

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Monday 7 July 2014 at 7.30 p.m. at Scholes Methodist Hall

PRESENT :

Councillor	Ben Hogan (Chairman)	
Councillors	Claire Hassell	Neil Beaumont
	Elaine Jeffers	Paul Remmer
	Julian Kelly	Stella Walsh
	Julie Burrows	

In attendance : One Barwick resident, eleven Scholes residents and the Clerk

1 APOLOGIES : Cllrs David Leeming, Geoff Yapp, Matt Baker and Tom Crosfill

2 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST : Cllr. Burrows for item 8.9

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the **Parish Council Meeting (2/2014)** held on 2 June 2014 (309-311) having been circulated, be approved and signed

4 MATTERS ARISING

4.2 100th anniversary of the start of World War 1: Memorial Seats – the seats have now been ordered, the location of the Barwick seat has been decided and the two locations have been selected as suitable sites for the Scholes seat

4.2 The defibrillator in Scholes has been installed – training in its use is still required

4.3 PC election - postal voters not receiving a ballot paper – the clerk has exchanged e-mails with Sue Wolfe (Deputy Electoral Services Manager) advising her that the PC is not prepared to pay 100% of the fee when less than 100% of voters were given voting opportunity. A final response is still awaited

5 CRIME REPORT

There was no one available at the meeting to deliver the crime report this month

6 FINANCE

6.1 It was **resolved** that the **cash book summary, bank reconciliation and budget monitor for June** be approved showing payments of £2,438.23 and receipts of £300.00, a copy of which is attached to these minutes

6.2 It was **resolved** that thirteen payments for July and August as listed amounting to £3,458.77 be approved

6.3 It was **resolved** to change the authorised signatories on the bank account replacing former councillor Gerry McDonough with Cllr. Neil Beaumont

7 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk presented the list of **correspondence** (2194-2218) received since the last meeting details of which had been previously circulated

- 2194 Minutes for North East (Outer) Area Committee, Tuesday, 27th May, 2014,
- 2195 YLCA list of training courses on offer in June 2014
- 2196 Leeds City Council - a of review of polling districts is being considered
- 2198 BT Openreach looking for the best place to site a green telecommunications cabinet on Barwick Main Street
- 2199 Request from the BBC to film in Barwick - in - Elmet
- 2200 Resident reporting water flowing from Leeds Road into the potato field ending at Shaws Lane
- 2201 Family Historian from Rotherham whose ancestor is buried in the churchyard
- 2203 Resident wanting to know how to approach the Community Fund for a grant
- 2204 Resident regarding the length of the grass in Scholes Lodge Farm field
- 2205 A copy of the letter send by CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) outlining their objections to the developments in Scholes
- 2206 Outer North East Communication- details of Leeds Innovation Fund grants, Business Management Taster Sessions and Tae Kwon Do at Wetherby Leisure Centre
- 2207 Local Open Day at Lotherton Hall - Sunday 22nd June 2014 – free to Barwick residents
- 2208 Confirmation from Andrew Windress, Principal Planner Leeds City Council that outline application 14/01211/OT will not be presented to the plans Panel on 25 June
- 2209 YLCA list of training courses on offer in July 2014 – it was **resolved** that Cllr. Hassell would attend the Vice-chairman course at £115 plus travel
- 2210 Documents relating to the Boston Spa Grove Road Appeal
- 2211 Report and recommendations from the Internal auditors – following their recommendations it was **resolved** that the new clerk work alongside the retiring clerk from 1st January until the start of the new financial year
- 2212 Complaint about the noise of the sheep in the field and a suggestion of an electric fence
- 2213 Complaint about sheep in the field, in particular droppings, noise and an insecure gate
- 2214 Two complaints from one resident about the state of Leeds Country Way, sheep droppings and a bin overgrown with vegetation
- 2215 YLCA Update of the finance manual ‘Audit and Accountability for Local Councils: A Practitioner’s Guide’
- 2216 Outer North East Parish and Town Council forum, 3rd July – agenda and supporting documents
- 2217 Network Rail Letter – regarding Trans-Pennine Electrification of the line between Manchester, York and Selby
- 2218 Agenda for the YLCA annual meeting

8 OTHER ITEMS

8.1 MUGA pitch at Scholes – This is still a work in progress. Cllr. Kelly has e-mailed LCC twice about this without reply. The need for goalposts is less – see agenda item 8.6

8.2 NDP report – Cllr. Hassell has circulated a report about the last NDP meeting. Feedback from LCC indicates that the Village Design Statement (VDS) is a good document and could be used as the basis for the NDP. It was **resolved** that the VDS be incorporated into the NDP, proposed by Cllr. Beaumont and seconded by Cllr. Walsh, all were in favour. The PC supported the decision of the NDP group to use part of the funds awarded to employ a professional Planning Consultant (David Gluck) to prepare an initial draft

8.3 Facebook, Website, Social media – There are 179 users. This month there have been about 400 views. The Newsletter and an appeal for players for the football club have been posted on our Facebook page

8.4 SLF meeting report: The clerk had circulated a detailed report of the last meeting of the working group. This group had completed a questionnaire to go to residents of Main Street and Leeds Road. This is the first stage of a consultation process which will include the whole village. The wider consultation would take into account the views expressed in the first questionnaire, anything omitted from the second consultation would need to be reported with the reason for its exclusion. Our ward councillors have agreed to provide £500 funding for a kissing gate – the clerk will make a formal application for this grant

8.5 Risk assessments and method statements – Cllr. Remmer has agreed to look at the legal responsibility of the PC. He circulated an extract from the HSE webpage and an example of a risk assessment. Councilors were asked to read these so that we can formally approve documents at our September meeting

8.6 Junior Football club – update and funding request – a Barwick resident reported on this during the Open Forum (see below). It was reported that an adult team still uses the Scholes sports field on a Saturday. The junior team would play on a Sunday and train on a Thursday evening (but not in winter). The PC want to see the inclusion of Scholes children in the team. It was resolved to buy a pair of goalposts for the sports field, proposed Cllr. Hassell and seconded Cllr. Walsh. All were in favour. These goalposts would come from the Scholes community fund and would be available for casual use. The clerk to clarify the size required

8.7 Outer North-East Forum report – Cllr. Hassell had circulated a report of this meeting. In summary there was a presentation about Cluster Working given by Gillian Mayfield (Children's Services) and one about Community Committees by Jane Maxwell (East North East Area Leader). There was much dissatisfaction from most Parishes with grass cutting. Cllr. John Proctor used the AOB agenda item to report on Site Allocations saying that population growth figures from the Office of National Statistics had revised population growth downwards with obvious implications for housing need. Cllr. Proctor gave updates on the Boston Spa Grove Road and Kirklees Knoll appeals.

8.8 Update on Scholes Developments and PC representation at Plans Panel – the two Scholes developments will not be brought before the Plans Panel for a while yet, when they do, the PC will get opportunity to be represented. A member of SOS has reported a Design and Access Statement suggesting that the developer is reconsidering access to the Wood Lane development via Station Road

8.9 Litter on Jack Heaps field – the goalposts on Jack Heaps field are well used but the children are leaving empty food and drinks packaging lying in the grass leading to a number of complaints from those living nearby. The clerk will contact LCC to see if a lamp post mounted bin can be supplied following which he will attach a laminated sign to the goalposts warning children to use the bin or lose the goals. Concern was also expressed about people sitting on the wall at the top end of the field and it was suggested that the seat being replaced by the WW1 memorial bench could go here

8.10 Bottle Bank – the clerk has been to see the landlady of the Gascoigne Arms public house after she indicated that she wants the bottle bank to be removed. A report of the conversation has been circulated. Alternative sites are being considered, however a new site requires a Highways License which in turn requires Planning Permission. It was also suggested that LCC arrange bottle collection as part of their refuse collection services. The clerk reported that he had removed all loose bottles from the existing site.

8.11 Possible developments off Elmet Drive/Road – The Planning Director of DPP UK Limited wants to meet members of the PC to discuss possible developments at this site. It was agreed that we arrange an on-site meeting

9 PLANNING

- A public notice suggesting possible replacement of the bus shelter next to Jack Heaps field has caused concern. Cllr. Yapp has made enquiries, as a result a letter from West Yorkshire Combined Authority confirmed that further action is suspended pending consideration of the responses received
- Cllr. Yapp and the clerk have met representatives of BT Openreach and Leeds City Council and have agreed the site for a new telecommunications cabinet on Main Street taking into consideration local conservation area status. The resident of the adjoining property has been consulted

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

- 02774 Park House Farm Cottage, York Road, Potterton - Proposed implement store - **no objections**
02338 York Road Leeds - Change of use of bungalow to form kennels with accommodation - **no objections** (but the PC would not favour a future application to restore the bungalow to residential use)
02474 Lower Barnbow Farm - Change of use of barn to domestic garage - **no objections**
03195 15 Elmete Avenue - Roof alterations including dormer window to rear and porch to front - **no objections**
03412 Woodhouse Farm, York Road, Scholes - Proposed Corn Store - **no objections**
03216 Land off Long Lane - Three mobile stables - **no objections** provided that the stables are mobile, the base and track are not hard surfaced, dung storage is considered and the stables are not rented out

10 REFERRALS & RISK ASSESSMENTS

Car parking on Scholes Main Street is the cause of concern. Tractors struggle to get into the farm as they need to swing out as they turn. The clerk will contact Nick Borrás, LCC to see if a Traffic Regulation Order can be implemented

Since the last meeting the electronic speed restriction sign on Leeds Road on the approach to the Coronation Tree has been knocked over, this has been reported but has not been replaced. Last month it was reported that a sign post at the Coronation Tree had been knocked over, although this was reported the lamp post has still not been replaced – the clerk will pursue this. A sign knocked over outside the shop on Rakehill Road has been put back

It was suggested that a school sign be put up on Long Lane

Tree growth is also a cause for concern, there was concern for the short ginnel connecting Gascoigne Court to Long Lane where the tree root is breaking up the tarmac

There was much concern about grass cutting and several e-mails have already been exchanged between LCC and PC councillors and the clerk. Our concerns have the support of our ward councillor

11 DATES of FUTURE MEETINGS

Mon. 1 Sept. Parish Council Meeting & Forum at Barwick Methodist Schoolroom 7 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.10 p.m.

Signed

Chairman
1 September 2014

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

The chairman reviewed the comments made at the previous Open Forum and then received comments from residents

A resident of Barwick - in – Elmet reported on the progress of the move to relocate Aberford Albion junior football club from Aberford to Scholes. The club will be playing its fixtures at Scholes and is in the process of registering as an independent club with the Football Association to be known as Scholes and Barwick Junior Football Club. There are currently 15/16 boys most of whom live in Barwick - in – Elmet but the ambition of the club is to recruit boys and girls from both villages and to expand the age profile (the current team play in the under 12s league), the coaching courses run by Dan of 5* Sports could be a source of new players. Funding will be from subscription charges. They are seeking funding for a pair of portable goalposts (see item 8.6 above). These goal posts would belong to the Parish and be available for casual use

A Scholes resident complained that the bus service is no better and gave specific examples of failed buses, e.g. the 7:48. She has rung and written letters, the explanation given to two failed buses is that both had broken down. On one occasion she was told to take a taxi. She also complained that about the lack of comfort when buses do arrive. The PC will contact Metro and copy this to Cllr. Robinson

Another Scholes resident drew our attention to the Notice placed by Persimmon Homes outside the shop on Rakehill Road regarding public footpaths across the field on the left of Scholes Lane (going out of the village). They look to be wanting to use Section 31 of the Highways Act 1980 to restrict public rights of way across their land. There are a number of paths across this field but none of them is officially registered. The clerk will make further enquiries. It was suggested that the Ramblers association may be able to help

There were further complaints about the use of Scholes Lodge Farm for sheep grazing. Issues raised were being woken early by bleating, the health risks of sheep excrement and the damage done by the grass being trampled gives concern that it would take months for the field to recover. The chairman expressed his own views reminding people that this was a six month trial and that other people were happy to have the sheep. He suggested that the PC may consider having the grass cut

Another resident was concerned that the trees have not been fenced off, hedges have been eaten off to head height, there are droppings on the footpath, the sheep's water is not getting changed and that bushes in gardens have no leaves. Photographs were circulated. This resident has taken advice from a DEFRA vet and also felt that as no action has been taken by the PC to control the dock in the field that the resident would pursue legal enforcement as specified in the Weeds Act 1959