

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
BARROWFORD AND WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE
HELD ON 7TH MAY, 2025
AT HOLMEFIELD HOUSE**

PRESENT

Councillors

*N. Ahmed
B. Newman
M. Stone*

Co-optees

*D. Heap – Barley with Wheatley Booth Parish Council
A. Stringer – Barrowford Parish Council
N. Hodgson - Blacko Parish Council
K. Wilkinson – Goldshaw Booth Parish Council
D. Perrin - Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council
S. Cronshaw - Roughlee Booth Parish Council*

Officers in Attendance

*W. Forrest
A. Pushpagaran
J. Robinson*

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

Police

PCSO L. Marsden

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillor D. Gallear and D. Hall, Old Laund Booth Parish Council.)

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The following person attended the meeting and spoke on the following item:

<i>Robin Willoughby</i>	<i>24/0857/FUL - Full: Change of use of land to be used as a Shooting Club (Sui Generis) including formation of Earth Bund at end of existing track and the creation of car parking area on existing yard at Hunters Holme, Grove Lane, Higham</i>	<i>Minute No. 8a</i>
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1.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED

That Councillor N. Ahmed be appointed Chair of this Committee for the municipal year 2025/26.

Councillor N. Ahmed – Chair (In the Chair)

2.

APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED

That Councillor M. Stone be appointed Vice-Chair of this Committee for the municipal year 2025/26.

3. APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTEES

RESOLVED

That the following Parish Councils be invited to appoint a representative of their Council as Co-optee on this Committee for the municipal year 2025/26: –

- Barley with Wheatley Booth
- Barrowford
- Blacko
- Goldshaw Booth
- Higham with West Close Booth
- Old Laund Booth
- Roughlee Booth

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests. There were no Declarations of Interest.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A resident of Higham, who had attended the previous five meetings to speak about the same matter, was in attendance again as the fence on some land in Higham still continued to cause a serious hazard for vehicles entering the A6068 owing to visibility splay obstruction. The resident enquired as to whether there had been a positive response from owner of the land to the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services' request for the offending section of side fencing on their land to be removed. The Planning Officer confirmed there had not been.

The Chair apologised to the resident for having to attend five meetings to speak on the same matter and said the next steps would now be determined. The Chair felt the most appropriate course of action was to request that the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a full report to the next meeting of this Committee to set out the current legal position and the enforcement actions that could be taken in this particular case.

Another resident of Higham raised further issues associated with the same piece of land which they felt should be considered alongside the fencing issue and not in isolation as they had been.

The Chair said the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services would be asked to also address the further issues in the report they would be submitting to the next meeting.

A resident of Parrock Road, Barrowford raised health and safety concerns over the height of a wall on the road. The wall was currently 1.6m with a topping stone still to be added and the conditions attached to the original approved planning permission (21/0758/FUL) stated a height of 0.9m. There had already been numerous near misses due to the blind spots and visibility

issues caused the height of the wall. This issue had been raised with the Planning Enforcement Officer and further updates were awaited.

The resident also reported that WiFi and telephone connection issues were being caused for the fourth time by the approved development on the road.

Members said they would discuss the issues with the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services and asked the resident to provide further details following this meeting to inform that discussion.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services be requested to submit a full report to the next meeting of this Committee to set out the current legal position and the enforcement actions that could be taken against the owner of the land in question in Higham.
- (2) That the further issues raised by the second resident of Higham also be addressed in the report referred to in (1).
- (3) That discussions, informed by the details to be provided by the resident of Parrock Road, Barrowford following this meeting, be held between Members of this Committee and the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services.

REASON

In the interests of highway and public safety.

6. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee, at the meeting held on 2nd April, 2025, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

7. POLICE MATTERS AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The crime statistics for April 2025 compared to the same periods in the previous year had been circulated prior to the meeting.

APRIL	2025	2024
Burglary – Residential	0	1
Burglary – Other than Dwelling	2	1
Vehicle Crime	1	1
Hate Crime	0	0
Assaults	12	7
Theft	3	3
Arson/Criminal Damage	1	4
All Other Recordable Incidents	23	104
All Other Recordable Incidents	129	N/A

(Year to Date)

Anti-Social Behaviour

15

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The crime figures for April were showing no increase with the exception of Burglary – Other than Dwelling, Assaults and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB). There had been a 53% increase in the number of reported ASB incidents. PCSO L. Marsden explained that this spike was mainly e-bike and scooter related.

The Police's plans for dealing with speeding vehicles as the summer months and longer, lighter nights approached were enquired about. PCSO L. Marsden said the Police would be running Operation Nemesis for the second time to tackle all aspects of anti-social driving. He added that the operation would focus on issues within the Barrowford and Western Parishes area.

PCSO L. Marsden said Members and residents of the Committee area could register for 'In the Know' to receive regular alerts and updates from the Police (<https://www.lancashire.police.uk/contact-us/in-the-know/>). He further urged those present to remain vigilant and report any concerns either via 101 or 999 in the case of an emergency.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) Planning application for determination

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

24/0857/FUL Full: Change of use of land to be used as a Shooting Club (Sui Generis) including formation of Earth Bund at end of existing track and the creation of car parking area on existing yard at Hunters Holme, Grove Lane, Higham for Mrs. Adele Hanson

Determination of this item had been deferred from the last meeting of this Committee to allow further discussions between the Assistant Director Planning Building Control and Regulatory Services and the applicant to take place.

RESOLVED

That determination of this application be **deferred** to the next meeting of this Committee to allow for a site visit.

(b) Planning Appeals

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

9. ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report, for information, giving the up-to-date position on prosecutions.

In a verbal update it was reported that all the non-agricultural items had now been removed from Field No 9346 Jinny Lane, Roughlee (Case 4).

10. AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2025/26

The Head of Housing and Environmental Health submitted a report which advised Members on the Committee's 2025/26 Budget.

RESOLVED

That consideration of this report be deferred to the next meeting of this Committee.

11. TRAFFIC LIAISON MEETING

The minutes of the Pendle Traffic Liaison Meeting (PTLM) held on 26th February, 2025 were submitted for information.

Members noted Item 4.2 – Cross Lane, Barley – DYL extension request in particular and were encouraged that additional inspections had been agreed and that there would be further discussion on the matter at the next PTLM.

Members felt that opportunities might have been missed previously by not referring issues to the PTLM and said they would use the mechanism more going forward.

12. PREMISES IMPROVEMENT GRANT SCHEME – SUMMARY 2024/25

The Head of Economic Growth submitted a report to request that Members agree to a funding allocation of £3,000 for 2025/26 and also consider the appointment of two Grant Panel Members for the year. Consideration of this report had been deferred from the last meeting of this Committee.

RESOLVED

That consideration of this report be deferred to the next meeting of this Committee.

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

(a) New Bins

No new bins had been erected during Quarter 4 for the period 1st January, 2025 to 31st March, 2025.

(b) Replaced/Removed Bins

The Assistant Director Operational Services advised that due to wear, damage or a reduced need for the facility, one bin had been replaced / removed by Operational Services in Quarter 4 for the period 1st January, 2025 to 31st March, 2025, as follows:

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF BIN	COST PER BIN £
Park Avenue, Barrowford	Replace yellow p/m litter bin with larger black F/S litter bin	LITTER	£326.12

(c) 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.

14. FLOODING ISSUES/RISKS

No new flooding issues/risks were raised.

15. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

Leak and potholes on Pasture Lane, Barrowford

A resident of Barrowford had made Members aware of ongoing issues with a leak and potholes on Pasture Lane, Barrowford. The potholes were getting larger and were becoming increasingly dangerous and had already caused damage to the resident's car.

It was reported that the issues had already been referred to Lancashire County Council Highways and also to United Utilities and were under investigation. An update would be provided at a future meeting.

RESOLVED

That an update on the leak and potholes on Pasture Lane, Barrowford be provided at a future meeting of this Committee.

REASON

In the interests of highway safety.

16. OUTSTANDING ISSUES

- a. Flooding/Drainage Issue on Pasture Lane, Barrowford (02.04.2025)
- b. Flooding/Drainage Issue in the Vicinity of the Forest pub, Fence (02.04.2025)
- c. Flooding/Drainage Issue in the Vicinity of the Public Toilets in Newchurch-in-Pendle (02.04.2025)

17. 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.

18. ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME – QUARTER 4

The Assistant Director Operational Services submitted a report on Environmental Crime in the Barrowford and Western Parishes area for the period 1st January, 2025 to 31st March, 2025,

along with the totals for 2024/25, which was noted.

Chair _____

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