

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
WEST CRAVEN COMMITTEE
HELD AT
SALTERFORTH VILLAGE HALL
ON 8TH OCTOBER 2019**

PRESENT –

*His Worship the Mayor Councillor K. Hartley
Councillor D. M. Whipp (Chairman, in the Chair)*

Councillors

*R. E. Carroll
C. Carter
M. S. Goulthorp
J. Mills
T. Whipp*

Co-optees

*P. Hampson
C. Pollard
G. Wilson*

Police

PCSO N. Wallin

Officers Present

*D. Walker
J. Eccles*

*Environmental Services Manager (Area
Co-ordinator)
Committee Administrator*

(Apologies were received from E. West and Councillors J. Purcell and M. Adams)



67. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

68. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

69. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 3rd September 2019, be approved as a correct record.

70. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The crime figures for September 2019 compared to the same period in 2018 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Crimes were broken down as follows –

	2018	2019
Burglary - Residential	2	1
Burglary - Commercial	0	2
Vehicle Crime	5	4
Hate Crime	0	0

Assaults	17	11
Theft	6	8
Criminal Damage	13	6
Other Crime	27	42
ALL CRIME	70	74
Anti-Social Behaviour	28	32

Members raised matters of local concern which PCSO N. Wallin said he would follow up. He also gave details of recent police initiatives in the area over the last month.

It was noted that a recent investigation by the BBC on knife crime showed the North West as having the highest levels of knife crime outside London, which was worrying. Since 2014 knife crime had risen by 81% whereas the charge rate had fallen by 20%.

RESOLVED

That Sergeant T. Hitchen be asked to comment on the recent BBC knife crime study and whether there was anything further to report following Inspector A. Winter's update on knife crime at the meeting on 7th May.

71. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Appeals

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager reported that there was one outstanding planning appeal as follows –

19/0069/FUL
19/0009/AP/REFUSE

Appeal against refusal of planning permission for change of use of agricultural land to a caravan park and siting of 36 holiday lodge caravans and 20 touring caravan pitches at Caravan Site, Lower Greenhill Farm, Kelbrook Road, Salterforth, Barnoldswick

72. ENFORCEMENT/UNAUTHORISED USES - COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

(a) Outstanding

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on outstanding enforcement cases which was noted. With regard to PLE/18/1135 it was noted that a planning application had been received, but that would not resolve the bollards issue or adoption of the highway, which was the residents' primary concern.

RESOLVED

That the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager be asked to report back on concerns over PLE/18/1135 and provide an update on PLE/19/0483.

(b) Enforcement Action

The Head of Legal Services submitted a report for information, giving the up-to-date position on progress in respect of enforcement notices which had been served.

73. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2019/20

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager submitted a report on the Committee's Capital Programme for 2019/20. Members noted there had been an over spend on Cemetery Road Car Park (Earby) which required an additional £97.25 from the Capital Programme. Also that the £400 set aside for a new entrance gate and fencing at St Anne's Wood had been completed and paid for by the Woodland Trust, so was no longer needed.

RESOLVED

That with regard to commitments for Earby, £400 be deallocated from the St Anne's Wood scheme and £97.25 be put towards the over spend for work on Cemetery Road Car Park.

REASON

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

74. KENSINGTON FOREST PATH, BARNOLDSWICK

An update was given on the agenda about the public rights of way at the development site at Long Ing Lane. One issue was an overgrown route people had found to bypass the site. The other complaint was about a change in levels, where the new estate road had been constructed at a higher level than the footpath it was meant to connect with.

It was noted that the route people were taking to bypass the site was not a public right of way and had not been set up as a temporary footpath by a council or the development company. Therefore neither Pendle Council, Lancashire County Council nor the developer was responsible for its maintenance.

With regard to the change in levels, the developer had agreed to construct a flight of steps with a handrail to a high specification on the line of the public right of way. The developer had offered to provide an informal ramped footpath between the estate road and the bottom of the steps, which would be surfaced with woodchip.

RESOLVED

That the Environmental Services Manager be asked to request that the ramped footpath be made of a higher specification.

REASON

To provide a more suitable, long-lasting surface to the public right of way at Long Ing Lane.

75. BROOK SHED, EARBY

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on the possibility of adding the Brook Shed site to the problem sites list. Members agreed that the building was in need of urgent repair and lights had been seen in the building at night, so people were gaining entry.

RESOLVED

That the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager be asked to –

- (1) Add Brook Shed to the problem sites list.
- (2) Serve a Section 79 Buildings Act Notice should there be no speedy improvement on site.
- (3) Arrange a meeting with Members and the owners to discuss the dereliction of the building and site intention for its future use.

REASON

In the interests of visual amenity.

76. UNIROYAL GLOBAL

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager reported that works were progressing in line with the report submitted to the August meeting.

77. VACANT COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

It was noted that the Economic Development Team was in the process of arranging meetings with some of the owners of vacant properties in the Town Centre, and an update would be provided to a future meeting. Since the last meeting, the TSB/Lloyds bank building had been sold at auction and the former HSBC/William Hill building had closed down and was now vacant.

78. HIGH STREET HERITAGE ACTION ZONE

Unfortunately the High Street Action Zone bid for Barnoldswick had not been successful. Members considered whether to proceed with the Town Centre improvement works they had budgeted for which were to be part of the bigger scheme.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to go ahead with the reflagging scheme in Barnoldswick Town Centre with a view to work taking place in January to March 2020.
- (2) That LCC be asked to support the scheme with pavement and street light renewal in association with the public realm works.

REASON

To improve the appearance of Barnoldswick Town Centre.

79. ENVIRONMENTAL BLIGHT

There were no existing environmental blight sites. Members said that Damhead Garage site was in need of tidying as it was subject to regular fly tipping. There was also a report of some recent flytipping at Gisburn Old Track onto Weets where a large pile of tiles had been dumped at a point past the last house on Coal Pit Lane. The Environmental Services Manager said that he would look into this and arrange for the tiles to be removed.

RESOLVED

That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to add the Damhead Garage site to the environmental blight list.

REASON

In the interests of visual amenity.

80. WEST CRAVEN FLOOD DEFENCE AND RESILIANCE

The Chairman circulated a note of the public meeting held on 18th September which provided an update on the various flood defence and resilience schemes in Earby and Barnoldswick.

It was noted that there was a shortfall for the three Environment Agency schemes costing over £7m. £250,000 was needed for the Flood Wall on New Cut (Albert Street/Boot Street) and Victoria Clough Flood Storage Area schemes and there was a £3.3m shortfall for the £5m Birley Playing Fields Water Storage Area scheme. It was thought that the gap for the first two schemes could be filled with "local levy" funding. Subject to funding and following approval of a business case, it would be possible for the first two schemes to start work in 2021.

Members were concerned that the retaining wall at the end of George Street in front of Riverside Terrace, Earby was subsiding, as was the pavement.

There was a problem with water pouring through a house cellar at a property on Gisburn Road when there was heavy rain. It was thought that this was due to an inadequate culvert on Gisburn Road, following water from a new culvert for the Westfield Mill housing development and water from Brogden View all converging into one pipe, which was backing up.

There was also an issue with highways flooding at a number of locations.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to raise with LCC the problem with the subsiding retaining beck wall and pavements at the end of George Street, Earby.
- (2) That Policy and Resources Committee be asked to use every endeavour to obtain £3.3 gap funding for the Birley Playing Field Flood Storage Area scheme.
- (3) That the Making Space for Water meeting be asked to investigate and report back on the inadequate culvert on Gisburn Road, Barnoldswick.
- (4) That LCC be asked to look into highways flooding issues at the following locations –
 - A56 near Stone Trough, Kelbrook – a gully just above street lighting column 22 surcharging near the bad bend indicating that the highway culvert/drain is blocked.
 - Kelbrook Road, Barnoldswick – gully surcharging between Salterforth and Barnoldswick in 40mph zone, adjacent to lighting column with bus stop
 - A56 Skipton Road between New Road and Albion Road junction on LHS – 2 gullies blocked
 - Church Lane - Junction of Colne Road/Church Lane, Kelbrook on RHS

- High Lane, Salterforth in vicinity of old water works – gullies not working
- Standing Stone Lane – Water running down between Gisburn Old Track and Whitemoor Road – gullies in verge ineffective due to vegetation
- Bottom of Old Gisburn Track – surcharge from second gully up, running onto Barnoldswick Road to junction with Slipper Hill. Several gullies on Barnoldswick Road ineffective.
- Blocked culvert on Barnoldswick New Road going towards Blacko adjacent to Cross Gaits (above junction of Beverley Road) causing inspection chamber lid to lift with surcharge running down road, and pooling outside Flaxmoor Farm
- Skipton Old Road, Colne near Jerusalem Farm – sheet of water due to gullies which needed attention
- Either side of Bracewell village – one close to 30mph limit sign and one near Hopwood Farm, ponding visible
- Skipton Road, Barnoldswick near the junction of Coates Lane and then entrance to Rolls Royce Leisure (end of Ben Lane)
- Water on the road down Ghyll Brow at Church Road, Thornton.

REASON

1. ***To protect residents from flooding.***
2. ***To enable the Environment Agency flooding resilience schemes to go ahead.***
3. ***In the interests of highway safety.***

81. REQUEST FROM KELBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL – DRAINAGE ISSUE

The school had been in touch complaining about a drainage/odour issue the school had been experiencing for several years. Yorkshire Water had put cameras down the sewer but could not find a reason for the smell. The Head Teacher was finding it difficult to find resolution to the problem and had asked if the Committee could help to resolve the problem.

RESOLVED

That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to formally raise the drains/odour issue at Kelbrook Primary School with Yorkshire Water; to arrange for it to be raised as an issue at the next Making Space for Water meeting; and for a report to come back to a future meeting.

REASON

In the interests of health and safety for staff and pupils at Kelbrook Primary School.

82. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

(a) To consider “No Cold Calling” zones in West Craven

Members considered having further “No Cold Calling” zones in West Craven in the light of a recent incident.

RESOLVED

That Trading Standards at County Council be asked if they would consider a request for further “No Cold Calling” zones in West Craven.

REASON

For the benefit of local residents.

(b) To consider a request for residents-only parking on Chapel Street, Barnoldswick

Members considered recent requests for residents-only parking on Chapel Street, Barnoldswick. This had been looked at several years ago but not progressed.

RESOLVED

That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to discuss the possibility of having a residents-only parking scheme on Chapel Street, Barnoldswick at the next Traffic Liaison Meeting and for a report to come back to a future meeting.

REASON

To alleviate parking problems for residents of Chapel Street, Barnoldswick

(c) To consider requests for a footpath on Manchester Road, Barnoldswick

Members considered the possibility of extending the footpath on Manchester Road to go past Letcliffe Park.

RESOLVED

That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to request extending the footpath on Manchester Road, Barnoldswick at the next Traffic Liaison Meeting.

REASON

In the interests of highway safety.

(d) To consider the maintenance of open space at Cornmill Place, Barnoldswick

Members discussed the open space at Cornmill Place, Barnoldswick which Pendle Council had taken on for a commuted sum when the housing was developed. It was not clear what level of maintenance was being carried out and at what cost.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Environmental Services Manager be asked for details of the maintenance being carried out at the open space at Cornmill Place and if there were any funds left from the transfer.

- (2) That the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager be asked to look into the possibility of transferring this land to Barnoldswick Town Council through a Community Asset Transfer.

REASON

To find the best way forward for maintaining this area of open space in Barnoldswick.

Chairman.....