

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF  
WEST CRAVEN COMMITTEE  
HELD REMOTELY VIA TEAMS  
ON 30<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021**

*PRESENT –*

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

**Councillors**

*C. Carter  
M. Goulthorp  
J. Mills  
J. Purcell  
T. Whipp*

**Co-optees**

*K. Singleton*

**Police**

*Sergeant T. Hitchen*

**Officers Present**

*D. Walker*

*Environmental Services Manager (Area  
Co-ordinator)*

*N. Watson*

*Planning, Economic Development and  
Regulatory Services Manager*

*J. Eccles*

*Committee Administrator*

*(Apologies were received from P. Hampson, E. West and Councillors M. Adams and R.E. Carroll.)*



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

*Helen Hanson*

*20/0685/FUL- Full: Erection of three bedroom  
dwelling house for an agricultural worker at  
Aynhams Hill Farm, Bracewell Lane, Barnoldswick*

*Minute No. 128(a)*

**124.**

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**125.**

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions from members of the public.

**126.**

**MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021, be approved as a correct record.

**127. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES**

The crime figures for March 2021 (up to 29<sup>th</sup>) compared to the same period in 2020 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Crimes were broken down as follows –

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Burglary - Residential	4	3
Burglary - Commercial	2	2
Vehicle Crime	8	6
Hate Crime	0	0
Assaults	7	9
Theft	9	8
Criminal Damage	9	6
Other Crime	32	30
<b>ALL CRIME</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>64</b>
Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)	58	62 (incl. 24 Covid related ASB)

Sgt T. Hitchen went through the crime statistics and answered related questions.

Members raised issues of concern, mainly around the Covid related ASB, damage to cars the previous night on Conway Crescent, speeding cars (particularly on Kelbrook Road through Salterforth) and the theft of a high value commercial vehicle in Barnoldswick.

Sergeant T. Hitchen said that the Police would be carrying out speed enforcement work in April. They had recently confiscated a car from a young driver in the area and prosecuted them for driving without insurance and various other driving offences.

Sgt T. Hitchen reminded the public that they should report incidents of crime on 101 (or 999 in an emergency). Alternatively, there was an online reporting procedure. Mentioning crime on Facebook or other social media was not the way to report a crime and would not be passed on to the Police. General issues or trends could be fed into the surveys on Lancashire Talking but individual crimes needed to be reported through the proper channels.

**128. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**(a) Planning applications for determination**

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

**21/0012/FUL Full: Major: Erection of 15 dwelling houses and new access at Land at the junction with Greenberfield Lane, Gisburn Road, Barnoldswick for Opulwood Developments**

An update was circulated prior to the meeting with late comments from LCC Highways on a number of issues. It was recommended that authority to approve the application be delegated to the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager subject to satisfactory internal layout details being received.

**RESOLVED**

That consideration of the planning application be **deferred** to the next meeting to allow for some of the outstanding issues to be addressed including the dedicated highway land and the request for an additional section of pavement in front of the existing bungalow to allow for a continuous path into the Town Centre.

**20/0685/FUL Full: Erection of three bedroom dwelling house for an agricultural worker at Aynhams Hill Farm, Bracewell Lane, Barnoldswick for Mr and Mrs Hanson**

An update was circulated prior to the meeting summarising an email from the applicants addressing some of the points raised in the officer's report. This did not change the officer's recommendation to refuse the application.

**RESOLVED**

That planning permission be **granted** subject to suitable conditions on materials and landscaping and a condition tying the house to the farming enterprise.

**(b) Appeals**

Notification of a planning appeal had been received that day in respect of Barnsay Shed, Barnoldswick for Seddon Homes.

**129. 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. It was noted that both the Police and Fire and Rescue Service had expressed concern recently over the security of the former Gospel Hall building.

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager said that this matter was due to go back to court, as the Section 79 Notice had not been complied with, but the earliest hearing date was likely to be June/July. In the meantime, the Council would continue to request the owner to carry out the remedial works.

Sergeant T. Hitchen said that this site was now on the Police patrol plan and he would ask for those visits to be increased.

**RESOLVED**

That the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager and Legal Services Manager be asked to try to get the former Gospel Hall case back into court as soon as possible to ensure that the necessary building works were carried out at the earliest opportunity.

**130. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2020/21**

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager reported that the balance on the Committee's 2020/21 Capital Programme was £4,129 – Barnoldswick £500 and Earby £3,629.

There were two bids for consideration -

- Salterforth Parish Council seeking £1,000 for Christmas Decorations
- Kelbrook and Sough Village Hall seeking £800 towards a patio refurbishment.

At the meeting it was proposed that the £500 remaining in the Barnoldswick share of the 2020/21 Capital Programme be allocated to Barnoldswick Town Council for the establishment of an arboretum in Letcliffe Park.

## **RESOLVED**

- (1) That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to allocate £1,000 from the Earby balance of the 2020/21 Capital Programme to Salterforth Parish Council for Christmas decorations and £800 towards the patio refurbishment at Kelbrook and Sough Village Hall.
- (2) That the remaining Barnoldswick balance of £500 be allocated to Barnoldswick Town Council for the establishment of an arboretum in Letcliffe Park.

## **REASON**

***To enable the capital programme to be allocated efficiently and effectively.***

**131.**

## **TRAFFIC LIAISON MEETING**

The minutes of the Traffic Liaison Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021 were submitted for information. Members noted that none of the parking concerns/requests for restrictions from this Committee were to be actioned, in particular -

- Park View Terrace, Salterforth – request for residents only parking
- Victoria Road/New Road, Earby – request for new mini roundabout
- Skipton Road, Barnoldswick – advanced weight restriction sign

In addition, at the 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019 meeting the TLM had 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 on this.

Members felt that valid suggestions or requests from the Committee were being ignored by the TLM and that the current process for considering them was flawed.

## **RESOLVED**

That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to make strong representations to Lancashire County Council seeking a reappraisal of how local areas' highways issues and traffic concerns were dealt with, to make sure that local voices were heard.

## **REASON**

***In the interests of highway safety and local democracy.***

**132. RE-OPENING OF BARNOLDSWICK AND EARBY TOWN CENTRES**

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on the Re-opening the High Streets Safely Fund (RHSSF) for the re-opening of Barnoldswick and Earby Town Centres.

It was noted that out of £11,320 RHSSF funding allocated to Barnoldswick and Earby, £6,337 was planned to be spent on hand sanitisers, safety message posters and facemasks. Due to their being no Committees until after Annual Council in May it was suggested that arrangements be put in place to enable the remaining grant funding to be spent in West Craven over the coming weeks.

In addition to the RHSSF funding, the Committee had been allocated £6,480 of Council funding which could be used more flexibly to support businesses in the town centres. This funding had been used to purchase 30 tables and 120 chairs at a cost of £3,068, so that businesses could use the outdoor areas outside their premises. This left a balance of £3,412.

Enquiries were being made about using RHSSF funding to purchase water base boards which could be used for messages about how to safely use the outdoor space.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) That 20 mesh screens at a total cost of £1,260 be purchased using some of the remaining RHSSF funding to cover the current construction site in the Square in Barnoldswick.
- (2) That a further 6 hand sanitiser stations be purchased with RHSSF funding for use in Barnoldswick.
- (3) That the remaining spend on other West Craven projects be delegated to the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager in consultation with the Chairman of this Committee.

**REASON**

1. *To allow the remaining RHSSF funding to be spent by the 30<sup>th</sup> June deadline.*
2. *To support local businesses in the town centre and help provide a safe, shopping environment.*

**133. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

- (a) Persistent flooding issues connected with highway drainage and Victoria Clough culvert on Skipton Road/Colne Road, Earby**

The Chairman showed photographs of the A56 through Earby showing water flowing down the road, surcharging from the drains. This was an issue which had been flagged up with LCC last November following the heavy rainfall. It had also been reported to the Environment Agency, as it was felt that part of the problem was due to the Victoria Clough culvert not being able to cope with the flow of water.

It was noted that the EA had begun work this week in Earby putting a bund in the opposite side of the railway embankment at Victoria Clough, which would help with the retention of water, but the problem with the highway flooding would put pressure on this scheme.

**RESOLVED**

That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to –

- (1) Make representations to LCC to resolve the highway flooding issues in this area of Earby;
- (2) Ask the Environment Agency to expedite the need to clear the constrictions and blockages caused by service crossings through the Victoria Clough culvert; and
- (3) Ask LCC to look at the possibility of installing permeable paving on roads when designing new roads or future road improvements.

**REASON**

*In the interests of public and highway safety.*

**(b) Protection for wildlife at Salterforth mill buildings**

Information had been circulated prior to the meeting on swift nest bricks and how they could be simply installed at minimal cost to buildings providing swifts with nesting opportunities. It was noted that there was a swift colony using Salterforth Mill and it was hoped that any future planning application for the Mill building would include swift nest bricks in the design.

There was also a discussion about the current use of the building and material recently dumped on site.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) That the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager be asked to note the request for Salterforth Mill and other buildings to be used for wildlife habitat and for the provision of wildlife habitat to be included in any future planning applications.
- (2) That the Enforcement Officer be asked to look at the current use of Salterforth Mill.

**REASON**

*To protect local wildlife and encourage biodiversity.*

**(c) Impact of traffic on local routes due to temporary traffic lights on A56 and road closures of Skipton Old Road, Foulridge/Old Stone Trough Lane, Kelbrook**

Work was being undertaken on The Rock on Skipton Old Road, Foulridge rebuilding a retaining wall. This would require the road and Old Stone Trough Lane, Kelbrook to be closed for several weeks. LCC was proposing to divert traffic to Cob Lane and Noyna Road, Foulridge. Representations had been made to LCC suggesting that these roads were too narrow, with few passing places and that the A56 be used as an alternative route instead. As LCC had not responded, the issue had been added to this agenda for consideration.

**RESOLVED**

That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to request LCC to reconsider diverting traffic along the A56 instead of Cob Lane and Noyna Road, when Skipton Old Road, Foulridge and Old Stone Trough Lane, Kelbrook were temporarily closed.

**REASON**

*In the interests of public and highway safety.*

**(d) Parking problems on Waterloo Road, Kelbrook**

The Chairman said that problems with parking on Waterloo Road, Kelbrook had been exacerbated by the use of kerbside parking during lockdown, when people were working from home. It was a busy road with parents dropping children off and picking them up at school during term time. Possible solutions included the creation of more parking spaces and a School Travel Plan.

**RESOLVED**

That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to arrange a meeting with LCC, the school, local residents, and Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council to see if any solutions could be found to ease the problem.

**REASON**

*To try to ease the parking problems in this area of Kelbrook.*

**(e) Condition of land at West Craven Business Park**

The Chairman said that some businesses on West Craven Business Park were allowing litter to collect at their premises. There was also litter accumulating on the highway nearby and on the grass verges. This was not a good way of attracting new businesses to the area.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) That the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager be asked to assess the problem of litter on West Craven Business Park and consider the use of Section 215 Notices where appropriate.
- (2) That the Environmental Services Manager be asked to arrange for the local highway to be tidied.

**REASON**

*To improve visual amenity.*

**134.**

**OUTSTANDING ITEMS**

- (a) Meetings with local businesses (05.01.2021)
- (b) Transdev Buses – Request for a meeting (05.01.2021)
- (c) Trees at Klondyke (02.02.2021)

**135. 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.

**136. OUTSTANDING ENFORCEMENTS**

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on outstanding enforcements in West Craven and answered related questions. He agreed to check progress with several cases and provide an update to the next meeting.

Chairman.....