

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Monday 7th January 2019 at 7:30pm at Barwick in Elmet Methodist Schoolroom.

PRESENT:

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

In attendance: Four residents, Ward Cllrs. Matthew Robinson(part) and Sam Firth, PCSO Geoff Nottingham (part) and the Clerk.

1 APOLOGIES: Cllr. Paul Remmer.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST – Cllr. Phil Maude regarding item 5.4 due to a family connection with the Scholes In Bloom group.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **resolved** that subject to correction of a couple of errors, the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting (9/2018) held on 3rd December 2018(526-529) having been circulated, be approved and that the Chair sign the minutes once the corrections had been made, proposed Cllr. Hassell, seconded Cllr. Baker, all in favour.

4 CRIME REPORT

The Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) reported that there were five crimes in the Parish in December, a Burglary Residential Main St. Scholes, and Chapel Lane, Barwick. Rocks thrown at windows Leeds Rd, Barwick, in Potterton, windows to a property damaged and a number of vehicles damaged at a second property.

The crime figures do not include road traffic accidents or domestic assaults. One crime not listed was the theft of copper from the roof of Saint Philip's Church. Repaired using fibre-glass. Youths have been seen on Saint Philip's roof.

A view was expressed that hearing about successful convictions would reassure residents that those responsible had been dealt with, however this information is not given to the PSCOs.

The PCSO warned that there is a group at large who have been going round neighbouring parishes checking for open doors to vehicles and properties.

5 FINANCE

5.1 The cash book, bank reconciliation statement and budget monitor had been circulated showing payments made during December of £11,117.81 (fourteen cheques totalling £10,938.13 and four direct debits of £179.68). There was a query about the budget for the Christmas Lights.

5.2 The cash book showed fourteen cheque payments to be made in January amounting to £3,408.16.

5.3 Budget 2019 – although the precept had been agreed at the November meeting, it was noted that increased costs would mean a possible increase next time alongside a review of expenditure to consider ways of reducing costs. A proposal for an annual Parish bonfire could lead to income from entry fees.

5.4 Barwick and Scholes in Bloom - it was **resolved** that a request for the PC to pay the Insurance renewal for the In Bloom groups be considered at the February meeting proposed Cllr. Hassell, seconded Cllr. Baker, all in favour. As the renewal date is 1st February, the groups will pay the renewals from their own funds pending the PC decision.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence list had been circulated (3000 to 3005). The 2019 Tour de Yorkshire will be coming through the Parish on 3rd May (3003). The newsletter will report this but being a Friday, there are no plans for associated events. There was a complaint about the 11 bus (3005). Concern had been expressed about a proposal to introduce car parking charges for the Barleyhill Road car park in Garforth and the Wilderness car park in Wetherby (3004). Local Ward Councillors are opposed to this and Cllr. Beaumont would write on behalf of the PC.

7.1 Hydraulic fracturing (“fracking”)– Cllr. Bedford reported on the possibility of fracking in the east Leeds area and suggested that the PC should consider this. The nearest proposed site is at Kippax. Cllrs. Bedford and Clover will keep the PC informed and would present a report as necessary to a future PC meeting.

7.2 Elections 2019 and resource materials - Cllr. Hassell advised the meeting of key dates (publication of the notice on 26th March and the election on 2nd May). The members section of the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) website contains useful information for those standing for election.

7.3 Whether the appeal hearing regarding Scholes PAS land could have been held in Scholes – Leeds had considered the possibility of holding the hearing in Scholes but no suitable venue could be found. There had been minimal liaison with the PC, however Cllr. Firth would ask Cllr. Robinson what consultation had taken place to reassure those who expressed concerns about this.

7.4 Terms of reference for the Staffing Committee –Cllr. Walsh had made some amendments to these terms of reference since the last meeting and the revised documents would be considered next time.

7.5 Christmas Lights– concern was expressed that the invoice for the Christmas Lights did not reflect the strings actually installed and that the lights on Jack Heaps Field had failed within a few days of being switched on and that one of the replacement strings put up as part of the repair was not the right colour. The General Purposes and Finance Committee would consider this at their next meeting.

7.6 Scholes Playground Roundabout– advice from the Internal Auditor regarding transfer of assets had been circulated. The General Purposes and Finance Committee would consider the options available regarding the repair or replacement of the roundabout and release of assets.

7.7 Surgeries – it was decided who would man the January, February and March surgeries.

7.8 Facebook/Website – Cllr. Beaumont reported that there had been 3,500 views with 780 followers. The proposed housing development in Scholes being of particular interest. There had been correspondence regarding the Tesco blue button scheme from a Scholes resident. Concern was expressed that no Councillors have access to manage website content, Cllr. Hassell would pursue this.

7.9 Peace flame – report of the official opening event held on 15th December 2018 –This was a well-attended event with Ward Councillors and the local Member for Parliament being present. Elderberries Band provided music and flowers had been placed. School children and residents had been provided with luggage labels to write messages of peace. There would be a peace party for the children in July. There would be a coffee morning on 2nd February and a dance on 16th February to raise funds for a peace garden and bids had been submitted to Langlands and Greggs.

8 PLANNING

8.1 Planning Appeal regarding a non-determination by Leeds City Council to a proposal to build three-hundred houses in Scholes – many residents and Parish Councillors had attended all or part of this two-week hearing which lasted from 10th to 21st December. A summary of this appeal was given to the meeting. It was noted that a considerable amount of work had been done, both at the appeal and beforehand by a team of witnesses giving evidence under Rule 6, the QC representing the developer had congratulated the team for the quality of their presentation. A decision is expected 22nd February. The developer had failed

to put forward any effective solutions to the Rakehill Road junction. Cllr. Maude was congratulated on his closing speech and thanks were recorded to Parish Councillors, residents, Scholes Community Forum and the team giving evidence. It was agreed that Cllr. Maude's closing speech be published.

Following the appeal, the Site Allocation Plan (SAP) inspector's report had been published which had ruled against allowing any development on the proposed site on the Parlington Estate, the Save Parlington Action Group (SPAG) were congratulated on this success. This would not have an adverse effect on the site in Scholes, the SAP runs to 2023 with greenbelt being protected.

8.2 Buying a small thank you gift to Jim Buckley- it was **resolved** to buy a small thank you gift up to a maximum value of £50 for Jim Buckley (resident and retired Highways Safety Expert) for appearing at the above appeal on behalf of the PC to present evidence in regard to unsafe junctions, proposed Cllr. Hassell, seconded Cllr. Barker, all in favour.

8.3 Planning Committee Membership – it was **resolved** to appoint Cllr. Austin to the Planning Committee, proposed Cllr. Beaumont, seconded Cllr. Barker, all in favour.

9 REFERRALS & RISK ASSESSMENTS– there was a need for a sign on Jack Heaps field regarding the policy of not allowing people to use it to exercise their dogs.

10 TO NOTIFY THE CLERK OF MATTERS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING – a policy regarding the exercise of dogs on Hall Tower field, Cllr. Bedford had submitted a response on behalf of the PC to the Core Strategy Selective Review – the Planning Committee would consider this further.

11 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 4th February 2019: Scholes Methodist Hall: Open Forum (7pm), Meeting of the Parish Council (7:30pm).

Monday 14th January: Crime Reduction Working Party, John Rylie Centre

Monday 21st January: Planning Committee (6.30pm) John Rylie Centre

Agreement was reached to change the advertised date of the next General Purposes and Finance Committee from 24th to 31st January 2019 due to a clash with the next Outer North-East forum. This would be in the John Rylie Centre at 7pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:30pm.

OPEN FORUM

- Concern was expressed that the feasibility study into the use of the disused railway line as a greenway had not been published by the stated deadline of Autumn 2018. An update on the progress of this was sought by the time of the next PC meeting.
- The PC were thanked for the considerable amount of work done by the team of witnesses and those who supported them. Agenda item 8.2 was noted and a suggestion made that others also be considered.
- There will be a meeting on 14th January for those with concerns about the bus service – 10:30am, Merrion House. Positive feedback was received regarding the 64 bus which runs to time (although there were issues on New Year's Eve) and the drivers of the Connexions operator are especially courteous. They have suggested that they will stop and pick up people who indicate by arm movement that they wish to board the bus regardless of whether that person is standing beside a recognised bus stop.
- Cllr. Barker aims to have the next newsletter out by the end of January. He summarised likely content and received feedback and suggestions for additional content. Councillors with items for inclusion were encouraged to submit articles to him.