

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
WEST CRAVEN COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE RAINHALL CENTRE, BARNOLDSWICK
ON 7TH SEPTEMBER 2021**

PRESENT –

R. E. Carroll – (Chairman, in the Chair)

Councillors

*M. Adams
M. Goulthorp
J. Purcell
D. M. Whipp
T. Whipp*

Co-optees

*M. Whittingham, Barnoldswick Town Council
K. Singleton, Salterforth Parish Council
P. Maskell, Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council*

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 C. Carter.)



56. FORMER COUNCILLOR MORRIS HORSFIELD

Members of this Committee paid tribute and observed a minutes silence as a mark of respect following the recent death of former Pendle Borough Councillor and Earby Town Councillor Morris Horsfield.

It was agreed that condolences be sent to Councillor Horsfield's family on behalf of the Committee.

57. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

58. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

59. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 3rd August 2021, be approved as a correct record.

60. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

Sergeant T. Hitchen presented the crime figures for August 2021 compared to the same period in 2020 which had been circulated prior to the meeting and were broken down as follows –

	2020	2021
Burglary - Residential	3	1
Burglary - Commercial	3	0
Vehicle Crime	7	2
Hate Crime	0	1
Assaults	18	9
Theft	5	4
Criminal Damage	4	10
Other Crime	37	34
ALL CRIME	77	61
Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)	67	27

He said that the crime statistics were incredibly low for an area that size.

Members raised the following concerns –

- A member of the public had reported to the Police an incident of dangerous driving on Kelbrook Road, Salterforth with a vehicle registration number but had been referred to the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership
- Criminal damage at Victory Park had been reported but the Neighbourhood Policing Officer had experienced difficulties/delays accessing the CCTV footage from the Hub at Blackburn.
- Public order issues with teenagers in Barnoldswick on the previous evening
- Drug taking and fires lit by youths at Valley Gardens
- Speeding cars at Gisburn Road roundabout in Barnoldswick
- Various highways issues at Skipton Road, Barnoldswick junction of Coates Lane
- Speeding cars at the zebra crossing on Skipton Road, near Rolls Royce Social Club
- Skipton Road, Barnoldswick - the interactive signs on both approaches to the pedestrian crossing adjacent to the Rolls Royce sports club were malfunctioning

Sergeant T. Hitchen said that he had spoken to the Manager at the Hub. He told Members about arrangements being put in place so that in future it would be easier for Police officers to access the CCTV footage and information. He had looked at the CCTV footage about the particular incident at Victory Park and suggested having a chat about it outside the meeting and possibly repositioning the cameras.

He explained that in order for the Police to take action on incidents of dangerous driving witnessed by members of the public, they needed dashboard camera footage and a vehicle registration number, to have any chance of the case going to court.

PCSO N. Wallin would be running a Problem Orientated Policing (POP) operation in the autumn focussing on speeding and road safety issues throughout West Craven. He urged Members to email the officer with details of any roads or locations, preferably with specific times/days, where there were particular problems with speeding vehicles. Roads mentioned included Manchester Road, Gisburn Road, Skipton Road Barnoldswick, A56 Skipton Road Earby, Kelbrook and Salterforth Road.

Sergeant T. Hitchen said that this would be his last meeting, as he was working on a special project for several months before retiring. Sergeant Stuart Banks would be replacing him and he hoped to come to the next meeting.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Police be formally asked to improve the arrangements for improving access to local CCTV footage.
- (2) That Members of the Committee contact PCSO N. Wallin with any roads/locations they wanted including in the speed and road safety police operation.
- (3) That reports of recent ASB reported to PCSO N. Wallin also be reported to Neighbourhood Police Officer L. Greenwood and PCSO K. Dolphin to ensure that they were aware of issues in the area whilst the former was on leave.
- (4) That the highways issues at Coates Lane/Skipton Road be considered at the next meeting and LCC be asked to attend.
- (5) That LCC be asked again to recalibrate/reorientate the 2 interactive road speed awareness signs on Skipton Road.
- (6) That the Committee's thanks and appreciation to Sergeant T. Hitchen for his service to the local community over the years be recorded and he be wished well in his future work and retirement.

61.

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 -

21/0399/PIP Permission in Principle: Erection of up to 9 No dwellings at Land off Cob Lane and Old Stone Trough Lane, Kelbrook for YLBD

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

(Before the vote was taken, the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager advised that should the application be refused unsupported with a reason there would be a significant risk of costs in the event of an appeal. The matter would therefore be referred to the Head of Legal Services and subject to his agreement the decision would stand referred to the Policy and Resources Committee.)

RECOMMENDATION

That planning permission in principle be refused.

21/0115/FUL Full: Change of use from former children's nursery to storage unit at Gisburn Road Nursery, Gisburn Road, Barnoldswick for Tracey Platt

RESOLVED

That planning permission be **granted** subject to the following conditions –

1. The proposed development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason: Required to be imposed by Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended by Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans: Location Plan, SkA01, JG01.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

3. Within one month of the date of this permission details of any external storage of materials, machinery or other paraphernalia including their position and maximum height, shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. There shall thereafter be no external storage unless in strict accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To preserve the significance of the Conservation Area, visual amenity of the area and residential amenity of surrounding residents.

4. There shall be no loading, unloading, deliveries taken or other operations within the site outside of the hours of 9am to 6pm on any day.

Reason: To protect the residential amenity of surrounding residents.

5. A scheme for the highway works to the site access on Gisburn Road shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority within three months of this approval. These works shall be constructed and completed in accordance with the scheme within three months of the approval of the scheme.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

6. The internal manoeuvring areas shown on the approved plan JG01 shall be kept clear and free from any obstructions at all times for the lifetime of the development to allow vehicles to enter and leave the site in forward gear.

Reason: In order that the traffic generated by the development is not detrimental to highway safety.

Note

The grant of planning permission will require the applicant to enter into an appropriate legal agreement (Section 278), with Lancashire County Council as the Highway Authority prior to the start of any development. For the avoidance of doubt works shall include, but not be exclusive to, the construction of a vehicle access to an appropriate standard, including radius kerbs and buff coloured tactile paved, dropped pedestrian crossings on both sides of the access. The applicant should be advised to contact the county council for further information by telephoning the Development Support

Section (Area East) on 0300 123 6780 or by email on developeras@lancashire.gov.uk , in the first instance to ascertain the details of such an agreement and the information to be provided, quoting the relevant planning application reference number.

REASON

Section 38 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that applications be determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The proposed development is acceptable in terms of principle, amenity and highway safety and would preserve the significance of the Conservation Area. The development is therefore compliant with the Development Plan. There is a positive presumption in favour of approving the development and there are no material reasons to object to the application.

(b) Appeals

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager reported that the following appeal had been dismissed –

20/0035/REM	Appeal against refusal of Reserved Matters application for
20/0018/AP/REFUSE	129 dwellings and associated roads, infrastructure and parking including details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale at Site Of Former Barnsay Shed, Long Ing Lane, Barnoldswick, BB18 by Seddon Homes Limited.

62. ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The Head of Legal Services submitted a report for information, giving the up-to-date position on prosecutions for information.

63. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager reported that the current balance for the Committee's Capital Programme for 2021/22 was £31, 601.

Members were asked to consider the following bids –

- Barnoldswick Town Council – Installation of outdoor gyms for Barnoldswick parks - £10,000
- St Peter's Community Garden – Small pond creation and garden storage box - £100
- Salterforth Village Hall Management Committee – Furniture upgrade - £1,000

RESOLVED

That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to grant the following amounts equally from the Earby and Coates Councillors' allocations –

- St Peter's Community Garden – Small pond creation and garden storage box - £100
- Salterforth Village Hall Management Committee – Furniture upgrade - £1,000

REASON

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

64. BACK MYRTLE GROVE

It was reported that the Engineering Manager had arranged for a scheme to be prepared with estimated costs for the construction of an unsurfaced car park on land owned by Lancashire County Council accessed from the end of Clifford Street and would report to the next meeting.

65. ENVIRONMENTAL BLIGHT

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager submitted a report on environmental blight in the West Craven area which was noted.

66. RE-OPENING OF BARNOLDSWICK AND EARBY TOWN CENTRES

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on the Welcome Back Fund grant spending for the re-opening of Barnoldswick and Earby Town Centres. There had been further discussions on the development of a website and provision of planters and the mini-stage for events had been sourced.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Welcome Back Fund spending plan for Barnoldswick and Earby and progress be noted.
- (2) That a further report be provided to the next meeting including an update on the discussions with Earby Town Council and LCC on the requests for them to repaint the items of street furniture for which they were responsible.

REASON

- 1. To encourage people back to the high streets safely.***
- 2. To maximise the impact of the Welcome Back Funding allocation.***

67. TREES AT KLONDYKE

This item was deferred from the last meeting to enable the Trees Officer to have time to look at the report by JCA Tree Associates on the condition of the trees at Klondyke which had been commissioned by Salterforth Parish Council. As the Trees Officer had been on leave, Members were advised that his comments would come to the next meeting.

RESOLVED

That this item be deferred to the next meeting.

REASON

To allow full consideration of the latest tree report and its recommendations.

68. WEST CRAVEN SPORTS CENTRE – PARKING SOLUTIONS

Members had met the Chief Executive of Pendle Leisure Trust and the Transport and Co-ordination Manager from Pendle Council at West Craven Sports Centre to discuss ways of alleviating the parking problems there. A report was due to come back to a future meeting.

RESOLVED

That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to formally request LCC to help with the proposed scheme to alleviate the parking problems at West Craven Sports Centre, which included improving the pavement at the end of Clifford Street to the ginnel next to the School and providing parking at Clifford Street for picking up and dropping off pupils at West Craven High School.

REASON

To help find a workable solution to the parking problems at West Craven Sports Centre for the benefit of local residents.

69. POLLING STATIONS

Members were invited to comment and provide feedback on the polling stations in Barnoldswick and Earby which were used at the 6th May elections, but there were no areas of concern.

70. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(a) Changing Places Toilet Fund

There was a request for the Committee to bid for a Changing Places Toilet in Letcliffe Park, in preparation for the opening of the Sculpture Park. Town and Parish Councils could not bid for the grant. It was noted that only borough councils could apply for the funding and that approval would be needed from Barnoldswick Town Council who owned the park and would have responsibility for maintaining them.

RESOLVED

- (1) That Barnoldswick Town Council be formally asked if they would be in favour of having a Changing Places Facility Toilet in Letcliffe Park and would be willing to maintain them.
- (2) That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to submit a bid for a Changing Places Toilet in Letcliffe Park.
- (3) That Earby Town Council be asked to consider whether a similar toilet facility was needed or would be beneficial in Earby.

REASON

To benefit visitors to the park and make it more accessible.

(b) Northolme Community Centre

Members agreed that the Northolme Community Centre, owned and managed by Together Housing was a great asset but under used.

RESOLVED

That this issue be raised with Together Housing and a meeting be sought to discuss ways of bringing it back into use.

REASON

For the benefit of the local community.

(c) Victoria Road, Earby

Members discussed the need for the road to be repaved and improvements made for accessibility, and the best approach for raising the required funding. A comparison was drawn with Barnoldswick Town Centre which had recently been reflagged and improved the appearance of and access to the town centre. There had been an initial meeting with LCC and it was expected that funding would be required from LCC, ETC and this Committee's Capital Programme.

RESOLVED

That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to liaise with LCC and report back to the next meeting on the various options and costings for improvements to Victoria Road, Earby and that residents be asked for their views on a preferred scheme.

REASON

To improve the appearance of and access to Earby Town Centre.

(d) Parking in vicinity of Applegarth, Earby

Members discussed the difficulties residents were having parking on the streets in the vicinity of Applegarth, Earby, possibly being caused by visitors to the cricket club. It had been raised a couple of years ago, and at the time residents were not in favour of residents only parking. However, recent complaints suggested residents might have changed their mind.

RESOLVED

That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to survey the area in the vicinity of Applegarth, Earby to see if there was a desire for residents only parking.

REASON

To try to alleviate parking problems for local residents.

(e) Drainage on Stoneybank Road/Water Street and on Wentcliffe Drive

There were a number of drainage issues on Stoneybank Road which were causing problems for residents. There was a Yorkshire Water surface water sewer which had collapsed and was not taking the water. There was a combined sewer which was surcharging onto Riley Street.

There were also problems on Wentcliffe Drive, with the potential for some improvement when Spring Mill was redeveloped. However, this development would not solve all the issues in this area. It was suggested that the Council try to help residents by trying to identify the problems and find solutions.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to arrange a meeting with Yorkshire Water to discuss the various problems in these areas of Earby.
- (2) That LCC be asked for funding to help address the highways drainage issues in these locations.
- (3) That a report be brought back to this Committee after discussions and further investigations to see if additional funding would be needed to address the issues.

REASON

To reduce the risk of flooding in this area of Earby.

(f) Widening of the path through Barnoldswick town green for adjacent cycleway

Members discussed the benefits of widening the path through Barnoldswick Town Green for the benefit of wheelchair users, pushchairs and cyclists. It was noted that the Barnoldswick in Bloom Group had plans to provide a decorative path bringing people this way to the war memorial. Barnoldswick Town Council also had plans to put in some benches.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to provide costings for schemes to widen the path through Barnoldswick Town Green – one with a cycle lane and one without – and to include the provision of bench bays.
- (2) That LCC be asked to fix the lighting outside Cravenside.

REASON

- 1. To improve accessibility in this area of Barnoldswick.***
- 2. To improve lighting for visual amenity and public safety.***

71.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS

- (a) Meetings with local businesses (05.01.2021)
- (b) Transdev Buses – meeting being arranged (05.01.2021)

(c) Euravia – meeting being arranged (08.06.2021)

(d) Costings for improvements to Gisburn Road footpath – report to next meeting (06.07.2021)

72. 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.

73. OUTSTANDING ENFORCEMENTS

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on outstanding enforcements in West Craven, gave an update at the meeting and answered related questions.

RESOLVED

That the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager be asked to have further discussions with Council officers about a property in Earby which was not on the list; arrange a meeting on site with the developer and Councillor T. Whipp to discuss the scheme for PLE/18/0925; and discuss PLE/21/0703 with the Enforcement Officer with regard to possible further action.

REASON

To monitor and progress enforcement activity.

74. PROBLEM SITES

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on problem sites in West Craven.

RESOLVED

That the second site on the list be removed.

REASON

The site had been brought up to an acceptable standard.

Chairman.....