

**MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

held on Monday 4 December 2017 at 7:30pm. at Barwick in Elmet Methodist Schoolroom

**PRESENT:**

Councillor	Claire Hassell (Chair)	
Councillors	Craig Barker	Neil Beaumont
	Glyn Davies	Paul Remmer
	Howard Bedford	Phil Maude
	Karen Dales	Stella Walsh

**In attendance:** Ward Cllr. Matthew Robinson, two Scholes residents, a local farmer and the Clerk.

**1 APOLOGIES:** Cllr. Matt Baker and Ward Cllr. Ryan Stephenson.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST** - there were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

**3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting (7/2017) held on 6 November 2017 (476-480) having been circulated, be approved and signed, subject to item 7.2 being changed from “replies to the PC consultation be opened and *counted*” to “replies to the PC consultation be opened and *summarised*”, proposed Cllr. Remmer, seconded Cllr. Beaumont, all in favour.

**4 CRIME REPORT**

The Chair reported the crime figures for November. There were eight reported crimes as follows; three *Burglary business* and one *Burglary Residential* (all on Belle Vue Road), one *Burglary Residential* (Gascoigne Avenue), one *Interference With Motor Vehicle* (Arthursdale Drive), one *Theft From Motor Vehicle* (Rakehill Road, Scholes) and one *Theft Non Specific* (Gascoigne Arms). A resident also reported other incidences which if reported will appear in next month’s Police crime report.

**5 FINANCE**

**5.1 The cash book, bank reconciliation statement and budget monitor** had been circulated showing payments made during November of £3,024.98 (cheques totaling £2,758.60 and four direct debits of £266.38). It was agreed that the budget for Hall Tower Hill maintenance as agreed at the September meeting should be £3,000.

**5.2 The cash book** showed twelve cheque payments to be made in December amounting to £2,385.41 and three direct debits of £213.54.

**5.3 To consider the budget for 2018/19 and the precept** – Cllr. Davies was thanked for the considerable amount of work he had done in producing a suggested budget for 2017/18. It was proposed that his suggested budget be adopted (incorporating feedback which had been given regarding grants) and that the precept for 2018/19 remain as £37,148, all were in favour.

**6 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk presented the list of **correspondence** (2884-2891). Visual checks had been carried out on the boundary of a property adjoining Jack Heaps Fields where the resident had expressed concern that Tennis Club were not keeping up with maintenance of their boundaries (2884). This would be kept under review and the resident be allowed access to maintain his boundary. The Clerk will recirculate 2886, a Yorkshire Local Council’s Associations (YLCA) communication regarding payment of fees to the Information Commissioner’s Office as not all had received it. There had been a query about the status of Stockheld Lane and upgrading it to a bridleway and a request for a Toucan crossing across the A64 (2889). Cllr. Maude had e-mailed the Leeds City Council (LCC) Principal Definitive Map Officer about this. This could be a future agenda item.

**7 OTHER ITEMS**

**7.1 Dog-fouling signs – purchase more/use spare ones from Scholes Lodge Farm (SLF) –**  
Disappointment was expressed that one of the new dog fouling signs on SLF had been vandalised within a

couple of days of being put up. Cllr. Remmer was getting clips to put up other signs. Some smaller signs were needed for SLF and elsewhere in the Parish. There was similar discussion about extra bins. Councillors were asked to e-mail their suggested locations for both items to the Clerk (stating size required).

**7.2 De-grouping surveys – to consider comments made by residents** – this agenda item was deferred to the next meeting. Residents will need to be informed of the decision of LCC.

**7.3 Elmete Greenway Group** – a report of the meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> November attended by Cllr. Maude had been circulated. It was agreed that Cllr. Maude be the PC representative on this group and that the PC was supportive of the group's objective. The land behind properties on Nook Road has been sold. The PC thanked Ward Cllr. Robinson for writing to those residents on Nook Road whose back gardens adjoin the old railway line advising them to seek legal advice before buying land to extend their gardens. This is greenbelt and enforcement action would be taken if anyone tries to extend into it.

**7.4 Discussion on the use of Hall Tower Field** – Cllr. Bedford put forward a proposal to hold an Apple Festival in autumn 2019; this would be an agenda item for consideration from September 2018. The Royal British Legion will be lighting beacons in November 2018 to mark the hundredth anniversary of the end of World War One with the top of Hall Tower Hill being a suggested location. Instructions to the PC solicitors had been delayed pending the decision of LCC regarding the de-grouping. Purchase orders would be issued to contractors.

**7.5 Consideration for the introduction of Little Libraries around the Parish** – Cllr. Bedford explained that this is a book exchange scheme. This agenda item would be considered at the next meeting. Cllr. Walsh expressed strong views regarding the potential negative impact on Scholes Library.

**7.6 Report on the meeting with LCC Transport re 20mph zones and agree next actions** – Cllr. Bedford gave a report on the meeting he and Cllr. Maude had had with Chris Way and Kasia Speakman (Transport Policy for LCC) seeking to introduce 20mph zones in our villages. The report showed the proposed locations of the zones and noted that a combination of signage and traffic calming measures would be needed. Questions included concerns about emissions; noise as vehicles accelerate away from restricted zones and the current lack of restriction on Scholes Lane. Ward Cllr. Robinson reported on the loan of Speed Indicator (SID) signs in other parishes. Going forward, the PC and LCC would continue to work closely together with further data surveys and joint analysis and consultation with residents.

**7.7 Scholes Lodge Farm (SLF) - Recommendation that a resolution for the current Working to be dissolved is discussed and that the way forward is a future agenda item in early spring/7.8 A formal letter of complaint made by a resident regarding alleged misconduct of a Councillor** – these two agenda items were taken together at the end of the meeting. A complaint had been made against a Parish Councillor in connection with SLF. Cllr. Remmer had organised a meeting involving interested parties and apologies had been offered and the complainant was now not looking to take this any further. A discussion followed regarding the future of the Working Party after which it was **resolved** that the SLF Working Party should continue but with clear Terms of Reference, proposed Cllr. Walsh, seconded Cllr. Bedford, all in favour. The draft Terms of Reference circulated by Cllr. Davies for the September meeting would be considered. The next newsletter would ask residents to check with PC members before doing work in the field.

**7.9 East Leeds Orbital Route (ELOR)** – a report was given of three events attended by Parish Councillors, the East Leeds Extension (ELE) drop-in event on 14<sup>th</sup> November (attended by Cllrs. Beaumont, Bedford, Hassell and the Clerk), the ELOR Plans Panel meeting of 23<sup>rd</sup> November (where Cllr. Bedford delivered a presentation) and a meeting with relevant LCC officers on 28<sup>th</sup> November (Cllrs. Bedford, Hassell, Maude and Remmer). A formal response had been submitted. The PC is not against the ELOR but will press for the middle quadrant to be built in a cut, a bridge to be built for the Leeds Road crossing, the A64 gyratory to be a graded separated junction, that LCC and the contractor are mandated to sit on data review meetings and that should these reviews show that noise levels are too high, that there is an obligation to address this. Cllr. Walsh reported that a resident had received a letter regarding compensation. Cllr. Remmer has engaged the services of an expert in noise surveys. There were comments about the change to condition five and concerns about lighting, the proposed new layout of the Coronation Tree junction and the effect of the ELE spine roads. Cllr. Bedford was thanked for the considerable amount of time and effort he has put into this.

**7.10 Proposal to reimburse the Clerk for additional hours worked** – it was **resolved** that the Clerk be paid an additional twenty hours for the extra work done due to the Neighbourhood Plan referendum and the consultation regarding de-grouping of the Parish, proposed Cllr. Walsh, seconded Cllr. Maude, all in favour.

**7.11 Report on Remembrance Sunday** – it was noted that events on Remembrance Sunday both in church and at the cenotaph had gone well in both villages.

**7.12 To note the Department of Transport (DoT) reply to the PC objection to the Stopping Up of the Highway at Manor House Car park** – the DoT have accepted the PC objection on the grounds of the effect on elderly people attending the functions at Manor House. The developer is expected to write to the PC, Cllr. Maude will work with Cllr. Walsh and the Community Group to maintain car parking spaces.

**7.13 Neighbourhood Plan** – since the last meeting, the Regulation 19 Decision Statement has been written by LCC.

**7.14 Report of activity on Facebook and an update on the new web-site** – there are now 610 followers with 14,936 views, the most posts relating to the ELOR and the planning application for the crematorium. There was no further progress regarding the website, the developer may be waiting for material to be submitted. It was decided to instruct him to launch the website and enhance content once it was live. Cllr. Barker volunteered to be one of the site administrators.

**7.15 Report of a meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November with LCC officers** – the Chair and the Clerk had attended a meeting between Highways Service Planning officers and representatives of Harewood Ward Parishes, a report of which had been circulated.

## **8 PLANNING**

A report of the decisions of the Planning Committee of 4<sup>th</sup> December was given and the decisions duly noted, the minutes of which would be circulated in due course. With the exception of the proposed crematorium, there were no objections to any of the planning applications considered. It was **resolved** that their recommendations be accepted, all were in favour.

**9 REFERRALS & RISK ASSESSMENTS** – concerns were expressed regarding the condition of the footway along The Avenue/Nook Gardens, The Approach, Leeds Road (near the garage). Concerns were also expressed at the state of Rakehill Road and Cllr. Maude will raise this at the Local Access Forum.

**10 TO NOTIFY THE CLERK OF MATTERS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING** – Councillors were encouraged to notify the Clerk accordingly.

## **11 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018: Scholes Methodist Hall (7:30pm) preceded by Planning Committee (6:30pm) and Open Forum (7pm)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.29 p.m.

Signed

Chairman  
8 January 2018

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## **OPEN FORUM**

The Chair reminded those present of the issues discussed at the previous open forum and opened the floor to the residents present. There were comments about the ELOR railway crossing needing ten-thousand wagon loads, park and ride rumours and concerns about quad-bikes with disappointment expressed regarding the police response. Cllr. Robinson agreed to raise concerns about police response at the next Outer North-East forum and to have a conversation with the Commissioners' office about police powers.