

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF  
BARROWFORD AND WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2021  
AT NELSON TOWN HALL**

*PRESENT*

**Councillors**

*N. Ahmed  
C. Lioni  
B. Newman*

**Co-optees**

*R. Oliver – Barrowford Parish Council  
K. Wilkinson – Goldshaw Booth Parish Council  
R. Willoughby – Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council*

**Officers in Attendance**

*W. Forrest  
J. Robinson*

*Housing Needs Manager (Area Co-ordinator)  
Committee Administrator*

**Police**

*PC M. Dibb  
PCSO K. Wisniowska*

*(Apologies were received from Councillor L. M. Crossley, D. Heap and A. Walker.)*



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

*Steve and Elaine  
Walsh  
Ian Ingham*

*Belgarth Nursing Home*

*Minute No. 47*

**43.**

**APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

**RESOLVED**

That in the absence of the Chairman, Councillor N. Ahmed be appointed as Chairman for this meeting only.

*Councillor N. Ahmed – Chairman (in the Chair)*

**44.**

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

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

**45.**

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

A Barrowford Parish Councillor asked on the behalf of a Barrowford resident what powers the Council had to improve the condition of a piece of land at the junction of Higher Causeway and Belmont Terrace, Barrowford. She stated that there were trees and shrubs overhanging the

footway and that there had been sightings of vermin. She further stated that there was a garage containing Asbestos on the site with a collapsed roof and expressed concerns about contamination. She had made contact with the Environmental Health Department but had not as yet had a response.

The Chairman said that the matter would be referred to the appropriate body for them to take urgent action to improve the condition of the site through working with the Owners and that the Parish Councillor would be kept updated on the progress.

The Parish Councillor also asked about the drainage investigations and excavations that were currently taking place on a site off Pasture Lane, Barrowford. She and other residents of Pasture Lane had not been aware these works would be taking place. She asked if there would likely be a Planning Application resulting from this and added that if there were it is her intention to commence opposition.

The Area Co-Ordinator advised that the excavation work did not require planning permission but could not comment further in the absence of the Principal Development Management Officer. He said the matter would be referred to the Planning Department for them to reply directly.

A resident of Barrowford spoke about various ongoing issues with the Trough Laithe housing development, specifically the cutting down of trees protected by Tree Preservation Orders, the 6 month closure of a footpath which had not been consulted on and the Developer not following the Construction Management Plan, particularly with regards dust suppression.

A second resident said he was aware that a meeting with the Developer, Northstone, was due to take place and asked when it would be and who would be attending it. He further asked to be informed of the outcome of the meeting.

The Chairman said that a meeting was in the process of being arranged and that he and the Co-opted Member of Barrowford Parish Council would be compiling a list of issues to be discussed, including those just raised, to be put forward to the Developer. He further added that a request for an urgent meeting would be made at that time and that it would be attended by representatives of the Committee and Officers from the Planning Department.

#### **46. MINUTES**

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2021, be approved as a correct record.

#### **47. POLICE MATTERS AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES**

The following crime statistics for August, 2021 compared to the same period in the previous year had been circulated prior to the meeting.

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Burglary – Residential	1	3
Burglary - Commercial	2	1
Vehicle Crime	2	4
Hate Crime	0	0
Assaults	11	9

Theft	4	6
Criminal Damage/Arson	7	6
Other Crime	25	27
<b>ALL CRIME</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>56</b>
Anti-Social Behaviour	33	27

PC Dibb reported that there had been an increase in thefts from rural properties specifically in Barley and around the A59 Corridor. He further reported that the Police were looking at arresting an individual from West Yorkshire.

PC Dibb then answered questions from speakers about Belgarth Nursing Home and the problems at this site.

Two speakers said they had witnessed youths throwing items from the roof at passing cars and sinks out of windows. They said they had themselves confronted some of these youths due to concerns about their safety given the dangerous condition of the building. They added they felt they were having to police their own neighbourhood from anti-social behaviour as there was no support for them and other residents. PC Dibb responded that he had checked through logged incidents from January, 2021 to date and noted that of the 8 incidents reported, 6 were deployed to at the time and the remaining 2 were assessed as not warranting deployment due to the level of risk and threat. He advised that a group of Offenders had been identified but that the Owner did not want to pursue any claims against them. He added that the site was on a Patrol Plan as a hotspot area and that it had been for 2 years. He further added that residents should not be confronting any Offenders due to risk and that stopping people entering the building and securing the site were matters for the Council.

Another speaker asked what had been done since an article in the Nelson Leader printed in August, 2020 stated that the Council was working hard to reach a solution to improve the site. The Chairman reported that the Owner had suggested that he would demolish the building and use the site for a housing development but that there had been no progress as yet. He further reported that Enforcement Action was ongoing and would be discussed later in the meeting following the exclusion of public and press.

Members again expressed concern about the increasing number of speeding vehicles on the Barrowford bypass (A6068) on Gisburn Road, Barrowford and through the surrounding villages. The Chairman also asked what powers the Police had to deal with the noise nuisance created by some vehicles. PC Dibb explained they could not do anything if a vehicle had been factory modified. PC Dibb added that the Police would continue to push for Lancashire County Council to consider the introduction of average speed cameras and traffic calming measures along the A6068 and that the bypass had been added to a Patrol Plan. When asked if the crime statistics included speeding under Other Crime, PC Dibb advised speeding was not a recordable crime.

## **RESOLVED**

That the Principal Development Management Officer and Anti-Social Behaviour Officer be asked to submit an update on Belgarth Nursing Home to the next meeting on the actions taken and options available.

**48. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**Planning Appeals**

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager reported that as at 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2021 there were no outstanding planning appeals.

**49. ENFORCEMENT ACTION**

The Head of Legal Services submitted a report on enforcement action in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area.

**50. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22**

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager reported that all the money from the Committee's 2021/22 Capital Programme had been allocated and that a full report would be submitted in due course.

**51. RESIDENTS-ONLY PARKING ON FOREST VIEW, BARROWFORD**

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager reported that Lancashire County Council (LCC) had stated that the parking area behind Forest View, Barrowford was not adopted and that it would need the Landowner's permission to place any Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO). LCC had also stated that they would not fund the work as it was not on the public highway network. However, Members requested clarification on whether LCC would be contacting the Landowner about placing a TRO.

**RESOLVED**

That Lancashire County Council be asked if they would be contacting the Landowner of parking area at the rear of Forest View, Barrowford to seek their permission to place a Traffic Regulation Order if they had not already done so.

**REASON**

*To try to ease parking for local residents.*

**52. SIGNAGE FOR APPROACH TO PENDLE FOREST SPORTS CLUB**

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager reported that a request for the signage on the approach to the Pendle Forest Sports Club to indicate the entrance on the right hand side of the Barrowford bypass (A6068) had been made both online and through an Officer of Lancashire County Council. It was reported that this had would be discussed at the next Traffic Liaison Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2021.

**53. TRAFFIC AND PARKING PROBLEMS ON WILTON STREET, BARROWFORD**

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager reported that a request to Lancashire County Council for additional enforcement of residents-only parking on Wilton Street at weekends had been made online. However, Members did not feel all options for easing the problems, including the introduction of a one-way system on the street, had been fully explored.

## **RESOLVED**

That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to report back with any recommendations for easing the traffic and parking problems on Wilton Street, Barrowford including the introduction of a one-way system on the street..

## **REASON**

*To try to improve highway and parking issues in this location for the benefit of residents.*

### **54. TRAFFIC PROBLEMS AROUND BARROWFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager reported that the matter had been referred to Lancashire County Council as the highway authority and that consequently it would be discussed at the next Traffic Liaison Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2021.

### **55. PARKING PROBLEMS IN BARLEY**

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager reported that the parking and turning circle issues in Barley had been referred to Lancashire County Council as the highway authority and that consequently they would be discussed at the next Traffic Liaison Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2021.

### **56. BARROWFORD TOWN CENTRE RE-OPENING**

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report with an update on the Welcome Back Fund (WBF) grant funding available for the re-opening of Barrowford town centre, for consideration.

Barrowford had been allocated £8,119 from the WBF. This funding, combined with any outstanding spend from the RHSSF fund, provided a total of £8,666 for Barrowford.

The report also provided details of the spending suggestions made by Barrowford Parish Council which included using the funds available to purchase additional planters and additional Christmas decorations.

## **RESOLVED**

- (1) That the spending suggestions made by Barrowford Parish Council, and set out in the report, be approved.
- (2) That the problems that could be caused by procuring equipment from new suppliers be considered when quotes for the additional planters and Christmas decorations were obtained.

## **REASON**

*To ensure spending was achieved for Barrowford under the Welcome Back Fund and was carried out in a co-ordinated manner.*

**57. ENVIRONMENTAL BLIGHT**

Members were advised that there were currently no environmental blight sites in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area.

Any new sites should be forwarded to Tricia Wilson ([tricia.wilson@pendle.gov.uk](mailto:tricia.wilson@pendle.gov.uk)) or Julie Whittaker ([julie.whittaker@pendle.gov.uk](mailto:julie.whittaker@pendle.gov.uk)) with a brief description of the site and the problem along with contact details.

**58. POLLING STATIONS**

Members were invited to comment and provide feedback on the polling stations in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area which were used at the 6<sup>th</sup> May elections, but there were no areas of concern.

**59. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

**Litter in Victoria Park, Barrowford**

The Co-opted Member of Barrowford Parish Council reported that the issue was not litter in Victoria Park but litter around a bench that was sited just outside of the park. He further reported that the issue was already being dealt with by the Environmental Services Manager who was looking into either resiting or removing the bench and that no further action was required.

**60. OUTSTANDING ISSUES**

- (a) Parking Problems for Residents of Pendle View and Beckside, Barley (4/8/21)

**61. 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.

**62. PROBLEM SITES**

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on problem sites in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area.

An update was circulated prior to the meeting in respect of the second site.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) That contact is made with the Owners of the first site regarding the disconnection of mains water on 4 separate occasions and noise issues.
- (2) That the second site is secured as a matter of urgency.

- (3) That the Principal Development Management Officer be instructed to issue Section 215 and Section 79 Notices as no progress has been forthcoming.
- (4) That the Principal Development Management Officer be asked to submit an update on the second site to the next meeting.

**REASON**

***In the interests of visual amenity and public health and safety.***

**Chairman** \_\_\_\_\_