

# **BARWICK in ELMET and SCHOLES PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES of the PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE meeting**

held on Monday 16 October 2023 at 7:30pm in Barwick Miner's Institute.

**PRESENT:** Councillors Stella Walsh and Gillian Williamson together with representatives Steve Collett (Allotments), Pete Elliott, Ian Vallbank and Mike Cooper (Barwick Bowling), Jayne Dickinson and Karen Lewis (Scholes Bowling Club), Chris Swales and John Swift (Barwick Cricket), Dan Whitaker (Scholes Cricket Club), Jon Bliss and Craig Barker (Scholes 1<sup>st</sup> Scouts), Andrea Gilliland and Sue Sidebottom (Tennis Club), Linda Turp (Village Hall), Lynda Wright (Barwick Bowling and Village Hall) and the Clerk.

### **1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from Danny Gallagher and Zoe Rainbow (Barwick and Scholes Football club), Mount Saint Mary's football club and from Cllrs. Dales, Hayton, Ragg and P. Walsh.

### **2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

### **3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Playing Fields Committee meeting held on the 17 April 2023, having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and that the Chair sign the minutes.

### **4. UPDATES ON ITEMS DISCUSSED**

All matters were dealt with under the respective headings below.

### **5 CLUB REPORTS**

#### **5.1 Pavilion**

The Chair reported that's the key fob entry system for access to the multi-use games area had been suspended for a trial period of two months. This was due to health and safety concerns regarding children who did not have a key fob and were climbing over the fence. Access was still restricted to daylight hours, the gate was programmed to lock at dusk and reopen early in the morning. Concern was expressed that the gate did not have a spring to push it shut. A new football club representing Barwick in Elmet and Scholes would be using the Pavilion changing rooms for matches on a Sunday morning once the football pitch was ready. The Pavilion was still used on a Thursday afternoon as an outreach Post Office.

#### **5.2 Tennis Club**

Tennis reported that their treasurer had completed the paperwork for the club to become a member of the Lawn Tennis Association and that this application had been successful. The pavilion roof had been re-felted and the person who had done this was thanked for doing a good job. The club had received one quotation for the fencing repair and was awaiting further quotations. An application for funding had been made to the Community Fund. The courts had been tidied up, and the cost of resurfacing was being considered. There had been an increase in numbers attending Sunday morning social tennis sessions. A mixed team (which included some new members playing for the team) had been entered into the Barkston Ash league and had finished bottom of Division Three. The club were now looking at starting a men's team made possible by new membership. There were fifty-four memberships representing a hundred and twenty-one individuals including spouses and children. Members included those from Aberford, Barwick in Elmet, Garforth, Scholes and elsewhere. A level 4 coach was running coaching on a Tuesday evening and was offering a few weeks of junior coaching. The Club had a new website with increased functionality to manage subscriptions. The club also had a social media presence

on Facebook and Instagram. They were hoping in the future the new website will have increased functionality e.g. managing membership, subscriptions etc. There had been reports of antisocial behaviour on the courts and on the pavilion and a warning sign had been put up. Thankfully there had been no recent reports, the last incident being mid-summer.

### **5.3 Mount Saint Mary's Football Club (MSM)**

MSM were not represented but had sent a report - see attached appendix.

### **5.4 Barwick in Elmet and Scholes football Club.**

Barwick in Elmet and Scholes football Club were not represented.

### **5.5 Scholes Cricket Club**

Scholes Cricket Club reported that they had just completed their first season in the York league and narrowly missed out on promotion, being still in with a chance of promotion on the last day of the season. The players were thanked for their contribution. They were looking to start a second team next year and were hoping this would encourage juniors to try Cricket at the club. The ground had been maintained to a high standard and those responsible were thanked for their hard work. They were now looking to invest in sight screens which were encouraged by the league. An application would be made to the Community Fund for funding. The Cricket Club continued to express concerns about the mound of spoil adjacent to the Bowling Green. The Parish Council had hoped that a local contractor would remove this but his quotation had been much higher than expected and alternatives were being considered. The Chair thanked Cricket Club for the use of the roller in levelling after the drainage ruts on the football pitch had been filled with topsoil. The new football team were aware of their responsibilities towards the Cricket Club regarding the overlapping pitch and had already spoken to Cricket Club on this matter. Scouts offered help to the Cricket Club in encouraging juniors to try Cricket and with applications for grant funding where the inclusion of juniors increased the chances of a successful application.

### **5.6 Barwick Cricket Club**

Barwick Cricket Club had also completed their first season in the York league, the first team having been entered into division two. They finished joint top and the decision as to whether they are champions will be made shortly pending a disciplinary review regarding the other club. The first team had lost only one match all season and would be playing in the top division next year where the number of overs per innings would be fifty (previously forty-five) and match start times would be 12:30. The second team had competed in division 5. Their season had been frustrated by other teams in the league not having enough players to be able to field a team resulting in the second team playing about two-thirds of the number of fixtures that they should have played. They had finished second in the league behind Green Hammerton who were composed of first team players. Next season the second team would compete in Division Four (with Scholes). Barwick Cricket Club were encouraged by the number of players who had come through the juniors (one of whom plays for Yorkshire). Ground improvements included a new permanent sight screen at the top and a mobile sight screen mounted on wheels at the bottom (the Clerk of the Parish Council had sustained an ankle injury after trying to help move this sight screen and needed intervention by a doctor who was in attendance). The access track (the Verity Strip) had successfully been resurfaced. The Cricket Club continued to run several junior teams including All Stars (aged seven and under) and five age levels in addition to this. The second team and the junior teams included girls in their membership, three or four (including one of the girls) were doing a post-sixteen course (the equivalent of a BTec). Ground maintenance had previously been done by a member of the club but they now had a professional groundsman with experience of Moor Allerton golf course.

## **5.7 Scholes Bowling Club**

Scholes Bowling Club reported that they had had a good year. They now had a new Chair and Secretary and over fifty members. On Monday afternoons and evenings, there was a focus on social bowling, new members come and get coaching and were looking forward to joining one of the teams next year. This year was the fiftieth anniversary of the club and was being celebrated by reinstatement of three internal competitions (all handicaps). Everyone took part in at least one of these competitions which finished on the day of the fiftieth anniversary day and was celebrated with a barbeque etc. Three of the founder members of the club attended. These competitions would be continued in future years. In August, the club won the Sleights Trophy (against Barwick at Barwick). They had also held a mini competition of doubles with Scholes Cricket Club (one bowler, one cricketer). It was agreed to make this an annual event. The Club had a big WhatsApp group. The team in the Cross Gates league had been promoted to Division One. Scholes A Team were champions of division one of the Tadcaster Evening league (Scholes B team finished sixth in division two of this competition). One of their players was awarded a singles merit and two awarded a doubles merit. They finished ninth out of eleven teams in division two of the Tadcaster Vets League (Wednesday afternoon fixtures), They finished second in division two of the Cross Gates league (as a newly promoted team). Scholes Skylarks had finished fourth (out of ten) in the Elmete Ladies league. In knock out competitions, they had won the group stage of the Jane's Trophy and were runners up in the final. They reached the semi-finalists in the Richardson Cup and quarter- finalists in the Cross Gates knock out shield. They had delegates taking part in the open pairs competition with three players from Scholes taking part and hoped for enough players for two teams in this league next year. There had been a Women's Institute day. Concerns were expressed about children playing on the heap of spoil. Membership was free of charge for the first year, forty-six of the current membership pay, are others are free.

## **5.8 Barwick Bowling Club**

Barwick Bowling Club had had a mixed season. The Thursday team (Barwick Badgers) had been relegated to Division Three. The club were fielding two teams on a Wednesday and on a Thursday. They had a new captain. Barwick Oaks had won the Elmete Ladies league (another team, Barwick Acers, had finished bottom). A few new members had joined and the club were looking to raise their profile. Funds had been raised last year for the boards to be redone where the wood had deteriorated, money had been received due to the generosity of members. Leftover funding would be used for tidying up many of the hedges and someone had quoted to cut the leylandii. The green had taken a lot of effort. £2,500 had been spent at the end of the season on treatment and it was felt that the greens at Barwick and at Scholes were the best in the league. The Bowling Green was on the site of a proposed location for the tennis courts, and it was suggested that the two clubs could liaise with one another. Bowling Club had about fifty-five members and typically got fifteen to twenty people a day for social bowling. The club had considered grant applications but struggled to demonstrate sufficient diversity to some sources of funding. An approach to local councillors was suggested. It was also suggested that the club produce a bulletin with advertising space for local business (as an alternative to advertising boards around the ground where there was not much footfall). The club was experiencing problems with the local authority (Leeds City Council) not emptying the brown wheelie bin. The club had a post code but no associated address and this was given by the local authority as the reason for non-collection. The authority would only allow one bin per address and one of the bins was broken. Scholes Bowling Club advised that their bin was being collected. A joint open day was suggested. The Bowling Club had a social media presence on Facebook.

## **5.9 Allotments**

The report above (see Barwick Cricket Club) regarding the access track (the Verity Strip) was noted. The allotments were well attended, and it had been a reasonable year for growing. Fruit

trees had either been inundated with fruit or completely lacking in it. Sweet corn was susceptible to badgers and rodents. Proposals to form a separate allotment association were ongoing, it was estimated that at least another twelve months would be needed before the association could establish itself as separate from the Parish Council. A representative of the National Allotment Society was due to attend in about three weeks' time (a previous visit had been cancelled at the last minute). The water had been turned off the previous Saturday. There was a concern that the terms of the agreement were not tight enough regarding those who paid their annual subscription but then did minimal work on their plot.

#### **5.10 Village Hall**

Village Hall reported that regular bookings and coffee mornings were doing well. The dinner dance on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023 had been successful. There would be a Christmas market on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023 from 11am to 3pm and all stalls had now been taken. Steps to prevent vandalism appeared to have been successful. There had been no cases of this following the installation of new closed circuit television cameras (there now being eight of these) and the cutting of the height of the boundary hedge to a level where passersby could see anyone hanging around the curtilage of the Hall. The Hall would be closed for two weeks from 21<sup>st</sup> October 2023 (reopening on 6<sup>th</sup> November) as a new kitchen was being installed. Concern was expressed that able bodied people were parking in the spots reserved for the disabled and it was felt that the markings had faded and that drivers did not realise that the parking space was reserved for this purpose. The garden was being well maintained. The Hall was okay financially.

#### **5.11 Scholes 1<sup>st</sup> Scouts**

Scouts reported that they had had a very good year. There had been an organisational change nationally and adult recruitment and the trustee structure had been updated following rule changes by the Charity Commission. Craig Barker was the Chair of the trustees and they were hoping for a few more. They had a membership of about fifty young people. There was an army of parent volunteers but Scouts reported the loss of three of the regular leaders. Scouts reported that they had had their annual general meeting about a week ago. Financially, they were doing okay. Energy efficient heating and lighting had been installed about eighteen months ago. They had participated in the Scholes Lodge Field carnival. They were planning a bonfire taking into account lessons learned from the 2022 event. Last year, they took a count on the gate and the event had been closed to new arrivals after just over 900 people had entered. This year the attendance would be capped at 750. There would be two displays, one at 7pm for smaller children followed by the main display at 8:00pm. Scouts would be involved in the Remembrance Day commemoration on 12th November with Scouts helping with the local church. They were on course with the birthday celebration which would be a Christmas birthday party to commemorate the eightieth year of Scouts. There were plans to have a gang show. There were eighteen Scouts who were getting older due to retention. Scouts were involved with the Peace Flame and were designing a flag for this. There would be food and a bar on bonfire night, liaison with Wilson's butchers had resulted in them getting pork pies at cost price and they were hoping to make 50p on these and a further 50p on drinks. Scouts were minimising profits to make the event as affordable as possible. The temporary event notice (TEN) licence had cost £20. Entry would be £3 for adults, children under 5 would get in for free. Everything had been fully risk assessed. The World Jamboree in South Korea was tricky and of the Scout organisation nationally had contributed £2.5 million of its own money to ensure the safety of those who had gone. Some members of Scholes scouts had attended. In summary, young people were having a great time at Scouts but they were struggling for regular adult leaders coming forward and were relying on lots of parent help. Full training would always be provided and they are always looking for support and working with others in the community.

## **6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- Clubs who were successful in obtaining grant applications were encouraged to share their good news by emailing the Clerk. Joint applications were encouraged where this was mutually beneficial.
- The Chair asked if anyone was interested in a table football game. Barwick forum was suggested.
- The Chair reminded everyone that she was the editor of the Parish Council newsletter and encouraged those present to use this to promote their activities and successes, the next newsletter would be produced towards the end of November and the one after that in February 2024.
- Barwick Bowling club were seeking sponsorship from local businesses.

The chair concluded by thanking all for attending the meeting.

## **7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 15 April 2024 at 7:30pm in the Miner’s Institute.**

The meeting closed at 8:53pm.

Chair  
Monday 15 April 2024