

**MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

held on Monday 5 June 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at Scholes Methodist Hall

**PRESENT:**

Councillor	Claire Hassell (Chair)	
Councillors	Geoff Yapp	Karen Dales
	Glyn Davies	Paul Remmer
	Howard Bedford	Stella Walsh
	Ian Westmoreland	

**In attendance:** PCSO Emma Leighton (part), six Scholes residents and the Clerk.

**1 APOLOGIES:** Cllrs. Matt Baker and Neil Beaumont.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

**3 VACANCY ON THE PARISH COUNCIL – BARWICK WARD**

Cllrs. Davies, Hassell, Walsh and the Clerk had met with Ian Westmoreland in the John Rylie Centre on 24<sup>th</sup> May. It was **resolved** that he be co-opted to fill the Barwick vacancy, proposed Cllr. Hassell, seconded Cllr. Yapp, all were in favour.

**4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the **Annual Parish Council Meeting (1/2017)** held on 8 May 2017 (457-459) having been circulated, be approved and signed, proposed Cllr. Remmer, seconded Cllr. Bedford, all were in favour.

**5 CRIME REPORT**

The PCSO reported nine crimes in the Parish in May 2017, these were six *Burglary Residences*, one lot of *Criminal Damage*, one *Theft Non-Specific* and one *Burglary business*. Two suspects had been arrested for the last named. The *Criminal Damage* related to vandalism to a large marque. Four of the *Burglary Residences* involved forced entry via garage doors. The Save Parlington Action Group's A-trailer had been vandalised whilst parked on Jack Heaps field (early June). It was noted that there had been problems with local youths. The PCSO will get an update from PCSO Nottingham.

**6 FINANCE**

**6.1** The **cash book, bank reconciliation statement and budget monitor** were circulated showing payments made during May £5,294.09 (cheques totaling £5,174.90 and three direct debits of £119.19). Feedback regarding the 2017/18 budget monitor had been addressed but there was still an outstanding query regarding balance brought forward amounts from the previous financial year which the Responsible Financial Officer would address for the July meeting. There was also a query about garage hire where Parish Council (PC) equipment is stored - the goal posts bought for Scholes & Barwick Junior Football Club may also need to be stored there.

**6.2** The **cash book** showed five cheque payments to be made in June amounting to £4,991.30 and one direct debit of £39.01.

**6.3** **To formally approve the Annual Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement.** It was **resolved** that the Annual Governance Statement, having previously been circulated be approved. Having approved the Annual Governance Statement it was **resolved** that the 2016/17 Accounting Statements be approved, proposed by Cllr. Remmer, seconded by Cllr. Davies, all were in favour.

**7 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk presented the list of **correspondence** (2814-2833). The following were commented on;

**2709** – Resident concerned about the overgrown embanked area of Jack Heaps Field adjoining the tennis courts previously maintained by Tennis Club. The resident had followed up his previous concern (September 2016) and felt that the situation needed to be revisited, the Clerk will contact Tennis Club about this.

**2814** - Letter from the Clerk of The Ancient Parish of Barwick in Elmet Trust regarding nominating a Parish Council representative. A representative had been agreed at the Annual Parish meeting – the Clerk has written a letter confirming this.

**2815** - Elmet Greenway group seeking Councillor support – see Open Forum (below)

**2817** - YLCA (Yorkshire Local Councils Associations) advising that new hard copy of The Good Councillor's Guide 2017 is now available – The Clerk will find out what changes there have been since the previous edition.

**2825** - Conference on Monday 25th September 2017 at Hull looking at road safety and highways issues and how casualties can be reduced by interventions, integration and understanding of a Safe Systems Approach. Cllr. Bedford will attend this.

**2828** - E-mail from someone with medical issues wanting a help with their Housing Application for a bungalow. Although sympathetic, such matters fall outside the remit of the PC and the Clerk had replied accordingly.

**2834** – YLCA asking if anyone would be interested in training in successful event management on 3rd August 2017. Cllrs. Baker, Beaumont, Bedford, Dales, Walsh and Hassell all registered an interest in this.

**2810** – Leeds City Council (LCC) Electoral Services regarding a Community Governance Review & notification of a deadline (22<sup>nd</sup> June) by which a petition for de-grouping to form two separate parishes would have to be submitted. This correspondence item had been reported at the May meeting. Since then there had been interest and e-mails some residents. A follow up e-mail from the LCC Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration and Deputy Returning Officer had been received on 2<sup>nd</sup> June and provided a link to a document which needed to be publicly displayed. This document had been put in both notice boards the same day but residents were concerned that three weeks of the consultation period had been lost by then. The Clerk will request an extension of the consultation period on the grounds that previous communications from LCC gave no indication of the need to display this notice. The PC will raise awareness via shop windows, Manor House notice boards and Facebook.

## **8 OTHER ITEMS**

### **8.1 A proposal to request more speed limit signs in the Parish from Leeds City Council**

**Highways** – Cllr. Bedford had circulated a report and outline proposal for Highways issues in Barwick in Elmet. He had initially focused on Barwick in Elmet to allow comment and feedback prior to producing something similar for Scholes. His report considered continuous growth in traffic (estimated 22% more vans) and the potential effects of new housing and the East Leeds Orbital Road (ELOR). His report had various proposals including de-signage. Traffic census data had been collected by Highways and by developers looking to evidence their proposals. Cllr. Hassell would e-mail Nick Borrás (Senior Engineer in Highways) for any data collected by LCC. Further work on Scholes added and the full report will be considered at a future meeting.

### **8.2 Report of the consultation event on 16 May regarding the Proposed 300 houses in**

**Scholes** – Less than 24 hours after the May PC meeting, all properties in both villages received a leaflet advertising a consultation event in Saint Philip's Church regarding a proposal to build 300 houses in Scholes. Several Councillors attended. There was a feeling that the developer had held the event purely to demonstrate that due process had been followed in the event of this proposal being brought forward. However many residents felt that the time between the delivery of the leaflets and the date of the consultation was unreasonably short and it was noted that some streets were missed out completely by those delivering the leaflets and therefore the whole village was not consulted properly.

### **8.3 Funding a sign outside Scholes Sports Club**

– a quote for £100 had been obtained for putting up a sign outside the car park of Scholes recreation grounds off Belle Vue Avenue. Concern was expressed that such signs would soon be out of date if it showed contact information and there was a

suggestion of having a notice board as well as (or instead of) a sign. Contact information could go on the new PC website. Further details about this suggestion would be reported to the July meeting.

**8.4 To nominate one of more Councillors to be the official YLCA representative** – Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) had requested details of someone to be the officially recognised representative. Other Councillors are free to attend YLCA meetings but only those nominated would have voting rights. Cllrs. Davies, Hassell and Walsh frequently attend YLCA meetings. It was **resolved** that Cllrs. Davies and Hassell be the officially recognised representatives, proposed Cllr. Remmer, seconded Cllr. Yapp, all were in favour.

**8.5 Scholes Vacancies**– it was noted that the vacancy created by the resignation of Tom Crosfill could be filled by co-option and that created by the resignation of Amanda Munro could be similarly filled if there was no request for an election by 8<sup>th</sup> June. There had been four expressions of interest but only one formal application at the time of the meeting.

**8.6 Report on activity on Parish Facebook and web-site** – Cllr. Dales would e-mail Cllr. Beaumont to request a post advertising Scholes gala.

**8.7 Hall Tower Field – update** – A grant had been received and the overgrown areas of the field had been cut and the contractor paid. There was a concern that if the PC took on Hall Tower field, there could be a financial burden in making good the retaining wall adjoining four properties on The Boyle. Residents of all four had received letters, one had replied to say that there was no issue with the wall, two had indicated that there was a problem but didn't specify the nature of it and one had not replied at all. Follow up letters to the two who indicated an issue had resulted in a telephone call to the Clerk from one of them explaining the issue (more to do with grass maintenance at the top of the wall than with the wall itself). It is proposed to make all residents aware before any PC long-term commitment to the field. A full appreciation of the likely ongoing maintenance costs would be needed first. Cllr. Hassell is pursuing contractor for quotes and has been quoted £250 for some tree work.

**8.8 Scholes Lodge Farm** – The benches were waiting to be fitted. Cllr. Dales will pursue the contractor about additional boardwalk. It was **resolved** that Janet Harkin be co-opted onto the Scholes Lodge Farm Working Party, proposed Cllr. Hassell, seconded Cllr. Yapp, all were in favour.

**8.9 Defibrillator for Barwick** – this has now arrived and is waiting to be fitted. The contractor doing this work has been made aware, the Clerk will chase him if nothing further is heard.

**8.10 Neighbourhood Plan** – There had been no developments since the previous PC meeting.

**8.11 Scholes Sports Association** – there have been a number of issues regarding Scholes Sports Association which have been discussed at several recent Playing Fields Committee meetings without resolution (such as getting the mandate changed on the bank account and former tennis club members still holding keys). A meeting will be held at 7pm on 27<sup>th</sup> June to bring together interested parties and get resolution to these issues. The Scouts are having an event on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

## 9 PLANNING

It was **resolved** that the recommendations of the Planning Committee (see below) be accepted.

There was **no objection** to an application to replace the telecommunications monopole on Highfield Lane.

There were **objections** to a proposed two storey and single storey front/side/rear extension at 47 Nook Road on the grounds on the size.

**10 REFERRALS & RISK ASSESSMENTS** – The roundabout at Scholes Playground was not turning as it should. This had been reported to the LCC Playground and Fabrication Manager but the issue was still not resolved, the Clerk will contact him again.

**11 TO NOTIFY THE CLERK OF MATTERS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING** – Cllr. Walsh had seen a Peace Lamp in Garforth, she would make enquiries so that the PC could consider this as an agenda item at a future meeting when information had been collected.

## **12 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Monday 3 July 2017: Barwick in Elmet Methodist Schoolroom (7:30pm) preceded by Planning Committee (6:30pm) and Open Forum (7pm)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Signed

Chairman  
3 July 2017

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## **OPEN FORUM**

The Chair of Elmet Greenway group gave a report of that group's activities. They had met with LCC and Mouchel to discuss the link with the ELOR. There would be a cycle path either side of the ELOR with a green screen recreational route on the Scholes side which cuts across the Greenway. There would be a crossing at Wood Lane and agreement had been reached to upgrade Wood Lane to link in with the cycleways. A television producer had offered to promote the route. The following day, members of the group were due to have three meetings, firstly with Mexborough Estates, then with Sustrans followed by a meeting of the committee. They have active members from Cross Gates one of whom has skills in the use of Social Media. Ward Councillor Robinson had asked a question about this at Council Chambers. 400 signatures of support had been obtained and Survey Monkey would be used to get more support, the gala at the weekend also presented opportunity to gain support. The Chair wanted PC support and commented that a similar project in Burley in Wharfedale was solely made up of Councillors. Past PC minutes would be checked for historical evidence of support. The PC had no objection to supporting the Greenway committee but asked the group to demonstrate that this project had the support of residents.

Two residents repeated concerns expressed at previous Open Forums about the number of cars parked on Station Road in the vicinity of Osman House. Buses were having to drop their passengers on the road, some of whom needed help to alight and disembark. On one day, there had been 26 cars parked in this area creating issues with line of sight for pedestrians crossing the road and motorists coming out of the side roads. Most of the cars belong to builders and staff. The PC agreed to write to Ward Cllr. Robinson, Andy Katkowski (Police) and Nick Borrás.

Two other residents were unhappy with the level of disturbance from Applewood Weddings. They had rung the LCC department which deals with complaints about noise, much of this was due to them having live music. The noise ran from 1pm to midnight. Vehicles were accessing and exiting the site at all times, cables had been run across Bog Lane, a board had been positioned at the end of the lane and commercial waste was being burnt. Cllr. Hassell agreed to pursue this with Ward Cllr. Robinson. Cllr. Walsh would look at what was agreed when the organisers of Applewood Weddings met with residents and Parish Councillors in 2016. One Councillor had visited the site the following morning and had been asked to leave. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to resident on Leeds Road and Main Street to remind residents to report issues and provide contact information.