

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Monday 26th April 2021 at 7pm using a remote access platform.

PRESENT:	Councillor	Phil Maude (Chair)		
	Councillors	Howard Bedford	Karen Dales	Graham Slater
		Mike Brunt	Glyn Davies	Stella Walsh
		Alexandra Cantelo	Claire Hassell	Jaqueline Ward

In attendance: One resident and the Clerk.

The Chair read out a statement outlining the procedures to be undertaken to hold a lawful and effective remote meeting noting that he would not ask in Councillor in turn as per previous practice but invite comment from those wishing to speak to the issue under discussion.

1 APOLOGIES.

It was noted that following the resignation of David Young the deadline for ten electors to request that this vacancy is filled by election was 30th March 2021 and that as there had been no request for an election, that this could be filled by co-option. Cllr. Remmer had sent his apologies.

2 SCHOLES WARD VACANCY. It was **resolved** to co-opt Alexandra Cantelo to fill the vacant position on the Scholes Ward, all in favour.

3 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST. Cllr. Walsh regarding items 6.1 and 6.8.

4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

One resident attended in connection with agenda item 6.1.

5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the PC meeting (13/2020) held on 1st March 2021 (620-623) having been circulated, be approved, all in favour.

6 OTHER ITEMS

6.1 The Ancient Parish of Barwick in Elmet Trust. It was noted that Dr. Stanley's current term as the nominated trustee of the Parish Council (PC) on The Ancient Parish of Barwick in Elmet Trust was due to end on 16th May 2021 and that he was not seeking re-nomination. Tim South himself introduced himself to the meeting and explained the purpose of the Trust, following which it was resolved that he be appointed as the nominated trustee of the PC.

6.2 Finance and General Purposes Committee. The draft minutes of the Committee meeting of 9th March 2021 had been circulated to all. The PC considered the recommendations of the Committee.

- It was **resolved** to accept their recommendation not to purchase gazebos and heaters for loan by a local business and community groups, all in favour (the business who originally approached the PC had since obtained gazebos elsewhere).
- It was **resolved** to accept a recommendation that three signs relating to the control of dogs on Scholes Sports fields be purchased and to note that the cricket club had agreed to pay for one third of the cost of the signs and fitting. All three signs would have the same wording.

6.3 Standing Orders. A revised version on the addendum to the Standing Orders had been circulated. This addendum had been introduced to allow for meetings to be held using remote access technology and as the legislation allowing such meetings was due to expire at midnight on 6th May, it was agreed that the addendum be left unchanged.

6.4 Neighbourhood Plan. A report by the Neighbourhood Plan Review Working Party had been circulated and the recommendations of that report were considered, in particular that the PC support seeking

an extension of the Neighbourhood Plan boundary to the south west of the Parish and that it consult with stakeholders and residents within and close to the revised boundary area on the suggested extension of the Plan boundary and provide details of the proposal on its website and considers inclusion of the area of the northern quadrant within the parish be included within the Plan. It was **resolved** to accept the recommendations of the report.

6.5 Verity Strip. It was **resolved** to approach Leeds City Council (LCC) and seek support from ward Councillors to enquire whether LCC are willing to transfer the freehold of the Verity Strip to the PC and if so, the terms and conditions of any such sale, all in favour.

6.6 Environment Committee. A recommendation from Cllr. Slater that an environment committee be created to take charge of green issues was considered a relevant report having been circulated to all. It was **resolved** that a working party be created to consider recommending setting up an Environment committee and its terms of reference and if necessary, making other adjustments to the existing committee structure and to make recommendations to the July meeting. This working party to be made up of Cllrs. Bedford, Brunt, Cantelo, Dales, Hassell, Remmer, Slater and Ward.

6.7 Annual Parish meeting and Annual Parish Council meeting. It was **resolved** hold the Annual Parish meeting and Annual Parish Council meeting on 5th May 2021 and to consider a proposal to not have a meeting in June and that the Clerk's delegated authority be used where necessary after consultation with the Chair of the PC (or the vice-chair if the Chair was unavailable) and that the Clerk should inform all councillors on a weekly basis of the decisions which he had taken under his delegated powers. The July meeting would consider holding meetings in August.

6.8 Walking Netball. It was noted that Scholes Women's Institute had resuming walking netball but had been advised by England Netball not to use car parks and had been offered and had been using the tennis courts at no charge.

6.9 Training. It was noted that Cllr. Maude had attended Local Council Powers Section 137 and General Power of Competence training on 24th March 2021 and that Cllr. Walsh had attended Managing council employees: Conducting appraisals training on 30th March 2021 and that Cllr. Ward had attended an East Leeds Orbital Road meeting on 1st April and that Cllr. Slater had attended CCTV training on 15th April. Cllrs. Hassell, Maude and Ward had attended the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations Spring Conference which ran for two days on 21st and 22nd April during which a large choice of webinars had been offered. This was highly recommended and Councillors were encouraged to attend future conferences.

6.10 Playing Fields committees. It was noted that both Playing Fields committees had met and that the draft minutes has been circulated. At both meetings, representatives of the organisations present had been encouraged to produce a note for the newsletter and website explaining membership fees with favourable comparisons to costs of equivalent facilities elsewhere.

7 PLANNING

The minutes of the Committee held on 15th March 2021 had been circulated and their contents noted. It was also noted that planning permission for the "Vision for the Future" project using Scholes Pavilion and Tennis Courts had been granted. Cllr. Slater was thanked for all his hard work in taking this project forward.

8. FINANCE

8.1 Cash book and bank reconciliation. The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) had circulated the cash book, bank reconciliation statement, screen print and budget monitor. This showed the total income and expenditure for the financial year ending 31st March 2021 with income over the twelve months being similar to the total expenditure.

8.2 Formal approval of invoices and payments to be made for April. It was **resolved** that anticipated payments shown on the Cash Book be approved (twenty-eight BACS payments totalling £8,324.27 and three direct debits totalling £168.67), all in favour. Due to the meeting having been

postponed, some of the payments were approved retrospectively as they had been paid to avoid late payment fees being incurred.

9 CORRESPONDENCE

A list of correspondence had been circulated (3107-3113). In addition, an email had been received after the agenda was published from a resident concerned about Yorkshire stone missing from the chapel wall and that stones had been tampered with on the wall opposite the peace flame (3114). 3112 was from a resident asking if there were any overlooked green spaces or unused common land in the village and asking if there is any scheme in place for volunteers to help clean and clear public places. 3113 was a letter from Otley Town Council regarding allotments. The others had all been dealt with and replied to as appropriate.

10 ACTION TRACKER

The Clerk had circulated the Action Tracker showing all ongoing actions and went through the list. There was a query regarding Police attendance at the meetings resulting in a lack of opportunity to engage with them regarding concerns about anti-social behaviour – this was discussed under agenda item 11.

11 POLICE.

Cllr. Bedford had attended the PACT (Police and Communities Together) meeting on 1st April 2021 and had circulated two reports. He was due to attend the next one on 13th May. Concerns were expressed regarding anti-social behaviour (including harassment of senior citizens) in various parts of the Parish. Cllr. Cantello sought reassurances as a Neighbourhood Watch coordinator that matters referred to her Police contact were being investigated. Councillors were encouraged to list their concerns and send them to Cllr. Bedford on an ongoing basis so that he could then submit these ahead of the meetings via Ward Cllr. Robinson.

12 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

This had been discussed under agenda item 6.7. Cllr. Bedford agreed to circulate a report for Councillors to consider the role of the Parish newsletter.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:55pm.

Signed

Chair
5th May 2021