

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Monday 4th March 2019 at 7:30pm at Barwick in Elmet Methodist Schoolroom.

PRESENT:	Councillor	Claire Hassell (Chair)		
	Councillors	Joanne Austin	Neil Beaumont	Glyn Davies
		Matt Baker	Howard Bedford	Phil Maude
		Craig Barker	Matthew Clover	Paul Remmer

In attendance: Five residents, Ward Cllr. Matthew Robinson and the Clerk.

1 APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Karen Dales, Stella Walsh and Ward Cllr. Firth.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST – None

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting (11/2018) held on 4th February 2019 (533-535) having been circulated, be approved and that the Chair sign the minutes, proposed Cllr. Beaumont, seconded Cllr. Baker, all in favour.

4 CRIME REPORT

There were three *Burglary Residential* crimes in February, all in Scholes (Arthursdale Drive, Belle Vue Avenue and Main Street). In all cases, doors at the rear of the property were attacked. In one case the suspects fled empty-handed after being disturbed. In one case car keys were taken and used to steal the vehicle which was later sighted by the Police. There have been two cases of theft of stone (Fieldhead Drive and Kiddal Lane). There was a third case of *Theft Non-Specific* after a known suspect removed property (Chapel Lane). Suspects got onto the roof of Barwick Village Hall and removed lead flashing but made off after being disturbed.

5 FINANCE

5.1 The **cash book, bank reconciliation statement, screen print and budget monitor** had been circulated showing payments made during February of £3,658.86 (fourteen cheques totalling £3,152.34 and five direct debits of £506.52). Grants from the Community Fund were received at the beginning of the meeting.

5.2 The **cash book** showed eight cheque payments to be made in March amounting to £1,528.60.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence list was noted showing items which had been circulated to all Councillors (3011 to 3017)

7 OTHER ITEMS

7.1 Scholes Roundabout – it was **resolved** to accept a quotation for £1,367 + VAT to supply and fit a new bearing for the roundabout, proposed Cllr. Barker, seconded Cllr. Remmer, all in favour. A response from Leeds City Council (LCC) was awaited regarding the annual lease.

7.2 Scholes defibrillator – it was **resolved** to retrospectively approve necessary expenditure to relocate to the Brain Rehabilitation Unit and to officially note that it has been moved and the emergency services have been informed of its new location, proposed Cllr. Barker, seconded Cllr. Baker. This work had been carried out in the interests of public health. Cllr. Remmer would make weekly checks of the equipment and residents would be made aware through social media and the newsletter, Cllr. Clover would post on a Scholes specific social media page.

7.3 Barwick Open Gardens – the Clerk's decision under delegated authority to allow Barwick in Bloom to use Jack Heaps Field for car parking on 23rd June 2019 was noted.

7.4 Update on 20mph proposals – the public consultation has been delayed and is now due to occur from 8th March 2019. It was agreed to publish the URL <https://www.leedstraffweb.co.uk/consult/main.html> on social media and on the website and to share supporting documentation received where appropriate.

7.5 It was **resolved** to co-opt Cllr. Clover onto the Staffing Committee, proposed Cllr. Hassell, seconded Cllr. Maude, all in favour.

7.6 Recognising key figures in the Community - a suggestion from a resident to buy a bench to recognise a local businessman's contribution to the community was considered. It was felt that some form of recognition would be appropriate but that this should allow others to be similarly acknowledged and that there should be recognition for key figures from both villages. Various suggestions were considered – it was decided to defer this to a later agenda whilst alternatives were considered.

7.7 Parish Events – a suggestion to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Normandy landings was considered. It was felt that a commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War would be more appropriate as there were more veterans who could be invited and there would be more time to plan and it would be more appropriate to position this as a celebration. There was also a suggestion of a PC organised bonfire night with fireworks. This would be considered further at the April meeting.

7.8 Scholes gala – a suggestion of giving financial support to organisers of the gala was considered. Although there was support for this it was felt that further information was needed to make an informed decision, in particular the change in circumstances since the 2018 event which triggered the need for support. It was noted that the apologies included two Scholes Councillors who had had direct contact with Scholes Village Hall Committee members and therefore it was **resolved** to defer discussion on this to the April meeting, proposed Cllr. Remmer, seconded Cllr. Maude, all in favour.

7.9 Christmas Lights – LCC had agreed to refund the PC £1,000 following a complaint that the strings put up for the 2018 lights were incorrect and that lights had failed or not come on/gone off at the right time. A price list for 2019 had been received. Ward Cllr. Robinson was asked if there could be an agenda item for the next Outer North-East forum to bring collective pressure on LCC to reconsider its prices.

7.10 Use of key fobs to access the John Rylie Centre and Manor House – LCC had changed the locks at both the John Rylie Centre and at Manor House and had switched to digital key fobs. This had caused issues with insufficient fobs being issued for organisations and there had been problems due to the doors automatically closing leading to users having to keep someone at the door to allow their members in. It was **resolved** to invite the Head of Housing to meet Councillors and representatives from other local groups who use the 2 properties to address concerns and explain the rationale of the change, proposed Cllr. Maude, seconded Cllr. Remmer, all in favour.

7.11 Purchase of Dog signs – it was agreed to purchase “No Dogs” signs for Jack Heaps field. Cllr. Remmer agreed to remove a similar sign from Hall Tower field if necessary.

7.12 Use of Scholes Football Pitch – following a request from Beechwood Football Club to use the pitch at Scholes, Cllr. Hassell had arranged for a meeting to discuss this between them and the current users. This would be at the Pavilion at 7pm on 19th March.

7.13 Using a courier firm for delivery of newsletters and flyers –the recent distribution of an ad-hoc flyer at short notice only a fortnight after the newsletter delivery had demonstrated the need to consider alternative distribution methods. It was felt that current volunteers should continue with newsletter deliveries, but the Clerk would get quotes for the next meeting for delivery of flyers for consideration at the next meeting.

7.14 The possibility of Fracking in east Leeds – Cllr. Bedford had circulated a report to all Councillors. It was **resolved** that subject to feedback from Councillors, this report be published on the website, proposed Cllr. Bedford, seconded Cllr. Remmer, all in favour.

7.15 Facebook/Website – Cllr. Beaumont reported that there had been 7,424 views with 788 followers. About 4,000 of these views were relating to the outcome of the appeal hearing regarding Scholes PAS land. All nominated Councillors now have access to edit website content.

7.16 Surgeries – Councillors put themselves forward to man the April surgery.

7.17 Report of the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) Leeds Branch meeting – this had been attended on 19th February by Cllrs. Davies and Hassell. The YLCA are looking to move offices. They are trying to make Councillor training a condition of holding office and to make changes to the Code of Conduct. Suggested revisions to the Charter between Parish Councils and LCC were discussed. There were plans to resurrect the Annual Parish and Town Council forum.

8 PLANNING

8.1 The draft minutes of the **Planning Committee** meeting of 18th February had been circulated and the decisions taken regarding five planning applications were noted. There had been a presentation by representatives of HS2 and a comprehensive report of this was recorded in the minutes. The committee had also discussed the outcome of the appeal hearing regarding Scholes PAS land, the East Leeds Orbital Road and extra car parking at Manor House associated with the Chartford Homes development. The PC team, during a break at the Core Strategy Selective Review (CSSR) sessions at the Town Hall last week, had informal chats with Mark Johnson of Johnson Mowatt, GMI's retained planning consultancy. In one conversation Mr Johnson advised that a smaller scheme for the Scholes PAS land, comprising the southern entrance only, was being considered as a Pre-App (A Pre-App is a normally a meeting with a planning authority officer for an informal discussion before the submission of an application). In the light of this the councillors all agreed that the quicker the Site Allocations Plan is adopted the better as it will provide significant protection for the Scholes PAS land.

8.2 Update on Site Allocations and Core Strategy – the PC had responded to the consultation regarding the main modifications to the Site Allocations Plan. Cllrs Austin, Hassell and Maude had attended the CSSR and Cllr. Austin was congratulated on her ability to process numerical information. Cllr. Bedford attended the discussions on 27th/28th February regarding affordable housing where developers argued that an increase from 5% to 7% represented a 40% increase.

9 REFERRALS & RISK ASSESSMENTS – none

10 TO NOTIFY THE CLERK OF MATTERS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING – none other than items carried forward from the above discussions.

11 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 1st April 2019: Scholes Methodist: Open Forum (7pm), Meeting of the Parish Council (7:30pm).

Monday 18th March: Planning Committee (6.30pm), John Rylie Centre

Thursday 21st March: Finance & General Purposes, 7pm, John Rylie Centre

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:34pm.

Signed

Chair
1st April 2019

OPEN FORUM

The following items were raised following a recap of the issues raised at the last Open Forum,

- The difficulties caused by users of the John Rylie Centre due to the change to a key fob system (see 7.10 above) and the inability of LCC officers to give satisfactory answers to concerns. Cllr. Hassell would speak to one of the LCC officers the next day.
- Concerns about properties on Rakehill Road where actual activities suggest usage not in line with owners claims. There was concern about the use of scalplings on a paddock at one property and the lack of evidence of agricultural use at another property and concerns of associated fly-tipping. Cllr. Maude agreed to put these as agenda items for the next Planning Committee.
- There was a query about thanking those involved in the appeal hearing regarding a proposal to build on Scholes PAS land.
- The PC were thanked for responding to the consultation regarding the main modifications to the Site Allocations Plan and for inclusion of Scholes PAS land in their response.
- The situation regarding inconsiderate parking down The Boyle is awaiting a response from the LCC Highways officer who is dealing with this.
- The PC and interested parties have been invited to Leeds Civic Hall on 22nd March for a meeting to discuss the content of the Elmet Greenway feasibility study. This study will not be available before the meeting.