**BARWICK in ELMET & SCHOLES PARISH COUNCIL 8/2019**

**MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

held on Monday 4th November 2019 at 7:30pm at Scholes Methodist Hall.

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| **PRESENT:** | Councillor | Claire Hassell (Chair) |  |
|  | Councillors | Jackie Ward  Joanne Austin  Karen Dales | Glyn Davies Howard Bedford Neil Beaumont | Paul Remmer  Phil Maude  Graham Slater |

**In attendance**: Ward Cllrs. Firth and Robinson, PCSO Sue Broadbent, six residents and the Clerk.

**1 APOLOGIES.** Cllrs. John Moreland and Stella Walsh.

**2**  **BARWICK VACANCY**. It was resolved that Jackie Ward be co-opted to fill the Barwick Ward vacancy, all in favour.

**3 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST.** None

**4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) meeting (7/2019) held on 7th October 2019 (562-566) having been circulated, be approved subject to an addition to the resolution stated in item 7.11 as follows; “The Clerk to confirm with Leeds City Council acceptance of the quote and confirmation of the number of strings at Saint Philip’s”. The Chair amended the minutes as suggested and duly signed them.

**5 CRIME REPORT**

Nine crimes in October but only three on the report as the victims had opposed details being publicised. C*riminal damage* in the beer garden behind the pub on The Cross where youths had damaged the furniture. A *theft* on Leeds Road where a wallet was stolen from a vehicle. An unreported *Burglary Residential* on Main Street, Barwick in Elmet, details posted on a community social media page. A theft *non-specific* on Croft Way with radiators and copper cylinders taken. *Interference with vehicle* on Rakehill Road, nothing taken. Holes burnt into the cricket covers in Barwick (incident occurred in September but reported in October). C*riminal damage* to Saint Philip’s church grounds caused by four quad bikes not shown on the report.

**6 FINANCE**

**6.1** The **cash book, bank reconciliation statement, screen print and budget monitor** had been circulated showing payments made during October of £2,741.47 (fourteen cheques totalling £2,565.23 and three direct debits of £176.24). It was noted that a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Payment had been received. It was noted that there was a surplus of £1,500 for plants for the planters on the Verity strip and that the PC had agreed to contribute £500.

**6.2** The **cash book** showed ten cheque payments to be made in November amounting to £3,858.50.

**6.3** **Remembrance Day**. It was **resolved** to approve a donation to the Royal British Legion for the bugler (£100) and wreathes (£200), all in favour.

**7 CORRESPONDENCE**

There had been an e-mail from Barwick in Elmet Bowling Club thanking the PC for the new sign at the Long Lane/Chapel Lane junction pointing to Barwick Sports Clubs, they were delighted (3051). 3052 and 3053 both related to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order on The Boyle, one from one of the residents opposed to the proposal and one from a Police Officer in Wetherby expressing concerns from one of the businesses pressing for restrictions. 3054 was a report of an accident on the dodgems at the fair on Jack Heaps field where a child banged his face on the steering wheel following a head on collision with another dodgem. The Clerk had spoken to the fairground operators and to the mother of the child who had consented to a redacted copy of her concerns being sent to the fairground for comment. 3055 was a request by Leeds City Council (LCC) to put a bottle bank in the Village Hall car park. Concerns were expressed about broken glass getting onto the football pitch and that on occasions, all the spaces in the car park are needed.

**8 OTHER ITEMS**

**8.1 Sports Fields Working Party.** It was **resolved** to establish a Group to manage and develop the sports fields in both villages following consultation with local residents and to explore funding opportunities to assist in financing such works and equipment as may be necessary. This would be an agenda item next time.

**8.2 Committee vacancies.** It was **resolved** to appoint Cllr. Austin to fill the vacancy on the Finance & General Purposes Committee and following consultation between the Chair and the Clerk in which experience had been a deciding factor to recommend a proposal, to appoint Cllr. Davies as Chair. It was resolved to appoint Cllr. Bedford as Chair of the Crime Reduction Working Group.

**8.3 Staffing Committee.** It was **resolved** to appoint Cllr. Remmerto fill the vacancy on the Staffing Committee. A concern was expressed about the appropriateness of the Clerk’s role in the recommendation process.

**8.4 Scholes Sports Pavilion.** It was **resolved** to appoint Cllr. Slater to take the lead on running the Sports Pavilion in Scholes and to pursue the setting up of a working party to promote its use.

**8.5** **Barwick Football Field.** It was **resolved** to;

**•** To note the report circulated by Cllr Maude and to ask the Clerk to contact Mount Saint Mary’s football club to investigate the costs of the temporary facilities they have put in place to report to the next meeting with a view to making a contribution towards the cost.

• To instruct the Clerk to arrange discussions with the School and Leeds City Council about tying into their drainage system and to consult with ward Councillors and investigate any opportunity for grant funding towards these costs.

• To ask Cllr. Maude to coordinate these actions and to provide a further report to the PC with recommendations for the long-term use of the football field in the light of the above investigations after consulting with colleagues as to the preferred way forward.

• To instruct the Clerk to investigate an option of blocking off the septic tank and the cost of emptying it on a regular basis and obtain a costing to report to the next meeting.

**8.6 Boundary wall on Scholes Lodge Lane.** It was **resolved** to engage a building surveyor to investigate the state of the wall and make recommendations. Cllr. Remmer would contact Ward Cllr. Robinson to see if LCC can survey the wall.

**8.7 Standing Orders.** Revised Standing Orders had been circulated. It was suggested that item 1n (Rules of Debate at Meetings) should be amended with the addition of the words “at the discretion of the Chair”. It was also suggested that the Standing Orders contain a definitions section stating that all references to “he” or “his” could equally mean “she” or “her”. The was no overall agreement regarding a suitable level of authority given to the Clerk to allow him to give instruction for urgent items and the Clerk would seek advise from the Internal Auditor. This would be an agenda item in December.

**8.8 Speed Watch Programme.** There had been little support for this programme, this item would be considered again should this situation change.

**8.9 Road safety concerns on Main Street, Barwick in Elmet.** Cllr. Maude agreed to draft a response to LCC Highways asking them to consider options for road crossings on Main Street.

**8.10 Leeds City Council consultation on their Statement of Community involvement.** This was referred to the Planning Committee for consideration.

**8.11 Facebook/Website/Newsletter.** The newsletter deadline is 22nd November. Cllr. Beaumont reported that there had been 4,800 views on Facebook. Cllrs. Bedford and Slater had met to consider options for the website. They are seeking feedback on the existing site, positives and negatives and had looked at neighbouring Parishes websites for comparative purposes.

**8.12 Broadband in Potterton and Kiddal.** It was **resolved** to support the proposals listed in Cllr Bedford’s report on upgrading Broadband connectivity to areas of the parish in and around Potterton, Kiddal and along the A64 – including holding a public meeting on 8th November 2019 in the John Rylie Centre.

**8.13 Scholes Lodge Farm.** The minutes had been circulated. The owl box had been knocked off its pole and needed to be put back.

**8.14 East Leeds Orbital Road (ELOR) working party.** The minutes of the meeting of 25th September 2019 had been circulated. This had considered noise and air quality. The next meeting would look at programming and timing. It was noted that there was an issue regarding the timing of the installation of traffic lights at Scholes Lane end. Cllr. Maude had pursued a suggestion at an earlier PC meeting to have a cycle track from Scholes Lane end to the junction of the A64 and ELOR. The response had not been favourable but this would be pursued again if opportunity arose. It was noted that the benefits of the project to the wider community would be at the expense of those closest to the proposed road.

**8.15 Surgeries.** Cllr. Slater had circulated a report of the three issues raised at the last surgery, one of which was a suggestion of a preservation order to be placed on the bridge over the disused railway. Cllr. Slater would circulate a calendar of future surgery dates for other Councillors to indicate availability.

**8.16 Scholes Playing Fields Committee.** The draft minutes of the meeting of 21st October had been circulated and the contents noted.

**8.17 Barwick Playing Fields Committee.** The draft minutes of the meeting of 28th October had been circulated and the contents noted, in particular the success of Tennis Club in recruiting new members following their leaflet drop earlier in the year and Mount Saint Mary’s are raising funds to address the septic tank issue.

**9 PLANNING**

The **Planning Committee** had met on 14th October. The draft minutes had been circulated with the agenda and the contents were duly noted.

Cllrs. Austin and Bedford would attend the informal hearing regarding the appeal against refusal for a crematorium to be built on the site of the golf driving range. This would be held on 12th November at 10am in Leeds Civic Hall.

**10 REFERRALS & RISK ASSESSMENTS­**

Concern was expressed regarding the field at the back of Flats Lane and Shaws Lane which appeared to be being used for arable farming. There was a concern that this could be contaminated land. Cllr. Beaumont would seek advice from Cllr. Walsh.

Concern was expressed about the amount of mud on the footway in Scholes – an approach would be made to LCC street cleansing team.

**11 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NOVEMBER AGENDA.** Several of the above items would be considered further at the December meeting.

**12 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Monday 2nd December: Barwick in Elmet Methodist Schoolroom: Open Forum (7pm), Parish Council Meeting (7:30pm).

Monday 18th November: Planning Committee (6.30pm) Scholes Sports Pavilion

Thursday 21st November: Finance & General Purposes Committee (7pm), Scholes Sports Pavilion

It was noted that the first Monday in May was not a Bank Holiday and that the previously published meeting date could be brought forward.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:35pm.

Signed

Chair

2nd December 2019

**OPEN FORUM**

* There was a presentation about the work of Reengage, an organisation which works with the elderly people who live alone with little contact with others by holding monthly tea parties. The nature of those who fall into this category makes contacting them in the first place a challenge. Since they started in the mid-summer, Reengage have been successful in the local area in getting people to volunteer to host tea parties or to be drivers. They are looking for information about the over 75s or ideas of who might help identifying those in this situation. The need for DBS checks and Safeguarding has slowed progress. E-mails to local organisations have not generated any response. An article will appear in the next PC newsletter. They had been to Elderberries that afternoon and had also been to the John Rylie Centre and were seeing the warden of the sheltered accommodation later in the week. Leaflets were circulated and there was a suggestion of using the church magazine.
* A resident of Kiddal thanked Cllr. Bedford for his help in trying to improve the Broadband experience of residents of this hamlet and Potterton making use of the Gigabyte voucher government scheme (see item 8.12 above). There was a issue from Morgan Cross to Middle Rose House in Potterton. Openreach would give a quote once most of those affected had signed up, they were confident that there were enough funds in the voucher scheme. If successful, this scheme could be used as a template to roll out a similar scheme for £500 vouchers to the two main villages. This would be a FTTC (Fibre to the Cabinet) scheme as opposed to the FTTP (Fibre to the Premises) scheme suggested for the hamlets.
* It was reported that two windows to the church hall had been deliberately broken on the eve of the arrival of asylum seekers. The windows were double glazed and only the outer ones had been broken.
* Ward Cllr. Robinson advised the PC that due to the calling of a General Election, a period of purdah had begun which would affect any funding. There was no response from LCC regarding the introduction of 20mph zones. Regarding speed cameras set up elsewhere in the city, LCC were now carrying out a review before putting up any more. These cost £2,000 to £3,000 for those on streetlights and about £5,000 for solar powered ones. Ward Cllr. Firth had visited Belle Vue Road a couple of weeks earlier in response to concerns about flagstones on this street and on Oaklea Road.