

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
WEST CRAVEN COMMITTEE
HELD AT SALTERFORTH VILLAGE HALL
ON 6TH FEBRUARY 2024**

PRESENT –

D. M. Whipp (Chair)

Councillors

*C. Church
S. Land
M. Strickland
T. Whipp*

Co-optees

*A. Inman, Earby Town Council
S. Ashley, Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council*

Police

*PC G. Ingham
PCSO N. Wallin*

Officers Present

*D. Walker
N. Watson
J. Eccles*

*Assistant Director Operational Services and Area Co-ordinator
Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services
Committee Administrator*



145. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

147. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

148. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 9th January 2024, be approved as a correct record.

149. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The crime statistics for January 2024 compared to the same period in the previous year were circulated after the meeting.

PC Ingham was pleased to report that crime was down in January compared to the same period the previous year. There was a discussion about the recent burglaries in Earby Town Centre. The Police were awaiting forensics. His officers would be carrying out speed enforcement work on the A56 as soon as they had undertaken the required training for the speed gun.

150. 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 –

23/0756/FUL *Full: Erection of 4 no. dwellings and new detached garage to existing dwelling at 43 Park Avenue, Barnoldswick for Hall Varley Homes Ltd*

RESOLVED

That planning permission in principle be **refused** for the following reasons –

1. The proposed development does not reflect the location of the application site within the Conservation Area. The design of the proposed dwellings are of a design which could be found on any modern housing estate and have not been carefully designed to consider their surroundings. The proposed development represents poor design which would result in less than substantial harm to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area, which is not outweighed by public benefits, contrary to paragraph 208 of the Framework, Policies ENV1 & ENV2 of the Local Plan: Part 1 Core Strategy and the Design Principles SPD.
2. The proposed development would not result in an adequate site access for the proposed dwellings in addition to the existing house. This is because the visibility splay is inadequate and this would result in a highway safety danger, contrary to paragraph 115 of the Framework and Policy ENV4 of the Local Plan: Part 1 Core Strategy.

23/0792/FUL *Full: Formation of an enclosed horticultural plot and the erection of an adjoining single storey orangery building at Croft Gate Farm, Bracewell Lane, Bracewell for Mr Stephen Morton*

RESOLVED

That consideration of the application be deferred to the next meeting to allow further discussions between the applicant and Planning Department on a more sympathetic design.

(b) Planning Appeals

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

151. ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The Legal Services Manager submitted a report giving the up-to-date position on prosecutions for information. Members were disappointed on the lack of progress with works at North Block and South Block at the former Wardle Storey buildings in Earby.

RESOLVED

That in respect of North and South Block, Wardle Storeys in Earby, the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services be asked to liaise with the Legal Services Manager to resume enforcement action.

152.

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. Members noted that no more than one year's worth of budget could be rolled forward into future years.

They then considered the following bids from community groups and Town and Parish Councils -

- £1,200 to West Craven Baptist Church to improve the community facilities in the main hall at Mount Zion Baptist Church, Earby
- £1,375 to Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council for improvements to the footpath at Sough Park
- £3,000 to Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council for improvements to the children's playground at Kelbrook
- £1,200 to Earby Events Group for pop-up gazebos for their War of the Roses Re-enactment and other events
- £3,747 to Salterforth Parish Council for a projector and laptop, salt spreader and tools for the lengths man for the children's playground
- £15,000 to Barnoldswick Town Council for park improvements
- £1,000 to The Tuesday Club, New Road Community Centre, Earby to attend local theatre trips and building of suitable storage for the group at New Road Community Centre

RESOLVED

That the Head of Economic Growth and Development be asked to make the following allocations from the Area Committee Budget –

- £1,200 from the Earby allocation to West Craven Baptist Church to improve the community facilities in the main hall at Mount Zion Baptist Church, Earby;
- £1,375 from the Earby allocation to Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council for improvements to the footpath at Sough Park, as the footpath was in the township of Earby;
- £567.90 to Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council for improvements to the children's playground at Kelbrook and that the Committee consider allocating the remaining funding requested for the project when the 2024/25 Area Committee Budget was allocated;
- £1,200 from the Earby allocation to the Earby Events Group towards the purchase of pop-up gazebos for their War of the Roses Re-enactment and other events;
- £1,738.25 from the Salterforth allocation to Salterforth Parish Council towards the cost of a projector and laptop;
- £15,021.35 from the Barnoldswick and Coates allocations to Barnoldswick Town Council for park improvements; and

- £1,000 from the Earby allocation to The Tuesday Club for the building of suitable storage for the group at New Road Community Centre.

REASON

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

153. TRAFFIC LIAISON MEETING

The Minutes of the Traffic Liaison Meeting held on 20th November 2023 were submitted for information.

It was noted that the Committee's request for average speed cameras on the A56 had been considered and that all the current funding for average speed cameras had been allocated at this present time. Members hoped that the scheme could be considered when further funding became available. In the meantime, speeding vehicles continued to be a problem.

RESOLVED

That the Engineering Manager be asked to –

- Request LCC Highways to progress the proposed Prohibition of Driving Order relating to the gable of 7, Victoria Road, Earby as soon as possible; and provide more information on the new bus stop markings on Gisburn Road, Barnoldswick, which were to be included in the next Countywide Parking Order (both mentioned in Section 4 of the Minutes).
- Reiterate the request to both LCC Highways and the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership that, when funding became available, average speed cameras be installed on the A56 from the Langroyd in Colne to the Punch Bowl in Earby;
- Gather evidence from Earby Town Council's new data caption camera when it was installed, and from the enforcement work the Police intended to do with the speed gun along the A56 in order to strengthen the case for average speed cameras; and
- Seek a meeting with LCC to discuss a plan for reducing the speed of vehicles along the A56 through physical structures on the highway, that could be introduced when the road was resurfaced.

REASON

In the interests of highway safety.

154. PROVISION OF LITTER/DOG WASTE BINS AND SUBSTATION SITES

The Assistant Director Operational Services reported on the provision of litter/dog waste bins in West Craven in Quarter 3 for the period 1st October to 31st December 2023.

The Barnoldswick budget carried forward from Quarter 2 was £369.27, there has been no further spend during Quarter 3. In Quarter 3, £165.70 was spent out of the Earby budget, leaving £434.30 remaining.

The Committee noted that due to wear, damage, or a reduced need for the facility 4 bins had been replaced/removed by Operational Services in Quarter 3.

155. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Pharmacy provision in Barnoldswick

It was reported that there had been problems with residents of Barnoldswick getting their prescriptions filled. In March last year Councillors had been made aware of problems with people accessing pharmaceutical services at Whitworths Chemist. More recently there were reports of Wells Pharmacy often being closed. The issue had been raised with the Pharmacy Delivery Assurance Manager at NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board who had agreed to look into the matter.

RESOLVED

That a meeting be sought with the Pharmacy Delivery Assurance Manager at NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board to discuss the pharmacy provision in Barnoldswick.

REASON

In the interests of public health.

156. OUTSTANDING ITEMS

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

- (a) Costings for Coates Lane/Skipton Road highway improvements
- (b) Update on youth provision

157. 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.

158. OUTSTANDING ENFORCEMENTS

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report on outstanding enforcements and answered related questions. An issue was raised about a housing development underway in West Craven that was causing concern amongst residents. There was also a request for a building in Barnoldswick to be looked at as a potential enforcement case.

RESOLVED

That the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services discuss the 2 cases not currently on the list with his officers and then the Chairman to agree an appropriate course of action, if necessary.

159.

ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME – QUARTER 3

The Assistant Director Operational Services submitted a report on environmental crime for the period 1st September to 31st December 2023 which was noted. Prior to the meeting the following information had also been circulated comparing environmental crimes in Quarter 2 and Quarter 3 in 2023 and Quarter 3 in 2022 and 2023.

	Quarter 2 2023	Quarter 3 2023	Comparison between Q2 and Q3	Quarter 3 2022	Comparison between Q3 2022 & 2023
Section 215 open	12	7	-5	18	-11
Section 215 closed	11	9	-2	14	-5
Section 46 open	40	93	+53	101	-8
Fixed Penalty Notices					
Dogs not on lead	0	0	=	1	-1
Littering	1	0	-1	41	-41
Flytipping	1	0	=	0	=
Duty of Care	0	0	=	3	-3
Abandoned Vehicle	0	0	=	0	=

Chair