

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
BARROWFORD AND WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE
HELD ON 7th FEBRUARY 2024
AT HOLMEFIELD HOUSE**

PRESENT

His Worship the Mayor – Councillor B. Newman

Councillor N. Ahmed (Chair)

Councillors

*D. Gallear
M. Stone*

Co-optees

*A. Vickerman – Barrowford Parish Council
N. Hodgson - Blacko Parish Council
M. Tetley - Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council
D. Hall - Old Laund Booth Parish Council
S. Cronshaw – Roughlee Booth Parish Council*

Officers in Attendance

*W. Forrest
L. Barnes
J. Watson*

*Housing Needs Manager (Area Co-ordinator)
Senior Planning Officer
Democratic Services Manager*

Police

*PCSO Alan Fielding
PC Matt Hartup*



The following people attended the meeting and spoke on the following items:

<i>Jackie Heaps</i>	<i>24/0006/FUL Full: Formation of a new vehicular access onto Croft Top Lane to provide access through the adjoining field at Higher Fencegate Farm, Croft Top Lane, Higham</i>	<i>Minute No. 128(a)</i>
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<i>Ian Lord</i>	<i>Flooding Issues on Clough Springs, Barrowford</i>	<i>Minute No. 133</i>
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124. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

125. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

126.

MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 10th January 2024, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

127.

POLICE MATTERS AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The crime statistics for January 2024 compared to the same period in the previous year were circulated at the meeting. PCSO Fielding reported that for the first time there had been no reports of burglaries which was a result of proactive and targeted work. He also reported that overall crime had only increased by three incidents for this period.

The Committee were informed that a new Community Beat Officer had been appointed and would be introduced to Members at the next meeting.

PC Matt Hartup was also in attendance. He had worked for the Police in Pendle for 12 years but was now part of the Ribble Valley Rural Task Force. He said there had been an uplift on the numbers within his Team and he would now be covering Rural Pendle as part of his geographical area. He gave Members an update on incidents regarding travellers and agricultural theft. He also referred to funding from the PCC's Community Fund which the Parish Councils could access for CCTV systems. He was willing to help the Parishes with their applications if they were interested in following this up.

RESOLVED

- (1) That PCSO Fielding be thanked for all the hard work he and his Team had done which was reflected in the crime statistics this time.
- (2) That details of the PCC's Community Fund be circulated to the Parish Councils along with the contact details for PC Matt Hartup.

REASONS

- (1) *To acknowledge the excellent work carried out by PCSO Fielding and his Team.*
- (2) *To give the Parish Councils an opportunity to secure funding for CCTV systems.*

128.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) Planning application for determination

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

24/0006/FUL Full: Formation of a new vehicular access onto Croft Top Lane to provide access through the adjoining field at Higher Fencegate Farm, Croft Top Lane, Higham for Mr. R. Southern

The Senior Planning Officer circulated an update at the meeting following receipt of comments from LCC Highways, the Environment Officer, and a Landscaping Management Scheme. The

Committee were advised that the officer recommendation was now to grant planning permission and not delegate to the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services.

RESOLVED

That planning permission be **granted** subject to the following conditions and reasons:

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: Site Plan Proposed (received 22nd January 2024) and the Landscape Plan (received 25th January 2024).

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.
3. The external materials used in the proposed development shall be as stated on the application form and approved drawings and shall not be varied without the prior written permission of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: These materials are appropriate to the locality and in order to allow the Local Planning Authority to control the external appearance of the development.
4. Prior to the first use of the development hereby permitted, the access hereby permitted shall be surfaced in a bound porous material from the highway edge to the farm gate in order to prevent loose surface material from being carried onto the adjacent highway network, where it could pose a hazard to other highway users.

Reason: In order to prevent loose surface material entering the highway and causing a hazard to other highway users.
5. Prior to the first use of the access, a scheme shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority for a drainage scheme to show how the highway surface water will be directed to the highway gully to ensure no highway surface water enters the field.

Reason: To control surface water run-off and avoid debris being carried onto the public highway and causing a hazard to other users.
6. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the Landscape Plan and the Landscape Management Plan (both received 25th January 2024). The works shall be carried out prior to use of the access. Any trees or plants that within a period of five years after planting are removed, die or become seriously damaged or defective, shall be replaced with others of species, size and number as originally approved by the end of the first available planning season thereafter.

Reason: For the replacement of hedgerow which will be removed to facilitate the access and for the provision, establishment and maintenance of a reasonable standard of landscape in accordance with the approved designs.

7. The development hereby permitted shall not erect, retain, plant and/or allow to grow above 0.9m above the nearside carriageway level which would cause an obstruction.

Reason: To ensure visibility between highway users at the site access in the interests of highway safety.

REASON FOR DECISION

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 the 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) Confirmation of Tree Preservation Order No. 2 2023 – 8 Linden Close, Barrowford

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report requesting confirmation of Tree Preservation Order No. 2 2023 at 8 Linden Close, Barrowford.

RESOLVED

That Tree Preservation Order No. 2 2023 at 8 Linden Close, Barrowford be confirmed.

REASONS

- (1) The tree was potentially under threat from the proposed development at the address that had been approved.***
- (2) The tree contributed to the character of the area and was an important part of the shelterbelt of trees lining a busy road.***
- (3) The tree evaluation system used to determine suitability for the Tree Preservation Order found the tree to be suitable.***

(c) Planning Appeals

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

129.

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.

130. AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2023/24

The Head of Housing and Environmental Health submitted a report on the Committee's Budget for 2023/24.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the budget, as committed and the remaining £36 uncommitted be noted.
- (2) That the approved schemes, listed in Appendix 1, attached to the report, and the financial requirements stipulated in paragraph 4 of the report be noted.

REASON

To enable the budget to be allocated effectively.

130. TRAFFIC LIAISON MEETING

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

131. LAND TO THE REAR OF 2-24 CHURCH STREET, BARROWFORD

The Director of Place submitted a report which provided an update on responses received from residents with regards to the proposed use of the Council's land as garden land, to the rear of the 2-24 Church Street, Barrowford.

Residents had been asked if they wished to see the land used as a community garden or whether they would be interested in renting individual plots directly behind their properties. Two responses had been received confirming they were interested in taking the plots behind their properties (plots E and G) and neighbouring plots if not of interest to their neighbours.

It was proposed that nil rent be charged for the first five years to enable the tenants time to cultivate, maintain and provide access to the land.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the responses received be noted.
- (2) That garden tenancies be granted to interested parties on the terms set out in the report.
- (3) That the Director of Place be granted delegated authority to agree the terms and conditions of the occupation.

REASONS

- (1) *To update the Committee.*
- (2) *To expedite the agreement of terms and conditions without the need for further reports back to Committee.*

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

(a) New Bins

The Assistant Director Operational Services reports the allocation of £1,000 from this Committee’s Budget 2023/24 was approved at a previous meeting on 5th July 2023 and two new bins had since been erected during Quarter 3 for the period 1st October 2023 to 31st December 2023 as follows:

Location	Description	Type of Bin	Cost per Bin £
Barrowford Road, Fence	New dog bin erected on new footpath sign, on the by-pass, to St. Annes Drive.	Dog	240.73
Gisburn Road, Barrowford	New dog bin erected opposite Library on new cul-de-sac sign post.	Dog	237.81

The total spend was £478.54. The budget had been spent.

(b) Replaced/Removed Bins

The Assistant Director Operational Services reports that due to wear, damage or a reduced need for the facility, four bins had been replaced/removed by the Service in Quarter 3 for the period 1st October 2023 to 31st December 2023 as follows:

Location	Description	Type of Bin	Cost per Bin £
Wheatley Close, Fence	Reinstated dog bin on post outside the village hall and library.	Dog	50.00
Barley Lane, Barley	Replace the F/S litter bin in bus turnaround at side of Barley Mow.	Litter	290.73
Barnoldswick Road, Barrowford	Move a litter bin at Dicky Nook.	Litter	50.00

(c) Substation Sites

Members of the Committee were encouraged to report if there were any substations within their area that may need tidying up. Members were asked to provide location details of any substations that were causing a problem with litter and/or fly tipping to Operational Services.

133. FLOODING ISSUES/RISKS

At the last meeting flooding issues had been identified on Clough Springs, Barrowford, Gisburn Road, Barrowford and Noggarth Road and Heights Lane, Fence. In all three cases the flooding issues were reported to Lancashire County Council via the Love Clean Streets webpage (<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/flooding-and-drainage/>) and were assessed by an Inspector who had since identified and programmed remedial works.

Photographs of the flooding issues on Clough Springs, Barrowford were circulated at the meeting. The level of flooding was a concern to the Committee and it was suggested the issue started further up Wheatley Lane Road by All Souls Cemetery. It was also a concern that gulleys along this stretch of the road were blocked which resulted in the water running over them and forming in the dip at Clough Springs.

New Issues

Red Lane, Blacko – whilst remedial works at the top of the Lane had worked flooding was still an issue by the bridge with water gathering on either side.

Beverley Road, Blacko – water was still discharging into the carriageway, and it was felt a more systematic approach was required to address the problem.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the update be noted.
- (2) That the Committee's concerns regarding the continuing flooding issues on Clough Springs, Barrowford, Red Lane, Blacko and Beverley Road, Blacko be referred to the County Council, along with the photographs circulated at the meeting.

REASON

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

132. OUTSTANDING ISSUES

- (a) Traffic Issues on Wilton Street, Barrowford (1/11/2023)
- (b) Barley Village Green Wall Repairs (6/12/2023)

133. 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.

134. ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME – QUARTER 3

The Assistant Director Operational Services submitted, for information, a report on Environmental Crime in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area in Quarter 3, for the period 1st October to 31st December 2023.

Chair _____