

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
BARROWFORD AND WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE
HELD ON 2ND AUGUST, 2023
AT HOLMEFIELD HOUSE**

PRESENT

Councillor N. Ahmed (Chair)

Councillors

*D. Gallear
M. Stone*

Co-optees

*D. Heap - Barley with Wheatley Booth Parish Council
R. Oliver – Barrowford Parish Council
N. Hodgson - Blacko Parish Council
K. Wilkinson – Goldshaw Booth Parish Council
M. Schofield - Roughlee Booth Parish Council*

Officers in Attendance

*W. Forrest
L. Barnes
J. Robinson*

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

Police

*PC Paul Meades
PCSO Alan Fielding*

(Apologies for absence were received from His Worship the Mayor – Councillor B. Newman and D. Hall, Old Laund Booth Parish Council).



44. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

45. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Representatives of Barrowford Parish Council spoke about the condition of the roundabout at the Reedyford Interchange since it had been redesigned. The roundabout had previously been more aesthetically pleasing and had provided habitats to a multitude of wildlife but it was now barren. Lancashire County Council had been contacted and were not averse to the roundabout being replanted but support would be required from the Committee. It was reported that the roundabout was actually in Nelson and as such support from the Nelson, Brierfield and Reedley Committee and not this Committee would be required if any scheme was to be progressed.

RESOLVED

That the Nelson, Brierfield and Reedley Committee be requested to consider supporting a scheme to replant the redesigned roundabout at the Reedyford Interchange in Nelson.

46.

MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 5th July, 2023, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

47.

POLICE MATTERS AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The following crime statistics for July, 2023 compared to the same period in the previous year had been circulated prior to the meeting.

JULY	2022	2023
Burglary – Residential	1	3
Burglary – Commercial	2	2
Vehicle Crime	2	0
Hate Crime	0	0
Assaults	6	5
Theft	3	4
Criminal Damage	2	3
All Other Recordable Incidents	38	29
ALL CRIME	54	46
Anti-Social Behaviour	18	6

The Police in attendance provided an explanation of the figures which overall were positive. There had been a notable reduction in crime in Blacko and Higherford when compared to last month. There had been a 67% decrease in the number of reported anti-social behaviour incidents and only one of the six recorded incidents had been perpetrated by youths which was very positive given the School summer holidays had now commenced.

PC P. Meades introduced himself as the new Community Beat Manager for the Barrowford and Western Parishes area who would be taking over from PC L. Bolton.

Plans for bonfire night were already being made. Schools and Colleges in the area had already been booked so that education programmes on the dangers of fireworks could be delivered.

An update was provided on the actions already taken by the Police since yesterday's scrap metal theft from a commercial Garage in Barley.

The issue of anti-social driving on roads in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area and the A6068 in particular was raised and it was asked if mobile patrols could be introduced to tackle it. Motorway rules applied to the A6068 and as such only Motorway Officers could undertake patrols and their resources were limited as they covered the whole of Lancashire. Mobile speed cameras would, however, continue to be used in the area. PC Meades suggested that, going forward, a Police Vehicle could be parked for a period in known problem areas to deter anti-social driving and this was welcomed by Members. Members were urged to continue reporting any incidents they witness to the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership (<https://lancsroadsafety.co.uk/submit-concern/>).

48. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) Planning application for determination

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted the following planning application for determination: -

23/0264/FUL Full: Siting of a temporary mobile catering trailer with a paved picnic area within Boothman Park at Boothman Park, Barley New Road, Barley for Strydon Ltd

RESOLVED

That planning permission be **refused** for the following reasons: -

The siting of a catering trailer would bring an unnecessary addition to the AONB and would harm the visual quality of the area which would be exacerbated by the vehicles that would be attracted to the site to use the facility. The development would result in unacceptable harm to the character and scenic beauty of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty contrary to Policies ENV1 and ENV2 of the Pendle Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy, Policy 2 of the Replacement Pendle Local Plan and paragraph 176 and 177 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

(b) Planning Appeals

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report, for information, on planning appeals, which was noted.

49. ENFORCEMENT ACTION

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

50. AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2023/24

The Head of Housing and Environmental Health submitted a report on the Committee's 2023/24 Budget. Members noted that £36 of the Budget was uncommitted.

51. WILTON STREET, BARROWFORD – CONGESTION AND PARKING ISSUES UPDATE

The Head of Economic Growth submitted a report to update Members on the options to resolve traffic problems being experienced on Wilton Street, Barrowford.

Members noted that the lining of the car park at Cravendale Avenue, Nelson had been completed as had the lining of the car park opposite the BMX track at the Steven Burke Sports Hub. Cars were now parking in a more uniform manner, thereby, fitting more cars in. The directional signage to the Cravendale Avenue car park had yet to be assessed but there was already blue cycle/pedestrian directional signage to it.

The construction of a new Lancashire Environmental Fund (LEF) funded car park opposite the Steven Burke Sports Hub, which would accommodate approximately 25 cars, had not yet

commenced as it needed a planning application which was the next step. Members expressed concern about this particularly given that the LEF funding would run out in October, 2023 and if the scheme had not started by then the Council would need to reapply for funding.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Head of Economic Growth be requested to submit the planning application required to progress the scheme for the construction of a new Lancashire Environmental Fund (LEF) funded car park opposite the Steven Burke Sports Hub as a matter of urgency.
- (2) That a further update on progress be provided for the next meeting of this Committee.

REASON

To ensure that highway and parking issues on Wilton Street, Barrowford can be improved.

52. PROVISION OF LITTER/DOG WASTE BINS

The Assistant Director Operational Services reported that due to wear, damage or a reduced need for the facility, six bins had been replaced/removed by Operational Services in Quarter 1, for the period April, 2023 to June, 2023.

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF BIN	COST PER BIN
Lucy Street, Barrowford	Remove PM Litter bin outside No 1	LITTER	£40.00
Carr Hall Road, Barrowford	Erect a Dog bin at the top of Carr Hall Road, to replace the missing one	DOG	£155.70
Lee Street, Barrowford	Replace post and re-attach dog bin, adjacent to the Doctors surgery	DOG	£40.00
Gisburn Road, Blacko	Replace post and re-attach litter bin, and site slightly further away from the seating bench	LITTER	£80.00
Carr Hall Road, Barrowford	Remove dog bin as on edge of private land	DOG	£40.00
Garnett Street, Barrowford	Reinstate dog bin back onto post	DOG	£40.00

Members were asked to report on any substation sites in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area that needed tidying.

53. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(a) Unused area of Council owned land at the rear of the even numbered houses on Church Street, Barrowford

It was reported that approximately three years ago, the Council had improved the drainage in the Council owned field at the rear of the even numbered houses on Church Street, Barrowford by digging a drainage ditch and creating a fence across the field. Since then this area of land had been left untended and unused and was now severely overgrown. Some residents had proposed using the land from their current boundary to the new fence as an allotment so that the Council would not need to maintain it. Barrowford Parish Council were aware of the land's history and could offer advice.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the issue of the area of Council owned land at the rear of the even numbered houses on Church Street, Barrowford be referred to the relevant Officer(s) for further investigation in consultation with Barrowford Parish Council.
- (2) That a report on the options for the use of the land going forward be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee for Members' consideration.

REASON

In the interests of visual amenity.

(b) Flooding risk due to blocked drains on Park Avenue and North Park Avenue, Barrowford

(Councillor N. Ahmed declared a personal interest in this item which was not a disclosable pecuniary interest as defined in the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012).

It was reported that following the recent inclement weather rainwater had been pooling on the main highways of Park Avenue and North Park Avenue, Barrowford due to blocked roadside drains. The matter had already been referred to Lancashire County Council for them to clear the blockages.

The risk of flooding was already a Barrowford and Western Parishes area-wide issue which was unlikely to improve in Autumn and Winter. It was suggested that Flooding Risks be included as a regular item on this Committee's future Agendas so any issues could be reported and referred to the appropriate bodies to be addressed.

RESOLVED

That Flooding Risks be included as a regular item on this Committee's future Agendas for any issues to be reported and referred to the appropriate bodies to be addressed.

REASON

To reduce the risk of flooding in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area.

(c) Victoria Park Duck Pond

It was reported that the Duck Pond in Victoria Park was full and had been overflowing. This was the result of all the drains on the river side of the pond being blocked. The matter had already

been referred to the Green Spaces Manager and the Assistant Director Operational Services for the blockages to be cleared.

54. OUTSTANDING ISSUES

- (a) Condition of the Old Corn Mill, Higherford (7/6/23)
- (b) Highway Safety Issues on Church Street, Barrowford (5/7/23)

55. 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.

56. ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME – QUARTER 1

The Environmental Services Manager submitted a report on Environmental Crime in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area in Quarter 1, for the period April, 2023 to June, 2023, which was noted.

Chair _____