

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Monday 11 May 2015 at 8.00 p.m. at Barwick - in - Elmet Methodist Schoolroom

PRESENT :	Councillor	Ben Hogan (Chairman at the start of the meeting)	
	Councillors	Amanda Munro	Matt Baker
		Claire Hassell	Matthew Willey
		David Leeming	Neil Beaumont
		Geoff Yapp	Paul Remmer
		Glyn Davies	Stella Walsh
		Karen Dales	Tom Crosfill

In attendance: Three Scholes residents, PCSO Geoff Nottingham (part), Ward Cllr. Robinson, Ron Miller (Wetherby News) and the Clerk

1 ELECTION of CHAIRMAN : It was **resolved** that Councillor Claire Hassell be elected as Chair for the ensuing year proposed by Cllr. Baker, seconded by Cllr. Walsh. There being no other nominations Cllr. Hassell was duly elected and duly signed her declaration of acceptance of office. At this point Ben Hogan handed over to Claire Hassell who chaired the remainder of the meeting.

2 ELECTION of VICE CHAIRMAN : It was **resolved** that Councillor Matt Baker be elected as Vice Chairman for the ensuing year, proposed by Cllr. Hassell, seconded by Cllr. Crosfill. There being no other nominations Cllr. Baker was duly elected. Cllr. Hassell welcomed the four new councillors and thanked Julian Kelly, Elaine Jeffers and Ben Hogan for their contribution to the Parish Council. Cllr. Baker was congratulated on his appointment. Particular thanks went to Ben Hogan (and his wife) and small gifts were presented for them both. Ben Hogan remains a prominent person in the life of the parish continuing to chair the NDP group and to lead the Scholes in Bloom group.

3 ELECTION of COUNCILLORS: The results of the election were received. There were six nominations for the six vacancies on the Scholes ward and all were therefore elected. There were seven nominations for the six vacancies on the Barwick - in - Elmet ward, the successful candidates being Claire Hassell, David Leeming, Geoff Yapp, Glyn Davies, Matthew Willey and Neil Beaumont. All were congratulated and commiserations expressed for Graham Field.

4 APOLOGIES: Martin Horbury (Scholes Sports Association)

5 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None.

6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the **Parish Council Meeting (11/2014)** held on 13 April 2015 (355-359) having been circulated, be approved, proposed by Cllr. Leeming, seconded by Cllr. Crosfill.

7 MATTERS ARISING

Allotments – work on the concrete standing has now begun

Playing Fields Committee meetings - draft minutes of the April meetings have now been circulated. Cllr. Hassell has e-mailed Nick Borrás, Highways Traffic Management East regarding the top part of the Verity Strip (the road going down to the allotments, school and cricket club).

Scholes Developments – a recent ruling by the Secretary of State saying that LCC is meeting its legal obligation for a five year housing supply is being challenged by the developer of the Kirklees Knowle site who is requesting a judicial review. There has been a communication from Martin Sellens, Head of Planning Services saying that LCC are looking to have co-joined housing appeals. They are waiting for a reply from the Planning Inspectorate. They are hoping to use Guy Williams at Landmark as their counsel and would also welcome involvement from Phil Maude, a Scholes resident who is also a Planning Lawyer and part of the NDP Steering group.

8 CRIME REPORT

There have been fifteen reported crimes in our parish in the month of April. There were six thefts as follows (date in brackets): a secured bicycle from Station Road (9th); garden gnomes from Green Court (5th); bottle of drink from Lynnfield Gardens – caught on CCTV (26th); garden ornaments from Main Street, Scholes (27th); items from beside the bins from Flats Lane – placed in a vehicle and driven off (25th) and a metal sink from Richmondfield Avenue placed in a pickup truck and driven off (28th). In the last case a neighbour challenged the suspect who claimed to have permission for removal of the property. There were also three incidents of theft from a vehicle as follows: a handbag from an insure boot (10th); a forced entry – rear windscreen smashed and parcel shelf forced – property stolen (20th) and a theft of a bonnet – the owner saw three suspects placing the bonnet onto their vehicle and driving off having been alerted by the sound of the car alarm (30th). This incident took place on Main Street, Barwick - in – Elmet, the other two vehicle thefts took place on Long Lane. There were four burglaries, all of these involving forced entry to garages – the first two by removal of the padlock: Milton Drive – items stolen (23rd); Main Street, Scholes – nothing taken as the resident woke up, heard noises and went to investigate – possibly disturbing the suspects (14th); Leeds Road, Barwick – mountain bike stolen (13th) and Belle Vue Road where the window was removed after the beading had been cut – items stolen (14th). The other two crimes involved criminal damage on the 9th and 20th in All Saints' Churchyard where plants in a planter have been poisoned.

A summary of crimes committed in the year April 2014-March 2015 was given (the net movement compared to the previous twelve month period given in brackets): Burglary – dwelling 23 (0); Burglary – Other 28 (up 8); Criminal Damage 14 (up 7); Drugs Offences 2 (down 6); Handling Stolen Goods 1 (down 1); Interference with Vehicle 4 (new category – no 2013 figure); Robbery 1 (0); Theft except from vehicle 28 (up 9), Theft from Vehicle 13 (down 2) and Violent Offences/Drunk and Disorderly 6 (down 2).

PCSO Nottingham appealed for people to secure property – too many crimes involve unlocked doors etc. He also appealed for people with CCTV cameras to assist the police and appealed for people not to put items out for collection by scrap metal dealers (any such dealers found in possession of illegally obtained goods will lose their license). Bev Kirk of Trading Standards continues to work with the police on this. It was felt that LCC policy regarding use of their tips and associated charges encourages traders to dispose of collected items illegally.

It was reported that youths have been climbing onto the roof of Barwick - in – Elmet village hall.

9 FINANCE

9.1 It was **resolved** that the **cash book summary and budget monitor for April** be approved showing payments of £5,259.08 (cheques totaling £5,217.17 and direct debits totaling £41.91).

9.2 It was **resolved** that seven cheques for May amounting to £1,955.54 plus two direct debits for £403.78 be approved, total payments £2,359.32 (plus an as yet unspecified direct debit for the telephone)

9.3 The clerk reported that the internal auditor is coming on 18th May. The auditor had suggested that we may have to call an extra-ordinary meeting to formally approval of the end of year accounts, however, the deadline for external audit is 30th June and as such, we can do this at our regular June meeting. The need to get the signatories changed was noted.

10 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk presented the list of **correspondence** (2411-2425) received since the last meeting details of which had been previously circulated.

- 2411 Information about the Tour de Yorkshire official charity (Children's Hospice) 56
- 2412 Campaign for the Protection of Rural England AGM notification
- 2413 Information about the supplier of the Vehicle Activated Sign at the Coronation Tree and details of their portable Speed Feedback Sign
- 2414 Outer NE regarding litter bin sensor trial
- 2415 LCC public consultation on principles for licensing gambling
- 2416 YLCA useful information about the conduct of the Annual Meeting of the Council
- 2417 YLCA Provision of Services Agreement – acceptance required
- 2418 Sir Peter Luff MP encouraging local communities to organise or participate in events marking the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta
- 2419 Campaign to Protect Rural England Newsletter
- 2420 YLCA – newsletter and list of training courses for new councillors, clerks and chair and vice-chair people
- 2421 National Association of Local Councils events in London
- 2422 Rural Action Yorkshire e-bulletin
- 2423 Charity Commission Newsletter
- 2424 Information about a One Day National Conference regarding Finance in Local Government
- 2425 LCC regarding the Vehicle Activated Sign near the Coronation Tree

2415 was considered under agenda item 11.7. The clerk will confirm acceptance of the YLCA Provision of Services Agreement (2417). LCC are claiming ownership of the Vehicle Activated Sign (2425) and have made an insurance claim only to discover that the PC has already claimed for this. Their claim is more than twice our settlement, further developments awaited. Clarification of the ownership of a similar sign on Scholes Lane is being sought. Several councillors have expressed an interest in training (2420) and are looking for a date convenient to all.

11 OTHER ITEMS

11.1 Risk assessments and Playground inspection training – All Risk Assessments now need to be re-dated and signed. Cllr. Remmer will take the lead on this. Number tags will be bought for ease of identification of the benches. Four councillors are enrolled on a YLCA Playground inspection course due to take place at Barwick - in – Elmet cricket pavilion on 2nd June.

11.2 NDP – report – Bank holidays have meant that the PC meeting has not followed the usual pattern meaning that the NDP Steering Group hasn't met since the last PC meeting. Even so, between meetings individual members of the group have been looking at comments received, a task coordinated by Keith Pullen who has worked extremely hard in creating a database of replies and allocating each group member a part of it to work on. The next meeting is 13th May, professional consultant Chris Broughton will be coming to report on the results of the Housing Needs Survey.

11.3 Facebook, website & social media reports – there have been 229 visitors to our Facebook page with a total of about a thousand visits. Topics of particular interest was the proposed development on Barwick Main Street, the election and the annual parish meetings. Cllr. Baker has been investigating the costs of our webpage in order to get a better price for hosting our site. Various suggestions were put forward though one at £1 a month aroused suspicion that it might not be what it seemed. It was suggested that the clerk upgrades the Parish Council line from a residential package to a business one as this includes web-hosting. There was also concern that the list of useful contacts is very out of date. There was discussion about social media policy.

11.4 Unpaid rent by Scholes Sports Association (Football and Tennis) – Neither football nor tennis paid any rent last year. The previous Scholes Sports Association committee have handed over accounts (and liabilities) to the junior football committee. The PC will address the issue of the unpaid rent once a copy of the Sports Association's accounts has been presented and a clearer picture of their position is known. The status of the Sports Pavilion was also considered, although not owned by the PC it is on PC land.

11.5 Scholes Lodge Farm, update on the moles, dock and topping.
Membership of committee – Twenty moles have been caught in the traps – the mole catcher has had some of his traps stolen. The dock has been sprayed by a boom and a knapsack will be used to spray any dock missed by the boom spraying. The grass is to be topped and a local farmer has agreed to do this. A new Scholes Lodge Farm committee was formed as one member of the previous committee did not seek re-election. The new committee is Cllrs. Crosfill, Dales, Munro and Remmer plus the clerk.

11.6 Review of Standing Orders and Financial regulations – although a review of these was requested as an agenda item in the previous minutes (item 4), the new councillors had not had due time to consider these. These will be circulated in good time for the June meeting.

11.7 PC response to the LCC Gambling Act Consultation and review of Licensing Policy – several councillors responded by e-mail to the circulation of correspondence item 2415 and it was decided that an official response from the PC should be made expressing the sentiments expressed in Cllr. Hassell's e-mail.

11.8 Request for the use of Jack Heaps field for car parking – an approach regarding this has been made by Revd. John Oliver (a retired arch-deacon living in the parish) who is celebrating the 50th anniversary of his ordination on 13th June and is marking the occasion by inviting guests from parishes where he was once an incumbent which will mean a lot of visitors to the Parish. Permission was granted subject to him providing people to act as car park attendants to ensure the safety of all users of this recreational space.

12 PLANNING

The Parish Council considered the following planning application forwarded by Leeds City Council Development Department.

15/01886/FU/NE Langlands Garden Centre York Road - Demolition of existing storage units and erection of new storage unit - **no objection**

It was noted that the proposed development on 8-12 Main Street, Barwick - in – Elmet has been refused

13 REFERRALS & RISK ASSESSMENTS

There were seven issues of concern (some of which involved chasing up previous issues which are still unresolved). These were the overgrown ginnel between 515 and

515A Leeds Road; the need for a litter bin on Leeds Road, Scholes; the state of the pavement outside the corner shop (Virdee's) at Barwick - in - Elmet; the broken manhole cover on the approach to Barwick - in - Elmet primary school; the subsidence of the road where Main Street and Station Road meet (at the war memorial); the need for 40 mph repeater signs along Leeds Road and condition of the passing places on Taylor Lane (most of which are the entrances to peoples properties).

14 DATES of FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 1 June: Meeting & Forum at Scholes Methodist Hall at **7 p.m.**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.37 p.m.

Signed

Chairman
1 June 2015