

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Monday 6th September 2021 at 7:30pm in Barwick in Elmet Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillor Phil Maude (Chair)
Councillors Mike Brunt Karen Dales Paul Remmer
Alexandra Cantelo Claire Hassell Graham Slater

In attendance: The Clerk, Ward Cllrs. Sam Firth & Matthew Robinson and six residents.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1 APOLOGIES. Cllrs. Walsh and Ward.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST. None.

3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Six residents were in attendance, the following issues were raised.

- There was a request for weedkiller for Scholes Allotments. There was none left and the resident was asked to apply to the Parish Council for a grant.
- There was a request from a resident wanting to join the Scholes Lodge Farm (SLF) subcommittee. That subcommittee had a meeting at the end of the month (28th) and this would be considered as an agenda item and the resident would be able to attend.
- There was a request from a resident wanting the grass at SLF to be cut more frequently and asking if the grass could be baled. This had been considered in the past, but the topography of the field was not suitable for baling equipment and the hay would be unsuitable for animal feed as the field was used for the exercise of dogs, there would be an agenda item at the next SLF subcommittee.
- A resident who adjoined Scholes Lodge field expressed concerns about weed growth at the boundary with his property and asked permission to treat the weeds at his own expense. This too would be considered as an agenda item at the next meeting of that subcommittee.

4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING. It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) meeting (3/2021) held on 2nd August 2021 (635-639) having been circulated, be approved, all in favour.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

The list of correspondence items 3143-3146 had been circulated

- **3143** was from a resident regarding the introduction of the 20mph zones. The Ward Cllrs. in attendance were asked for an update. They reported on recent discussions with Leeds City Council (LCC) Highways officers and were waiting for final documentation. There would probably be a further consultation as there were changes to the original proposals.

6 OTHER ITEMS

6.1 Foul water on Scholes Main Street. Cllr. Dales reported that Yorkshire Water Authority (YWA) had made a site visit on 6th August and agreed to look at mitigation measures. She had been going through the records and found that this issue had been ongoing since 2007 with similar responses from YWA. Cllr. Dales had spent the afternoon trying to contact YWA and had been promised a call back by 4pm. An alternative approach was needed such as the resident making a claim for damages or involving the Consumer Council (Cllr. Brunt offered his help if this action was supported). Ward Cllr. Firth reported that the local Member for Parliament (MP) had been asked to take up this issue with the YWA public affairs team. It was **resolved** that the Clerk would write to YWA to arrange an on onsite meeting and the Ward Cllrs. would likewise pursue through the MP.

6.2 Benches at the northern end of Scholes. Cllr. Slater had produced a report showing suggested locations of benches. It was **resolved** that permission to place benches would be sought from landowners and that once permission was given, that funding be sought from sponsorship. Most of the proposed sites were the responsibility of LCC Highways and consent was being sought from them to locate additional benches. The newsletter and the website would be used to raise awareness with residents towards areas in the Parish without benches and to invite sponsorship to meet the cost of supplying additional benches. A further report to update matters would be considered at the next meeting.

6.3 Internal Controls Officer. An appeal would be put in the next newsletter to see if anyone was willing to take on the role of Internal Controls Officer.

6.4 Allotment rents for 2022 – 2023. Cllr. Slater had produced a report with three proposals for allotment rents. It was **resolved** that the present allotment holders be given opportunity to form their own Allotment Society to take on board the collection of rents, running and management of the site. Plot holders be given notice that the rents be increased to £25 a year for a full plot from October 2022

6.5 Personal Trainer Pavilion hire. It was **resolved** to agree multiple booking discount for Personal Trainer Pavilion hire.

6.6 Fairground. It was **resolved** that the annual fairground be allowed to come and that the fee be £400. They would arrive on site on October 18th, open Thursday 21st through to Monday 25th and vacate on the 27th. A rent review would be considered for 2022.

6.7 2021 Christmas Lights. A quotation from Leeds Lights (LCC) had been received. It was noted that there could no longer be any lights near the former council offices due to safety concerns about having a supply cable crossing the carriageway. This left a shortfall in provision in Scholes, a motif mounted on the lamppost column had been offered instead. It was **resolved** to accept the quotation and to request motifs at suitably equipped lamppost columns and to seek a meeting with Leeds Lights early in 2022 to consider 2022 provision.

6.8. Neighbourhood watch. Cllr. Cantelo reported that the Scholes Neighbourhood watch was going really well. A Barwick Neighbourhood watch had been set up and one of the residents in attendance had been working alongside Cllr. Cantelo in establishing this group and both would attend the next PACT (Police And Communities Together) meeting. There were plans to join up with Aberford and to include Parlington. The issue of groups congregating near Saint Philips taking drugs and nitrous oxide had been raised at the last PACT meeting. Cllr. Cantelo was thanked for her active involvement in the PACT meetings.

6.9. Drainage on Scholes Football pitch. It was **resolved** to apply for grant funding to improve drainage on Scholes Football pitch.

6.10. 2021 Bramham music festival road closures. There was disappointment with the communication, in particular a 1am notification of changes to the publicised enforcement coming into effect at 4am (a decision which involved the Police). There were questions why LCC Highways had left the festival organisers (Festival Republic) to communicate road closure information. The PC view was that they would like to be consulted before communications go out to residents and that membership of a working party would be beneficial. There were also concerns about increased through traffic due to taxis taking people to the Festival. It was felt that the road didn't need to be closed for the full five days of the event. Ward Cllr. Robinson suggested that resident permits be issued for future years. It was **resolved** that the Chair and Clerk draft a letter regarding the above issues to the organisers, the Police and Leeds City Council which would be circulated for comment before being sent.

6.11. Website and Social Media report. Reports showing the number of hits on each page of the website in August and the number of visits to the Facebook page had been circulated.

7 PLANNING MATTERS

A proposal had been put forward that the Planning Committee be abolished. If supported, then standing orders would not allow the decision to be reconsidered for six-months. It was therefore **resolved** to suspend the Planning Committee subject to a monthly review and that in the meantime, the Clerk use delegated powers to reply accordingly and that Councillors wishing the Parish Council to object have the right to ask for an application to be a PC agenda item.

It was noted that LCC Planning had declined to determine planning application 21/05989/FU/NE (Garforth driving range, Long Lane - demolition of existing buildings and erection of a crematorium with associated access, car parking and landscaping)

8 FINANCE

8.1. The cash book, bank reconciliation statement, screen print and budget monitor had been circulated and showed twelve BACS payments made in August amounting to £2,566.97. There were also six direct debits totalling £299.78. It had previously been reported that Scouts had not paid their ground rent, the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) had since found that this had been paid into the Barclays account. Steps to get Cllr. Brunt added as a signatory to the Lloyds Account and former Councillors Neil Beaumont and Howard Bedford taken off the Barclays account were ongoing and reliant on Councillors presenting themselves at the appropriate bank with the proofs of identification required by the bank in question.

8.2. Cash Book. The RFO had circulated the cash book. He reported on four invoices received since this had been distributed. It was **resolved** that anticipated payments shown on the Cash Book be approved (Nineteen BACS payments totalling £3,096 and five direct debits totalling £196.53), all in favour.

9 ACTION TRACKER

The Clerk had circulated the Action Tracker showing all ongoing actions. Many of the items related to the Finance and General Purposes Committee and would be picked up as necessary by that Committee. There were a small number of items showing relating to the Planning Committee which were no longer ongoing. A venue had been booked for the meeting to bring together groups and individuals planning activities and events for the Platinum Jubilee or Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II (Barwick Village Hall, 7pm, Thursday 7th October 2021). There would be an agenda item at the October meeting to consider this.

10 CRIME REPORT

This had been dealt with as a part of agenda item 6.8

11 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates of forthcoming meetings:

Parish Council - 4th October 2021

Finance and General Purposes Committee – 14th September, 7pm, Pavilion

Meeting with Community organisations to consider plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – Barwick Village Hall, Thursday 7th October 2021 Barwick Village Hall.

Note: The wording of agenda items to be submitted in writing to the Proper Officer at least ten clear days before a meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:30pm.

Signed

Chair
4 October 2021