

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
WEST CRAVEN COMMITTEE
HELD AT
THE RAINHALL CENTRE, BARNOLDSWICK
ON 3RD MARCH 2020**

*PRESENT –
Councillor D. M. Whipp (Chairman, in the Chair)*

Councillors

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

Police

*PC S Murphy
PCSO N. Wallin*

Officers Present

<i>D. Walker</i>	<i>Environmental Services Manager (Area Co-ordinator)</i>
<i>N. Watson</i>	<i>Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager</i>
<i>J. Eccles</i>	<i>Committee Administrator</i>

(Apologies were received from P. Hampson, G. Wilson and Councillor K. Hartley.)



The following person attended and spoke at the meeting on the item indicated –

<i>Susan Horsefield</i>	<i>19/0620/FUL - Full: Erection of a two-storey dwelling at land to the rear of 21-25 Duxbury Street, Earby</i>	<i>Item No. 148 (a)</i>
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142. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

143. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

144. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 4th February 2020, be approved as a correct record.

145. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The crime figures for February 2020 compared to the same period in 2019 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Crimes were broken down as follows –

	2019	2020
Burglary - Residential	1	4
Burglary - Commercial	1	1
Vehicle Crime	3	5
Hate Crime	0	0
Assaults	10	13
Theft	6	10
Criminal Damage	3	6
Other Crime	39	30
ALL CRIME	63	69
Anti-Social Behaviour	21	22

It was noted that crimes had increased across the board, albeit only slightly in some cases. There were reports of youths playing on the roof of the old Post Office and youths on motorbikes causing damage to the bowling green in Victory Park. On the latter occasion Members had gone to the Park following reports of damage and rang 999 to report a breach of the peace. They were told a patrol car was on its way, but after 50 minutes, they gave up waiting and left the Park.

The owners of the old Post Office had been asked by the Council's Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Officer to carry out works to prevent easy access to the roof. PC S. Murphy apologised for the lack of response to the 999 call in Victory Park and said he would look into what had happened. He assured Members that the Police would continue to patrol the parks and deter ASB whenever they could.

RESOLVED

That the Police be asked to prioritise tackling anti-social behaviour in Barnoldswick Town Centre, Earby and the hot spots in and around the parks for the coming month.

146. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972

In accordance with the provisions of Section 100 (B)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended, the Chairman agreed that the following item should be considered as a matter of urgency, the grounds being that urgent representations needed to be made to Transdev about their proposed cuts to bus services before they were implemented in April.

147. PROPOSED CUTS TO BUS SERVICES

It was reported that Transdev had published proposed changes to the Mainline M5 and Witchway x43 bus services affecting travel to and from Barnoldswick and Earby. They were holding a number of information sessions to seek the views of local residents, with a view to the changes being implemented in April.

It was proposed that the mainline M5 would no longer run from Barnoldswick/Earby to Nelson. Instead the x43 route would be changed to go through Earby. Passengers travelling between Barnoldswick/Earby and Nelson would have to change at Colne, as the X43 would continue the fast service from Colne to Burnley on the M65.

RESOLVED

That grave concerns be conveyed to Transdev about the proposed cuts to bus services, in particular –

- Reduction of 4 M5 to 2 x43 buses per hour between Barnoldswick/Earby and Colne, would reduce capacity by a third, including at peak times.
- Additional delays and inconvenience for passengers having to change buses at Colne for onward services to Nelson and Brierfield.
- An additional 15 minutes to the x43 route for passengers travelling from Barnoldswick/Earby to Colne, Burnley and beyond.
- The last x43 service through to Skipton would be at 7.15pm. The 9.15pm and 11.15pm would stop in Barnoldswick. The Committee would have liked the opportunity to improve the evening bus service to Skipton.
- Concern that these changes might lead to the loss of the No 280 direct bus service from Earby to Skipton.

148. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) Planning applications for determination

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on the following planning application for determination -

19/0692/FUL Full: Erection of a two-storey dwelling at land to the rear of 21-25 Duxbury Street, Earby for Mr and Mrs Horsefield

(A site visit was undertaken prior to the meeting.)

RESOLVED

That planning permission be **refused** for the following reason –

1. The proposed development would displace off-street parking from the site onto a highway network which is severely constrained in terms of on-street parking provision and the proposal would therefore lead to conflict with other road users and an unacceptable impact on highway safety thus failing to comply with Policy ENV4 of the Pendle Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2011-2030), Saved Policy 31 of the Replacement Local Plan and Paragraphs 109 and 110 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

(b) Planning Appeals

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on outstanding planning appeals for information and gave a further update at the meeting.

149. 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. The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager said he would see if there had been any developments with regard to the Gospel Hall enforcement case.

150. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2019/20

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager reported that the balance for the Committee's Capital Programme for 2019/20 was £4,334: Barnoldswick £440 and Earby £3,894.

Members considered the following bids -

- Earby Town Council seeking £2,500 for the resurfacing and new drainage at Birley Playing Fields Car Park
- Barnoldswick Town Football Club seeking £1,000 for improvements to their pitch.

RESOLVED

- (1) That £2,500 be granted from the Earby allocation of the 2019/20 Capital Programme to Earby Town Council for the resurfacing and new drainage at Birley Playing Fields Car Park.
- (2) That the remaining Barnoldswick balance of £440 be granted to Barnoldswick Town Football Club towards their pitch improvements.

REASON

To ensure that the Capital Programme is efficiently and effectively distributed.

151. TRAFFIC LIAISON MEETING

The minutes of the Traffic Liaison Meeting (TLM) held on 12th February, 2020 were submitted for information. There was disappointment that various issues had been dismissed by the TLM or had slipped off the agenda, after the minutes saying that further investigations would be made.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Traffic Liaison Meeting be asked to report back at their next meeting on the following previously raised issues -
 - Request for advanced warning weight limit sign on Skipton Road to prevent HGVs entering Coates Avenue, Barnoldswick.
 - At the 17th Oct, 2019 meeting, TLM agreed to refresh lining on Skipton Road, Barnoldswick but no other action was considered necessary to upgrade safety. In view of the latest pedestrian fatality, it was felt traffic calming was needed to combat speeding vehicles, in particular safety cameras and a pedestrian crossing.
 - At the 28th Feb, 2019 meeting, TLM agreed that the speed limit on Manchester Road, Barnoldswick could be increased from 20mph to 30mph. It was referred to the Speed Team for softer measures to be considered, but there had been no update.
 - The Committee had requested a footpath on Manchester Road, Barnoldswick to go up and beyond the entrance to Letcliffe Park. Minutes of 17th Oct, 2019 referred to checking whether the traffic columns were LED lights (which they were) but said nothing about the footpath. Could this be followed up?
- (2) That County Council be asked to change the advisory speed camera on Gisburn Road to a real one, as it was not proving effective at slowing traffic down.

- (3) That support be given to the introduction of a Walking Bus to Barnoldswick Church of England Primary School and that County Council be asked to make up the pavement at the end of Clifford Street to the ginnel next to the School.
- (4) That concern be expressed that the current system of reporting issues to the Traffic Liaison Meeting was not effective as some issues were not always being followed up.

REASON

In the interests of highway safety.

152. PROBLEM SITES

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on problem sites in West Craven and gave a further update at the meeting.

He said that some work had been carried out at the second property and he would email Members with further details. Although it was recommended that the third property be removed from the list, Members wanted to keep it on for the time being. It was noted that the fourth site was now up for sale.

153. UNIROYAL GLOBAL

The Chairman reported back on a meeting of the Uniroyal Global/Residents Working Group on 10th February 2020. It was confirmed that all the lines were now going through the thermal oxidiser (RTO), resulting in the stack no longer being in use. A number of sections of the stack were to be removed in the summer. At that point the Uniroyal Global and residents would issue a joint press release and have a celebration. The cooling towers were no longer in use. The residents had reported that, in general, there were now no problems with noise, odour or deposits. Councillors and residents were very grateful to Uniroyal Global for their multi-million pound investment in improvements on site.

154. 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.

155. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(a) Barnoldswick Town Square Improvement Programme

The Chairman reported that further work had been done on designing the £200k Town Square improvement scheme and had been tendered. Work was due to start on 17th August and complete in November, in time for Remembrance Sunday.

The scheme would include a new water bottle filling station, new noticeboards and moving the flagpole and a memorial bench to more suitable locations. County Council had said they would provide match funding for the scheme to help with footpath improvements and replace the lighting columns.

Consideration had been given to installing split recycling bins but they would need to be effectively serviced.

RESOLVED

- (1) That County Council be asked to provide its agreed share of match funding so that the pavement improvements and replacement of the lighting columns could be undertaken as part of the Town Square Improvement Scheme.
- (2) That the Environmental Services Manager look into the practicalities of how the waste would be collected from a split recycling bin, and whether they were worth installing.

REASON

In the interests of value for money and to get the most out of the scheme for the benefit for residents and visitors to the town.

(b) Impact of recent storms in West Craven

The Chairman gave an account of flooding issues encountered following Storm Ciara and Dennis and the various actions taken. There followed an extensive discussion where Members reported additional problem areas. In summary –

- Flooding in a property at the end of Gisburn Road (previously reported) due to the inadequate culvert on Gisburn Road.
- Lane Ends in Earby flooded due to the pumps failing. Only the first of three pumps worked. Yorkshire Water was looking into this.
- Culvert entrance at the top of Robinson Fold – extension built over exceedance path and flytipping.
- Sandbags were needed at the football pitches on Ghyll Lane near Ghyll Meadows (the drain/gate was not working properly).
- Sandbags were also needed at Manchester Road due to the large amount of water coming through the yard. It was noted that there would be a contractor on site shortly to remove the risk of these properties flooding in the future.
- In total 5 tonnes of sandbags were deployed in Barnoldswick and now had to be replenished. Many of the sandbags distributed in Earby would have to be replaced because they would perish in the airtight containers.
- Highways issues – surcharging on Colne Road and Salterforth Road; Punch Bowl culverts under the A56 not taking the water (these had silted up on previous occasions); ponding on Church Lane in Kelbrook, at Sough and in 3 locations at Bracewell; Greenberfield Lane, both east and west of the bridge; New Road, Earby surcharge out of highway gully; Earby Road, Salterforth - water coming through the gate at Elm Close; ponding on road near the old waterworks (in the vicinity of Fanny Grey); Cross Gaits, Blacko; Cocker Hill, Foulridge; Old Stone Trough Lane; and Ghyll Brow; Crownest Road – blocked culvert; base of hill between Rolls Royce and Ghyll Brow; junction towards West Marton – responsibility of NYCC. There was still residual water on the road; and the foot of Crown Nest Road, by the turn off road to Aldi. Water coming out of the culvert.

It was also noted that the large volume of water had caused some damage to the roads, creating new potholes and worsening ones already there. Some of these could cause serious damage to cars and cause an accident.

Some of the problems on the road were considered to be caused by neglect, due to a lack of gully sucking and letting some gullies get overgrown and hidden from view.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the request to County Council for the inadequate culvert on Gisburn Road to be upgraded as soon as possible be reaffirmed.
- (2) That a report be brought back to a future meeting on the remedial actions being taken to reduce the risk of future flooding to properties in West Craven and excess water on the highways.
- (3) That the Environmental Services Team be asked to help with removing the sandbags in Earby. Also to help with removing the tree stump on Cemetery Road, which fell down in the storm.
- (4) That all the volunteers, emergency services and PBC staff be thanked for their help in trying to prevent properties from flooding in recent weeks.

REASON

To reduce the risk of future flooding to residents and businesses.

156. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

Members agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during the following items of business in pursuance of the power contained in Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 as amended when it was likely, in view of the nature of the proceedings or the business to be transacted, that there would be disclosure of exempt information which was likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

157. OUTSTANDING ENFORCEMENTS

Outstanding Enforcements

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on outstanding enforcement cases which was noted. He said he would look into the timetable of works for Brindley Mews and report back.

Chairman.....