

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Monday 5 March 2018 at 7:30pm at Scholes Methodist Hall

PRESENT:

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

In attendance: Ward Cllr. Matthew Robinson and the Clerk.

1 APOLOGIES: There were no apologies for absence.

2 BARWICK WARD VACANCIES – Since the last meeting, Matthew Clover had met with Councillors Davies, Hassell, Maude and the Clerk. It was **resolved** that he be co-opted on the Parish Council, all in favour. Matthew signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office. It was noted that there had been an expression of interest in the other Barwick vacancy.

3 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST – None

4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting (10/2017) held on 5 February 2018 (488-491) having been circulated, be approved and signed, proposed Cllr. Beaumont, seconded Cllr. Davies, all in favour.

5 CRIME REPORT

The crime figures for February were reported. There were three cases of *Burglary Residential* (The Mount, Richmondfield Garth and Barwick Road, Garforth). In one case entry was not gained and nothing was taken. There was one case of *Criminal Damage/Failure to stop at a Road Traffic Accident*. In this case, a vehicle reversed into a telegraph pole on Lyndhurst Road causing the telephone wire to pull the telephone wire bracket situated on a chimney causing damage to the chimney. One case of *Interference with a Motor Vehicle* on Chapel Lane. A metal bar was used to gain access to the vehicle but the suspect fled empty handed after being disturbed by a witness. Two cases of *Theft from a Motor Vehicle* on Carrfield Road and on Flats Lane. One case of *Theft Non Specific* being on Welfare Avenue where several coping stones of Jack Heaps Field boundary wall were stolen.

A scam involving delivery of parcels was noted. It was noted that tracker devices improve the chances of recovery if a vehicle is stolen.

6 FINANCE

6.1 The **cash book, bank reconciliation statement and budget monitor** had been circulated showing payments made during February of £7,758.48 (seven cheques totalling £7,525.62 and five direct debits of £232.86).

6.2 The **cash book** showed ten cheque payments to be made in March amounting to £2,728.17 and two direct debits of £53.42.

7 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk presented the list of **correspondence** (2919-2926). 2923 was a Leeds City Council Consultation regarding Leeds Core Strategy (which sets out the strategic town planning policy framework for the district to 2028) running from 9th February 2018 until 5pm on 23rd March 2018. This will be considered by the Planning Committee at its next meeting. 2922 was a notification that up to £150,000 is available for each ward to pursue the Local Centres Programme and a suggestion that the parade of shops in Barwick in Elmet might fit the

eligibility criteria. A briefing would be coming soon; Ward Cllr. Robinson would send the criteria. This will be an agenda item next time.

8 OTHER ITEMS

8.1 Resolution to support a request from the Police for a contribution towards preventing crime by supplying anti theft devices to vulnerable residents. It was **resolved** that the PC donates £200 towards this, proposed Cllr. Dales, seconded Cllr. Maude, all in favour

8.2 Scholes Fair – to consider whether the Parish Council (PC) will have a stall – it was resolved that the PC has a stall, proposed Cllr. Walsh, seconded Cllr. Bedford, all in favour. Cllrs. Barker and Walsh expressed availability to man the stall. This will be an agenda item next time to consider ideas such as a PC brochure.

8.3 New Notice Board – it was reported that two new Notice Boards have been put up on the wall of Barwick Post Office one of which would be for PC use. It was of similar size to the old notice board. Consideration was given to the situation at Scholes which would be considered at the April meeting.

8.4 Scouts World Jamboree – it was **resolved** that the PC donate £500 from each Conservation Fund towards the cost of Scouts attending the 2019 Jamboree, proposed Cllr. Hassell, seconded Cllr. Barker, all in favour.

8.5 Proposal to build 300 homes in Scholes – following forthright exchange of views about content, the PC response to the Barrett/Wilson proposal to build 300 homes had been submitted along with a report. A consultation event had been organised by Ward Cllr. Robinson which was held at Manor House on 3rd March. About fifty residents attended, two Ward Councillors and six Parish Councillors. The number of objections submitted so far was reported.

8.6 East Leeds Orbital Road Parish Forum meeting – 20th February, Manor House – Ward Cllr. Robinson was thanked for organising this meeting which was attended by Cllrs. Bedford and Maude. Disappointment was expressed with the level of representation from other parishes. The Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) was due to be published on the day of the PC meeting after which there would be a twenty-one day consultation period. There was also a Side Roads Order (SRO). It was noted that the CPO seems to be more concerned with planning issues rather than highways matters. Planning applications and permission will be sought for each quadrant. Concerns raised by Cllr. Bedford regarding junction 46 of the motorway have been noted. Consideration was being given to the idea of a country park on the land between the orbital road and Scholes village and more information about land ownerships has been requested. It was **resolved** that the Planning Committee be given delegated authority to consider this in more depth at its next meeting. Cllr. Bedford will draft an objection for their consideration.

8.7 Response to the Leeds City Council (LCC) Air quality public consultation 2018 – Cllr. Bedford had circulated a suggested response to the consultation to Councillors and had received several comments. It was noted that the proposals apply only to commercial vehicles and not private motor vehicles, which may be the main cause of the congestion. It is hoped to be able to continue the dialogue with LCC.

8.8 Hall Tower Hill – the proposal that the PC takes over as Trustees is complicated by the fact that one of the four Trustees has died. A meeting with the three surviving Trustees is planned Updated maintenance quotes have been circulated.

8.9 Defibrillator Seminar – this would take place on 22nd March at 6:45pm in the John Rylie Centre and would last about ninety minutes. Those taking part are then qualified for three years. Yorkshire Ambulance Service have written regarding the Scholes defibrillator supplied in 2014 as part of the Defibrillator 100 project. They are looking to replace both the original cabinets and the defibrillator consumables, such as the battery and the electrodes subject to the ownership of the defibrillator being transferred to the PC. This will be considered at April's meeting.

8.10 Allotments – the top of the allotments is to be made more secure following funding from the Community Fund. Work was expected to start within two weeks of the PC meeting.

8.11 Jack Heaps Field – maintenance of the grass behind the Tennis Courts – following correspondence item 2884, a contractor has visited the site and will be providing a quote for cutting the grass behind the tennis courts twice a year. He advised against covering this area with a membrane and wood chip.

8.12 Wall on Welfare Avenue (see crime report above) – quotes are being obtained, Cllr. Beaumont has met with one contractor who has advised that the cost will be £120 per metre. It was noted that the wall is within the Conservation Area and that the wall was not covered under the terms of the Parish Council's insurance policy. A sample of the replacement coping stones would be needed.

8.13 Surgery – Cllr. Barker put forward a proposal that Parish Councillors are available for consultation with local residents, which would be offered once a month in each village. Cllrs. Dales and Walsh are unavailable if this was offered on a Saturday. This would be considered further at the next PC meeting.

8.14 Greenway group – the Working Party met on 19th February. Leeds City Council have agreed to update the feasibility study being done by Sustrans. Following the completion of this updated study, the Council propose to carry out a public consultation exercise which will allow all persons affected by the proposal an opportunity to make representations to the Council. The group are pressing LCC to contribute some of Cross Gates Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money towards the project. The Group have had a grant of £250 to purchase protective clothing from the Barwick & Scholes Community Fund. The group have been accused of working with Barrett/Wilson (see 8.5 above) and have issued a statement on their website stating that they remain neutral on any development for housing in Scholes. These rumours had led to some offensive and abusive posts on the Greenway website and social media and a statement has been issued on the Group's website stating that such behaviour will not be permitted and will be reported. It was noted that some of the old railway line (owned by Ogdens) has been put up for sale. Correspondence item 2899 (from a resident unhappy about the group's proposals) has been acknowledged. Cllr. Maude advised that he would keep the PC informed.

8.15 BT Broadband cabinet update – Cllr. Barker reported that Saint Philip's Church had been approached by BT Openreach to request permission to put a cabinet up in their grounds. The Church had agreed a fee but the Diocese Legal Department had become involved and insisted that the best price be obtained. An offer of £2,500 over five years had been put forward but BT Openreach were looking for an indefinite agreement. It was hoped that issues would be resolved within thirty days. Ward Cllr. Robinson would be seeing officers the following Wednesday. There was a query regarding whether residents living near the school would benefit once the cabinet was installed. This would be an agenda item next time.

8.16 Report of activity on Facebook – Cllr. Beaumont reported that there are 629 followers and that there were about 4,500 visits. Two items had been posted, a firm offering weddings in a local woodland were advertising for staff and there was a post about the right to film PC meetings. Cllr. Beaumont now set up a Twitter page, @BIESPC, this has eight followers.

8.17 Update on the new web-site – Cllrs. Barker, Beaumont, Bedford and the Clerk had attended training on 15th February. Cllr. Hassell would be seeing the website developer on the Thursday following the PC meeting and asked Councillors to e-mail her any concerns which they wanted that meeting to address. The issue around the old website address redirecting users to the new site have now been resolved.

8.18 Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) Leeds Branch meeting 20th February – Cllr. Davies and Hassell had attended this, Cllr. Hassell had circulated a report to all. An update had been given on the proposal to review the Charter between LCC and the Parish and Town Councils. The YLCA are planning to hold some training sessions regarding Data Protection. The Clerk is not the right person to be a Data Protection Officer (DPO). There was a suggestion an approach be made to LCC to see if they would offer to provide a DPO for all the Parishes with a suggested annual cost of £200. The Clerk will follow this up. The results of the Governance Review was announced, Garforth are considering requesting a Judicial Review. For the second year running, Barwick in Elmet and Scholes was the only PC present that had not increased its precept.

8.19 Meeting with Festival Republic 22nd February - Cllr. Baker had attended this and reported that arrangements for the 2018 Festival were largely the same as 2017. The guest camp is moving back to its previous location and the road used by coaches will be levelled, trees cut back and signage improved.

8.20 Update on the work being done to address flooding concerns on Scholes Main Street – this was due to have been done on 1st April but has now been put back until after Scholes Gala, 9th June pending the results of further evaluation reports by the Environmental Agency regarding the effects on flooding further downstream.

9 PLANNING

The decisions of the Planning Committee of 19th February were duly noted. Three applications had been considered, 42B Chapel Lane, 69 Nook Road and the Dogs Trust. In addition, the Committee had restated its position regarding The Bungalow, 12 Main Street, Barwick In Elmet after the applicant had appealed against refusal.

10 REFERRALS & RISK ASSESSMENTS – no new concerns were raised.

11 TO NOTIFY THE CLERK OF MATTERS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING – the bridge at Scholes Lane and comments regarding the National Planning Policy Framework.

12 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 19th March 2018 Planning Committee (6.30pm) John Rylie Centre

Monday 9th April 2018: Barwick in Elmet Methodist Schoolroom: Open Forum (7pm), Meeting of the Parish Council (7:30pm). **Note the later date due to the Easter Bank Holiday**

Mon 16th April: Barwick Playing Fields/Allotments Committee at Barwick Methodist Schoolroom at 7:30 p.m.

Mon 23rd April: Scholes Playing Fields at the Sports Pavilion at 7:30 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10pm.

Signed

Chairman
9 April 2018

OPEN FORUM

Items discussed included;

- Getting a “Tommy” to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the end of World War One (agenda item for next month).
- The need for a DPO (see 8.18 above) – agenda item next time.
- Someone who has fifteen volunteers in Barwick with Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks offering to help those in need (on a self-referral basis).
- A large advertising banner on the side of a public house in the conservation area part of Barwick in Elmet.
- The need for new books for Scholes School library (MICE money and the Community Fund were suggested).
- A note that the public library in Scholes now has a new librarian
- A comment that there is a shop near the garage on Aberford Road selling plants

The Chair thanked Councillors for taking the initiative on a number of issues, namely Cllr. Dales regarding the consultation referred to in 8.5 above, Cllrs. Bedford and Maude regarding items 8.6 and 8.7 above, Cllrs. Beaumont and Bedford regarding the Save Parlington campaign and Cllr. Maude regarding Planning matters. She commented that she was happy that Councillors felt able to take these things on as long as all other Councillors were kept informed.