

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Monday 10th January 2022 at 7:30pm in Barwick Village Hall.

PRESENT:

Councillor	Phil Maude (Chair)		
Councillors	Mike Brunt	Alexandra Cantelo	Paul Remmer
	David Budd	Claire Hassell	Graham Slater
	Karen Dales	Kinga Ragg	Jacqueline Ward

In attendance: The Clerk, Ward Cllr. Firth and three residents.

The Chair welcomed everyone and wished all a happy New Year.

1 APOLOGIES. Cllrs. Atkinson and Walsh.

2 VACANCY. It was **resolved** that that Kinga Ragg be co-opted to fill the vacant position on the Barwick Ward, all in favour.

3 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST. Cllr. Dales reminded the meeting that her husband had the grass cutting contract for Scholes Lodge Farm (item 9.2)

4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were three residents present who raised the following concerns:

- A request that the grass on Scholes Lodge Field be cut very short in a couple of places to allow games of croquet to be played at the event marking the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Cllr. Remmer confirmed that this was included in the 2022 budget.
- A Scholes resident expressed concerns about inconsiderate parking by his neighbour on the grass verges noting that such parking was causing damage to the verge and reporting that the neighbour in question was not using the grass verge in front of his own property in this way and that he rarely parked on his drive. On one occasion, the neighbour had parked across someone's drive. The resident had felt compelled to put stakes on the verge to prevent this behaviour and another neighbour had resorted to parking across verges to protect them. He had contacted his neighbour about this using social media. He asked if an appropriate article could be put in the parish newsletter. Cllr. Cantelo agreed to raise this at the next PACT (Police and Communities Together) meeting.
- A resident asked about progress on items of capital expenditure, namely the pavilion project, drainage proposals for Scholes sports fields, resurfacing of the Verity Strip and proposals for speed indicator devices (suggesting suitable locations once the East Leeds Orbital Road was completed).
- Ward Cllr. Firth reported on the bus forum noting concerns about the 11 service. He also reported that the operator of the 64 bus service was not accepting the First Buses £2 single fare app and reported that electronic boards had been put up and that there was a new operator for the 11. He also reported on bin collections

(Item 5, a statement from the chair was deferred to the end of the meeting).

6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) meeting (8/2021) held on 6th December 2021 (654-657) having been circulated, be approved, all in favour.

7 CORRESPONDENCE

A list of correspondence (items 3163-3167) had been circulated. It was noted that all correspondence between Councillors could be subject to a Freedom of Information request (3166). 3167 was a resident looking for a venue for day care in Barwick in Elmet, interested in the site of the former garage on Aberford Road or other suitable venues and asking if the PC would encourage such a venture. It was noted that Leeds

City Council (LCC) would address safeguarding concerns and that a similar facility operated in the Village Hall.

8. ACTION TRACKER

- It was agreed that Cllr. Brunt proceed with the benches policy consultation as agreed at the December meeting (along the lines suggested at that meeting).
- The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) was still pursuing the bank regarding addition of Cllr. Brunt to the mandate.

9 OTHER ITEMS

9.1 Newsletter budget to cover the December and February newsletters

It was noted that newsletter costs had exceeded the budget with a further addition of the newsletter still to come before the next financial year. It was agreed that this be considered at the next Finance & General Purposes (F&GP) Committee.

9.2 Scholes Lodge Farm Budget

It was **resolved** that's the budget for Scholes Lodge Farm maintenance for 2022/23 be £3,435

9.3 Budget and precept for 2022/23.

It was agreed that this be an agenda item for the F&GP Committee meeting of 18th January 2022 who would then make a recommendation the PC meeting on 7th February 2022. Cllrs. not on the F&GP committee were asked to notify the Clerk if they wish to attend so that a suitable socially distanced venue could be booked. The LCC grant was below what had been forecast.

9.4 F&GP Committee

The F&GP Committee had met on 14th December and the draft minutes were noted.

9.5 Platinum Jubilee shuttlebus

Ward Cllr. Firth reported that there had been no progress on this item since the last meeting.

9.6 Resurfacing the access road to the allotments and cricket pitch

A meeting with the cricket club was awaited.

9.7 Barwick in Bloom open gardens

The decision of the Clerk made using delegated authority to allow Barwick in Bloom to use Jack Heaps field for car parking for their open gardens event on 26th June 2022 was noted.

9.8. Access the "Vision for the Future" Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)

Three quotations for access control to the MUGA had been considered at the October meeting of the F&GP committee and a preferred contractor chosen (Compass). It was **resolved** to accept this quotation. The contractor had agreed to honour the prices in their 2020 quotation. Cllr. Remmer would deal with the setting up of the access control & fobs and the supply of a fixed spur. It was **resolved** to proceed with the fob system, all in favour. The access control was compliant with data protection regulations.

9.9 Leeds Festival Working Group

The draft minutes of the Leeds Festival Working Group of 2nd November 2021 had been circulated and the contents noted. A verbal report of a subsequent meeting on 14th December 2021 was given. Social media was being used to encourage festival goers to clear up after themselves. This meeting also discussed the black gate, access points and the partnership with Uber taxis. It had also discussed extending the area covered by the noise measurement plan. There would be another meeting at the end of the month

9.10 Revision to the grants policy to include deadline dates.

It was noted that there had been no progress regarding the awning for the Post Office due to delays in getting planning permission. The PC had awarded a £2,050 grant for this at its meeting in December 2020

and the budget still had to allow for this. Proposals to amend the grants policy to include deadline dates were discussed and it was **resolved** that Cllr. Hassell produce a report for consideration at the next meeting. There would be also be an agenda item next time to consider asking the Post Office to withdraw their application.

9.11 Surgery report.

Saint Philip's church had changed the date of the opening of the cafe from the 18th December to the 11th and therefore there had not been the opportunity for a Councillor to hold a surgery.

9.12 Website cookies.

Cllr. Slater reported that last August he had asked the website developer to install an accept cookies prompt on the website and not having had a reply had added such a feature himself. It was **resolved** to defer the adoption of a cookies policy to the next meeting, all in favour. It was **resolved** that in the meantime, the cookies prompt on the website be retained, all in favour

9.13 Inclusion in the newsletter of advertisements for or sponsorships from local businesses.

A proposal to defer a motion that the PC authorise the inclusion in the newsletter of advertisements for or sponsorships from local businesses was not supported. The PC then voted on the original motion and this was not supported either.

9.14 To consider adoption of an Equal Opportunities Policy

It was **resolved** to adopt a suggested Equal Opportunities Policy (which was a requirement in order to secure two grant awards) on the understanding that this would be reviewed as part of the annual policy document review at the annual PC meeting. It was **resolved** that Cllr. Brunt take the lead in setting up a working party to produce an Equal Opportunities Policy to recommend to the PC at a future meeting, all in favour.

10 PLANNING MATTERS

The minutes of the Planning Working Party meeting on 20th December 2021 had been circulated and the decisions noted, there had been no objections to most of the applications considered but there were particular concerns regarding three applications for works at Tyrol, Elmwood Lane.

11 FINANCE

The RFO reported that a direct debit amount of £89.06 (Yorkshire Water Authority) had been taken in December but had not appeared on the list of anticipated payments at the December meeting. This was because the RFO had not received the paper copy and was therefore unaware prior to the payment being taken.

The anticipated payments for January included an invoice for Christmas lights for £3,810 + VAT which included £160 for the uplighter opposite the Gascoigne Arms Public House which had only worked for a day or so and had been reported and also included a motif outside Saint Phillip's church which only worked for a week or so (but wasn't reported). It was **resolved** that the RFO take this up with Leeds Lights and request a credit note and report to the next meeting, all in favour. It was **resolved** that the remaining eighteen payments totalling £1,985.76 be approved, all in favour (five direct debits totalling £196.80 and thirteen BACS payments totalling £1,788.96).

12 CRIME REPORT

Cllr. Cantelo reported that the Police were taking seriously reports of illegal substances being smoked outside the Parish Hall but attempts to catch the culprits red handed had so far been unsuccessful in spite of regular visits to the site.

5. STATEMENT BY THE CHAIR (deferred from earlier in the meeting)

The chair read out a statement regarding recent suggestions that due process had not been followed in a number of cases. Although he did not dispute the suggestions which were made, he expressed concerns about the way in which these concerns had been expressed and the effect on the Councillors concerned and the time spent responding to these concerns by the Chair and the impact on the Clerk's workload.

It was noted that a former councillor had suffered from a bad accident and the meeting passed on their best wishes to him.

13 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates of forthcoming meetings:

Parish Council – 7th February 2022, 7:30pm, Barwick Village Hall

Finance and General Purposes Committee – 18th January 2022, 7pm, Pavilion

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 10:10pm.

Signed

Chair

7 February 2022