

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
WEST CRAVEN COMMITTEE
HELD AT MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHAPEL, EARBY
ON 30TH NOVEMBER 2021**

PRESENT –

J. Purcell – (Vice-Chairman, in the Chair)

Councillors

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

Co-optees

*M. Whittingham, Barnoldswick Town Council
C. Carter, Earby Town Council*

Police

*PCSO N. Wallin
PC L. Greenwood*

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 Councillor R. E. Carroll and P. Maskell.)

114. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

115. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

116. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 2nd November 2021, be approved as a correct record, subject to the addition of a note against Minute 113 saying that the items for discussion should have been dealt with under the first part of the agenda.

117. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The crime figures for November 2021 compared to the same period in 2020 had been circulated prior to the meeting and were broken down as follows –

| | 2020 | 2021 |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Burglary - Residential | 4 | 2 |
| Burglary - Commercial | 1 | 3 |
| Vehicle Crime | 5 | 2 |
| Hate Crime | 0 | 0 |
| Assaults | 13 | 13 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Theft | 6 | 11 |
| Criminal Damage | 0 | 7 |
| Other Crime | 17 | 35 |
| ALL CRIME | 46 | 73 |
| Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) | 41 | 50 |

PCSO N. Wallin and PCSO L. Greenwood answered a number of questions about the statistics and ongoing enquiries into a recent commercial crime in Barnoldswick. Anybody who had seen anything suspicious or witnessed a crime were encouraged to ring 101 and report it. By logging a call, it meant that there was something for the Police to refer to, and it also helped to build a more accurate picture of crime in the area.

Members also raised a number of concerns about local issues including anti-social behaviour and damage in Victory Park and speeding vehicles around Walmsgate. PC L. Greenwood assured Members that the local parks were on the ASB patrol hot spot list, ASB was treated as a priority when she was working, but that resources were limited.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Environmental Services Manager be asked to follow up on a previous request for the Council to improve the lighting at night in Victory Park.
- (2) That the Divisional Commander for Lancashire Police be informed of the Committee's concerns about local police cover; of the Committee's plea for the Neighbourhood Policing Team to be made up to its full strength; and that members of the Neighbourhood Team cease being abstracted elsewhere so they can commit fully to their role in the local community.

118.

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 -

21/0676/REM Reserved Matters: Erection of 14 no. dwellinghouses (Appearance, Landscaping and Layout) for Outline Permission 18/0821/RES at Land opposite the Barn, Ben Lane, Barnoldswick for Simpson Homes Limited

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager requested that this application be deferred to allow time to amend an error in the officer's report.

RESOLVED

That consideration of this item be **deferred** for a site visit.

21/0752/VAR Full: Variation of Condition: Vary Condition 2 (Plans) of Planning Permission 20/0657/FUL to allow minor material amendments to the design of the proposed dwelling at Caravan Site, Lower Greenhill Farm, Kelbrook Road, Salterforth for Mr and Mrs Nathan and Caroline Hudson

RESOLVED

That consideration of this item be **deferred** for a site visit.

21/0792/FUL Full: (Major) Construction of a new treated water storage tank and temporary construction access track, temporary widening of the junction between Manchester Road and Letcliffe Lane, demolition of the existing treated water storage tank and associated works including reprofiling of land surrounding the existing and proposed treated water storage tank at the covered reservoir to the South East of Park Hill, Barnoldswick for Yorkshire Water Services Limited

An update was given at the meeting reporting receipt of amended plans and an error that had been identified with the ownership certificate, which meant that Barnoldswick Town Council had until 20th December to comment on the application. It was recommended that approval of the application be delegated to the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager subject to the expiry of the notice period and to the differences in the plans being addressed.

RESOLVED

That consideration of this application be **deferred** for a site visit.

(b) Appeals

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on outstanding planning appeals for information. At the meeting Members were informed that since the report was written a further appeal had been received in respect of the major application at Foster Road, Barnoldswick.

119. ENFORCEMENT ACTION

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

120. 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 £27,101. The Barnoldswick allocation to Councillors totalled £13,345 and the Earby and Coates allocations to Councillors totalled £13,645.

Members were asked to consider a bid from the PBC Countryside Access Officer seeking £600 for improvements to Victory Park, Westfield Road Public Footpath 5.

They also considered costings from the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager for resurfacing improvements to West Close Lorry Park as follows –

- A full resurfacing job with hot-rolled asphalt including resolving the potholes **£26k**
- A partial job to cover the main damaged area £9.5k and high quality pothole repair of £3k, making a total of **£12.5k**
- Pothole repair only **£3k**

As this was the only lorry park in Pendle, Members thought that it should be fully resurfaced and that the cost of the work be shared between Pendle Council and Lancashire County Council (LCC). It was suggested that the majority of Pendle Council's contribution should be paid from a central budget, with this Committee contributing a smaller amount. As access to the Household Waste Recycling Centre was through the Lorry Park, and was in regular use, it was proposed that LCC also be asked to contribute to the repairs.

RESOLVED

- (1) That £600 be allocated from the Barnoldswick Councillors' allocation of the 2021/22 Capital Programme for improvements to Victory Park/Westfield Road Public Footpath 5.
- (2) That Policy and Resources Committee be recommended to contribute £12k towards the full resurfacing of West Close Lorry Park from the central pot; that LCC be asked to match fund this amount; leaving a £2k contribution from this Committee, and for the outcome to be reported back in due course.
- (3) That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to ensure that the drainage on West Close Lorry Park was fully functioning.

REASON

- 1. To enable the capital programme to be allocated efficiently and effectively.**
- 2. To improve pedestrian access from Westfield Road to Victory Park.**
- 3. To improve the condition of West Close Lorry Park.**

121.

GISBURN ROAD FOOTPATH

At the last meeting, the Committee made a provisional allocation of £1,400 for the footpath between 133-135 Gisburn Road to Back Gisburn Road to be improved using bit-mac, subject to discussions with the owner of the retaining wall running adjacent to the footpath which was in a poor state of repair. The Countryside Access Officer reported that the owner of the wall was unlikely to carry out the repairs in the near future due to the significant costs. It was therefore proposed that the footpath be surfaced with concrete, rather than bit-mac (which would require vibrating machinery and could cause the wall to collapse). The cost of a concrete laid surface was estimated to cost £2,000.

RESOLVED

That consideration of this item be deferred for a site visit.

REASON

To determine the best way forward.

122.

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.

The table of expenditure showed £501 being spent on planters for Barnoldswick. However, it was understood that this had provided only 8 planters, and not the 24 planters that they thought had been ordered. The report gave progress with the public realm work and stated that Earby Town Council was undertaking an audit of their assets, to see exactly what work was required. It also set out the reasons for the increase in the Barnoldswick website costs. Members had a number of concerns about the contract including value for money and wanted to look at other options.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Welcome Back Fund spending plan for Barnoldswick and Earby and progress be noted.
- (2) That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to reiterate the request to LCC at Directorate level to repaint the street furniture in Earby for which they were responsible.
- (3) That Earby Town Council be informed that the audit of their street furniture assets, which they were planning on doing, had already been carried out, and they be asked if it was possible to carry out the required work, or contribute towards it, as soon as possible, so that all the public realm work could be done at the same time, for maximum impact.
- (4) That the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager be asked to submit a report to the next Policy and Resources Committee on the contract for the management of the website for Barnoldswick Town Centre businesses, and options for pulling out of the contract.
- (5) That, in due course and if possible, any savings on the website be used to fund an additional 16 hanging baskets for Barnoldswick.

REASON

1. ***To remain apprised of developments concerning the Welcome Back funding spend.***
2. ***To ensure the effective and efficient use of the funding.***
3. ***To provide a reliable, quality website for Barnoldswick Town Centre businesses.***

123.

ENVIRONMENTAL BLIGHT

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager submitted a report on environmental blight sites in West Craven for information. It was noted that signs had been erected to try to deter people from flytipping on the West Close Lorry Park, but, due to its close proximity to the Household Waste Recycling Centre, there had been further incidents. The Environmental Services Manager said he was working with LCC looking at the possible installation of cameras that would hopefully deter people from flytipping in the future.

124.

SECOND PATH THROUGH BARNOLDSWICK TOWN GREEN

At the last meeting Members agreed in principle to improve the existing path through the Town Green. The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager was also asked to provide costings on a second, more decorative route through the Town Green to run from opposite the war memorial to the new path. A drawing and costings ranging from £9,300 to £15,000 for this second path had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED

That details of the second path be referred to Barnoldswick Town Council to see if they were able to fund its construction and for the outcome to be reported back to this Committee in due course.

REASON

To seek alternative funding for the construction of a second path through Barnoldswick Town Green.

125.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(a) Condition of the road on Back Frank Street/Back Newtown, Barnoldswick

This item was deferred from the last meeting. Members discussed the condition of this unadopted road which needed repairs. It looked like the road had the features of an adopted road, e.g. kerbs, surfacing. Members wondered if it had been made up to an adoptable standard, but somehow the required paperwork or necessary legal work had not been followed through. There was also mention of the platform at one end, where bins were put out, which was in a poor condition.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Housing, Health and Engineering Service Manager be asked to investigate the status of Back Frank Street/Back Newtown, Barnoldswick and whether it should have been adopted at some point.
- (2) That the Environmental Services Manager be asked to see if there were any budgets available for emergency repairs on the raised platform at the end of the street.

REASON

In the interests of visual amenity in the Town Centre and for the benefit of local residents.

(b) Condition of the flood wall on Skipton Road, Barnoldswick which was funded by Barnoldswick Town Council and Pendle Council

This item was deferred from the last meeting. It was pointed out that there was a considerable number of bricks spalling along the recently constructed flood wall. Also, there a dip in the coping stones at the Barnoldswick end of the wall.

RESOLVED

That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to see if the brick spalling on the flood wall on Skipton Road, Barnoldswick could be investigated and if possible remediated and the dip in the coping stones at the Barnoldswick end of the wall be rectified.

REASON

To improve the condition of the flood wall on Skipton Road, Barnoldswick.

(c) Consider the need for sewer improvements in Barnoldswick and Earby

At previous meetings Members had raised problems with sewers in Earby surcharging at various points on Salterforth Road and at its junction with Colne Road in periods of heavy rainfall. This was very unpleasant for local residents who had foul sewage outside their properties. The sewer was clearly inadequate. In Barnoldswick there were several locations where foul sewage discharged into the watercourse –

- Gisburn Road adjacent to Valley Gardens – four discharge points straight into Stock Beck
- Sewer surcharging at the culvert/sewer interchange adjacent to aldi and Rolls Royce onto the road

Over 30 years ago United Utilities were programming the replacement of the town's main sewer, but this hadn't happened.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to arrange a meeting with Yorkshire Water to discuss how to address and resolve the problems in Earby.
- (2) That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to arrange a meeting with United Utilities to ask for the sewers in parts of Barnoldswick to be upgraded.

REASON

To improve drainage in West Craven and reduce the risk of flooding.

126.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS

- (a) Back Myrtle Grove – Costings for Car Park (05.10.2021)
- (b) Traffic issues on Skipton Road, Barnoldswick near junction of Coates Lane – awaiting update from LCC (02.11.2021)
- (c) Northolme Community Centre – Meeting being arranged (02.11.2021)
- (d) Lancashire highways online reporting system – response requested to addition of existing gullies (02.11.2021)
- (e) Walmsgate Methodist Chapel –LEF funding decision expected 15th Dec (03.08.2021)
- (f) Euravia – request for Working Group (08.06.2021)

127.

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.

128.

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 and Enforcement Officer be asked to try to make progress with PLE/20/0546.

REASON

To monitor and progress enforcement activity.

Chairman.....