

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Monday 5 January 2015 at 7.30 p.m. at Barwick - in - Elmet Methodist Schoolroom

PRESENT :

Councillor	Ben Hogan (Chairman)	
Councillors	Claire Hassell	Julian Kelly
	David Leeming	Matt Baker
	Darren Dodd	Paul Remmer
	Elaine Jeffers	Tom Crosfill
	Geoff Yapp	

In attendance: Four Barwick - in – Elmet residents, three Scholes residents, Ward Cllr. Matthew Robinson, PCSO Geoff Nottingham (part), Ron Miller (Wetherby News) and the Clerk

- 1 APOLOGIES:** Cllr. Neil Beaumont, Stella Walsh
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:** Cllr. Yapp regarding item 8.10
- 3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the **Parish Council Meeting (7/2014)** held on 1 December 2014 (335-338) having been circulated, be approved and signed

4 MATTERS ARISING

4.1 Meeting with Sue Wolfe of LCC Electoral Services – members of the PC met with Sue (the Deputy Electoral Services Manager) in Leeds Civic Hall on 8th December and were reassured that the invoice for the election in May was correct

5 CRIME REPORT

There were eight crimes committed in the Parish in December four of which were burglaries/attempted burglaries. These included an unsuccessful attempt to force the front door of a shop in Scholes and a break into a home on Belle Vue Road where a tidy search of the property was made but the offender(s) didn't find anything of value to them – nothing taken. Following a forced entry into a property on Richmondfield Lane a set of car keys were taken – the vehicle was later recovered and two men arrested. The fourth burglary was on Belle Vue Road (again). In this case mother and daughter were asleep on the sofa when the suspect broke in and stole the handbag which was next to where the victim was sleeping, her purse was taken and a key used by the suspect to open the door to exit the property. The other four crimes included one case of non-payment of a taxi fare and one of two plain clothed suspects claiming to be police detectives and asking questions about the motor vehicle. There was a case of vandalism (a broken window on Station Road) and one of anti-social behavior (a motorcycle causing a nuisance on Lynnfield Gardens, the motorbike was seized after the rider was found to be a disqualified driver)

It was noted that cars parked on the wide pavement outside the Methodist Chapel (opposite the Public House car park) are now getting tickets for illegal parking

Following the Open Forum, the PCSO was made aware of the concern about speeding traffic on Aberford Road and advised that he could get this added to the list of hot-spots which determine where speed-gun controls take place from

Fly-tipping was a concern, the PCSO reported that recently there have been two prosecutions for this (relating to two separate offences)

6 FINANCE

6.1 It was **resolved** that the **cash book summary and budget monitor for December** be approved showing payments of £2,101.07 (and a transfer of £100), a copy of which is attached to these minutes. The **bank reconciliation** statement shows one unrepresented cheque

6.2 It was **resolved** that ten cheques for January amounting to £10,621.39 be approved (plus an as yet unspecified direct debit for the telephone)

6.3 The report of the Internal Auditor has now been circulated and her comments duly noted, in particular the need to ensure that minuted figures such as those shown in items 6.1 and 6.2 above match exactly the amount shown on the Cash Book

7 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk presented the list of **correspondence** (2219-2342) received since the last meeting details of which had been previously circulated. There have been four communications from the Yorkshire Local Councils Association (the two listed plus 2332 and 2338), and five from LCC (2324, 2327, 2331, 2333 and 2339). The other items were;

- 2319** Details of an Award ceremony for Local Government
- 2320** Marketing e-mail for hanging baskets and planters
- 2321** YLCA – New pay scales for clerks with effect from 1st January
- 2322 & 2325** Streetlife – a local area website providing a free place to share local news, views, recommendations and resources
- 2323** Journal of Local Planning - Issue 17 from Navigus Planning
- 2326** Outer North East - Our Area Officer is moving to another role
- 2328** Marketing e-mail from a supplier of skateboard parks
- 2329** Agile Learning Centre - Invitation to the Official Opening 16th January
- 2330** Yorkshire Water – reduction in Water Bills
- 2334** Telephone call from an allotment holder concerned that there are too many casual users of the paths and that produce has been taken
- 2335** Comment from a resident wanting windows in the ends of the bus shelter and a seat inside
- 2336** Comments from Cllr. John Proctor regarding Site Allocations and information about key dates
- 2337** E-mail with links to a formal consultation document on reforming electoral law across the UK
- 2340** Indicative layout plan of the Elmet Drive site from DPP UK Limited
- 2341** YLCA giving the Section 137 pence per elector limit for the next financial year as £7.36
- 2342** Reminder about the Parish and Town Council Annual Forum – 29th January 2015

Several members of the PC have accepted the above invitation (**2329**)

8 OTHER ITEMS

8.1 Highways issues – members of the PC have met with LCC Highways on 8th December in the Civic Hall and the following Thursday with Nick Borrás (LCC Traffic Management) on-site at the Coronation Tree (two local residents also attended the latter). A detailed report of the meetings has been circulated. The key discussion point at the first meeting was the approach to Barwick via Long Lane, in particular where the road drops sharply before it crosses Long Lane Beck. Rumble strips and more noticeable slow signs were considered. The LCC representatives also took note of our concerns about drainage in the Parish. The second meeting primarily considered making the Coronation Tree junction safer. A 30 mph sign will be moved as it is obscured by a lamp post and rumble strips were considered. Elsewhere, access to Green Lanes Farm has been a problem due to parked cars, Nick noted the presence of a bus stop and as such is empowered to put markings down. The

meetings also considered Belle Vue Estate, the junction at the Buffers public house, the Verity strip (Chapel Lane), Scholes Lane junction and the double bend by the chicken farm (Long Lane). The clerk is still pursuing a replacement VAS sign and signs will be put up on Potterton Lane to say that it is unsuitable for HGVs

8.2 Scholes Sports – Cllr. Kelly met with Tony Stringwell to discuss changing the status of Scholes Football/Tennis club from a private club to public open access. An approach will be made to the Lawn Tennis Association, it was noted that the chances of them taking this on were low. Meanwhile the current committee are looking for new people to take over the running of the club. An appeal for funding resulted in a number of donations. An approach has been made by a junior football club (Colton) to use the pitch on a Saturday, this is being considered but the need to consult the Scholes and Barwick junior club was noted. The ground rent is still due

8.3 Site Allocations – several councilors attended a meeting on 4th December and a report has been circulated. Since then a clearer picture has emerged. The site at Headley Hall is being considered for development but existing sites in our Parish classed as PAS are not to be returned to greenbelt. Other sites previously identified for possible development are to retain their greenbelt status. A clearer picture will emerge on 13th January when the draft Site Allocations Plan will be presented to the Development Plans Panel. Many people have campaigned on this issue including Alec Shelbrooke MP and ward councilors and it was agreed that the minutes record the PC's thanks to everyone involved for their support

8.4 NDP report – a summary of the NDP has gone to (or is in the process of going to) every house and small business in the NDP area. A feedback questionnaire is enclosed with every summary. These advertise drop-in consultations at Barwick - in – Elmet village Hall on 10th January and at Scholes Manor House the following Saturday. Comments have been made to the effect that the print and the maps are too small to read, a larger map will be available at the consultations. Copies of the summary are available on the website and a copy of the full NDP will be available in public places. The next meeting of the Steering Group is Wednesday 7th January and will consider the Housing Needs Survey. A copy has been circulated and feedback has been given regarding the formatting and David Gluck has made some suggestions regarding the content. A final return has been done for the grant (£700)

8.5 Facebook, Website, Social media – No Facebook report. Cllr. Baker has considered correspondence items 2322 & 2325 and doesn't feel that the request Streetlife made for a hyperlink linking our website to theirs is appropriate as the content is not of value to residents of the parish

8.6 SLF working group report: A questionnaire about the use of the field has been delivered to every house in Barwick - in – Elmet and Scholes and Cllr. Walsh is collecting the replies from which a plan of action can be made at the next meeting of the working group on 13th January

8.7 Risk assessments and Asset Register – three more risk assessments have been done. Cllr. Remmer, Cllr. Yapp and Cllr. Hogan will meet to go through the Asset Register to establish which assets belong to the Parish. Given that benches are sometimes relocated, it was suggested that they are identified by attaching serial numbers

8.8 Management plan for all the sites that the PC looks after – Cllr. Beaumont and Cllr. Remmer are still working on this

8.9 Christmas Lights — it was noticed that some of the lights in Barwick - in – Elmet are looking sparse and it was suggested that we buy more strings. The lights in Scholes look much better but consist of isolated trees each of which is far from the next. It was suggested that lights could be put up elsewhere. Councillors were asked to look for suitable sites and a decision can be taken next month. The clerk will find out costs from LCC

8.10 Jack Heaps Field – Barwick in Bloom have asked the PC for permission to use the field for car parking on the Open Gardens day and All Saints' Church have made an approach to use it for an outdoor songs of praise. It was resolved that permission be given to both groups, proposed by Cllr. Leeming, seconded by Cllr. Hassell – all were in favour. Quotes have been received for repairs to the wall – the clerk has had a meeting on-site with one of these people and the repairs are in hand

8.11 Dog fouling – a resident has complained about dog fouling in the Village Hall car park, it is especially unpleasant for parents collecting children from school. The PC will approach LCC and see if there is anything they can do

9 PLANNING

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

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 14/06824/FU/NE | 22C Chapel Lane - Two storey side extension and porch to front – no objections |
| 14/06422/FU/NE | The Bungalow, Elmwood Lane - Three detached dwellings and demolition of existing dwelling (resident's comments have been received regarding this) - no objections from the PC , however there have been objections from some residents which the Planning Committee have noted and will look again at this application |
| 14/07222/FU/NE | 11 Grange Court - Single storey side/rear extension - no objections |
| 14/07289/FU/NE | 2A Aberford Road - Single storey front/side extensions, patio area to front, new pitched roof to conservatory - no objections |

10 REFERRALS & RISK ASSESSMENTS

There has been an incident of fly-tipping, a settee having been dumped at the edge of a field on Leeds Road, Barwick - in – Elmet. There are pot holes down Long Lane (in the middle of the road) and near the Coronation Tree

11 DATES of FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 2 February Meeting & Forum at Scholes Methodist Hall at **7 p.m.**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.40 p.m.

Signed

Chairman
2 February 2015

The **OPEN FORUM** was held at 7 p.m.

The chairman reviewed the comments made at the previous Open Forum

One resident has objected to the planning application to the site previously known as The Bungalow, Elmwood Lane (see item 10 above) and highlighted his concerns at the Open Forum. He was concerned at the Parish Council's position on this and felt that they should have expressed objections. He also expressed the view that this application does not conform to some of the policies stated in the summary of the Neighbourhood Development Plan which has just been circulated. The principal objections being the roof line and the density of what is proposed and its proximity to existing properties. Members of the planning committee addressed his concerns and did not share the view that the planned development did not conform to the policies in the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan. It was agreed to look at this again

Another resident expressed concern about vehicles travelling at excessive speed along Aberford Road. It was agreed that he could address his concerns to the PCSO at the appropriate agenda item during the PC meeting which followed. It was also suggested that the 30 mph restriction through the two villages could be reduced to 20 mph. Another resident commented that elsewhere (the double bend at the chicken farm) a police car had finished up on its roof. The PC has had two meetings with LCC Highways since the last PC meeting details of which are recorded in item 8.1 above

The local evening news on the television had featured a report on Site Allocations which was broadcast at 6:30 p.m. the day of the meeting and questions were asked about this. There is a report on the LCC webpage but this does not show specific sites. Site Allocations were considered as an agenda item in the PC meeting which followed – see item 8.3

There was a further comment regarding the site previously known as The Bungalow, Elmwood Lane – this time with regard to highways issues. The grass verge is to be tarmaced and it was suggested that the PC support the retention of the grass verge which in recent years has been enhanced by flowers planted by Barwick in Bloom

Cllr. Robinson reported that Barwick - in – Elmet and Scholes are to be part of an energy saving initiative where street lights are turned off along selected streets from midnight until 5:30 a.m. The deadline for comments is 16th January and letters will be going out to those residents affected on the 19th