

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
BARROWFORD AND WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE
HELD ON 10TH JANUARY, 2024
AT HOLMEFIELD HOUSE**

PRESENT

His Worship the Mayor – Councillor B. Newman

Councillor N. Ahmed (Chair)

Councillors

*D. Gallear
M. Stone*

Co-optees

*D. Goldsbrough - Barley with Wheatley Booth Parish
R. Oliver – Barrowford Parish Council
N. Hodgson - Blacko Parish Council
M. Tetley - Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council
D. Hall - Old Laund Booth Parish Council*

Officers in Attendance

*W. Forrest
J. Robinson*

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

Police

PCSO Alan Fielding

(An apology for absence was received from M. Schofield, Roughlee Booth Parish Council).



113. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

114. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

115. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 6th December, 2023, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

116. POLICE MATTERS AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

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

DECEMBER	2022	2023
Burglary – Residential	2	2
Burglary – Commercial	4	4
Vehicle Crime	3	5
Hate Crime	0	0
Assaults	18	15
Theft	6	3
Criminal Damage	2	1
ALL CRIME	35	30
Anti-Social Behaviour	16	20

The crime figures for December were showing no increase with the exception of Vehicle Crime. There had been a 25% increase in the number of reported anti-social behaviour incidents. PCSO Fielding explained at the meeting that the way in which anti-social behaviour was reported had recently changed and that this accounted for the unusual increase shown in the figures. Reassuringly, particularly given that the figures included the festive period, only a minimal amount of the reported anti-social behaviour incidences had been perpetrated by youths.

PCSO Fielding advised Members that there had been a recent spate of vehicle thefts in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area. He further advised that investigations were ongoing and that some arrests of perpetrators from West Yorkshire and the Fylde Coast had been made.

More generally he advised Members that a free bike marking event, which was open to anyone living in Pendle, was due to take place between 1pm and 4pm on 20th January, 2024 at Holmefield House, Barrowford. The Police had secured funding for 200 kits initially and there was a wider roll-out planned.

Inspector Hesketh would be joining Pendle's Neighbourhood Policing Team on 15th January, 2024.

Construction work on the new Police Station on Carr Road, Nelson was due to commence in the next couple of weeks and it was hoped that it would be fully operational in the next two years.

There had been a lot of investment recently in speed detection equipment. Training, however, was needed before it could be used and this would be taking place at the end of January 2024.

117. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Appeals

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

118. 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.

119. AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2023/24

The Head of Housing and Environmental Health reported that the unallocated sum of the Committee's Budget was £36 and that a full report would be submitted to the next meeting, which was noted.

120. FLOODING ISSUES/RISKS

Flooding Issue on Red Lane, Blacko

Lancashire County Council (LCC) was planning to arrange a road closure in the New Year to allow for works to address an issue with a blocked/restricted outlet on Red Lane, Blacko near its junction with Barnoldswick Road to be undertaken.

Flooding Issue on Sabden Road, Higham

LCC was requested to investigate a potential underlying issue that could be contributing to flooding on Sabden Road, Higham.

LCC had received a report of a blocked gully from the Clerk of Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council on 19th March, 2023 and the gully pump had attended on 23rd March, 2023 to clear the blockage. Since this report LCC had not received any further reports regarding drainage problems on the road.

LCC had advised that any further issues need to be reported via the Love Clean Streets webpage (<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/flooding-and-drainage/>) or app (<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/report-it-on-the-go/>) so that inspections could be made and works considered. Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council had been recommended to make this report.

At the meeting the representative of Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council reported that the gully pump had recently been in attendance again and that the issue now appeared to be resolved. They would, however, be keeping the situation under review and would also be writing to LCC about a suspected underground blockage.

New Issues

Further flooding issues on; Clough Springs, Barrowford; the straight section between the Old Bridge Inn and the Toll House on Gisburn Road, Barrowford; and Noggarth Road and Heights Lane, Fence were identified.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the updates on Red Lane, Blacko and Sabden Road, Higham be noted.
- (2) That the new flooding issues on; Clough Springs, Barrowford; the straight section between the Old Bridge Inn and the Toll House on Gisburn Road, Barrowford; and Noggarth Road and Heights Lane, Fence be reported to Lancashire County Council via the recommended channels to be addressed.

REASON

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

121. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

Parking issues opposite Barrowford Reservoir

There were issues with vehicles parking on a highway verge opposite Barrowford Reservoir which was causing damage to it. There had also been incidences where vehicles had been parked entirely across the pavement. It was reported that the matter had already been referred to Lancashire County Council (LCC) Highways who had advised to report the issues via the Love Clean Streets webpage (<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/parking/report-a-parking-problem/>) or app (<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/report-it-on-the-go/>). LCC had further advised to report any incidences of public footway obstruction to the Police. These reports had since been made via the recommended channels.

The Police, in response to their report, had advised that the issue might be criminal damage but not an obstruction. Currently outside of London there was no offence of obstructing a pavement. They further advised that the owner of the land in question would need to make a complaint of damage in order for any action to be taken.

122. OUTSTANDING ISSUES

- (a) Traffic Issues on Wilton Street, Barrowford (1/11/2023)
- (b) Land at Rear of 2-24 Church Street, Barrowford (1/11/2023)
- (c) Barley Village Green Wall Repairs (6/12/2023)

123. PROBLEM SITES

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report on problem sites in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area.

In a verbal update it was reported that extensive storm damage to the hoarding securing the only listed problem site had now been repaired.

It was further reported that it was hoped the owner might soon be able to give an indication as to when works to develop the site would commence.

Chair _____