

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
WEST CRAVEN COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE NEW ROAD COMMUNITY CENTRE, EARBY
ON 7TH OCTOBER 2025**

PRESENT –

Councillor D. M. Whipp (Chair)

Councillors

*C. Church
D. Hartley
S. Land*

Co-optees

*J. Spencer, Barnoldswick Town Council
A. Mayers, Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council*

Police

Sergeant P. Meades

Officers

*D. Walker Assistant Director Operational Services and Area Co-ordinator
A. Pushpagaran Planning Officer
J. Eccles Committee Administrator*

(Apologies were given by C. Pollard (Salterforth Parish Council), and Councillors M. Strickland and L. Whipp.)

75. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Members' attention was also drawn to the requirements of the Council's Code of Conduct relating to the disclosure of Other Registrable Interests and Non-Registrable Interests.

76. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There was a question from a member of the public about a subject on the year 5 curriculum at a local church school. The Chair explained that the content of the school's curriculum was not something within the Committee's remit. He offered to raise the matter with Lancashire County Council (LCC) on her behalf if she forwarded her contact details to the Committee Administrator.

77. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd September 2025, be approved as a correct record.

78. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

Sergeant P. Meades attended the meeting. He referred to the crime statistics for August and September which had been circulated prior to the meeting. The monthly priorities for local neighbourhood policing had been parking issues around pick up/drop-off times at schools, speeding vehicles, drug dealing and anti-social behaviour.

He gave an update on the Clear, Hold, Build policy which was designed by the Home Office to reduce serious and organised crime threats and crime levels in designated areas and tackle the drivers of crime to prevent it returning. It relied on effective neighbourhood policing and partnership working and he said that it was beginning to get results in Pendle.

He encouraged people to report crimes individually online at <https://www.lancashire.police.uk> There were contact details for the Neighbourhood Team in their area and a guarantee that an officer would respond within 48 hours.

Operation Snap (or Op Snap) was the Lancashire Police response to the increasing submission of digital evidence relating to moving traffic offences witnessed by members of the public. People could upload footage of single incidents for assessment. If there was sufficient evidence to prove an offence had been committed there was a dedicated prosecution team to take cases forward.

People could also sign up for *In The Know* - a free messaging service by Lancashire Police supported by Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service and LCC - and decide when and how they were kept informed about local Neighbourhood policing issues e.g. text messages or emails. There was also the option to sign up on their Facebook page.

He also encouraged people to respond to the surveys carried out through *Lancashire Talking* enabling people to have their say and help drive aspects of Neighbourhood Policing in their area. That way the Police could target their activity and problem solving more effectively.

Members received an update on the recent damage of trees in Victory Park. They reported plants that had been stolen from planters at the War Memorial in Barnoldswick and a parking issue in St James Square, which Sergeant Meades said he would look into. Members also reported occurrences of highway flooding in various locations following the extremely wet weather over the previous weekend and a crash on the A56 which had been caused by flooding. Some of the drainage issues had been raised previously with LCC but had not been addressed. PC Meades was asked if the Police could do anything to raise their concerns about road safety.

RESOLVED

- (1) That Sergeant P. Meades be thanked for attending the meeting and providing the update on crimes and police work in the area.
- (2) That Sergeant Meades be asked to raise with LCC and the Road Safety Partnership any concerns the Police had about highway safety issues at the following locations due to highway flooding –
 - A56 Colne Road, Kelbrook, near the petrol station and Dales Automotives on both sides of the road
 - A56 Colne Road, Sough near the bend
 - Skipton Road, Barnoldswick outside Rolls Royce factory on Ghyll Brow
 - A56 Lancashire Ghyll, Old Stone Trough Lane (a culvert issue causing run-off)

79. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) Planning Applications for determination

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report on the following planning application for determination –

24/0800/CND *Approval of Details Reserved by Condition: Discharge Condition 5 (Future Management and Maintenance of public open spaces and pedestrian/cycle link between the estate and Coates Lane) and Condition 6 (Internal pedestrian and cycle link between the estate and Coates Lane) of Planning*

***Permission 23/0067/REM at Development Site to the west of Meadow Way,
Skipton Road, Barnoldswick for Tabley Homes (Barnoldswick) Ltd***

RESOLVED

- (1) That Condition 5 be **discharged** as follows -

Condition 5 (Future Management and Maintenance of public open spaces and pedestrian/cycle link between the estate and Coates Lane) – The submitted details (BAR2211_LMP01_Rev 1) are acceptable. The condition is discharged subject to implementation.

- (2) That Condition 6 (Internal pedestrian and cycle link between the estate and Coates Lane) – The submitted details (102-0122 – L(20)002, 2299-SCE-00-00-DR-C-0024-P03, HH_SRB_PSO_01 REVD) be **refused** due to the pavement not being accessible and the K barriers on the cycleway not allowing access for mobility scooters, powered wheelchairs and cyclists.

(b) Planning Appeals

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

80. ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The Head of Legal Services submitted a report giving the up-to-date position on enforcement action.

RESOLVED

That the planning applications in respect of Land to the West of Brogden View, Brogden Lane, Barnoldswick be submitted to this Committee for determination in due course.

81. AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET

The Head of Property and Engineering reported that out of a total allocation of £32,885 (including a credit for litter/dog waste bins) £24,494.52 had not yet been allocated.

82. EARBY FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME

The Head of Engineering and Property Services submitted a report with an update on Phase 3 of the Earby Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS).

Phase 1 had led to the refurbishment of Victoria Clough culvert. Phase 2 of the works saw improvements in the form of a new flood wall along New Cut and the creation of a new earth embankment on Hill Top Lane. AECOM had been appointed as consultants to develop the outline proposals for a flood storage area on Wentcliffe Brook, Phase 3 of the FAS. The report gave details of how the scheme was funded and the various stages of development.

Reference was made to the recent Emergency Services Day in Earby on 27th September when 6 local residents had volunteered to be trained as community flood wardens responsible for helping and preparing communities at risk of flooding.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the progress of the Earby Flood Alleviation Scheme development towards EA Full Business Case Stage be noted and welcomed.
- (2) That a further report be submitted in 3 months' time or at the most appropriate time.
- (3) That the Engineering Manager be asked to contact the EA to check if there was any vegetation currently inhibiting the flow of water in Earby Beck.
- (4) That the emergency services and companies that attended the Emergency Services Day event on 27th September (Flood Protection Solutions, Watertight and local company Go Velo) be thanked for their contribution.

REASON

To monitor the work being undertaken to minimise flooding risk in Earby.

83. PROPOSED REVOCATION OF THE HACKNEY CARRIAGE RANK ON CHURCH STREET, BARNOLDSWICK

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report recommending that the Church Street hackney carriage rank be advertised for revocation as it was no longer used by the trade.

RESOLVED

That the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services be requested to advertise the proposal to revoke the Church Street, Barnoldswick hackney carriage rank, as set out in the plan attached to the report, and if no representation was made from the public, Police or LCC, that the rank be revoked.

REASON

The rank is not used by the hackney carriage trade.

84. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(a) Roadside tree, Rainhall Road, Barnoldswick

The roots of a TPO lime tree on a small triangular piece of land at the junction of Wellhouse Road and Rainhall Road, Barnoldswick was affecting the nearby property and the pavement. LCC had been tending to the tree and regularly pruning it but this had stopped recently, as they said it was not on the adopted highway.

RESOLVED

That LCC be asked if they would accept responsibility for the TPO lime tree at the junction of Wellhouse Road and Rainhall Road, Barnoldswick and, in view of the damage being caused to the adjacent property, the tree be removed.

REASON

In the interests of highway safety and public amenity.

(b) Passing Place, Greenberfield Lane, Barnoldswick

There was a discussion about the need for a passing place adjacent to Greenberfield Lane and Gisburn Road, outside AgriSpares Trading, to access the sewage works. The need for the passing place had become more significant following the recent pipe burst that resulted in heavy vehicles using the track. There were issues regarding ownership of land and other outstanding issues linked to previous planning permissions that needed to be resolved.

RESOLVED

That the Engineering Manager be asked to arrange a meeting with interested parties, including LCC and UU to try and move progress on the retention of the passing place at Greenberfield Lane, Barnoldswick, and dedication of UU land at the junction of Greenberfield Lane with Gisburn Road as highway.

REASON

To improve highway access and safety.

(c) Picnic area, Greenberfield Locks, Barnoldswick

The Canal and River Trust had started work on erecting a bin store for the boats moored on the canal at the top of a grassy slope in the picnic area next to the Grade 2 Greenberfield Locks and bridge. However, Members felt that it was not in keeping with the setting. They were also concerned that Operational Services staff would find it difficult to access the site to empty the bins.

RESOLVED

That the Canal and River Trust be asked to relocate the bin store from the picnic area at Greenberfield Locks to a more suitable location.

REASON

In the interests of visual amenity and to improve access for waste collection.

85. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

Members agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during the following items 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.

86. OUTSTANDING ENFORCEMENTS

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

Chair.....