

MINUTES of an EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

held on Monday 18th August 2025 at 7pm in Scholes Sports Pavilion.

PRESENT:	Councillor	Stella Walsh (Chair)		
	Councillors	Brian Foxcroft	Kinga Ragg	Phil Maude
		Karen Dales	Paul Walsh	

In attendance: Three representatives of the football clubs and the Clerk.

1 APOLOGIES.

Cllrs. Remmer and Shoesmith.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST.

No new declarations recorded.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.

It was **resolved** that under section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, that press and public be excluded from the meeting whilst agenda item 5 was being discussed on the grounds that this involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as set out in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

It was agreed to change the order in which items were taken in accordance with Standing Order 10a(vi).

4 SPORTS CLUBS RENTS AND AGREEMENTS FOR BARWICK IN ELMET AND FOR SCHOLES FOR THE COMING SEASON.

A report had been produced which showed that the total cost to the Parish Council (PC) of maintaining the football pitches and changing rooms in both halves of the Parish was £6,218.62 (£3,109.31 for Barwick in Elmet and £2,899.97 for Scholes). Although it was recognised that as a public body, the PC was not running facilities for profit, the difference between operating costs and the charges being raised in 2024/25 represented a high level of subsidy for the football clubs concerned and it was felt that a substantial increase in charges was therefore needed. It was recognised that the cost of hire of facilities elsewhere (often without changing facilities and charged per hour) was significantly higher than what the current clubs using facilities in the Parish were paying. The initial proposal of increasing the hire charge of the open-age team from £750 to £2,053 was seen as excessive. It was **resolved** that the juniors would be charged £500 per club (three boys' teams in Barwick in Elmet and one girls' team in Scholes). The representative of Garforth Villa agreed to take these figures back to the club for consideration. It was **resolved** that the open age team (playing in Scholes) be given the option of a twelve-month agreement at £1,250 or a three-year agreement at £1,250 for the first year, £1,350 for the second year and £1,500 for the final year (£4,100 over three years). This agreement would not give them exclusive access to the facilities. The representatives of the open age team had left the meeting by this point, and it was agreed that Cllr. P. Walsh contact them with these proposals.

5 SCHOLES ALLOTMENTS AND THE ADJACENT GRASSLAND AND THE REQUEST BY THE VENDOR TO RENEGOTIATE WHAT HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN AGREED.

It was noted that the vendor's had recently given notice that due to the time taken, they wanted a substantial increase in the amount the PC had already agreed to pay towards their legal costs. It was felt that much of the delay appeared to be down to the vendor's solicitors. It was therefore **resolved** to instruct the PC's solicitors that the PC would only purchase the allotments and adjacent grassland on the terms and at the price originally agreed. There was one abstention. Furthermore, the solicitor would be instructed that the PC wanted apportionment of the rents collected which had been due on 1st April 2025.

6 OPTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS FOR 2025.

It was **resolved** to retain the strings of Christmas lights in the trees in Scholes and on Jack Heaps field but to dispense with the motifs and the remaining budget be used to buy hanging Christmas Trees at £88 each which could be hung from any summer hanging basket bracket and installed in similar manner. There would be an agenda item at the September PC meeting and meanwhile, the Clerk would circulate a document to show how many Christmas trees could be bought under this proposal.

7 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Date	Time	Meeting	Venue
1 st September 2025	7pm	Parish Council meeting	Miner's Institute
8 th September 2025	7pm	Finance and General Purposes Committee	Scholes Sports 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 8:50pm.

Signed

Chair

1 September 2025