

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
BARROWFORD AND WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE
HELD ON 7TH AUGUST, 2024
AT HOLMEFIELD HOUSE**

PRESENT

Councillor M. Stone (Vice-Chair in the Chair)

Councillors

*D. Gallear
B. Newman*

Co-optees

*D. Goldsbrough - Barley with Wheatley Booth Parish Council
R. Oliver – Barrowford Parish Council
N. Hodgson - Blacko Parish Council
K. Wilkinson – Goldshaw Booth Parish Council
D. Perrin - Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council
D. Hall – Old Laund Booth Parish Council
M. Schofield - Roughlee Booth Parish Council*

Officers in Attendance

*W. Forrest
L. Barnes
J. Naylor
J. Robinson*

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

Police

PCSO A. Fielding

(An apology for absence was received from Councillor N. Ahmed.)

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42. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests. There were no declarations of interest.

43. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

44. MINUTES

RESOLVED

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

45. POLICE MATTERS AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The crime statistics for July 2024 compared to the same periods in the previous year had been circulated prior to the meeting.

JULY	2023	2024
Burglary – Residential	3	3
Burglary – Commercial	3	0
Burglary – Non-Dwelling	0	1
Vehicle Crime	1	3
Assaults	9	6
Theft	5	2
Arson/Criminal Damage	4	3
All Other Recordable Incidents	27	22
All Recordable Crime (Year to Date)	211	221
Anti-Social Behaviour	19	6

The crime figures for July were showing no increases with the exception Non-Dwelling Burglaries, Vehicle Crimes and All Recordable Crimes (Year to Date). There had been a 68% reduction in the number of reported Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) incidents. PCSO Fielding gave further commentary on the figures at the meeting. The reduction in Assaults compared to last year was particularly remarkable given that Euro 2024 and the Pendle Pub Walk had taken place in July. There had been an assault on a Police Officer in Barrowford but this had been perpetrated by an individual who lived outside of the Barrowford and Western Parishes area. The reduction in ASB was also remarkable given that it was now the school summer holidays and that the weather had been good.

There were plans for a mobile speed camera van to be parked on Wheatley Lane Road, Barrowford soon due to persistent speeding issues there. A request had also been made for the use of one of Lancashire's six speed indicator devices and if granted it would be used in Barley again due to persistent speeding issues there.

The Police were aware of recent issues with fireworks being set off after 11pm which constituted ASB and a letter had been sent to Pendle's Community Leaders today about the matter.

There would be a new Inspector, Inspector Grey, joining the Pendle Neighbourhood Policing Team with effect from 19th August, 2024.

There had been lots of concerns expressed by members of the public across Pendle regarding the violent disorder and unrest that had been an issue nationally. PCSO Fielding gave a reassurance that the Police were well resourced to deal with any issues should they arise locally. Currently, there were five vans and sixty Police Officers patrolling the whole of the Borough.

46. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) Planning application for determination

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

24/0178/FUL Full (Major): Erection of 2 no. agricultural buildings and associated hardstanding to facilitate access at West Close Farm, Foxen Dole Lane, Higham for Blacko Properties Ltd

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services had circulated an update prior to the meeting which advised that the Applicant had provided some additional comments. The comments did not address the isolated siting away from existing buildings and impact of that on the landscape and visual amenity of the area and, as such, the application remained recommended for refusal.

RESOLVED

That the application be **refused** for the following reason: -

The applicant has failed to demonstrate that the siting the buildings in this isolated position is necessary and that the agricultural need could not be met by and/or adjacent to existing buildings, the size and isolated position of the buildings would cause unacceptable harm to the landscape and visual amenity of the area contrary to policies ENV1 and ENV2 of the Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy.

(b) Planning Appeals

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

47. 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.

48. AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2024/25

The Head of Housing and Environmental Health reported that the unallocated sum of the Committee's Budget was £311 and that a full report would be submitted in due course, which was noted.

49. TRAFFIC LIAISON MEETING

The minutes of the Pendle Traffic Liaison Meeting held on 5th June, 2024 were submitted for information and noted.

50. MALT KILN CAR PARK, BARROWFORD

The Director of Resources submitted a report to recommend that Members approve two requests from Heritage Trust North West (HTNW) to assist them in securing a disposal of the Malt Kiln building in Barrowford to an already identified potential purchaser. HTNW were seeking consent to a sub-lease of 10 car parking spaces on the car parking area on the land shown edged in black on the plan attached to the report at Appendix 1. They were further seeking consent to install a bridge across a sewer from Council owned land to land in their ownership.

The report further asked Members to consider whether the Council should seek a Premium from HTNW for the consents or waive the requirement for one.

The Council would normally consider charging a Premium to a commercial tenant, for the grant of consent to vary a restrictive covenant which would generate a benefit, capital receipt or income resulting from the variation. The potential purchaser had already agreed to pay £10,000 for the sub-lease. However, given that HTNW was a charitable organisation who worked closely with the Council, Members could determine to waive a Premium in this case, but on the basis that the £10,000 it would receive for the sub-lease was invested into local heritage projects to benefit the local community.

Members were minded to waive the Premium but on two conditions. The first being that the sub-lease payment be received by Pendle Heritage Centre for its use and not HTNW. And the second being that some of that payment be used for the maintenance and upkeep of some vaulted cellars on the land as they occupied a prominent position on the roadside and were currently covered by overgrown vegetation which raised implications for safety.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That consent be granted to Heritage Trust North West (HTNW) to sub-lease 10 car parking spaces on the car parking area lying adjacent to the Malt Kiln building in Barrowford.
- (3) That consent be granted to HTNW to install a bridge across a sewer from Council land to land in their ownership to enable vehicular access.
- (4) That the requirement for a Premium to be paid to the Council for the consents granted in (2) and (3) be waived on the basis that the monies from the sub-lease be received by Pendle Heritage Centre, and not HTNW, to be invested in its heritage projects and maintaining the vaulted cellars on the land.

REASONS

- (1) ***To assist Heritage Trust North West in securing a disposal of the Malt Kiln building and use of the adjacent land.***
- (2) ***To benefit the local community.***
- (3) ***To improve the appearance of the site and make it safer.***

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

(a) New Bins

An allocation of £1,000 from this Committee's Budget 2024/25 was approved at a previous meeting on 5th June, 2024 and one new bin had since been erected during Quarter 1 for the period 1st April, 2024 to 30th June, 2024, as follows:

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF BIN	COST PER BIN £
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Wheatley Lane Road, Fence	New F/s litter bin erected by the side of the Methodist Church, to replace smaller p/m litter bin on post	LITTER	£326.12
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The total spend was £326.12 which left a balance of £673.88 remaining.

(b) Replaced/Removed Bins

The Assistant Director Operational Services advised that due to wear, damage or a reduced need for the facility, six bins had been replaced / removed by Operational Services in Quarter 1 for the period 1st April, 2024 to 30th June, 2024, as follows:

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF BIN	COST PER BIN £
Foreside, Barrowford	Replace hooded, PM litter bin opposite No. 17	LITTER	£216.64
Gisburn Road, Barrowford	Reinstate the PM litter bin outside No. 27	LITTER	£50.00
Gisburn Road, Barrowford	Replace F/S litter bin fronting Holmefield House gardens	LITTER	£240.73
Lucy Street, Barrowford	Replace post and re-attach dog bin to it	DOG	£50.00
Spenbrook Road, Newchurch	Replace F/S litter bin in layby near to Douglas Hall Kennels	LITTER	£290.73
Parrock Road, Barrowford	Replace post and dog bin on grass verge	DOG	£165.68

(c) New Litter Bin Request

A representative of Friends of Roughlee had requested that a new litter bin be erected in the lay-by opposite Roughlee Primary School. There was a bin there already at one side but they had asked if another bin could be located at the opposite side.

The cost would be £326.15, £226.15 for its purchase and £100 to erect it.

Members were asked to consider funding the erection of this new bin from the allocation of £1,000 from this Committee's Budget 2024/25 agreed on 5th June, 2024.

(d) Substation Sites

Members of the Committee were encouraged to report if there were any substations within their area that might 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.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Assistant Director Operational Services' advice be noted.

- (2) That the erection of a new litter bin, at a cost of £326.15, in the lay-by opposite Roughlee Primary School be funded from the allocation of £1,000 from this Committee's Budget 2024/25 agreed on 5th June, 2024.

REASON

To address issues with litter in the vicinity of Roughlee Primary School.

52. FLOODING ISSUES/RISKS

The following updates were reported for information.

Flooding Issue on Beverley Road, Blacko

Lancashire County Council (LCC) had undertaken and completed works in September 2023 to repair a gully outlet near Gaits House on Beverley Road, Blacko. More recently orders had been raised to visit and clean the gullies in this area of Beverley Road in due course following a report from the Clerk of Blacko Parish Council. LCC's Contractor would check the gullies were flowing freely as part of that cleaning operation.

Flooding Issue on Blacko Bar Road, Roughlee

Lancashire County Council (LCC) had reviewed their Highway Asset Management System and could confirm that two gullies were cleaned on Blacko Bar Road in Blacko following customer reports in November 2023. LCC were able to clear the one near Blacko Footbridge but had issues clearing the other located near Blacko Laithe Barn. Follow up works were now required to clear the blockage and would be programmed in due course. The Representative for Roughlee Booth Parish Council advised that the situation at this location had not improved. Water had still been running on the road even during the recent dry spell. The follow up works were needed as soon as possible.

LCC strongly encouraged the use of either 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/>) to make them aware of any other blocked gullies as they were cleaned on a reactive basis at this location.

Flooding Issue on Clough Springs, Barrowford

Pendle Borough Council (PBC) and Lancashire County Council (LCC) Engineers met on site where water comes through the sub-station in flood conditions on Wheatley Lane Road, Barrowford (near Clough Springs) on 17th July, 2024.

PBC Engineers would now attempt to contact the landowner to seek their permission to gain the access needed to put a machine into the watercourse to investigate the existing culvert which was currently blocked. LCC would serve Notice if this contact could not be made. It was expected these investigatory works could be undertaken by the end of August 2024.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the updates be noted.

- (2) That Lancashire County Council be requested to programme the required follow up works on Blacko Bar Road, Roughlee as soon as possible.

REASONS

- (1) *To reduce the risk of flooding in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area.*
(2) *The issues on Blacko Bar Road, Roughlee were continuing in spite of the recent dry spell.*

53. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

• Parking issues outside Blacko Primary School

It was reported that people were regularly parking their vehicles in an irresponsible manner outside Blacko Primary School and consequently causing congestion and putting pedestrians and other road users at risk. Similar issues were also affecting Roughlee Primary School.

This matter had already been referred to Lancashire County Council Highways (LCCH) and they would be considering it at the next Pendle Traffic Liaison Meeting. It was felt LCCH should also be asked to consider undertaking another parking survey outside the school at that meeting. LCCH had undertaken a parking survey previously but it had concluded by 3pm when the issues were always at their worst between 3pm and 3:30pm.

RESOLVED

That Lancashire County Council be requested to undertake a parking survey at Blacko Primary School and also Roughlee Primary School between the hours of 3pm and 3:30pm on a day during term-time.

REASON

In the interests of highway safety.

54. 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.

55. ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME – QUARTER 1

The Assistant Director Operational Services submitted a report on Environmental Crime in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area in Quarter 1, for the period 1st April to 30th June, 2024, along with the totals for 2024/25, which was noted.

Chair _____