

Barham Parish Council – SEPTEMBER 2026 In Touch Report

RECENT UK LJTIMA EVENT WHICH TOOK PLACE AT SHRUBLAND HALL

Mark Emms – Director of Operations & Kate Sell Licensing Manager BMSDC attended the Parish Council meeting on 27th July to listen to concerns which had arisen during the event. A number of issues had been raised but only a small number of complaints received.

The Chairman advised that the Parish Council happened to find out that the event was planned, by a post on social media, but had not been formerly told. Therefore, the PC had no answers for the residents as had not been involved in the planning. When a meeting was planned with BMSDC for the PC, only 48 hours notice was given! No residents were advised of the meeting. No one in the village was happy about the event and were not in favour of it. The PC should have been involved in planning and must be in the future if such an event ever takes place again.

Mark advised that the district council would have liked more time prior to the event to discuss with the organisers. Stakeholders held a meeting with the organisers, which included police, fire and highways. A road traffic plan and event plan were formed. Reports of attendees defecating in the front gardens of properties have been reported and this should not have been allowed to happen, he apologies for this and will contact the residents if address' are given. Portable toilets had been erected at Shrubland Hall, he is also aware of excrement in the bushes around the site!

Kate Sell informed that the event was exempt from needing a license as it was a religious event. Therefore, the district council could advise the organisers on event guidelines but could not stop the event taking place. The organisers did attend an advisory meeting with the district council ahead of the event.

A terrorist threat was taken against the event which police were made aware of and therefore decided to end the event earlier than anticipated. Counter Terrorism was put in place. The Chairman informed that the sudden ending of the event caused major traffic issues due to vehicles leaving the event and the whole village was grid locked.

Mark admitted that there should have been better communication with the public and that Highways should have looked more significantly as possible traffic issues in advance. Will be following up and reviewing guidelines for such events should they take place in the future. This will be reported to the Parish Council for circulation to residents.

Cross Boundary Impact & Evidence Submission received from Coddensham Parish Council.

VACANCY FOR A PARISH COUNCILLOR

Barham Parish Council has a vacancy the a Parish Councillor. Would you like to become a Barham Parish Councillor and help make a difference to your village? Do you care about where you live, its facilities, activities, open spaces? Whatever needs tackling or improving locally, becoming a Parish Councillor gives people the opportunity to change things. YOU can help to make a difference to the quality of life for people in Barham. If you are age 18 or over, you are an elector of the parish, during the whole of the last 12 months have occupied as owner or tenant, land or other premises in the parish. The Parish Council meetings are usually held every other month on a Monday evening at 7pm in Barham Church Hall. The best way to find out what it's like to be a Parish Councillor is to talk to someone who's doing it now, come along to a Parish Council meeting or speak to our Parish Clerk (see contact details below). Applications to be sent to the Clerk by Friday 11th September 2026.

FORTHCOMING PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The venue and agenda for all our meetings is always advertised on the Parish Council notice boards at Barham Green, Lower Crescent and outside the Co-op Food Store. Unless otherwise announced, full council meetings are held on every other month on a Monday evening at 7.00pm at the Barham Church Hall. (However Extra Ordinary Meetings may not make the deadline to be advertised in the In Touch).

Members of the public will be welcome to raise any matters in the Open Forum before the meeting.

Dates for 2026;

21st September and 16th November.

Barham Parish Council

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