Barlaston Parish Council – April 2026:

The Parish Council met on 14 April 2026 at the Methodist Church Hall. The next meetings will be held on Tuesday 5 May 7pm (Annual Parish Meeting) and Tuesday 12 May 7:15pm (Parish Council Meeting), in the Methodist Church Hall. Agendas are published on the Parish Council website and displayed on local noticeboards.

Community Safety and Local Issues

Councillors reviewed ongoing reports relating to surface water at the crossroads, road condition issues on Station Road, verge damage on Old Road following hedge cutting, and overgrown hedges near the Old Road bus stop. These matters remain under investigation by the County Highways Department.

Residents are reminded that potholes, highway defects, flooding, overgrown vegetation, and other local highways issues can be reported directly to Staffordshire County Council using their "Report it" online service. Reports go straight to the Highways team and help ensure issues are logged and prioritised for action.

https://formshighways.staffordshire.gov.uk/

Neighbourhood Plan

A meeting was held between members of the Parish Council and Stafford Borough Council's Planning Officer to discuss emerging planning policy and its implications for Barlaston.

The Borough is facing a significant increase in housing need, which is expected to place greater pressure on development across the area, including within the parish. While Barlaston's Neighbourhood Plan remains in force and continues to carry weight in planning decisions, national housing requirements are increasing development pressure across the Borough.

An updated Borough-wide Housing Needs Assessment is expected in spring 2026, followed by changes to national planning policy later in the year.

Play Parks and Community Spaces

By the time you read this, the Barlaston Park Multi-Use Games Area on Flaxman Close will have undergone refurbishment, including a new non-slip surface, repainting, and general repairs.

Quotations and design options are still being sought for the Meadow Road play area. Once all information has been received, a public consultation will take place to gather residents' views before any decisions are made.

Contracts and Maintenance

The lease for the Cricket Club has been completed, with insurance arrangements now in place. The Grounds Maintenance Contract tender process was approved and commenced on the 17 April. Tree works identified in the recent survey were also approved to proceed. By the time you read this the new noticeboard should be in situ at Orchard Place along with the replacement speed gates on Meaford Road.

Grants

A grant of £348.03 was approved for Barlaston Bowling and Tennis Club towards solar panel installation.

Other Matters

The Parish Council will be hosting the Severn Trent Community Flood Officer at the June meeting to discuss local flooding issues. If you have any concerns please email the Clerk so we can compile a list in advance for them to review.

Viv O'Dunne
Clerk to Barlaston Parish Council clerk@barlastonparishcouncil.gov.uk