

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
BARROWFORD AND WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE
HELD AT HOLMEFIELD HOUSE
ON 8TH SEPTEMBER, 2016**

PRESENT

L. M. Crossley – Chairman (in the Chair)

Councillors

*N. McEvoy
B. Newman
J. K. Starkie
K. Turner
C. Wakeford*

Co-optees

*Mr C. Burt – Goldshaw Booth Parish Council
Mr R. Oliver – Barrowford Parish Council
Mr N. Hodgson – Blacko Parish Council
Mrs J. Heaps – Old Laund Booth Parish Council
Mr D. Oldham – Barley with Wheatley Booth Parish Council
Mr S. Milligan – Roughlee Booth Parish Council
Mr M. Tetley – Higham Parish Council*

Also in attendance

W. Blackburn

Officers in attendance

*V. Green
J. Eccles*

*Financial Services Manager
Committee Administrator*



52.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests.

53.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Eric Nutter from Greystones Drive, Fence asked about alterations to the Bay Horse pub in Fence and whether they were in accordance with approved plans. He also complained about the way the Parish Council had dealt with concerns about this build expressed at their meeting earlier in the week.

The Chairman confirmed that the planning permission granted for the Bay Horse was for 25 bedrooms and 21 car parking spaces. As the accommodation was aimed at people attending functions at the Fence Gate, some of the cars were expected to be parked in the Fence Gate car park overnight rather than at the Bay Horse.

The Planning Officer was going to do a site visit to check that the car park/patio area was in accordance with the approved plans and report back. The Chairman asked if the Planning Officer could also confirm that the accommodation at the Bay Horse did not include a function room.

The Chairman said that the complaints about the Parish Council were not a matter for this Committee.

54. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 4th August, 2016, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

55. POLICE ISSUES

There was no Police representative at the meeting. The August crime figures were submitted for information. It was noted that when compared to the same period last year, the crime figures showed that there had been a significant rise in crime in Barrowford. It was suggested that anti-social behaviour had probably risen too, although those figures had not been included in the August 2016 crime figures.

RESOLVED

That the Police be asked –

- to send a representative to the next meeting as no-one had yet attended this Committee;
- for the July crime statistics, not yet reported, to be submitted to the next meeting;
- to include in future crime statistics details of anti-social behaviour; and
- to provide a greater Police presence in Barrowford to combat the growing increase in crime and anti-social behaviour.

56. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) Planning Applications

There were no planning applications for consideration.

(b) Planning Appeals

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report on outstanding appeals for information. It was noted that the appeals in respect of 13/15/0516P – development at Douglas Hall Cottage, Spenbrook Road, Newchurch-In-Pendle and a householder appeal at Sandy Hall Lane had both been dismissed.

57. ENFORCEMENT/UNAUTHORISED USES

Enforcement Action

The Democratic and Legal Manager submitted a report on outstanding enforcement cases in Barrowford and Western Parishes which was noted.

58. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2016/17

The Neighbourhood Services Manager reported that the uncommitted balance for the

Committee's Capital Programme was £5,292. Members were asked to consider the following two bids from Higherford Residents' Action Group –

£54	Removal of caravan from Higherford
£5,760	Higherford Lamp posts repainting scheme

RESOLVED

- (1) That initially the Parish Council be asked to organise the removal of the caravan from the Corn Mill, and if this was not possible that the Higherford Residents' Action Group then be asked to remove it, but in either case, that formal consent first be obtained from the owner.
- (2) That the bid for the painting of lamp posts be refused as this was a County Council responsibility.

REASON

To enable the Committee's Capital Programme to be allocated effectively and efficiently.

59. UPDATE ON M65/JUNCTION 13 WORKS

An update was submitted at the meeting on ongoing works at Junction 13 of the M65 for information, which was noted.

60. PROBLEM BUILDINGS

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report on problem buildings in Barrowford. An update was given on recent discussions at the Executive and Management Team to look at possible action that could be taken to try to improve the appearance of the Corn Mill for the benefit of residents and the neighbourhood.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the work officers were doing to try to address the problem at the Corn Mill be noted and for a report to come back on progress in due course.
- (2) That the Harpers Lane Building site in Fence be included on the list of problem buildings.

REASON

In the interests of visual amenity.

61. PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS PROGRAMME 2016/18

The Neighbourhood Services Manager submitted a report to update and obtain the views of the Committee on proposals and options for Public Spaces Protection Orders in relation to parks; sports grounds; local nature reserves; town centres and alley ways in Pendle. This item had been deferred from the last meeting to give Councillors more time to consider the issues.

RESOLVED

That the Neighbourhood Services Manager be asked to clarify whether any of the green spaces in the Pendleside Villages had been considered for inclusion in the PSPOs programme, and whether facilities/land owned by the Parish Councils would be covered by the Orders.

REASON

To enable the Council and its partners to respond to concerns regarding behaviour that is detrimental to the quality of life in public spaces in Pendle including enforcement action.

62.

VACANT HOUSES

The Housing, Health and Economic Development Services Manager submitted a report on the position regarding the management of vacant houses in Barrowford and Western Parishes.

The report included a table showing the number of empty properties in each ward for over 2 years and over 6 months up to 2 years. Members compared the September figures with the figures last reported in March and noted that in total there were 27 more properties that had been vacant over 2 years, and 31 less properties vacant over 6 months to 2 years.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the action being taken to manage empty houses in Barrowford and Western Parishes be noted.
- (2) That in future reports the Housing, Health and Economic Development Services Manager be asked to include in the table the numbers from the previous update, for comparison.

REASON

To ensure the Committee is kept up to date with the position regarding the empty properties in their area and how they are managed.

CHAIRMAN _____