

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
BARROWFORD AND WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE
HELD REMOTELY ON MICROSOFT TEAMS
ON 8TH JULY, 2020**

PRESENT

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

Councillors

*C. Lioni
K. Turner*

Co-optees

M. Tetley– Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council

Police

*PC A. Sarchet
PCSO K. Wisniowska*

Officers in Attendance

*D. Walker
J. Eccles*

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

(Apologies were received from N. Goodall, A. Walker, D. Heap, A. Stringer, N. Hodgson and R. Donovan and Councillors N. McEvoy and B. Newman.)



5. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That this item be deferred for consideration at the next meeting, when all Councillors would be present.

6. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

8. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 10th June, 2020, be approved as a correct record.

9. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

PC A. Sarchet and newly appointed PCSO K. Wisniowska attended the meeting to discuss the following crime statistics for June 2020 compared to the same period the previous year and answered related questions –

	2019	2020
Burglary - Residential	1	4
Burglary - Commercial	1	0
Vehicle Crime	5	2
Hate Crime	0	0
Assaults	6	5
Theft	4	4
Criminal Damage/Arson	0	5
Other Crime	20	17
ALL CRIME	37	37
Anti-Social Behaviour	13	20

Crime statistics for March, April and May had also been circulated prior to the meeting.

Overall crime had gone down in the last few months, although incidents of anti-social behaviour had increased dramatically in Barrowford and across Pendle, probably as a result of COVID-19.

There had been problems with drug dealing at Lower Clough car park and in other areas of Barrowford, cars speeding on the A6068 and large gatherings of youths on Barrowford Park in lockdown. The Police were patrolling problem areas more regularly and dealing with offences as appropriate.

Information on a new online Police messaging system, Lancashire Talking, was discussed, where people could sign up to flag up areas of concern and receive messages and updates on crime in their area. The Police encouraged Members of the Committee and residents to sign up and highlight problems and concerns in particular locations in Barrowford and the Western Parishes.

The Police had been knocking on doors in Higham and encouraging people to sign up. It was suggested that the local scouts group and other local organisations might be able to publicise this new facility.

10. ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The Head of Legal Services submitted a report on enforcement action in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area for information. At the meeting it was reported that the stone wall at Land in Field 0049, Wheatley Lane Road had not been complied with as at 23rd June. Dabs Cottage should have been complied with by 10th May 2020 but a site visit was needed to verify the situation. Once site visits had taken place, appropriate action would be taken.

Members complained about the mud on the road at Spenbrook Mill and the various issues residents had to put up with. They asked for officers to continue to do what they could to require the developer to comply with the relevant planning conditions.

RESOLVED

That the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager be asked if the road at Spenbrook Mill could be cleared of the mud when necessary and the cost of the clean-up work be recharged to the developer.

11. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2019/20 AND 2020/21

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager submitted a report on the Committee's 2019/20 and 2020/21 Capital Programmes which was noted. The balance stood at £20,996 - £476 uncommitted from 2019/20 and the 2020/21 allocation of £20,500.

Parish Council bids and all other bids would be considered at the August meeting, when the allocation of the Capital Programme would be determined.

12. RE-OPENING OF PENDLE'S TOWN CENTRES

The Chairman reported that since the last meeting the Economic Development Team had visited retailers in Barrowford, as had Councillors, providing advice on reopening safely and seeing if there was anything they felt the Town Centre needed to help this process.

The Team was also working with the Communications Team on a leaflet which would be promoted on social media and delivered to every household saying the town centres were Open for Business.

13. ENVIRONMENTAL BLIGHT

It was reported that there were no existing environmental blight sites in Barrowford. Members were reminded that any new sites should be reported to Tricia Wilson or Julie Whittaker including a contact name and contact details with a brief description of the site and the problem.

Chairman.....