

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Monday 3rd December 2018 at 7:30pm at Scholes Methodist Hall.

PRESENT:

Councillor	Claire Hassell (Chair)		
Councillors	Joanne Austin	Matthew Clover	Phil Maude
	Craig Barker	Karen Dales	Paul Remmer
	Neil Beaumont	Glyn Davies	Stella Walsh
	Howard Bedford		

In attendance: Eight residents, Ward Cllr. Matthew Robinson, Police Constable Andy Katkowski and PCSO Susan Broadwell (both part) and the Clerk.

1 APOLOGIES: Cllr. Matt. Baker and Ward Cllr. Firth.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST – Cllr. Beaumont regarding items 7.6 and regarding the ELOR for item 8.2. All Councillors (and their partners) had received an invitation to a Christmas party on 13th December at Bramham Park House which was declared as receipt of a gift of hospitality (all had accepted the invitation apart from Cllr. Remmer).

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting (8/2018) held on 5th November 2018 (521-525) having been circulated, be approved and signed, proposed Cllr. Davies, seconded Cllr. Bedford, all in favour.

4 CRIME REPORT

The Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) reported that there were nine crimes in the Parish in November as follows: six *Theft from Motor Vehicle* (two on Lynnfield Gardens, one on Leeds Road, one on Arthursdale Grange, one on Station Road and one on Main Street, Scholes; one *Theft from Shop* (Barwick in Elmet); one *Burglary Residential* (Meadow View) and one *Burglary Business* (Scholes School). There was evidence of forced entry in just one of the *Thefts from Motor Vehicle*. There had also been vandalism at Barwick in Elmet Allotments.

POLICE ADVICE – make sure your vehicle is locked and do not leave anything on display.

A few suspects were on remand at the time of the meeting.

Concerns were expressed that the probation service were bringing former convicts into the parish to do door-to-door selling. Residents had expressed concerns about inappropriate behaviour and did not want to be pestered. “No cold calling” stickers were suggested and the probation service would be contacted. It was also discussed how to make the Parish a no cold calling area.

5 FINANCE

5.1 The **cash book, bank reconciliation statement and budget monitor** had been circulated showing payments made during November of £6,951.05 (nineteen cheques totalling £6,173.28 and five direct debits of £777.77). The Responsible Financial Officer was reminded of the need to circulate a screen print to show bank balances.

5.2 The **cash book** showed fourteen cheque payments to be made in December amounting to £10,938.13.

5.3 Resolution to adopt the revised Financial Regulations - it was **resolved** that the revised version of the Financial Regulations circulated by Cllr. Clover be formally adopted, proposed Cllr. Maude, seconded Cllr. Beaumont, all in favour.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence list had been circulated (2996 to 2999), all reported correspondence related to the disused railway line or Chippies Pond. There was no information regarding the date of the feasibility study.

7 OTHER ITEMS

7.1 New computer equipment for the Clerk – the Clerk’s annual appraisal had identified that his performance was being affected by issues with computer equipment. Cllr. Davies had met with the Clerk to consider options and his recommendations had been circulated ahead of the meeting. After consideration of alternatives (including cost sharing) it was **resolved** that a budget be set for up to £800 for a new computer and monitor, proposed Cllr. Beaumont, seconded Cllr. Barker, all in favour. The Clerk had upgraded to superfast broadband at no additional cost (on an eighteen-month contract).

7.2 Terms of reference for the Staffing Committee - Cllr. Walsh had circulated suggested terms of reference ahead of the meeting for consideration. Cllr. Maude had made suggestions to give greater flexibility; so this agenda item was deferred to January so Cllr. Walsh had the chance to consider and incorporate the suggested changes.

7.3 Scholes Playground Roundabout – Cllr Maude indicated that LCC may be in favour of adopting the playground equipment to maintain & replace on an ongoing basis for the foreseeable future. The PC will decide at the next meeting whether they are willing to release the assets based on their current value & condition.

7.4 Crime Prevention Initiative Working Party – The working party was made up of Cllrs. Bedford, Clover, Dales, Hassell and Maude. Its initial meeting had been held on 12th November and Police Constable Andy Katkowski had attended. Closed Circuit television (CCTV) had been discussed; issues raised included who would monitor the content, where cameras could be located (at points where traffic has to slow down being favoured) and associated signage. The estimated cost of each CCTV camera is £3,500 per year. Cllr. Clover has received documents regarding the legislation to be considered regarding CCTV. He had also obtained prices for Neighbourhood Watch signs and for “No cold calling” signs and had contacted Safer Leeds. The group had also looked at issues related to crime reporting. The Working Party needs Terms of Reference. Date of next meeting 14th January 2019, John Rylie Centre

7.5 Lectern Interpretation Display Board regarding the living memorial of trees to commemorate the fallen of both World Wars – Cllr. Dales circulated drawings showing the latest version of this incorporating suggestions made by Cllrs. It was **resolved** that, subject to a correction of a spelling error, that this design be accepted and that the designer be given instructions to proceed, proposed Cllr. Barker, seconded Cllr. Remmer, all in favour.

7.6 HS2 – Cllr. Beaumont had attended the consultation event on 19th November 2018. The Garforth to Barwick in Elmet road would be re-aligned (not before 2026). The lack of a footway along this road was a concern and Cllr. Beaumont had enquired about associated funding for this. There would be footpath closures but these would only be temporary. There would be associated planting in some areas. A meeting with the PC was suggested to be held after Christmas.

7.7 Outer North-East (ONE) forum held on 22nd November – this had been attended by Cllrs. Hassell & Davies and the Clerk. There had been a presentation on fly-tipping in the ONE area and regarding the new charter.

7.8 Report of the VAT Training event held on 27th November – the Clerk had attended this. A key learning point was not to assume that the PC can claim back VAT, especially regarding large capital projects where advice should first be sought from the Yorkshire Local Councils Association.

7.9 Procedures, Powers & Policies Training on 13th November attended by Cllr. Clover - Cllr. Clover gave a report of this event and the key learning points.

7.10 Report of the event on Hall Tower field to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the end of World War One – this event was well attended and there had been many positive comments from residents. Cllr. Hassell was thanked for the amount of work she personally put into this, she advised that she had had considerable support from the Royal British Legion. The minibus was used by about twelve passengers, those using it were appreciative. There had been suggestions of an annual Parish bonfire night event at the same venue.

7.11 Scholes Lodge Farm – the working party had met on 30th November and the minutes had been circulated. A working party had turned up on 27th November but wet weather had restricted the amount of work they had been able to complete. Hedgehog boxes were in place, there was a spare bat box. There were issues regarding mole control and dog-fouling. Consideration had been given to an apple day next year and to a sculpture. Date of next meeting to be arranged March 2019. A member of the working party is looking to write a history of the field and wants any appropriate photographs.

7.12 Parish Council surgeries – residents were redirected from the library to the Manor House for the December surgery as it coincided with the consultation event in Manor House. The next surgery would be at the end of January 2019.

7.13 Facebook/Website – there were 763 followers and 9,764 visitors in November. There were two items of correspondence including images taken at the Scholes Community Forum meeting held on 26th November. Twitter has 85 users. Cllr. Beaumont's user ID has not been restored for website maintenance.

7.14 Peace flame – Cllr. Walsh reported the official opening will be on 15th December. The Flame is currently lit for testing. Concerns about condensation were noted. The official opening will be on 15th December. Thanks were expressed to Roger Mawson and his team for their hard work in taking this project forward.

8 PLANNING

8.1 A copy of the draft minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee of 19th November had been circulated and the decisions were duly noted.

8.2 East Leeds Orbital Road (ELOR) and Scholes PAS Land – after due consideration, it was **resolved** that the PC withdraw its to the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) and Side Roads Order (SRO) following the assurances given by the Head of Regeneration in his letter dated 9th November, proposed Cllr. Maude, seconded Cllr. Remmer, six were in favour and three against, there were two abstentions.

Thirteen or fourteen people had volunteered to be a part of a working party with LCCs ELOR team following the consultation event on the 24th November and the circulation of questionnaires to every property in the parish. This would look at local issues and concerns relating to the ELOR, as well as seeking to ensure the LCC ELOR team make good on the assurances given in correspondence.

8.3 Beech Trees on Scholes Lodge Lane – Cllr. Hassell had had an on-site meeting with the contractor to get a clearer understanding of the work proposed. Photographs were circulated. It was **resolved** that the contractor be instructed to go ahead with the severe cut originally proposed, proposed Cllr. Walsh, seconded Cllr. Maude, there was one abstention.

9 REFERRALS & RISK ASSESSMENTS – there was a request to see if a grit bin could be provided on The Approach. Concerns were expressed regarding the state of the footway near the Chartford Homes development - Cllr. Walsh will pursue this with the developers. The Christmas lights on Jack Heaps field were not working.

10 TO NOTIFY THE CLERK OF MATTERS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING – more blue Christmas lights for Scholes, Scholes Playground, and consideration of fracking with a view to presenting a report to the February or March meeting.

11 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 7th January 2019: Barwick in Elmet Methodist Schoolroom: Open Forum (7pm), Meeting of the Parish Council (7:30pm).

Monday 17th December: Planning Committee (6.30pm) John Rylie Centre.

Thursday 24th January: General Purposes and Finance Committee, John Rylie Centre (7pm)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:25pm.

OPEN FORUM

Issues raised included;

- Light pollution associated with the Thorpe Park Springs and concern that these are not switched off or dimmed overnight.
- Appreciation that the 11 bus service now goes to the above shopping centre but frustration that the new timetable doesn't follow a regular pattern. Concern that the 11 and the 64 buses sometimes don't turn up and that the 64 was running late all day on the day before the meeting.
- Car parking on Station Road. This had been reported previously and the PSCO had had a word with the vehicle owner and until recently, this behaviour had stopped. Users of the nearby bus stop could not see if there was a bus coming.
- A report that a bus had driven along the pavement on Station Road in a dangerous manner to avoid parked cars giving cause for concern)

Cllr. Sam. Firth had organised a meeting in January to address concerns about public transport.

A view was expressed that the last question on the recent ELOR questionnaire led the nature of the respondents reply. This view was accepted and Cllr. Maude explained that the question had been intended to seek residents' views regarding the options regarding agricultural use or having a country park.

It was reported that Cllr. Sam. Firth had organised a free bus service from Scholes to allow residents to attend the Planning Appeal. Cllr. Dales had agreed to act as contact point for those wanting to use this service. The timetable was provisional. This would run for certain days. Confirmation that this was going ahead was awaited before this service would be advertised.