

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
WEST CRAVEN COMMITTEE
HELD AT MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHAPEL,
EARBY
ON 29TH MARCH 2022**

PRESENT –

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

Councillors

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

Co-optees

M. Whittingham, Barnoldswick Town Council

Officers Present

D. Walker

Environmental Services Manager (Area Co-ordinator)

N. Watson

Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager

(Apologies were received from Councillor R. E. Carroll and P. Maskell.)



182. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

183. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

184. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 1st March 2022, be approved as a correct record.

185. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

There was no Police representative available to attend the meeting. The crime figures for March 2022 were not available at present due to recent staff changes.

Members raised concerns about dangerous driving in Barnoldswick and referred to recent incidents which had been caught on dashcam and would be reported on the Lancashire Police online reporting system. There was an issue with HGVs parking on Bailey Street adjacent to the

school. There were also reports of unlicensed scrap metal collectors operating in the area in the last fortnight.

RESOLVED

That the Police be asked to note the Committee's concerns about dangerous driving, to investigate the reports of unlicensed scrap metal collectors operating in the area, and be asked to attend the next meeting if possible.

186.

AMBULANCE RESPONSE TIMES

David Dixon, Sector Manager for East Lancashire at the North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) attended the meeting with Jason Eddings (Advanced Paramedic) and gave a presentation on the area they covered and their resources, the challenges the service was facing. Emergency performance was measured through the Ambulance Response Programme, performance standards which ranged from category one for people with life-threatening injuries and illnesses to Category four for less urgent calls. He talked members through performance data for Quarter 3 October to December 2021 for the NWAS overall, then broken down for East Lancashire and areas in Pendle.

He said that these were unprecedented times, staff were working exceptionally hard under huge pressure and the Service had never known demand like it.

Members expressed their appreciation to all the staff for their dedication to the service and acknowledged that the response times were no fault of theirs working in very difficult circumstances. However, as representatives for people in West Craven they felt that they needed to raise their concerns for the service residents in BB18 were getting, which were up to 50% worse than some other postcodes in Pendle. Their primary concern was to try to redress this balance and make sure that residents in BB18 had just as much chance of having lives saved as other postcodes in Pendle and the North West. There followed a discussion about the factors that played a part and possible actions which could help the situation.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the North West Ambulance Service be asked to provide performance data every quarter, at postcode level, with comparison data to previous years if possible, for the Committee to monitor.
- (2) That senior NWAS management be asked to consider a plea from the Committee for additional resources to benefit the BB18 area including the deployment of other blue light services e.g. the Fire & Rescue Service to attend appropriate incidents and for effective action to deal with queuing ambulances at hospitals.
- (3) That the issue of ambulance response times be referred to the next meeting of the Council's Policy and Resources Committee in view of the wider implications for all the residents of Pendle.
- (4) That David Dixon and Jason Eddings from the NWAS be thanked for attending the meeting, for aiding discussions and answering Members' questions.

REASON

To monitor ambulance response times in BB18 and look for improvements in the interests of public health and saving lives.

187. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) Planning applications for determination

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

21/0972/FUL Full: Formation of first floor extension with pitched roof, additional four air conditioning units and alterations to window/door and existing parking layout including a 6 cycle shelter and creation of 10 parking spaces on adjacent land at MyDentist, Harrison Street Dental Centre, Harrison Street, Barnoldswick for MyDentist

This item was deferred from the last meeting for a meeting with representatives of Barnoldswick Town Council, West Craven Committee, the applicants and Planning Officer to discuss parking provision in the area of the application site. This meeting took place on 17th March 2022.

An update from the Planning Officer had been circulated prior to the meeting reporting that following the meeting, the agent had submitted an amended plan which indicated the car parking within the area of open space was to be removed from consideration. The application now had five off-street car parking spaces (including one disabled parking bay) within the existing perimeter of the application site. The description of development had changed to reflect this amendment to the scheme and now read as follows: "Full: Formation of first floor extension with pitched roof, additional four air conditioning units and alterations to window/door openings"

LCC Highways had been consulted on the amended plan and concluded that there was a shortfall of off-street car parking for the proposed increase in consulting rooms and this was likely to result in highway safety matters. If the application was approved, they would seek measures to mitigate the highway safety matters in the form of planning conditions (which were set out).

Although the applicant had now removed the additional car parking from consideration, the overall recommendation stood. This was because the application still represented a sustainable form of development. It was located in a sustainable location, close to the Town Centre boundary (150m), a bus stop with a frequent service (40m) and a free public car park (150m). All of which could be used by future patients of the dentist to travel to the surgery.

RESOLVED

That the application be **refused** due to inadequate street parking.

(b) Appeals

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on outstanding planning appeals for information.

188.

ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The Head of Legal Services submitted a report for information, giving the up-to-date position on prosecutions for information. Members were disappointed that there was still no improvement on outstanding works required at the site on Long Ing Lane, Barnoldswick and concerned about work to drains on the highway which had left a sharp edge that had the potential to damage tyres on passing vehicles.

RESOLVED

That the Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services Manager be asked to try to move progress on the works outstanding at Land on the south east side of Long Ing Lane, Barnoldswick and for an update to be brought back to the next meeting.

189.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22

(Councillor T. Whipp declared a personal but non-prejudicial interest in this item as a trustee of Bancroft Mill.)

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager had circulated a further update on the Committee's Capital Programme prior to the meeting. The current balance for the Committee's Capital Programme for 2021/22 was now £20,341. The balance for the Barnoldswick allocation to Councillors was £8,700 and for Earby and Coates allocations to Councillors £11,641.

It was reported that the Council's Policy and Resources Committee at their last meeting had agreed to match fund a £12k contribution from LCC towards the repair and resurfacing of West Close Road Lorry Park. It had been previously agreed by this Committee that if the £24k was secured, £2k should be allocated from the Capital Programme to enable the scheme to go ahead.

Members also considered the following bid –

- Bancroft Mill Engine Museum seeking £1,491 for electrical improvements to the weaving shed heating.

RESOLVED

- (1) That £2,000 from the Earby and Coates Councillors' element of the 2021/22 Capital Programme be allocated towards the repair and resurfacing of the West Close Road Lorry Park.
- (2) That £1,491 be allocated from the Barnoldswick Councilors' allocation of the 2021/22 Capital Programme for electrical improvements to the weaving shed heating system at Bancroft Mill Engine Museum.

REASON

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

190. TRAFFIC LIAISON MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of the LCC Traffic Liaison Meeting held on 23rd February 2022 were submitted for information. Members raised a number of issues about consultations on TROs and SLOs they had no knowledge of, or wanted more information on who had been consulted.

At the last meeting Members had objected to the TRO affecting Albert Road/Albert Square/ Ellis Street/Frank Street for a number of reasons and these had been passed to LCC for their consideration. LCC had responded to these concerns and asked that the Committee reconsider their objections. This email was read out at the meeting and members gave their response further consideration. They acknowledged that they could remove some of their objections, but felt that further discussions on site would be the best way to resolve outstanding issues.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to request that LCC consult with relevant Town and Parish Councils in any informal/formal consultations prior to proposed TROs and SLOs being advertised.
- (2) That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to request that LCC meet members of the Committee and Barnoldswick Town Council on site to discuss the proposed TRO affecting Albert Road/Albert Square/ Ellis Street/Frank Street and to ensure that any necessary signage was placed on existing infrastructure.

REASON

In the interests of highway safety.

191. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- (a) **Continuing parking issues in Earby Town Centre, including day-long parking in short-stay kerbside parking areas and parking on sections with double yellow lines.**

Members discussed parking problems in Earby Town Centre. People were parking on single yellow lines on Albion Road, although it was noted that LCC were intending to upgrade the single yellows to double yellows from Albion Road onto the A56. However, there were other issues with people using short stay on-street parking for long stays. Car park attendants had been requested in the town. They were expected initially to concentrate on parking issues outside schools, but could be asked to look at other locations whilst in the area.

RESOLVED

That the Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager be asked to report back on this issue and in the meantime, that a letter be sent to town centre businesses asking them to remind their staff to park appropriately so that short stay on-street parking spaces were available for shoppers and visitors to the town.

REASON

To see what could be done to improve the parking situation for shoppers and visitors in Earby Town Centre.

(b) Together Housing's decision to introduce a 'caretaker charge' on top of grounds maintenance charges causing concern to local residents

Members discussed a recent charge that had been added to some residents' rent and it was not clear how this had been calculated or what it was for.

RESOLVED

That a letter be sent to the Chief Executive of Together Housing requesting information on the recent introduction of a caretaker charge for some residents, who were being asked to pay the additional charge and for what service.

REASON

To help local residents understand the recent introduction of an additional charge on top of their rent.

(c) The installation of EV charging points at Wellhouse Road car park, Barnoldswick

Members discussed a recent offer from EV charging company Invastolt to install two 120kwh chargers at Wellhouse Road car park for a 20 year lease. It was noted that the Council were currently inviting tenders to submit proposals to provide and manage EV charging facilities in Council owned car parks across Pendle. This was due to end in April and the outcome be reported to future meetings of Management Team and the Climate Change Working Group. However, it was pointed out that these chargers wouldn't cost the Council anything and would in fact generate income. Due diligence would be required prior to signing any lease.

RESOLVED

That agreement in principle be given to the installation of two 120kw chargers on Wellhouse Road car park by Instavolt and, provided that the Property Services Manager was satisfied following the necessary checks on the lease, that this request be dealt with as soon as possible.

REASON

To provide a first class EV charging service for local residents and to generate income.

192. VERGE AT CHAPMAN COURT, BARNOLDSWICK

At the last meeting members discussed a request from residents for a strip of grass verge to be surfaced to help with parking, which was at a premium in the area. It did not provide any residential amenity and was causing a nuisance, often in a muddy condition in wet weather. The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager was asked to look at surfacing options and to report back. A plan showing a potential scheme costing £3.5k was submitted for consideration.

Members wondered whether LCC would consider funding part of the costs of the work.

RESOLVED

That £1.5k from the Barnoldswick Councillors' allocation of the Capital Programme be committed towards the costs of surfacing the strip of grass verge at Chapman Court shown in the plan,

subject to the Chief Finance Officer confirming that this was considered capital expenditure, and that LCC be asked to contribute the remaining £2k towards the work.

REASON

To improve parking provision in this location.

193.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS

The following items had been requested by the Committee at previous meetings. Prior to the meeting an email had been circulated with an update from County Councillor Edwards, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport at Lancashire County Council relating to 3 of the items – (a) (c) and (d).

- (a) Victoria Road, Earby – Request to LCC to fund the works (2/11/2021)
- (b) Traffic issues on Skipton Road, Barnoldswick near junction of Coates Lane – awaiting update from LCC (2/11/2021)
- (c) Request for concrete apron on the carriageway on Station Road, Barnoldswick (2/11/2021)
- (d) Request to repair the pavement in front of the old post office buildings on the corner of Station Road/Skipton Road, Barnoldswick (2/11/21)
- (e) Lancashire highways online reporting system – response requested to addition of gullies (2/11/2021)
- (f) Drainage on Stoneybank Road/Water St & Wentcliffe Drive - request for meeting with YW (07.09.2021)
- (g) Water Supply pressure in Kelbrook – Request for meeting with YW (1/2/2022)
- (h) Back Myrtle Grove Car Parking Scheme – Awaiting response from LCC on funding (4/1/2022).
- (i) Northolme Community Centre – Meeting being arranged (1/2/2022)
- (j) Land at Greenberfield Locks – Meeting requested with Canal and River Trust on 6th April (2/11/2021)

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Committee note LCC's decision not to fund resurfacing works on Victoria Road, Earby (although LCC had said they would look to include it in a future programme provided it met their criteria) and that this item be brought back to the next meeting so consideration could be given to allocating funds from the Committee's Capital Programme and asking Earby Town Council for a contribution towards an improvement scheme, which could be done in stages.
- (2) That the Committee note that LCC had turned down the request for a concrete apron on Station Road saying it was not acceptable to add a concrete apron to a tarmac road, and they be asked to reconsider their request to strengthen the surface of the road by using hot rolled asphalt (HRA) instead, as recently used very successfully on a section of road at the Butts.
- (3) That the request to repair the pavement in front of the old post office in Barnoldswick be reiterated, as the two small areas planned for repair did not look adequate.
- (4) That the Committee's previous request for the carriageway at the crossing point at the junction with Skipton Road/Fernlea Avenue to be strengthened and made level be reiterated.

194. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

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

195. OUTSTANDING ENFORCEMENTS

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on outstanding enforcement cases in West Craven, which was noted.

196. ENFORCEMENT ACTION CASE

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report with an update on an enforcement action case in West Craven which was noted.

Chairman.....