



Barwick in Elmet and Scholes Parish Council

Benches Policy

adopted Nov 2022

The Barwick in Elmet and Scholes Parish Council (PC) are willing to facilitate the sponsorship of benches in the parish at locations identified by the PC subject to the advice and agreed by Leeds City Council Highways and Transportation Department. The PC will be responsible for the installation and maintenance of benches in the parish which must be secured on solid foundations.

Before installation of any new benches, the PC will have particular regard to the need to avoid nuisance and to preserve unimpaired access to nearby properties, respect the needs of wheelchair, mobility scooter, pushchair users and of pedestrians. The PC retains the right to relocate the bench if it receives persistent complaints of anti-social behaviour in the vicinity of the bench or if it is requested to do so by the police or Leeds City Council.

The PC reserve the right to offer another location if the preferred location is not available. Details of available sites will be found on the PC website at <https://barwickandschoplespc.org>

Applications from commercial enterprises will **not** be considered.

The PC will determine the maximum number of benches and they will be added to the PC asset register.

In order to secure a consistent style across the villages and to protect their rural nature, a limited range of standard designs will be authorised.

The benches can be chosen from the list below:

1. Wooden benches from sustainable sources with arm rests,
2. Metal benches with arm rests,
3. Recycled plastic benches with arm rests.

All sponsorships should cover the costs of the bench, installation and a contribution for maintaining the bench.

The purchase and installation costs of benches are expected in the form of an up-front payment to the PC. The PC will order the plaque and approve the wording of any dedications.

The PC welcomes joint sponsorship arrangements by enabling a bench to have two dedicatory plaques.

If the PC receives more than one suitable application for a proposed site; competing applications may be reconciled by consultation, but, in the absence of agreement, the PC will have the final decision.

Process overview:

- a) Clerk receives a completed application from,
- b) PC to check availability of the location,
- c) PC to confirm the cost, check if the vendor is still available,
- d) Approve wording of dedication.
- e) The resident to make full payment to the PC.
- f) PC to order bench and plaque and organise the installation within 6 months.
- g) Bench added to the asset register.