

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Monday 3 April 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at Scholes Methodist Hall

PRESENT:

Councillor	Claire Hassell (Chair)	
Councillors	Geoff Yapp	Neil Beaumont
	Glyn Davies	Paul Remmer
	Howard Bedford	Stella Walsh
	Karen Dales	Tom Crofill
	Matt Baker	

In attendance: PCSO Geoff Nottingham (part), two Scholes residents and the Clerk.

1 APOLOGIES: Ward Councillors Matthew Robinson and Ryan Stephenson.

2 VACANCY ON THE PARISH COUNCIL – BARWICK WARD

It was **resolved** that Howard Bedford be co-opted to fill this vacancy, proposed Cllr. Hassell, seconded Cllr. Yapp, all were in favour. The Clerk had already been keeping Cllr. Bedford informed of Parish Council matters prior to his appointment by copying him into e-mails etc. Some Councillors felt that this was inappropriate and that this should not happen the next time a resident expressed an interest in a vacancy.

3 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the **Parish Council Meeting (10/2016)** held on 6 March 2017 (448-452) having been circulated, be approved and signed, proposed Cllr. Davies, seconded Cllr. Beaumont, all were in favour.

5 CRIME REPORT

The PSCO reported half a dozen crimes in the Parish in March 2017, these were one *Assault* in a public house, two lots of *Criminal Damage* (to a gate and to the rear window of a vehicle), one *Burglary Other* (theft from a shed) and two *Burglary Dwellings* (in both cases old style euro locks had been snapped). Councillors sought clarification regarding which types of lock were considered vulnerable to attack and which were more secure. The PSCO advised that next year the categories of *Burglary Dwelling* and *Burglary Other* would be combined into a single category, *Burglary Residence*.

There had been an incident in Scholes where Police had needed to force entry into a property due to a medical emergency. The property owner felt that the entry had been heavy handed, boarding up cost £250 and repairs £650 and was seeking compensation. The use of Keysafe was suggested; the PCSO confirmed that this is secure. Alternatively, residents can leave keys with a neighbour and register that information with the Police.

The PSCO was informed of the earlier conversation regarding grass verges (see Open Forum). The Police have no powers to stop people parking in this way.

Parking outside Scholes School was a concern, the PSCO advised that every day, police patrol at least one of the schools in the area.

6 FINANCE

6.1 The **cash book, bank reconciliation statement and budget monitor** were circulated showing payments made during March of £1,002.88 (cheques totaling £954.34 and one direct debit of £48.54). There were questions about unpaid Sports rents, the Responsible Financial Officer agreed to

circulate details of payments made/outstanding. There was also a question about the Allotments, any money spent on these should come out of the income received.

6.2 The **cash book** showed thirteen cheque payments to be made in April amounting to £7,831.16 and a direct debit of £40.34.

7 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk presented the list of **correspondence** (2788-2901).

8 OTHER ITEMS

8.1 The Parish Council's response to the 20mph speed restriction – a discussion took place regarding the letter from Leeds advising that 20 mph zones are under consideration and the PC and residents will be given the opportunity to comment on proposals, once drafted by Leeds, before implementation. Ward Councillors had advised the PC of their views which did not necessarily accord with those present at the meeting. It was **resolved** that the Parish Council responds welcoming any proposals which may reduce the speed of traffic in the villages, proposed Cllr. Yapp, seconded Cllr. Remmer, all were in favour.

8.2 Proposals to introduce parking restrictions on The Boyle – report of meeting to discuss this – Cllr. Yapp attended an event at Wetherby Police Station with local farmers to discuss parking issues down The Boyle sometimes preventing farm traffic from getting past. A summary of the meeting had been circulated to all Councillors. He was due to attend a further meeting later in the week. Residents have been written to and responses are awaited. The Police are expected to issue tickets for obstruction to those who do not comply. Double yellow lines would be a last resort as they would move the problem elsewhere, it was noted they were effective further up The Boyle where the lines keep all parked car on the same side of the road. Historically, offending cars have been towed away.

8.3 Discussion on the proposed layout of the new website and resolution to proceed with its' development – a proposed site layout had been circulated to all. There was a concern that links to external sites could be seen as Parish Council endorsement. Councillors were invited to submit ideas regarding content, e.g. highways reports and reports of meetings attended, Yorkshire Local Councils Associations communications. The current site will be retained and copied to the new domain. Contact information for those looking to book local venues was suggested. There was a concern that maintenance of the site might create a lot of extra work if too many features were built in.

8.4 Meeting with Festival Republic to discuss traffic management at the 2017 Festival – Cllr. Hassell and the Clerk had attended a meeting at Bramham Park House to discuss the revised arrangements for traffic management. The biggest change being no road closures or contraflow on the Thursday before the Festival weekend. There were concerns about the contingency plans. The car parking arrangements have been altered. These changes have no impact on the allocation of tickets to the parish. A further meeting was arranged for 11th April and several Councillors will be attending.

8.5 Resignation of Graham Field – since the last meeting, Graham Field has resigned as a Councillor. The vacancy has been advertised and residents have until 5th April to request that this be filled by an Election.

8.6 Hall Tower Field - Update – Quotes obtained – the grant has been awarded and will be paid directly into the bank account. A local contractor will be doing the work of tidying up the field once the Maypole Festival is over (earlier if possible). The Maypole committee will do some clearance for their festival. The third trustee has consented to the handover. Local residents will be contacted about the boundary walls and a letter will go out to all residents. Cllr. Beaumont will liaise with one of the Maypole committee. As an aside, Cllr. Yapp has discovered that the deeds to the Playground, the land by the library and a couple of the Sports Clubs are missing. The Chair will ask the previous Clerk if he knows where they might be.

8.7 Scholes Lodge Farm – update, display boards, benches, boardwalk – The boardwalk was longer than anticipated and has been shortened leaving an additional piece. Two options were considered, to use this to bridge another wet area but off the marked path or to buy an additional piece to bridge the wet area at the point at which the path crosses, this would cost £130 per metre. It was **resolved** that additional boardwalk could be bought up to a maximum of £1000 in value, proposed Cllr. Baker, seconded Cllr. Yapp. The display boards should be in by Easter. The price of the benches has gone up since the original quote. A case of fly tipping garden waste on the field has been dealt with. Wildflower seeds have been bought. One resident (who has professional gardening / horticultural expertise) offered to plant some bulbs. Bog plants were suggested to soften the visual effect of the boardwalk. The resident was happy to put together a list of suitable plants and to make a donation. She will attend the next Scholes Lodge Farm meeting who will come back with a proposal. Trees (not whips) were suggested and there was positive feedback about the cowslips. There were concerns about dog fouling and it was suggested that two more of the children's competition dog-fouling signs be put up at the field entrances and that a bin be requested to go near the gate.

8.8 Defibrillator for Barwick – update – it was hoped that there would be progress on this by the time of the next meeting. Of those asked to quote for installation, only one has responded .

8.9 Neighbourhood Plan – the Inspector's report is awaited.

8.10 Report on activity on Parish face-book and web-site – there are 520 followers (likes) and there were 2200 views last month. There had been responses to posts about the fly-tipping of tyres along Cattle Lane to Aberford and beyond, there had also been comments about cars parking on grass verges (see Open Forum). The Clerk of Aberford Parish Council was seeking help in setting up a Facebook page for them. Cllr. Walsh had been carrying out a review of the Social Media Policy and had made some minor changes. A Twitter account had also been suggested as Tweets can be scheduled.

9 PLANNING

9.1 It was **resolved** that the recommendations of the Planning Committee (see below) be accepted.

There were **no objections** to the following applications

- 3 Lyndhurst Crescent - Convert existing integral garage into habitable living space; single storey side extension forming double garage; new dropped kerb to front
- 53 Gascoigne Road - Single storey rear extension
- 17/01781/FU - Osman House 48 Station Road - Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of approval 16/02328/FU to allow kitchen extract flue to be added to the north elevation

Regarding 43A Chapel Lane (two storey and single storey side/rear extensions) the Planning Committee recommended objection due to overdevelopment of the site and loss of amenities to neighbouring properties. They also recommended objection to application 17/01415/FU, New agricultural storage building at Woodhouse Farm on similar grounds to the previous application (use of greenbelt land, impact on the landscape and the neighbouring farm and the increase in the footprint of the site).

9.2 There were **no objections** to application 17/01832/TR, Works to Protected Trees at 44 The Boyle.

9.3 There were **no objections** to the proposed telecommunications installation on Highfield Lane

9.4 It was **resolved** that the Vacancy on the Planning committee created by the resignation of Graham Field be fill by Howard Bedford.

10 REFERRALS & RISK ASSESSMENTS – Concerned had been raised about;

- A locked gate at the end of Taylor Lane

- A Highways Sign requested to sign post the village hall.
- Highway signs for Scholes near Scholes Lane are peeling and need replacing
- The muddy state of Rakehill Road

11 TO NOTIFY THE CLERK OF MATTERS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING – Hall Tower Hill.

12 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 8 May 2017: Barwick in Elmet Methodist Schoolroom: Annual Parish meeting (7pm), Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (8pm) preceded by Planning Committee (6:30pm).

Monday 10 April: Barwick Playing Fields/Allotments Committee at the Methodist Schoolroom, 7:30pm.

Monday 24 April: Scholes Playing Fields at the Sports Pavilion, 7:30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Signed

Chairman
8 May 2017

OPEN FORUM

The chair reminded everyone of the matters raised at the March Open Forum and then opened the meeting to comments from those present.

Cllr. Walsh had followed up the previous Open Forum and had meet with Irvin of the Elmet Greenway Committee and showed him maps.

A resident expressed concern about damage being done to grass verges by parked cars and wanted the Parish Council to be more active suggesting a polite letter to offenders and signs advising people not to park on the grass and liaison with Highways regarding enforcement action against those who ignored the softly-softly approach. Nook Road was one area of concern, Cllr. Remmer reported similar issues on Leeds Road and the effect of parked vehicles on drivers line of sight. It is not always possible to clearly establish which property a parked car is associated with which restricts any action taken and there was a reluctance for the Parish Council to start writing to individuals. It was suggested that a letter from Scholes in Bloom might be effective. There was uncertainty in some cases whether the grass verge was part of the property or belonged to Leeds City Council (who maintain most grass verges). Enforcement action has been promised near the school and the Parish Council had already written to the owners of Osman House regarding grass verges damaged by their contractors.

The Chair reported that thirty-six weeks of gas works were about to commence in Barwick in Elmet and Potterton and that the contractors were looking for a site for their welfare unit. Several venues were suggested but they were all unsuitable in one way or another.

The next Outer North-East quarterly forum is in Barwick in Elmet in the John Riley Centre on 20th April. Cllr. Beaumont suggested that this booking is confirmed as he had already booked the same venue on the same day for a different event.