



**135. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES**

The crime statistics for December 2023 compared to the same period in the previous year were circulated at the meeting. They were broken down as follows -

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Burglary – Residential	1	1
Burglary – Commercial	0	1
Vehicle Crime	1	0
Assaults	21	18
Theft	11	2
Criminal Damage	15	9
Other crimes	23	24
<b>ALL CRIME</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>55</b>
Anti-Social Behaviour	15	7

PC T. Schofield said that crime overall was down. The work by PCSO N. Wallin and others to combat ASB in the area seemed to have had a positive impact and the reduction in ASB offences was welcomed.

Flooding issues on the A56, mainly at Sough, and other roads in the area was raised as a community safety issue but it was noted that this was for other authorities to deal with. The main discussion focussed on the issue discussed at the last meeting with PC G. Ingham on problems with cross boundary phone calls from mobiles where emergency 999 calls were being connected to North Yorkshire Emergency Operations Centre rather than Lancashire Operations Centre causing delays with responses. The inability to transfer calls from one call centre to another was an additional problem, again wasting valuable time in an emergency situation, when the consequences could be very serious.

**RESOLVED**

That the issue of misdirected emergency 999 calls matter be raised again with PC G. Ingham and brought to the attention of the new Inspector J. Hesketh, to see what could be done to improve the situation.

**136. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**(a) Planning Applications for Determination**

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on the following planning applications for determination –

**23/0807/PIP**     ***Variation Permission in Principle: Erection of 6 no. dwellings at High Lea, Manchester Road, Barnoldswick for Mr Daryll Barnes***

An update was circulated at the meeting reporting additional comments from members of the public. A representation had also been received from Lancashire Fire and Rescue.

**RESOLVED**

That planning permission in principle be **refused** –

1. The site is in a highly prominent location on a ridge the proposed development would be highly visible against the skyline from surrounding public vantage points and would result in an unacceptable impact upon the wider visual amenity and landscape quality of the area. It would result in considerable harm to the local area and would thus be contrary to Policy ENV1 of the Local Plan: Part 1 Core Strategy and to the principles of environmental protection in the National Planning Policy Framework.

**23/0825/HHO Variation Full: Retain palisade fence around garden area at 6 Cavendish Street, Barnoldswick for Mrs Emma Jackson**

An update was circulated at the meeting reporting additional comments from Lancashire County Council Highways and a member of the public.

**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 PLE/22/0635, Proposed Elevations PLE/22/0635.

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

**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 housing development would accord with Local Planning Policy and would be compliant with the guidance set out in the Framework, subject to compliance with planning conditions. The development therefore complies 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) Planning Appeals**

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

**137. ENFORCEMENT ACTION**

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

**RESOLVED**

- (1) That the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services be asked to contact the agent representing the owners of North and South Block, Wardle Storeys, Earby and explain that, if by the time of the next meeting there was no progress made on the works required to comply with the breach of condition notices, then the Committee were minded to ask for enforcement action to be reinstated.
- (2) That the Legal Services Manager be asked to remove 6 Cavendish Street from the outstanding enforcements list as planning permission for the fence had been granted.
- (3) That the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services be asked to email Members with an update on Land at the junction with Greenberfield Lane, Gisburn Road, Barnoldswick.

**138. AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2023/24**

It was reported that the current balance for the West Craven Area Committee's budget for 2023/24 was £22,638.

**RESOLVED**

That Parish and Town Councils be encouraged to submit bids for consideration at the next meeting so the Committee could resolve to allocate the remaining funds from the Area Committee's budget for 2023/24.

**REASON**

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

**139. LCC'S HIGHWAYS REPORT IT SYSTEM**

Members discussed LCC's Highway's Report It system, their response to reports and the specific condition of Waterloo Road at Kelbrook and Moor Lane, Salterforth, both of which had been resurfaced within the last 15 years or so but were deteriorating badly. It was pointed out that this sort of repair should last for many more years and not be failing in such a short period of time.

A number of potholes on main roads that met the criteria for remedial work, had been reported on the system but not been dealt with in accordance within the required timescale. These could cause damage to vehicles but posed a more serious risk of accidents for people on bikes or motorbikes. A highway gully at the top of Stoneybank Road, reported as being blocked on the system several times, was still blocked. It was thought that LCC might have visited the road lower down.

Following the recent bad weather Members reported a number of problems on the highway which required attention.

A separate surface water issue was mentioned in the Gillians Lane area of Barnoldswick which had caused the flooding of properties at the bottom of the Lane. The Engineering Team had been considering changes to the trash screen so that it could cope better with the amount of surface water and debris.

## **RESOLVED**

- (1) That the Engineering Manager be asked to contact LCC Highways to –
  - (a) Highlight that their Report It system was not working effectively with issues not being dealt with in a timely manner and that status updates were sometimes inaccurate;
  - (b) Request that the various high priority potholes reported on the system be dealt with in the timescale required in LCC's policies;
  - (c) Request as a matter of urgency the repair of Waterloo Road at Kelbrook and Moor Lane, Salterforth, which were both in a very poor condition despite having been fully resurfaced in recent years;
  - (d) Ask why LCC were not taking action against the use of substandard materials or poor workmanship for resurfacing work done on their behalf which was failing after such short periods of time;
  - (e) Point out that there were a number of roads requiring attention in West Craven including Holme Close, Arthur Street and Clifton Street in Sough, Greenend Avenue, Water Street, Cemetery Road in Earby, Moor Lane and Salterforth Lane in Salterforth, and Park Road, Colne Road, Moorgate Road, Harper Street, Valley Road, Valley Drive and Meadow Way in Barnoldswick;
  - (f) Ask LCC what their rationale was for prioritising some roads over others which appeared to be in a worse state of repair;
  - (g) Request that the highway drainage at the top of Stoneybank Road (below the bad bend) be improved.
  - (h) Request that the following drainage issues on the highway be investigated to avoid any reoccurrence –
    - i. Persistent bad flood on the bend at Sough in between Sough Bridge and the junction of Church Lane, Kelbrook where the drain was not taking any water. This was spilling over both sides of the road and onto the pavement. (A local company, Geophysical had offered to do an investigation report at cost if LCC wanted to take this offer up.)
    - ii. Single gully on Brogden Lane being inadequate to remove the volume of water (possibly compounded by work on the development of bungalows on the lower side of the road raising the level of the land downstream of the highway drain).
    - iii. On Greenberfield Lane there was a problem with flood water collecting adjacent to the attenuation pond on land owned by Rolls Royce which was flowing onto Greenberfield Lane.
    - iv. Flooding on Manchester Road close to the junction with Gillians Lane which was compounded by problems further up Manchester Road near the junction of Letcliffe Lane.
- (2) That the Engineering Manager be asked to see what action was being taken to deal with the maintenance/improvement of trash screens in the area, including the one at Gillians Lane which was regularly blocked.

**REASON**

***In the interests of highway safety.***

**140. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

**(a) Winter Gritting on primary and secondary gritting routes.**

Following the wet, then cold weather, due to a highway gully being blocked, water had collected on the road at the bottom of Klondyke, Salterforth and formed a sheet of ice. A couple of other locations where this had occurred outside the West Craven area (Barnoldswick Road, Blacko and near Colne Golf Club) were also referred to.

Alder Hill, Earby was on a secondary gritting route but was rarely gritted. Brogden Lane which was also on the secondary gritting route had been gritted but only after a number of requests.

There was also an issue with some grit bins disappearing or not being filled up.

**RESOLVED**

That the Engineering Manager be asked to contact Lancashire County Council to –

- (1) Express concern that drainage issues were not being sorted promptly and causing ice on the highways when it was too late for gritting.
- (2) Request that they undertake the gritting route in accordance with their policy, and providing additional gritting when they need to.
- (3) Enquire whether grit bins were being replenished as necessary or whether some had been removed from the schedule. Examples were on Fernlea Avenue, adjacent to the toilet block, and Wellhouse Road, at the entrance to Wellhouse Road car park.

**REASON**

***In the interests of highway safety.***

**(b) Lancashire County Council's provision of youth services in Earby and Barnoldswick**

It was understood that LCC were currently reviewing provision of youth services in the area. Members discussed what was needed to allow the volunteers working with young people to provide a good service in both Barnoldswick and Earby. The voluntary group in Barnoldswick wanted to expand its activities and use the basement of the Civic Hall on more than one evening a week. In Earby, some outreach work was being done on a Friday night, but it was hoped that if LCC agreed that New Road Community Centre could be used as a base, that this would expand the level of provision that could be offered and encourage volunteers to get involved.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) That the LCC Children and Family Wellbeing Service be asked to agree to the further use of the Civic Hall in Barnoldswick for youth activities and agree for a Youth Club to meet at the

New Road Community Centre in Earby and a report on progress brought back to a future meeting.

- (2) That PBC's Community Protection Co-ordinator flag up the matter with the Community Safety Partnership.

**REASON**

***To enable the provision of a good service of diversionary activities for young people in West Craven.***

**141. OUTSTANDING ITEMS**

It was noted that the following information had been requested and would hopefully be available to come to one of the next meetings -

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

**142. 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.

**143. OUTSTANDING ENFORCEMENTS**

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

**144. PROBLEM SITES**

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

Chair .....