

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
BARROWFORD AND WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE
HELD AT HOLMFIELD HOUSE
ON 10TH MAY, 2018**

PRESENT

Councillors

*L. M. Crossley
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. Goodall – Old Laund Booth Parish Council
A. Walker – Roughlee Parish Council
N. Hodgson – Blacko Parish Council
R. Willoughby- Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council*

Police

PC M. Dibb
Officers in attendance

*V. Green
K. Hughes
J. Eccles*

*Financial Services Manager & Area Co-ordinator
Principal Development Management Officer
Committee Administrator*

(Apologies were received from Councillor N. McEvoy.)



1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That Councillor L. M. Crossley be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the municipal year 2018/19.

Councillor L. M. Crossley – Chairman (In the Chair)

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That Councillor C. Wakeford be appointed Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the municipal year 2018/19.

3. APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTEEES

RESOLVED

That the following parish councils be invited to appoint a representative of their council as co-optee on this Committee for the municipal year 2018/19 –

- Old Laund Booth
- Roughlee Booth
- Barley with Wheatley Booth
- Barrowford
- Blacko
- Goldshaw Booth
- Higham with West Close Booth

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

1. Susan Nike spoke on behalf of an elderly resident of Carr Hall who had lived there for over 60 years and was upset by the decline of the neighbourhood. In particular she had mentioned speeding cars on Park Avenue, litter being thrown out of cars, litter on Park Avenue, an old mattress, building debris and other rubbish on the back streets, and lack of planting in the sunken and other beds in Victoria Park. She asked if the Committee could help to address any of these issues.

The Chairman said that she would ask the Parks Team about the current status of the Victoria Park Friends Group and whether more volunteers could be found. She would also ask the Environmental Services Manager to send some of the Cleansing Team to the Carr Hall area including the back streets for litter picking. PC Dibb said that he had visited the complainant about the speeding cars and asked the Community Roadwatch Team to visit the area.

2. Susan Nike referred to the busy bank holiday activity in Barrowford Park which had resulted in increased litter, especially cans and plastic bottles. The Barrowford in Bloom Group had been there the next day clearing up the debris and volunteers ended up taking home the cans and plastic bottles for recycling. It was noted that Victoria Park had seen similar activity over the bank holiday weekend also resulting in a lot of litter. She asked if it was possible for suitable containers to be provided in the parks over Bank Holiday weekends to encourage recycling, particularly for plastic bottles and cans.

The Committee agreed that this was a sensible idea and the Chairman said she would ask the Environmental Services Manager to see if this was possible.

3. Susan Nike referred to a meeting she had attended the night before at Booths hosted by Building Bridges when those present discussed recent events in the local elections and the associated negative publicity. She suggested that this was showing Pendle in a bad light and asked whether through the Committee she could request that a statement be made by the Council's Chief Executive saying that Pendle was a fair place to live and work in, to counter-balance the current negative press and help strengthen community relations.

The Chairman said that she would pass on this request to the Chief Executive.

6. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 28th March, 2018, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7. POLICE ISSUES

PC Dibb presented the crime statistics for Barrowford and Western Parishes for April 2018 compared to the same period in 2017 and answered related questions. Crimes were broken down as follows –

	2017	2018
Burglary - Residential	3	3
Burglary - Commercial	4	0
Vehicle Crime	4	7
Hate crime	1	0
Assaults	6	19
Theft	3	5
Criminal Damage/Arson	0	5
Other Crime	10	11
ALL CRIME	31	50
Anti-Social Behaviour	23	14

The majority of assaults recorded in April were mainly due to a particular incident at the Lamb Club in Barrowford. The Police had met the stewards of the Club and the Licensing Officer to reiterate the terms of the license and offer some advice. Following concerns at the last meeting about the security of Belgarth, PC Dibb could now report that the site was secure. He had met representatives of Belgarth Nursing Home and been assured that the various utilities were all being disconnected.

Following the couple of break-ins in Barrowford which were reported to the last meeting, the Police had personally invited 67 businesses to attend a meeting to see what could be done to prevent future break-ins. Council officers had also attended the meeting. Unfortunately only a representative from Booths had turned up which was disappointing.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Appeals

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager reported that at 26th April, 2018 there was one new planning appeal as follows –

17/0355/FUL

18/0002/AP/REFUSE Appeal against refusal of planning permission for Change of use of stone barn to single dwelling at Admergill Pasture Farmhouse, Admergill Pasture, Gisburn Road, Blacko.

9. ENFORCEMENT/UNAUTHORISED USES

Enforcement Action

The Head of Legal Services submitted a report on outstanding enforcement cases. An update was given at the meeting on the Field (part) adjacent to Clough Springs, Wheatley Lane Road, Barrowford. The Planning Department was continuing to monitor and visit the site on a regular basis.

10. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2018/19 – REVISED FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS

The Financial Services Manager submitted a report on the revised arrangements for the funding of Area Committee capital programmes in 2018/19 and sought approval of a process to ensure that only bids of a capital nature were funded during the year.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the change made to the funding of Area Committee Capital Programmes in 2018/19 be acknowledged.
- (2) That the implications for the Committee's allocation of its Capital Programme during the year be noted.
- (3) That the process for the submission and approval of bids as set out in paragraph 14 of the report be agreed.

REASON

To ensure the Committee is aware of the change in how the Area Committee's Capital Programmes are funded, together with the implications arising from this in 2018/19.

11. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2018/19

The Neighbourhood Services Manager reported that £20,662 of the Committee's Capital Programme remained unallocated. This included £142 carried forward from 2017/18.

Revised Capital Programme bid forms would be sent to Parishes shortly so that bids could be considered on the correct forms at the July meeting.

There followed a discussion on the benefits of match funding and possible funding sources to improve a section of prominent footpath running from Barrowford to Barley, which was becoming urgent, and not something that this Committee could wholly fund.

RESOLVED

That the Neighbourhood Services Manager be asked to provide advice to Roughlee Booth and Barley Parish Councils on possible help and advice on accessing funding for a footpath scheme.

12. ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME

The Environmental Services Manager submitted a report on environmental crime in Barrowford and Western Parishes for the period 1st January to 31st March 2018, along with annual totals for 2017/18 which was noted.

13. 47 CARR HALL ROAD, BARROWFORD

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report following the request at the last meeting to add the above property to the problem buildings list.

RESOLVED

That the property not be added to the problem building list but a report on progress be brought back in three months.

REASON

The site is generally tidy, obscured from general view and there are plans for continued development work in the near future.

14. PROBLEM BUILDINGS

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report on problem buildings in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area which was noted. An update on the Spen Brook Mill site was given at the meeting. A technical start had been made on site. The Committee would be invited to view the building materials once they had been sourced and work was ready to start on the external build.

15. VACANT HOUSES

The Housing, Health and Economic Development Services Manager submitted a report on the management of vacant houses in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area. The report stated that over the last 3 months 514 long term vacant properties had been removed from the list across the Borough, 48 in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the action being taken to manage empty houses be noted.
- (2) That the Committee receive a further update in six months' time.

REASON

To keep the Committee up to date with the management of vacant houses in their area.

16. BARROWFORD PREMISES IMPROVEMENT GRANTS 2018/19

The Housing, Health and Economic Development Services Manager submitted a request from

the Committee's 2018/19 Capital Programme seeking £4,500 funding for Premises Improvement Grants. The report also requested that the Committee lower the maximum grant to £1500 and nominate two Members to a Premises Improvement Grant Panel.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the bid for £4,500 for Premises Improvement Grants be considered along with other bids at the July meeting and at the same meeting a decision be made on the request to lower the maximum Premises Improvement Grant to £1,500.
- (2) That Councillors L. M. Crossley and C. Wakeford be appointed to a Premises Improvement Grant Panel.

REASON

- 1. To consider bids to the 2018/19 Capital Programme at the same time.**
- 2. To allow Members to have involvement in the grant process.**

Chairman.....