

120. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The crime statistics for October had been circulated prior to the meeting. The crime statistics for November would be circulated as soon as they became available. PC Ingham attended the meeting and talked about recent crime in the area and various Police initiatives.

There was a discussion about some 999 emergency calls going through to the North Yorkshire Emergency Operations Centre and call handlers being unable to transfer them to the Lancashire Operations Centre. This was causing delays when a response time was needed as quickly as possible. PC Ingham thought that it was to do with the mast positions and wasn't sure if anything could be done. However, he said he would try to find out if there was any data available on the misdirected 999 calls. The Chairman, in his role as a Member of the Lancashire Police and Crime Panel, said he would raise this issue with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Earby Town Council were aiming to set up a boxing club in the town. PC Ingham confirmed that the Police supported this initiative to provide a diversionary activity for young people. He would look into the funding that was available to support such activities. This would be in addition to the sessional youth activity one evening a week in Barnoldswick. It was also hoped that New Road Community Centre in Earby would be used for some youth activities going forward.

Following on from the discussions at the last meeting about the serious road accident on Colne Road it was noted that the Fire and Rescue Service Station Manager at Nelson had agreed to hold an event in the New Year in Earby to try and get young drivers to engage with them about speeding. There was also going to be a speed awareness session working with the Police in Barnoldswick. PC Ingham added that the Police had acquired a new speed gun and once full training had been given, they would be looking to move it around to various locations in the area. Earby Town Council had purchased an ASW camera which could be used to record speeding vehicles. Whilst this could not be used to prosecute offenders, the intelligence could be used by the Police to send out warning letters.

This Committee had previously submitted a request to the Road Safety Partnership for average speed cameras to be installed along the length of the A56 between Colne and the County boundary at the Punch Bowl in Earby. There was a discussion about gathering the evidence to show that they were needed.

The Neighbourhood Team would be working with colleagues in Barnoldswick Town Square on 15th December on a winter crime prevention event.

S. Ashley requested that the Police attend a future meeting of Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council as there were a number of issues members of the Council and the public wanted to raise.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the new Lancashire Police Chief Inspector for Burnley, Rossendale, Pendle and Ribble Valley be requested to look into the issue of misdirected 999 calls to see if there was anything that could be done to improve the situation.
- (2) That Lancashire Constabulary be asked to deploy data caption devices on areas of concern in West Craven, on Skipton Road, Barnoldswick through Salterforth to Earby and on the

A56, so that evidence could be gathered to help the case for installing average speed cameras.

121. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Appeals

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

122. ENFORCEMENT ACTION

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

123. AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2023/24

The Head of Housing and Environmental Health submitted a report on the Committee's budget for 2023/24 which was noted. Members considered the following requests for funding –

- Bid from the Kelbrook and Sough Village Hall Committee requesting £440 towards the installation of solar panels on the roof of the village hall.
- Bid from Earby and Kelbrook Senior Citizens' Club seeking £1,500 towards a new boiler. This bid had been considered by this Committee on 4th July when it was deferred and the Club encouraged to apply for Awards for All National Lottery funding. It was reported that this bid had been unsuccessful.

RESOLVED

That the following allocations be made from the Area Committee Budget for 2023/24 –

- £440 towards the installation of solar panels on the roof of Kelbrook and Sough Village Hall.
- £1,500 towards a new boiler for the Earby and Kelbrook Senior Citizens' Club

REASON

To enable the Capital Programme to be allocated efficiently and effectively.

124. SALTERFORTH ROAD, EARBY – HIGHWAY DRAINAGE

At the 3rd October meeting Members requested action to address drainage issues on Salterforth Road, Earby and Manchester Road, Barnoldswick.

It was noted that the blocked culvert on Manchester Road had now been cleared and the road repaired. On Salterforth Road, following unsuccessful attempts to clear the blockage by jetting, LCC had dug down, uncovered a collapsed drain and cleared the blockage. Over time this issue had caused damage to the road surface extending for over 30 metres along the road from one kerb to the other. Now that the cause of the damage had been resolved the road could be repaired.

RESOLVED

That LCC be thanked for resolving the highway drainage issues on Manchester Road and Salterforth Road and they be asked to plane out and resurface the damaged road surface on Salterforth Road to bring the road up to an acceptable standard.

REASON

In the interests of highway safety.

125. MEETING WITH TRANSDEV

The note of a meeting held on 13th November attended by Members of the Committee and officers from Pendle Council and Transdev was submitted for information. Over the last two years the Committee had raised several issues about inadequate services, capacity issues and some services being cut. The meeting was a chance to discuss these issues in detail with Transdev's Commercial Director.

He explained the steps that had been taken to tackle the issue with capacity in the mornings including putting on two more double decker buses. An additional M6 journey had attracted around 45 passengers. The number of people using buses since March had increased overall by 6.3% - 3% in Barnoldswick, 5.6% in Earby and 12.1% in Skipton. Two further double deckers were due to join the fleet in the next 2-3 months which were expected to lead to further improvements. There would also be some additional evening services.

Members felt that it had been a useful meeting and were encouraged by Transdev's positive outlook.

RESOLVED

That in due course a follow-up meeting be arranged with Transdev in the spring to review the measures put in place.

REASON

To monitor bus service provision in the area and take-up.

126. SPRING MILL, BAILEY STREET, EARBY

At the Executive meeting on 16th November, it was agreed that PEARL Together would be granted a licence for the temporary use of land on Bailey Street, Earby for use as a contractor car park/compound during the development of this housing site. It was also agreed that a landscaped area would be created as part of the development scheme, fronting onto Chapel Street, Earby, which would be transferred to the Council subject to terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Place and payment of a commuted sum.

It had been suggested that once the compound area was no longer needed and the developers came to reinstate this land, it could be used as a pump track, or something other than a grassed area. The Executive had requested that this Committee enter into discussions with Earby Town Council and any other interested parties to consider its future use.

RESOLVED

That a meeting be arranged for Members of the Committee to meet Earby Town Council to discuss the possible future use of the area fronting onto Chapel Street, Earby which would be transferred to the Council on completion of the housing scheme.

REASON

To make the best use of this area of land in Earby and allow time to draw up a scheme and raise any funding required.

127. ENVIRONMENTAL BLIGHT

The Head of Economic Growth submitted a report on environmental blight sites in West Craven. Members had been asked to undertake an informal site visit to the Dam Head Road Garage site prior to the meeting to see if there were any issues that needed addressing. It was reported that this site was now tidy, although there were a couple of garages that needed some attention. It was noted that the quote for replacing the timber fence at Clayton Street, Barnoldswick would come to the next meeting.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Dam Head Road Garage site be removed from the Environmental Blight list and Liberata asked to arrange for any dilapidated garages to be improved.
- (2) That LCC be asked if they would be willing to erect a fence at the edge of the surfaced area of the West Close Road Lorry Park site to help with the fly tipping issue.

REASON

- (1) ***The site was regularly monitored and there were no issues of concern.***
- (2) ***In the interests of visual amenity.***

128. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(a) Northern Powergrid Substation on Warwick Drive, Earby

Members discussed a complaint by a resident living on Warwick Drive about the substation operated by Northern Powergrid. Some years ago, the power company constructed a new substation housing in front of the existing one. However, this hadn't been brought into use and remained fenced off with temporary site fencing. There were also reports of debris.

RESOLVED

That the Assistant Director Operational Services ask Northern Powergrid about their plans for the substation buildings on Warwick Drive, Earby and if there was a date when the new substation would be put into service; request that redundant apparatus be removed; and the site be tidied.

REASON

In the interests of visual amenity.

129. OUTSTANDING ITEMS

It was noted that the following information had been requested and would be provided at a future meeting -

- (a) Costings for Coates Lane/Skipton Road highway improvements

130. EXCLUSION OF THE 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 or any action to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of a crime.

131. OUTSTANDING ENFORCEMENTS

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report on outstanding enforcements which was noted.

Chairman