

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Monday 8 January 2018 at 7:30pm. at Scholes Methodist Hall

PRESENT:

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

In attendance: Ward Cllr. Matthew Robinson, Police Community Support officer (PCSO) Geoff Nottingham (part), five Scholes residents and the Clerk.

1 APOLOGIES: Cllr. Claire Hassell

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 (8/2017) held on 4 December 2017 (481-483) having been circulated, be approved and signed, proposed Cllr. Barker, seconded Cllr. Beaumont, all in favour.

4 CRIME REPORT

The Chair reported the crime figures for December (as the PCSO had been called to attend an incident). There were four reported crimes as follows; one *burglary business* (on Main Street, Barwick in Elmet involving three suspects unsuccessfully attempting to gain access outside of opening hours using a sledgehammer), two of *criminal damage* (a wooden gate post on School Lane and damage to fencing on Carrfield Road) and one *robbery* (a public house on Main Street, Scholes where two suspects removed the glasses of a customer stood at the bar). Six vehicles have been stolen this month in the Outer North-East villages, two of these for residents of Barwick in Elmet. New Neighbourhood Watch coordinators are needed, the PSCO will be contacted to see if there is a flyer which can go out as an insert in the Parish Newsletter.

5 FINANCE

5.1 The **cash book, bank reconciliation statement and budget monitor** had been circulated showing payments made during December of £2,688.37 (cheques totalling £2,385.41 and six direct debits of £302.96, one of these being a previously unreported direct debit taken in November). There was a query about the higher than expected payment to the third-party payroll company, the Responsible Financial Officer will look at this and advise.

5.2 The **cash book** showed eight cheque payments to be made in January amounting to £1,464.75 and two direct debits of £53.42. The fees charged by Royal Mail for their response services were noted suggesting that this could be a cost-effective way for future consultations. The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) drew attention to the fact that the bank was once again paying interest and reported a couple of adjustments to the figures since the cash book had been circulated.

5.3 **To consider Section 137 payment to the in Bloom groups for insurance renewal** – it was noted that the PC has for many years supported both In Bloom groups by paying their annual insurance premiums which are normally due in April/May. In 2017 they renewed their insurance at a considerably lower price than normal, but the new insurance policy is due for renewal from 1st February. It was **resolved** that PC pay the 2018 insurance premium for both groups, proposed Cllr. Barker, seconded Cllr. Baker, all in favour.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk presented the list of **correspondence** (2892-2901). Regarding item 2884 (previous month's correspondence) the resident who had expressed concern that Tennis Club were not keeping up with maintenance of their boundaries had since sent a further communication and was not satisfied with the previous response of the PC. It was suggested that the Clerk gets a quote for the grass to be cut and wood

chip (possibly spread on a membrane) to be put down and to instruct this work to go ahead if it is within his delegated authority. Item 2902 (received since the correspondence list was circulated) was also considered (see Open Forum). This would be an agenda item next month.

7 OTHER ITEMS

7.1 To note the decision of Leeds City Council (LCC) regarding the Governance review and to consider comments made by residents – it was noted that at the General Purposes Committee meeting of LCC held on 11th December, the earlier recommendation of the Electoral Working Group had been accepted and that the proposals for a separate Garforth Parish and for the de-grouping of the parish into separate parishes for each ward were not being considered. This was subject to formal ratification by Full Council. The results would be reported in the next PC newsletter (1,131 of those who responded were against de-grouping and 206 were in favour). Several residents had added written comments to the surveys delivered to every address and Cllr. Walsh had noted these and circulated them (without disclosure of the individuals concerned). The Finances and General Working party will consider the points raised and decide solutions there would be an agenda item next time to set a date for this committee to meet and decide on membership.

7.2 Tour de Yorkshire coming through both Villages and whether to organise events to mark to occasion – it was agreed that as this event does not go through the centre of Barwick in Elmet and as it comes through the parish on a Friday, it would be inappropriate to allocate a budget of similar amount to the 2015 event. It was felt that bunting should be put up and enquires made to see if any of the village organisations were looking to do something. For the 2015 event, organisers had called a meeting at a much earlier stage, the Clerk would make appropriate contacts to see if something similar was planned this time.

7.3 Scholes Lodge Farm – to adopt the proposed Terms of Reference – it was **resolved** that the suggested terms of reference circulated ahead of the meeting by Cllr. Remmer be formally adopted, proposed Cllr. Remmer, seconded Cllr. Maude, all in favour.

7.4 PC response to the Barrett/Wilson proposal to build 300 homes in Scholes – it was noted that a formal planning application would be submitted for this proposal in the near future. The PC would use the newsletter and Social Media to encourage residents to submit comments. Ward Cllr. Robinson advised regarding timescales noting that there will be elections in May and an associated period of purdah. He stated the position of LCC and advised that he would be meeting with the developers and was happy for Councillors to attend. An agenda item in February would allow further discussion to take place.

7.5 Formal response to Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) communication about application of referendum principles – it was **resolved** that the PC writes in support of the position of the YLCA opposing the principle of having to have a referendum to increase precept, proposed Cllr. Barker, seconded Cllr. Bedford, all in favour.

7.6 Decision the PC response to the LCC Air quality public consultation 2018 – Cllr. Bedford agreed to prepare an official PC response to this consultation for formal consideration at the next meeting. Meanwhile residents would be encouraged to send personal responses.
<http://www.leeds.gov.uk/Business/Pages/Air-quality.aspx> refers.

7.7 Site allocations meeting 19th December 2017 – Cllr. Maude gave a report of this meeting noting that LCC seem to have introduced a new land classification to some Greenbelt sites which had been designated as Broad Locations for Future Development. He also reported that LCC would have to fight appeals from developers without an established five year land supply. The consultation begins on Monday 15th January 2018. Cllr. Beaumont agreed to prepare an official PC response for formal consideration at the next meeting.

7.8 Report of activity on Facebook and an update on the new web-site – Cllr. Beaumont reported a quiet month, 609 followers and 836 views. Three posts having been made. Two messages had been sent, one regarding inconsiderate car parking which Cllr. Robinson had in hand and one regarding information about the Garforth Golf Club proposals – Cllr. Beaumont had replied to this enquiry. Regarding the new website, the renewal of the old site was due, it was decided not to renew this, but concern was expressed about the length of time taken to launch the new website – especially as it had been agreed at the December meeting that it

should be launched even if it was incomplete. A venue for training had been agreed but no date set. The Clerk will contact Cllr. Hassell who has been the liaison point with the website developer.

7.9 Stockheld Lane and Elmet Greenway update – Cllr. Maude reported that three residents had contacted him about the Elmet Greenway proposal. He had addressed a concern about deer and replied to another regarding a suggested diversion of the path down Nook Road. A working party is due to be set up, Cllr. Maude is happy to attend this and to report back. It was suggested that the outcome of a feasibility study being carried out by Sustrans (a UK sustainable transport charity) should be awaited. Cllr. Maude will attend a meeting of the Elmet Greenway group on 9th January. Ward Cllr. Robinson had corresponded with four people following his letter to residents recommending that they get legal advice after the land owner of the disused railway had offered to sell them a strip. Cllr. Maude thanked Ward Cllr. Robinson for his contribution. There were no new developments regarding Stockheld Lane (last month's correspondence item 2889).

8 PLANNING

A report of the decisions of the Planning Committee of 8th January was given and the decisions duly noted, the minutes would be circulated in due course. There were objections to the applications for 71 Nook Road (insufficient information being provided by the applicant), 2 Chapel Lane (not in keeping with the Conservation Area status) and 46 Main Street, Barwick in Elmet (concerns about traffic). There were no objections regarding 47 Main Street, Scholes. It was **resolved** that their recommendations be accepted, all were in favour.

9 REFERRALS & RISK ASSESSMENTS – concerns were expressed about the amount of spilt litter left in Scholes following the refuse collection and the Christmas lights in both villages not being switched off following the end of the Christmas season.

10 TO NOTIFY THE CLERK OF MATTERS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING – Two agenda items were suggested regarding Rakehill Road, one regarding making it a suitable cycle path and one regarding a previous PC resolution made several years ago but never actioned regarding the putting of a barrier across the road at the Barwick in Elmet end to restrict vehicular access to key holders only. Ward Cllr. Robinson recalled this and will share correspondence with the Clerk.

11 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 5th February 2018: Barwick in Elmet Schoolroom (7:30pm) preceded by Planning Committee (6:30pm) and Open Forum (7pm)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Signed

Chairman
5 February 2018

OPEN FORUM

The Chair reminded those present of the issues discussed at the previous open forum, Ward Cllr. Robinson updated the meeting regarding Policing and the floor was then opened to the residents present.

A local farmer expressed concern that the Elmet Greenway group (item 7.9 above) had shown one of the alternative routes for their bridleway as going through his farm and published this information on the Internet resulting in cyclists using the path. There was no indication on their map that this route was not established.

There was a complaint that someone had fastened an advertisement for his business to one of the memorial trees. The Clerk will contact the business concerned.

A resident of Skelton Lane had attended the meeting where planning permission for the East Leeds Orbital Road (ELOR) had been granted subject to forty-three conditions being met. She noted that condition forty-one related to noise mitigation for Scholes and was concerned that noise attenuation bunds were on the inside

(west side) of the road and that there was therefore no protection at her address (her e-mail expressing these concerns having been logged as correspondence item 2902, see above). Ward Cllr. Robinson noted these concerns and advised that he had pulled together representatives of the three parishes most affected (the others being Shadwell and Thorner) for a bi-monthly meeting.