

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
WEST CRAVEN COMMITTEE
HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT OFFICE TEAMS
ON 4TH AUGUST 2020**

PRESENT –

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

Councillors

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

Co-optees

P. Hampson

Officers Present

D. Walker

N. Watson

J. Eccles

*Environmental Services Manager (Area
Co-ordinator)
Planning, Economic Development and
Regulatory Services Manager
Committee Administrator*

(Apologies were received from Councillor J. M. Mills.)

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16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

17. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

18. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 7th July 2020, be approved as a correct record.

19. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The crime figures for July 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	3	2
Burglary - Commercial	1	0
Vehicle Crime	2	6
Hate Crime	0	2
Assaults	16	14
Theft	10	8
Criminal Damage	4	7
Other Crime	39	45
ALL CRIME	75	84
Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)	37	42

Members discussed the statistics which continued to show a rise in crime. They also discussed recent crimes and highlighted other areas of concern.

The Chairman encouraged Members of the Committee and the public to register with Lancashire Talking and take the opportunity to highlight problems in their area.

RESOLVED

That the Police be informed of the following problems -

- ASB by youths at Rushton Avenue playground in Earby
- ASB and drugs activity in the parks
- boy racers (mainly motorbike activity) in the parks, at the Waterfalls in Earby and other remote areas in West Craven

and requested, if possible, to attend the next meeting.

20. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Appeals

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on planning appeals for information. It was noted that since the report had been written, the planning appeal made against the refusal of planning permission for the erection of 17 dwelling houses and new access at Land at the Junction with Greenberfield Lane, Gisburn Road, Barnoldswick had been allowed.

21. 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.

22. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2020/21

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager submitted a report on the Committee's 2020/21 Capital Programme.

Members considered the following bids set out in the report –

- Earby Town Council – reinstating overgrown path on Aspen Lane Green £1,800

- Countryside Access Officer (PBC) - Public Footpath 49 drainage improvements £3,500

Members also considered the following bids which were presented at the meeting –

- Extension of the sett paved footpath at Letcliffe Park £4,000
(Reuse of setts being lifted from Albert Road to continue the existing paving alongside the hedge planted earlier this year. The project to include an improvement scheme for the existing path being cleaned off, vegetation between setts removed and re grouted.)
- Contribution towards repairs of existing ramp and new ramps at Victory Wheel Park £5,000
- Fenced off dog exercise area at Victory Park. £5,000
(Work to include drainage works on the exercise area and planting to improve diversification on perimeter.)
- Mill Race improvements at Valley Gardens £1,500
(Work to include repointing channel as required and a new trash screen at the weir where the water enters the race.)

RESOLVED

- (1) That £1,800 be granted from the Earby allocation of the 2020/21 Capital Programme to Earby Town Council for reinstating the overgrown path on Aspen Lane Green and £3,500 for Public Footpath 49 drainage improvements.
- (2) That, subject to agreement by the Financial Services Manager, the following allocations be made from the Barnoldswick allocation of the 2020/21 Capital Programme –
 - £4,000 towards the extension of the sett paved footpath at Letcliffe Park.
 - £5,000 contribution towards ramps at Victory Wheel Park.
 - £5,000 towards fenced off dog exercise area at Victory Park.
 - £1,500 for Mill Race improvements at Valley Gardens.

REASON

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

23. RE-OPENING OF PENDLE'S TOWN CENTRES

An update was given on how Earby and Barnoldswick were trying to encourage people to safely visit and shop in the Town Centres.

It was pointed out that an unintended consequence of the Eat Out to Help Out scheme was the impact it was having on takeaways which were not included in the scheme.

The Environmental Health Team had been visiting pubs, shops and businesses during the day, evening and weekends to make sure that they were Covid ready.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Council's Reopening Task Force be asked to recognise the impact the Eat Out to Help Out scheme was having on takeaways and if they could be helped or promoted in some way; and representations made to Andrew Stephenson MP about this unintentional impact of the scheme and the possible business closures.

- (2) That should the Government introduce a Covid Safety Rating System for premises, Councillors be consulted on the detail and ramifications.
- (3) That the progress reported from the last meeting be noted and that Earby join Barnoldswick in promoting the Town Centres with a joint video, booklet and commissioning of a photographer for use in the promotional booklet and to use on social media.

REASON

To help Barnoldswick and Earby Town Centres' recovery following the Covid-19 outbreak.

24. WEST CRAVEN FLOOD DEFENCE AND RESILIENCE UPDATE

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager submitted a detailed report on progress made with the European Structural and Investment Fund bid for flood prevention measures in Earby; Environment Agency (EA) flood modelling and Natural Flood Management in Earby; Victoria Clough culvert repairs being undertaken by the EA; and Ghyll Meadows culvert works being undertaken by Pendle Council. The Chairman talked Members through the report and displayed photographs to highlight the flooding issues in particular locations.

RESOLVED

- (1) That progress to date be noted; that progress with the Earby flood alleviation schemes outlined in the report continue to be monitored; and a further report brought back to Committee in December.
- (2) That LCC be requested to carry out essential works at the highway culverts requiring attention on Gisburn Road, Barnoldswick and at the Cross Gaits, Blacko.
- (3) That the Engineering Team be thanked for their work in securing the funding for the flooding schemes; for the work at Ghyll Meadows which was working well; and for their persistence in managing to get a new culvert installed at Manchester Road, something which had been needed and requested for many years, which was not mentioned in the report.

REASON

To enable flooding issues in West Craven be effectively managed and reduced.

25. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

Members agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during the following item 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.

26. ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME

The Environmental Services Manager submitted a report on environmental crime action for the period 1st January to 30th June 2020.

Chairman.....