

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Monday 3 July 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at Barwick in Elmet Methodist Schoolroom

PRESENT:

Councillor	Claire Hassell (Chair)	
Councillors	Glyn Davies	Karen Dales
	Howard Bedford	Paul Remmer
	Ian Westmoreland	Stella Walsh
	Neil Beaumont	

In attendance: Steve Bucknell (Westleigh Group), Robin Hanson (B.H.T.), three Scholes residents, three people whose addresses are close to (but not within) the Parish and the Clerk.

1 APOLOGIES: Cllr. Matt Baker.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Cllr. Dales regarding item 7.4 as she has a Sports business.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the **Parish Council (PC) Meeting (2/2017)** held on 5 June 2017 (460-463) having been circulated, be approved and signed, proposed Cllr. Westmoreland, seconded Cllr. Remmer, all were in favour.

4 CRIME REPORT

There was no Police presence; however a report of crimes in June 2017 had been circulated ahead of the meeting showed seven crimes in the Parish. These were one each of *Burglary Residence, Burglary Business, Criminal Damage, Interference with motor vehicle, Theft Non-Specific, Theft from motor vehicle* and *Theft from Dwelling*. It was also noted that there had already been a burglary in July. There was an appeal for residents to join the CCTV scheme.

5 FINANCE

5.1 The **cash book, bank reconciliation statement and budget monitor** were circulated showing payments made during June of £5,111.31 (cheques totaling £4,991.30 and three direct debits of £120.01).

5.2 The **cash book** showed ten cheque payments to be made in July and August amounting to £3,255.66 and four direct debits of £135.66. One of the payments related to a training course where the cost per delegate was £115 and originally five Councillors had expressed an interest. It was agreed that this expenditure could not be justified to residents. It was **resolved** that; Cllr. Bedford should go representing Barwick Ward and Cllr. Dales representing Scholes plus Cllr. Hassell as Chair, proposed Cllr. Beaumont, seconded Cllr. Walsh, all were in favour. It was suggested that a skills review be considered at the next meeting and that Councillors should not attend training courses they had already been on unless necessary for updating.

5.3 To look at alternative options to earn interest on Bank Balances – this agenda item would be carried forward to the September meeting.

5.4 To consider updating the signatories on the account – the resignation of Cllr. Yapp was noted with great sadness – he had been a Councillor for over twenty years. It was agreed that a letter of appreciation should be sent. He was one of the three signatories on the account and as all transactions require two signatories for authorisation there was a need to address this. It was **resolved** that the number of signatories be increased from three to four proposed Cllr. Remmer, seconded Cllr. Beaumont, all were in favour. It was **resolved** that one of the signatories be Cllr. Bedford, proposed Cllr. Westmoreland, seconded Cllr. Beaumont, all were in favour. It was **resolved** that another of the signatories be Cllr. Remmer, proposed Cllr. Walsh, seconded Cllr. Westmoreland, all were in favour.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk presented the list of **correspondence** (2834-2843). These included YLCA (Yorkshire Local Councils Associations) asking if anyone would be interested in training in successful event management on 3rd August 2017 (2834) – see **5.2** above. Cllrs. Hassell and Walsh could answer any further questions about the Plunkett Foundation who help set up and run Community co-operatives (2837). It was suggested that the Clerk approaches the YLCA about correspondence item 2842 (notifications that the 10th Edition of Local Council Administration by Paul Clayden is available to order with discounts for bulk buying) in order to register PC interest in having a copy.

7 OTHER ITEMS

7.1 A proposal to request more speed limit signs in the Parish from Leeds City Council (LCC) Highways – Cllr. Bedford had circulated a report and outline proposal for Highways issues in the Parish and he presented his report on screen at the meeting. His report concluded with a number of recommendations to make village gateways clearer to motorists which need to be considered further at future meetings. The use of reflective paint was suggested. It was suggested that there be a conversation with Kasia Szczerbinska-Speakman of LCC regarding timescales for the introduction of 20mph restrictions. This will be an agenda item again in September. Cllr. Bedford was thanked for the considerable amount of effort he had put into this report.

7.2 Peace Lamp proposal – Cllr. Walsh had circulated details of a Peace Lamp in Garforth with a suggestion that the Parish buys one (or one per village). There was general support for the idea which would be an agenda item in September. Cllr. Walsh had been in contact with Ward Councillors Robinson and Stevenson about this. An article could go in the newsletter.

7.3 Request by a Barwick resident to prune the trees behind their house near the bowling green – residents whose property adjoins the village hall car park had contacted the PC about replacing the boundary fence and wanting the trees which overhang their garden to be cut back. If the overhanging branches are the only ones removed then the tree could become unsafe due to uneven weight distribution - Cllr. Hassell would contact a local tree surgeon for this to be done professionally.

7.4 Scholes Sports Association (SSA) – report of meeting on 27th June and outcome – including athletics – Cllrs. Hassell, Walsh and the Clerk had meet representatives of each section of Scholes Sports Association, Junior Football, Tennis and Athletics. The long standing issues relating to the bank account still being in the names of those no longer involved are well on the way to being resolved. The Athletics representative presented proposals to take Tennis forward and a proposal from him is awaited. Interest in Tennis has improved recently, the open day the previous Saturday was successful and well attended and a summer camp was being planned. Signs at the entrance were considered – the one for the Junior Football club would be £40 + VAT and the one for SSA would be £215 + VAT. It was **resolved** that the PC pays for these, proposed Cllr. Walsh, seconded Cllr. Westmoreland, seven were in favour and one against.

7.5 Financial assistance to Mount Saint Mary's with grass cutting costs - proposal for approximately 50% of annual cost (£200) – Mount Saint Mary's are funding the grass cutting of Barwick football field, PC agreement has been given that other users be allowed to use it (e.g. local primary school and Scholes and Barwick Junior Football club). It was **resolved** that the PC gives £200 towards the cost of grass cutting on the understanding that this was a one-off contribution, proposed Cllr. Remmer, seconded Cllr. Westmoreland, all were in favour.

7.6 Concerns about Applewood Weddings – Cllr. Robinson reported that in response to concerns expressed by those living along Leeds Road he had met with LCC officers John Tootle and Seamus Kennedy. LCC officers have met with the business owners. There had been live music on 10th June and assurances were given that there would be no Temporary Event Notices (TENs) for live bands for the rest of the year. The shortcomings of TEN law were highlighted, each of the business owners can apply separately for a TEN. Cllr. Robinson is happy to approach the land owner who may not be aware of the concerns his tenants are causing. One of the business owners had admitted to the burning of commercial waste and that he didn't have a waste carrier's license and would be getting one. There was a

query about insurance in the event of a vehicle accessing the site being involved in an incident. Concerns had been expressed that people were sleeping over and about food hygiene. The Police have had no reports of crimes or other issues relating to these events reported to them. There was further discussion about the legal definition of sustained (relating to noise) and the history of the site (being a former Yorkshire Water pumping station) and about the rights of vehicles to use a public right of way classed as bridleway (for horses, cyclists and walkers). The only access was via the Coronation Tree exit of Bog Lane (the fire brigade having cut off the lock off the bollard). Concerns were expressed about live wires from a generator placed across the path and the proprietors appearing to be recording noise levels coming from people's gardens. Planning has checked the site. If necessary residents and the PC could take their concerns to the magistrate's court.

7.7 Scholes Vacancies – update – Of the four who originally inquired, two have withdrawn their interest and two have formally applied. There has since been a formal application from a fifth person.. A convenient date will be arranged for Councillors to meet all three candidates.

7.8 Report on activity on Parish Facebook and web-site – There have been 3,800 views and 564 likes. Progress is being made on the new website. Cllr. Beaumont is the administrator for the PC Facebook page, it was suggested that this responsibility be shared with a Scholes Ward Councillor – this will be an agenda item for the September PC meeting.

7.9 Hall Tower Field – update – Cllr. Hassell is getting quotes so that this can be considered as an agenda item in September.

7.10 Scholes Lodge Farm (SLF) report – The benches have been fitted and will be added to the cover provided by the PC insurance along with the two lecterns. The minutes of the last meeting of The Working Party (14th June) have been circulated to all Councillors. The next meeting was on 12th July. A letter is being prepared asking those adjoining the field not to fly-tip garden waste. The maintenance budget for SLF would be an agenda item for the September meeting of the PC.

7.11 Defibrillator for Barwick – update – this has now been fitted but is hidden behind a bush. Barwick in Bloom will be cutting it back.

7.12 Neighbourhood Plan – update – A draft copy of the examiner's report had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. It is hoped the referendum can take place in September or October.

8 PLANNING

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

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

- 2 Lynnfield Gardens - Two storey and single storey side/rear extension (it was noted that the increase in volume was substantial).
- 30 Beck Meadow - Single storey rear extension.
- 11 Elmete Avenue - Part two storey, part single storey side and rear extension; canopy to front – subject to planner's satisfaction that the volume does not exceed published guidelines.
- Land Off Thorner Lane, Whinmoor Grange Farm - Amendment to condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission 15/04422/LA to allow the rotation and modification of existing approved car parking area and increase of surplus plant retail and storage area

There were **objections** to a two storey and single storey front/side extension (with new hardstanding/gates and access to front) at Middle Rose House, Potterton Lane on the basis that the increase in dwelling volume exceeded the 30% guideline limits for properties within the green belt. The committee was also concerned that the new entrance driveway might require mature trees to be removed.

8.2 To consider a process for handling Planning Applications received too late for the July meeting which cannot wait until September – It was agreed that an extra-ordinary meeting be called to consider such applications.

8.3 To consider a response to the proposal for a crematorium to go on the site of the golf driving range and pre-submission consultation at the golf club on 11th July 2017 – Having heard about the proposals during the Open Forum it was agreed that no action could taken until a formal Planning Application is received other than to make sure residents were aware of the consultation event at Garforth Golf Club. A report of the consultation would be an agenda item in September. Cllr. Beaumont agreed to write to the Golf Club.

9 REFERRALS & RISK ASSESSMENTS – The small bridge at the kissing gate entrance to SLF was getting overgrown. Cllr. Dales agreed to get a quote from a local contractor.

10 TO NOTIFY THE CLERK OF MATTERS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING – Several of the agenda items discussed above would be carried forward to the next PC meeting.

11 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 4 September 2017: Scholes Methodist Hall (7:30pm) preceded by Planning Committee (6:30pm) and Open Forum (7pm)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

Signed

Chairman
4 September 2017

OPEN FORUM

Steve Bucknell of the Westleigh Group spoke to the meeting about a proposed crematorium to go on the site of the golf driving range and spoke about the business having 26 other crematoria with four more being built and about himself (being a Town Councillor). A pre-submission application had been made the previous November and a response had only just been received to the effect that this was greenbelt land and therefore not suitable for a crematorium. There would be a consultation event on 11th July (advertised in the local press) and he was hoping the PC would raise awareness among residents. Ward Councillors, the local Member of Parliament and the neighbours of the site had been written to. There are no crematoria in the East of Leeds causing journey times of funeral corteges to be in excess of thirty minutes. He felt there was a need for an additional crematorium on the grounds that death rates are increasing and the existing crematoria are having to keep funeral services to twenty minutes to maintain turnaround and that there can be a three to four week wait to book a slot. The site is over two hundred yards from the nearest dwelling and is ten to fifteen acres. He argued that the site is effectively a brown field site. The existing buildings would be brought down and a new building put up nearer the centre of the land which would have capacity for 98 seating and a further one hundred standing. Suds ponds would handle any run off. Most services would be 10:30am to 3:30pm. The PC and residents present expressed concern at the suitability of the site due to the close proximity to the chicken farm and the traffic, Steve argued that traffic would be less than that of the driving range (however the golf club are considering developing a driving range of their own). There were concerns about lack of public transport and there was talk about Mercury emissions. There is a new graveyard off Thorner Road; Steve suggested that a crematorium could not go there as that land is classed as greenbelt. Cllr. Dobson corrected this advising that this site has provision for a crematorium if needed and confirming that Leeds has been assessed as having enough capacity from its existing crematoria. He suggested getting a Parks and Countryside Officer to a future meeting.

There were brief comments about Broadband speeds (Cllr. Robinson is demanding action on this) and about the Governance Review (Cllr. Hassell confirmed that the PC had made a formal response relating to the proposal for a Town Council for Garforth whose proposed boundary would absorb part of Barwick Ward).