and we are always grateful for an extra pair of hands, fresh faces and new ideas!

The focus for the future includes redevelopment of a learning garden area (funding applications have been submitted), investigating school access issues due to the discontinuation of the crossing patrol and of course the swimming pool.

If you can help by lending your support, please contact barhampta@gmail.com for more information. The next date for the diary is the Summer Fete on Saturday 6th July, 12-4pm on the Village Green, all welcome!

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

REPORT – April 2019

From: Jane Graham – NHW Coordinator

I currently have 22 members included on my e-mail list.

I receive approximately three to four updates a week. These reports outline crimes committed and also occasionally, recommendations on how we can keep ourselves safe. I forward these e-mails on to the resident NHW members.

These reports include Canterbury and surrounding areas and as far afield as Herne Bay. I think it is important to read what is happening even if so far from us. Barham rarely appears in these reports, which is good news.

I now categorise these e-mails, putting the area in which the crimes have been committed in the subject line, enabling the NHW members to choose which e-mails to read.

I have requested NHW window stickers, which I have received and will give to any NHW members that would like them.

If any Barham residents are not currently receiving these email reports and would like to sign up, please e-mail me. **My e-mail is: jane.graham19@gmail.com**

Bell Tower Report

2018 - 2019

- We continue to have 7 regular ringers for our 5 bells. We ring for services, weddings and funerals when requested.
- The ringers are donating their wedding fees towards the purchase of new bell ropes. Some bell maintenance will also need to be carried out in the near future.
- Our tower rang on Armistice Day 2018 as part of a nationwide ring to mark 100 years of the end of WW1.

- 16 visiting ringers rang out our bells in the spring 2018. They were completing a challenge to ring in every bell tower in Kent.
- Practice night is on Mondays 7pm until 8.15pm

Jan Kincaid Secretary

Ringers: Jill Watson (Captain), Geoff Grabham (Training), Simon Cavalier, Lyn Barrett, Andrea Thomas, Tony Smith, Jan Kincaid

Barham Preschool Annual report 2019.

Our small Pre-School continues to thrive in Barham.

We are very fortunate to be situated in lovely surroundings within the grounds of the Primary school. We have our own mobile building at the top of the site next to the swimming pool.

We are a registered charity and committee run which consists mainly of parents of children attending the setting.

We enrol children from 2.5 years to school age and have space to care for 20 children per session.

We are currently open from 9-3 on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and from 9-12 on a Friday.

On our last Ofsted inspection in July 2015 we were rated Outstanding.

We have 8 members of staff and 36 children on role. We have 21 children leaving us in the summer to transition onto Primary school. Currently we have 24 families on our waiting list for our September 2019 cohort, which sounds very promising along with 11 families returning for their second year. Our open day for new families is on Saturday 11th May at 10am this year.

We follow the Early Years Foundation stage framework supporting the children to develop their Personal, social and Emotional development, Communication and Language skills, Physical development, Literacy and Mathematical skills, Knowledge and Understanding of the World and development of Expressive Arts and Design ideas.

The Pre-school also works together in a collaboration of Early Years setting across the Canterbury district. This is a great support and gives Early Years Practitioners opportunity to discuss current affairs within the sector of Education.

We are very proud of the facilities, education and care that we provide for the children and would be happy to hear from you should you have any questions regarding a space for your child.

You can email at barhampreschool@gmail.com or phone on 07941 829647.

Barham Karate Club - Report for Previous 12 months (up to March, 2019)

The club was formed in April 2001. The ages range from 5 years to 68 years. Membership at present is 33. The children's class 5 – 10 year has vacancies for 4 students which I have advertised. Only 7 members of the club actually live in Barham, other members are from Canterbury, Dover, Hythe and 6 from nearby villages, which is quite disappointing.

We currently have 6 instructors at the Club (2 of which are currently at University). The child protection officer is Sally Heathcote. All have CRB's completed. The 3 senior instructors are first aid trained and one is always at the club night.

Unfortunately, we have lost a couple of our junior black belts students although they have been with the club for 8 years, it seems other interests take over when they become teenagers.

The club has just held gradings for the children and senior classes.

The Club is financially sound. All 6 instructors and child protection officer are volunteers so overheads are kept to a minimum. The fees charged are £2.50 per session which pay for hall hire, club insurances, purchasing training equipment and sponsoring students in their grading and licensing.

Adrian Wright - Contact details email barhamkarateclub@btinternet.com and phone number 01227 831495.

KENTISH GAZETTE REPORT

Diana Forrest continues as Barham correspondent for the Gazette, contributing weekly reports of activities in the village to the Community News pages of the paper. Clubs and Societies are encouraged to inform the correspondent of activities or events they want to publicise as well as money raised for charity. News from the school would also be appreciated. The deadline for copy is now 5pm on the Monday before the paper is published though ideally it should be submitted before this. Photos illustrating local village events may be sent to the correspondent with a view to being published, though there is no guarantee that this will happen. If you want to write an item yourself you are welcome to do so, just send it to diforrest@vfast.co.uk and she will include it in her news column.

Barham with Kingston WI

Barham with Kingston WI will celebrate its centenary this April. We continue to maintain numbers at our afternoon meetings and we also have a thriving evening group, which has been going for over a year. This group allows ladies who work or have caring responsibilities to join in the fun. So far this year we have tried our hand at Origami, needle felting, sugar craft and car maintenance. We are also planning a trip to a small holding as the spring lambs arrive.

Highlights of our centenary year include a wonderful afternoon tea provided by our members with entertainment from Richard Ansell. We are also having a formal lunch at the Cathedral Lodge in May. During the build up to our centenary we have been fund raising for good causes in the two villages and currently our total stands at just over £1000.00. We are hoping to add to this when we hold a fashion show at the village hall in May, which we hope will be well supported by the village ladies.

Barham Poppy Appeal

I am pleased to report that the Poppy Appeal in Barham for 2017/18 reached the wonderful total of £1033.22. This is an all-time record for the district, in what was a very busy year with it being the Centenary of the end of WW1.

The new “poppy” year began in October 2018 and during the two weeks leading up to Remembrance Sunday a total of £954.12 was collected. I provide the breakdown below.

Elham Valley Vineyard Cafe	12.84
Barham Post Office	407.22
Duke of Cumberland	29.76
Black Robin	72.38
Barham School	206.90
Arter Bros	189.35
Elham Valley Plant Centre	35.67

It was lovely to see display poppies lining Canterbury Road. This extended the public expression of national remembrance the entire length of the Elham Valley from Etchinghill to Barham, including the communities to either side of the main road through the valley and I thank Barham Parish Council for enabling this to happen. It made me feel very proud to live here.

If any remembrance events are planned for Barham I am always prepared to provide poppy merchandise and remembrance tools and only need a quick phone call or email with one week's notice of the event.

I am always very grateful for any assistance which anyone can offer and would particularly like to hear from anyone who would be willing to carry out a house-to-house collection during the last weekend of October.

Thank you Barham for supporting the poppy appeal.

Susan Foster

Tel 01303 862779

Email: kent.committee1@rbl.community

The Barham Wives Group

The Barham Wives Group now has thirty four members and has had a successful year. We meet once a month in the Grabham room. This last year we have had a varied programme including Hotter Shoes, Dr Barnardo's, Mike Evans on Canterbury Cathedral, Melonie Gibson, Mary Smith A Schoolgirl's War, to name a few. We are now looking forward to our outing at Mig Kempton's garden with afternoon tea. Our annual meal this year is to be held at The Black Robin.

Once a month we meet for a walk followed by a lunch. We are a friendly group and any new members are most welcome. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.