

BARWICK in ELMET & SCHOLES PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 19th January 2021 at 7pm using remote access

PRESENT:	Councillor	Glyn Davies (Chair)		
	Councillors	Claire Hassell	Howard Bedford	Paul Remmer
		Graham Slater	Jacqueline Ward	Stella Walsh

In attendance: The Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer (RFO).

The Chair played a recording of a statement outlining the procedures to be undertaken to hold a lawful and effective remote meeting.

1 APOLOGIES. None.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST. None.

3 TO SIGN AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 15th December 2020 were considered. There were a couple of corrections to the Pavilion report, replacing “*Design and Access Statements*” with “*Site & Location plans*” and “*Ward Councillors*” to “*Ward Councillor Stephenson*” It was **resolved** that the minutes as amended be approved and that the Chair sign the minutes when able to do so, all in favour.

4. ADDITIONAL WORK REQUESTS, COSTINGS AND ACTION

- **Scholes Lodge Lane wall.**

On 6th January 2021, Cllr. Walsh had met onsite with a builder who had previously quoted for replacing the stolen copping stones. In addition to replacement of the missing stones additional work was identified, other stones were loose (although the frozen conditions made it difficult to identify exactly how many). He was asked to mark the stones in similar manner to those on Jack Heaps field in order to make them less appealing to a potential thief. The Clerk would chase him for his quote and set a deadline. The need for three quotes was considered, it was decided to see how much the builder quoted for the wall before approaching anyone else.

- **Replacement of the fencing and gate alongside the Verity Strip.**

Cllr. Slater had met with two contractors and quotes had been received from both. The specifications produced by Cllr. Bedford had been sent to two others. It was suggested that a local firm be given opportunity to quote – the Clerk would send the specifications accordingly.

5. SPORTS PAVILION IN SCHOLES

There had been minimal hiring in December due to lockdown, income from hire being £291. The Pavilion had been used free of charge for a Santa’s Grotto event. Before lockdown, the youth group had been considering using the Pavilion twice a week. Since lockdown, the only income in January had been £18 from the personal trainer. Although unable to use the Pavilion, Shadwell United junior football club had paid £83. There was a proposal to waive the hire charge for the month and that they be advised accordingly. It was **resolved** to support an amendment to this proposal that charges be waived until the club could resume hire of the Pavilion and field, all in favour.

The planning application for the “Vision for the Future” project had been rejected as more detail was needed. Cllr. Slater had spoken to a Leeds City Council (LCC) Planning officer who had advised that this should be submitted as a change of use. Fees for this are charged per hectare. The revised fee was unknown but likely to be more than that already paid. Cllr. Slater would continue to pursue this. In terms of funding, the application to the Emmerdale Fund would now be considered in June. Other sourcing of funding would be available once planning permission had been obtained.

6. FINANCE

The meeting of 12th January 2021 had considered the budget. There was a query regarding donations such as that made to the Royal British Legion as part of the annual Remembrance Day events. This was deferred to the Parish Council meeting of 1st February 2021.

7. ACTION TRACKER

The Clerk updated the Committee regarding his actions as shown on the Action Tracker

- The switch to Lloyds Bank would be considered completed once remaining direct debits (Yorkshire Water) appeared on the statement.
- Scholes Lodge Lane land. On-site meetings took place on 18th January with one contractor at 1pm and another at 3pm, these were attended by Cllrs. Slater (1pm) and Walsh (both) and a resident of the cul-de-sac (both). The contractor who quoted for the wall (item 4 above) was expected to quote for the landscaping and another local contractor had been approached confirmed willingness to quote. It was also suggested that any future contractors quoting for the Verity Strip fencing could be asked to quote for the Scholes Lodge Lane whilst visiting the Parish. Cllr. Slater would liaise with the Clerk accordingly.
- There had been no communication since the last Committee meeting from the three contractors approached about maintaining the boundary hedges across the parish. An approach had therefore been made to the contractor used by LCC and a reply was awaited.
- As agreed at the December meeting, the Clerk had approached the tree inspector regarding their quote and obtained the clarification requested and circulated to all. It was **resolved** that the quote be accepted.
- The Clerk would approach the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations for details of recommended play inspection firms.

Cllr. Slater updated the Committee on progress of the website and clarified what information was required from Chairs of Committees.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that all future Committee meetings would be on the second Tuesday of the month, the next meeting therefore being 9th February 2021.

The meeting closed at 7:45pm