

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
BARROWFORD AND WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE
HELD AT HOLMFIELD HOUSE
ON 11TH JANUARY, 2018**

PRESENT

Councillor L. M. Crossley – Chairman, in the Chair

Councillors

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

Co-optees

*Mr J. Connor – Barley with Wheatley Booth Parish Council
Mr R. Willoughby – Higham with West Close Parish Council
Mrs K. Wilkinson – Goldshaw Booth Parish Council
Mr N. Goodall – Old Laund Booth Parish Council
Mr A. Vickerman – Barrowford Parish Council
Mr N. Hodgson – Blacko Parish Council*

Police

*PC M. Dibb
PCSO L. McCoughlan
Officers in attendance*

*V. Green
J. Eccles*

*Financial Services Manager & Area Co-ordinator
Committee Administrator*

(Apologies were received from Mr A. Walker.)

89. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

90. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Jackie Heaps from Fence questioned whether the public consultation required in respect of Liberata's application to extend Lomeshaye Industrial Estate had been carried out correctly and if people have been given enough time to comment. Katherine Wilkinson of Goldshaw Booth Parish Council also questioned the length of public consultation in relation to a recent application in Newchurch.

The Chairman said she would ask the Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager to look at the procedure followed in both cases and to respond directly to Mrs Heaps and Mrs Wilkinson.

91. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 7th December, 2017, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

92. POLICE ISSUES

PC Dibb referred to the crime statistics for Barrowford and Western Parishes for December 2017 compared to the same period in 2016 and answered related questions. Crimes were broken down as follows –

	2016	2017
Burglary in a dwelling	3	0
Burglary other than a dwelling	1	2
Vehicle Crime	5	7
Hate crime	0	0
Assaults	1	6
Criminal Damage	2	3
Other Crime	7	12
ALL CRIME	19	30
Anti-Social Behaviour	11	15

There had been a targeted break-in for an Audi vehicle in Higherford. Fortunately, the burglars had been disturbed. Two offenders had been arrested in Burnley who were thought to be responsible for the vehicle crime in Old Laund Booth. However, to put things in perspective PC Dibb reported the crime statistics for Nelson for the same period, that were a lot higher. He was pleased to report that the Police had recently recruited new PCSOs for the Pendle area.

93. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Appeals

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report on outstanding appeals for information.

94. ENFORCEMENT/UNAUTHORISED USES

Enforcement Action

The Head of Legal Services submitted a report on outstanding enforcement cases. A Breach of Condition Notice has been served on the Lounge in respect of the flue to the rear. It was noted that the deadline for compliance expired on 15th January.

An application for the three buildings to the rear had been submitted but had not yet been validated. A further update would be brought to the next meeting.

95. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18

The Neighbourhood Services Manager reported that the current balance for the Committee's capital programme for 2017/18 was £132.

96. REVENUE BUDGET 2018/19

The Financial Services Manager submitted a report asking the Committee to consider its base budget for 2018/19, identify any options for budget reductions and pass on any comments to the Executive.

There was a discussion about the future maintenance of Victoria Park and the split between revenue and capital funding in area committees' Capital Programmes. Then the report was noted.

97. PROBLEM BUILDINGS

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report on problem buildings in Barrowford and Western Parishes. It was reported that an application to discharge conditions has been received for Spen Brook Mill. At Development Management Committee on 24th February 2014 it was agreed that prior to the commencement of development samples of the materials to be used in the construction and the surfacing of the development and a sample panel of the approved stone and pointing should be erected on site for inspection for approval.

RESOLVED

That the Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager be asked to arrange a site visit to Spen Brook Mill for the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee and Members of Goldshaw Booth Parish Council to see the samples of materials to be used for the development.

98. ENVIRONMENTAL BLIGHT

There were no existing environmental blight sites in Barrowford and Western Parishes.

99. ROLL-OUT OF SUPERFAST BROADBAND IN AONB, BARLEY

The Vice-Chairman of this Committee had attended a meeting with Openreach, the Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager and representatives from Lancashire County Council and the AONB Unit, to discuss the method of introducing superfast broadband to Barley and the neighbouring area.

It was noted that some of the work would be underground. However, Openreach still intended to use some overhead telegraph poles and said they would provide A3 maps to show their proposed locations. These had not been received, but Councillors had seen a matrix for the location of poles marked in red, amber and green indicating which locations were more important to protect than others. Whereas the Committee's view remained that underground cables should be used on the whole, unless it was impossible or did not affect the character of the AONB or countryside.

The Financial Services Manager reported that a meeting was due to take place the following day between the County Council and Openreach. It was anticipated that copies of the maps would be made available to the Borough Council following this and that the matter would be reported back to the Committee in due course to enable them to determine the Council's position on the matter.

RESOLVED

That the Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager be asked to express the Committee's strongest disapproval of the matrix and that all locations be marked red unless there was no other viable alternative. And for Openreach to come back with their revised

proposals before further work continues.

REASON

To preserve the character of the AONB and the open countryside.

CHAIRMAN _____