Barlaston Parish Council - June 2026

The Parish Council met on 9 June 2026. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 14 July 2026 at 7:15pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Park Drive, ST12 9DP. Agendas are published on the Parish Council website and displayed on the Council's five noticeboards located at Orchard Place, Wedgwood Lane, The Country Cabin, The Village Hall, and the canal towpath at the Plume of Feathers.

Public Open Forum

Three members of the public attended and gave a presentation raising concerns regarding parking during school drop-off and pick-up times in Broughton Crescent. Issues included double parking, restricted access for emergency vehicles, and blocked driveways, which at times prevent residents from leaving their homes, including for medical appointments. Photographs were provided in support. The Parish Council explained that parking enforcement and highways matters sit with the Borough and County Councils respectively, and as both authorities were present they were asked to work with residents to find a way forward to address the issues.

As a reminder, free parking is available at St John's Church, and a school crossing patrol officer operates to assist with safe crossing between the church and Broughton Crescent. The Parish Council asks parents and carers to be mindful of local residents when dropping off and collecting children and to keep access routes clear at all times.

County Councillor Report

Cllr Bagguley reported that County Council community grants remain available and encouraged local organisations to apply. Updates were provided on tree works at Park Drive following reports from residents. Councillors also considered proposals for school warning signage and agreed that costings for flashing warning lights would be obtained to inform future consideration.

Working Groups

The Biodiversity and Environment Working Group Terms of Reference were approved. The Playpark Working Group is progressing design and cost discussions for the Meadow Road play area and will move towards public consultation soon.

Grants

A grant of £150 was awarded to Stone Community First Responders towards hi-vis jackets in line with the Grants Policy.

Health, Safety and Assets

Councillors approved improvements to access the Speed Indication Devices for battery changes at Station Road. Thanks were extended to the Speedwatch team for their

ongoing work in maintaining the devices. Works to the culvert at The Green will be further assessed. Maintenance of a memorial bench on Meaford Road was approved.

The Parish Council held its first paper-free meeting in June following the introduction of centrally managed iPads for all councillors. Agendas, financial reports and supporting papers are now stored and shared electronically rather than printed, reducing printing costs and paper use, and supporting the Council's environmental commitments. Planning applications and other documents can now also be viewed directly during meetings, improving accessibility and efficiency.

Community Initiatives

Work is progressing on an anti-dog fouling awareness campaign, to be delivered in partnership with community members and Barlaston Cricket Club. There has been a recent increase in dog fouling reported, particularly around the cricket club area, which is especially concerning as many children use the grounds for play and recreation.

The campaign will include the launch of new, colourful posters featuring local dogs in familiar village locations, with volunteers supporting rollout across the area. Let's *paws* for thought - and pick it up!

Planning

No new planning applications had been received. Councillors noted that Stafford Borough Council Planning Committee was due to meet to determine application 25/40919/PIP relating to land west of Old Road. The application was refused.