

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
WEST CRAVEN COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE RAINHALL CENTRE, BARNOLDSWICK
ON 6TH JANUARY 2026**

PRESENT –

Councillor D. M. Whipp (Chair)

Councillors

*C. Church
B. Hartley
D. Hartley
S. Land*

Co-optees

*J. Spencer, Barnoldswick Town Council
C. Elley, Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council*

Officers

<i>D. Walker</i>	<i>Assistant Director Operational Services and Area Co-ordinator</i>
<i>L. Barnes</i>	<i>Senior Planning Officer</i>
<i>J. Eccles</i>	<i>Committee Administrator</i>

(Apologies for absence were given by Councillor L. Whipp.)

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The following person attended and spoke on the item indicated –

<i>Dean Simpson</i>	<i>25/0762/FUL - Technical Details Consent: Erection of 1 no. dwelling with integral garage, including altered vehicular access and the provision of 3 no. parking spaces of Permission in Principle 24/0373/PIP at Land north east of Meadow Park Court, Barnoldswick</i>	<i>Minute 121(a)</i>
<i>Margaret Bell</i>	<i>Dial-a Ride Service to Dales View Park</i>	<i>Minute 125(a)</i>

117. 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.

118. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

119. MINUTES

RESOLVED

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

120.

POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The Police were unable to attend the meeting. The crime figures for December had been circulated prior to the meeting. They were in a new format and as requested had been split between the wards. Sergeant G. Ingham had said they had taken some time to produce. The Chair said that the Committee needed to consider whether they wanted to continue receiving the statistics in this format or would prefer the time taken to produce them used on other Police work.

Members discussed recent posts on Facebook by a County Councillor referring to an alleged knife crime in Earby, to which the Police had taken a long time to respond. However, when questioned by the Chair, the Police said that on checking their records, they had attended the scene within 22 minutes of the emergency call being made. The call to 999 mentioned an altercation between 2 males outside the Conservative Club in Earby and had made no mention of a knife. There was no report of a weapon being found when they attended the scene. There was concern that the posts were stirring up community relations and undermining the Police.

There was also a discussion about recent anti-social behaviour and verbal abuse that bus drivers were experiencing from young people travelling on buses. Action was being taken to bring the culprits to justice. LCC's Bus Team had identified individuals. 2 youths had been brought in by the Police for questioning and the Youth Offending Team had questioned another individual.

Mention was made of a bike that had been set on fire at the entrance to the old railway line above the Station Hotel off Salterforth Road. The debris from the fire had been left on the land.

There was an untaxed vehicle in Earby that was being moved around. This would be reported to the Police. Members were asked to report any other untaxed or uninsured vehicles to the Police so there was a sufficient number to warrant bringing their Bin the Bangers operation to West Craven.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Police be thanked for attending the scene of an alleged crime in Earby within 22 minutes of it being reported.
- (2) That concern be expressed to LCC that one of its County Councillors had spread misinformation about an incident in Earby undermining community cohesion and confidence in the Police.
- (3) That a message of support be sent to Transdev and their drivers for having to deal with anti-social behaviour on their buses noting that effective action was being taken and they be asked if anything could be done to help.
- (4) That thanks be relayed to the Police for dealing swiftly with the anti-social behaviour on buses and that hopefully this behaviour could be nipped in the bud.
- (5) That LCC be asked to clear the land at the entrance to the old railway line above the Station Hotel off Salterforth Road, the site of a recent fire.

121.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) Planning Applications for determination

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

25/0748/FUL *Full: Formation of an agricultural track at Thornton Hall Farm, Skipton Road, Barnoldswick for Mr Chris Harrison*

An update had been circulated prior to the meeting reporting late comments from North Yorkshire Highways recommending that planning permission be refused. This was in line with the position taken by LCC Highways in their objection. Members were informed that this application had been withdrawn at the applicant's request.

25/0762/FUL *Technical Details Consent: Erection of 1 no. dwelling with integral garage, including altered vehicular access and the provision of 3 no. parking spaces of Permission in Principle 24/0373/PIP at Land north east of Meadow Park Court, Barnoldswick for Mr Dean Simpson*

An update had been circulated prior to the meeting reporting receipt of amended plans seeking to address comments from consultees and the public. Also receipt of a Preliminary Ecology Survey which concluded that there were no ecological constraints to the proposal with regards to protected and notable species and that there was no requirement for further ecology assessment.

As a result of the additional information the Planning Officer's recommendation could be altered to approval of the application subject to the conditions set out in the report with a change to condition 2 and the deletion of condition 14 to reflect the amended plans.

RESOLVED

That planning permission be **granted** subject to the following conditions -

1. The proposed development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason: In order to comply with the requirements of Section 91 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (As Amended).

2. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans: Location Plan received 24/11/2025, Proposed Floor Plan 1752_02A, Proposed Elevation Plans 1752_03, Proposed Site Plan 1752_05B, Existing and Proposed Site Sections 1752_06.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

3. Prior to the commencement of development samples of all the external facing materials, boundary treatment and all hard surfacing, including parking areas and paving of the development hereby approved, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall thereafter at all times be carried out in strict accordance with the approved materials and details.

Reason: To ensure a satisfactory form of development in the interest of visual amenity of the area.

4. Prior to the commencement of development, a scheme of foul and surface water drainage shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out only in accordance with the approved drainage scheme.

Reason: To promote sustainable development, secure proper drainage and to manage the risk of flooding and pollution.

5. Notwithstanding any indication on the plans hereby approved, prior to first occupation of the approved development any physical boundary treatment erected adjacent to Meadow Park shall be no higher than 0.9m above the nearside carriageway level for the first 2m into the site and shall be retained as such for the lifetime of the development.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety to ensure adequate inter-visibility for the drivers of vehicles entering and leaving the site.

6. Prior to first occupation of the approved development the parking and manoeuvring areas shown on the approved plans shall be constructed, laid out and surfaced in bound porous materials and thereafter always remain available for the parking of vehicles associated with the dwelling and shall be kept free from obstructions in perpetuity.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety to ensure that satisfactory levels of parking and manoeuvring are provided within the site.

7. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015, or any subsequent Orders or statutory provision re-enacting the provisions of these Orders, the garage shown on the approved plan shall be maintained as such and shall not be converted to or used for any purpose which would preclude its use for car parking, without the prior written approval of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To protect off-road parking provision in the future.

8. No development shall take place, including any works of demolition, until a construction method statement has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved statement shall be adhered to throughout the construction period. It shall provide for:
- i) The parking of vehicles of site operatives and visitors
 - ii) The loading and unloading of plant and materials
 - iii) The storage of plant and materials used in constructing the development
 - iv) The erection and maintenance of security hoarding
 - v) Measures to control the emission of dust and dirt during construction
 - vi) A scheme for recycling/disposing of waste resulting from demolition and construction works
 - vii) Details of working hours

Reason: To minimise the impact and disruption to highway users and in the interest of residential amenity

9. The development hereby permitted shall not be commenced until a detailed landscaping scheme has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall be submitted at a scale of 1:200 and shall include the following:

- a. the exact location and species of all existing trees and other planting to be retained;
- b. all proposals for new planting and turfing indicating the location, arrangement, species, sizes, specifications, numbers and planting densities;
- c. an outline specification for ground preparation;
- d. all proposed boundary treatments with supporting elevations and construction details;
- e. all proposed hard landscape elements and pavings, including layout, materials and colours;
- f. the proposed arrangements and specifications for initial establishment maintenance and long-term maintenance of all planted and/or turfed areas.

The approved scheme shall be implemented in its entirety approved form within the first planting season following the substantial completion of the development. Any tree or other planting that is lost, felled, removed, uprooted, dead, dying or diseased, or is substantially damaged within a period of five years thereafter shall be replaced with a specimen of similar species and size, during the first available planting season following the date of loss or damage.

Reason: To ensure that the development is adequately landscaped so as to integrate with its surroundings.

10. The development hereby approved shall be carried out in strict accordance with the arboricultural impact assessment, prepared by Tree Plan Arboricultural Consultants, dated 24 November 2025.

Reason: To protect the trees in the interest of the amenity of the area.

11. Unless approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority no ground clearance, demolition, or construction work shall commence until protective fencing, to BS 5837 : 2005 at least 1.25 metres high securely mounted on timber posts firmly driven into the ground has been erected around each tree/tree group or hedge to be preserved on the site or on immediately adjoining land, and no work shall be carried out on the site until the written approval of the Local Planning Authority has been issued confirming that the protective fencing is erected in accordance with this condition. The fencing shall be located at least 1.00 metre beyond the protected area detailed in BS 5837. Within the areas so fenced, the existing ground level shall be neither raised nor lowered. Roots with a diameter of more than 25 millimetres shall be left unsevered. There shall be no construction work, development or development-related activity of any description, including the deposit of spoil or the storage of materials within the fenced areas. The protective fencing shall thereafter be maintained during the period of construction.

Reason: To prevent trees from being damaged during building works.

12. No part of the development shall commence unless and until a Planning Obligation pursuant to section 106 of the Town & Country Planning Act, 1990 (or any subsequent provision equivalent to that section) has been made with the Local Planning Authority. The obligation shall provide for 10% Biodiversity Net Gain and a contribution for monitoring of the Biodiversity Net Gain provision for a 30 year period.

Reason: To ensure the provision of biodiversity net gain.

13. Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority, the fence along the boundary with Meadow Park shall remain in place at a height no less than 1.8m for the lifetime of the development.

Reason: In order to protect neighbouring amenity.

BNG Conditions

1. The development may not be begun unless
- a. a biodiversity gain plan has been submitted to the planning authority and
 - b. the planning authority has approved the plan
- Phase plan
- (b) the first and each subsequent phase of development may not be begun unless -
- (i) a biodiversity gain plan for that phase has been submitted to the planning authority and
 - (ii) the planning authority has approved that plan

Reason: In order to fulfil the obligations for Biodiversity Net Gain, in accordance with the Environment Act 2021, Schedule 14.

INFORMATIVE

If during any stage of the development any miscellaneous substances, made ground or potentially contaminated ground that has not been previously identified and planned for in a report is uncovered, work in the area must stop immediately and the Environmental Health Department at the Borough of Pendle should be made aware. No work should continue until a contingency plan has been developed and agreed with the local planning authority.

(b) Planning Appeals

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services reported that at 18th December there were no outstanding planning appeals.

122. ENFORCEMENT ACTION

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

Members were disappointed at the lack of progress at the Wardle Storey Offices in Earby. It was noted that officers had met United Utilities to discuss the outstanding problems on site at Land at the junction with Greenberfield Lane, Gisburn Road, Barnoldswick, relating to the Breach of Condition notices to construct the pedestrian crossing point on Gisburn Road, pedestrian footways and associated works, and to alter the perimeter fence in accordance with the approved plan. Unfortunately there had been no dialogue with the developers or LCC.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Legal Services Manager remind the developers of Wardle Storeys that the Committee expected a timely process for the completion of works.
- (2) That in respect of the outstanding works required at Land at the junction with Greenberfield Lane, Gisburn Road, Barnoldswick, the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services await a response from United Utilities following the recent site visit on

possible action that could be taken to improve the situation and be authorised to take the matter further with LCC, if necessary, to improve the situation for pedestrians.

123. AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2025/26

It was noted that the balance on the Area Committee Budget for 2025/26 was £24,494.52.

Members considered a bid from the Dales View Park Residents Association seeking £850 towards the installation of a community defibrillator.

RESOLVED

- (1) That £850 be allocated from the Salterforth allocation of the 2025/26 Area Committee Budget to Dales View Park Residents Association to go towards the purchase and installation of a community defibrillator.
- (2) That 50% of the 2025/26 Area Committee Budget be carried forward to 2026/27 to support Pride in Place Impact Fund projects in West Craven (See Minute 126).

REASON

To enable the area committee budget to be allocated efficiently and effectively.

124. SALTERFORTH VILLAGE CAR PARK

At a meeting on 26th November officers from the Property Services Team attended a meeting with representatives from Salterforth Parish Council (SPC) to discuss the future ownership of the village car park.

The background to the current ownership of the car park by PBC was that the developer of the housing estate, Seddons, had surrendered the land so that there could be a village car park rather than building more houses. PBC took initial responsibility for the car park, the intention being that SPC would take ownership. An email dated 29th June 2018 was circulated showing agreement from SPC to take the car park on. However, the transfer to the Parish Council had not been progressed and left in abeyance.

The outcome of the meeting was that SPC felt that they no longer had the resources to take ownership and responsibility for the car park. Members were disappointed at this, as PBC ownership was only supposed to be temporary and there was no budget for future responsibilities. It was suggested that in the Local Government Reorganisation this land could be auctioned off for a capital receipt and then this village asset would be lost.

RESOLVED

That a follow-up Member-level meeting be held with Salterforth Parish Council to discuss the future ownership of Salterforth Village Car Park.

REASON

To agree a way forward.

125.

BUS ISSUES

(a) Dial-a Ride Service to Dales View Park

At the last meeting Members discussed the difficulties with getting the Pilkington town bus service extended to Dales View Park. It was agreed that LCC would be asked to consider providing a Dial-a-Ride service to Dales View Park.

It was noted that LCC's Area Accessible Transport Services Manager was going to enquire if one of their Dial-a-Ride minibuses (accommodating up to 12 people) could visit Dales View Park once a week. It would be a weekday service and could be for a trip to an agreed destination e.g. a supermarket, the Town Centre, or Boundary Mill, somewhere residents all wanted to go for a couple of hours. The charge would be £4 a trip, and they would need a minimum of 4 people on each outing.

RESOLVED

That the LCC's Area Accessible Transport Services Manager be asked if there was any progress to report on extending the Dial-a-Ride service to Dales View Park.

(b) Bus Stop Issues

An update from LCC on some of the bus stop issues raised at the last meeting was submitted for information. Representatives from Barnoldswick Town Council and Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council reiterated that they had not been consulted on the replacement of bus shelters that they owned. The current bus shelter on Coates Lane was twice the width of the new 3 Bay bus shelter proposed and due to its orientation protected people from the prevailing wind.

RESOLVED

That the Engineering Manager be asked to contact LCC's Bus Services Team to –

- (1) Ask when the new bus shelters at Sough and Gisburn Road were being installed.
- (2) Inform them that Barnoldswick Town Council and Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council had not been consulted on the removal of their bus shelters.
- (3) Request that LCC's replacement bus shelters be at least as good as or better than those being replaced – better in a practical way, as well as looking better.
- (4) That the LCC Bus Services Team be asked to meet representatives from this Committee and local Parish/Town Councils to have an open dialogue about bus shelter issues.

REASON

To improve bus stops and shelters for residents.

126.

PRIDE IN PLACE IMPACT FUND

Members discussed the Pride in Place Impact Fund - a new £1.5m programme of central government funding allocated to Pendle for use on capital projects in 2025/26 and 2026/27. At the Executive meeting on 17th December it was agreed to allocate funding of £339,327 for projects in Barnoldswick and £137,101 for projects in Earby.

Members were asked to consider possible projects in West Craven that could deliver and spend by 31st March 2027. It was noted that eligible activities must fall within one of three objectives -

- Spaces – The focus of this objective is buildings and indoor spaces.
- Public spaces – The focus of this objective is outdoor recreation spaces.
- High streets & town centre revitalisation – The focus of this objective is regenerating high streets and local shopping areas.

Members were meeting officers and representatives of Parish/Town Councils at Barnoldswick Civic Hall on Friday 9th January to hear more about the scheme and discuss initial ideas.

The Chair had shared with Members suggestions of where the funding could be spent and some initial ideas for projects. A graffiti wall project in Barnoldswick discussed at the last meeting was also mentioned.

RESOLVED

That the ideas for possible projects for Pride in Place Impact Funding circulated at the meeting be forwarded to the Senior Regeneration Officer as a starting point for discussion at the meeting on 9th January.

REASON

To aid discussion with finding projects that would make the best possible use of available resources with the required timescale.

127.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- (a) Long Ing Lane/Rainhall Road – heavy traffic and parking issues caused by the large wagons going to the Seddon site at Long Ing.**

Residents had complained about the large wagons going to the Seddon site at Long Ing. This had been taken up with the Enforcement Officer and was no longer a problem. However, there had also been some large vehicles going to Silentnight and, not being able to access the site, parking on the pavement of residential streets and running engines early in the morning, until the site opened.

RESOLVED

That the Enforcement Officer be asked to contact Silentnight to see if anything could be done to ensure that their deliveries could be arranged at a time when they could access the site.

REASON

In the interests of residential amenity.

- (b) Retail provision on Coates Estate - to consider difficulties for local residents following the closure of the local shop.**

The 'Happy Shopper' local shop had suddenly closed on the Coates Estate. The property was being done up but it was unclear whether it would be another local shop or not.

RESOLVED

That the new owner of the 'Happy Shopper' premises be asked if they would be providing a retail presence on the Coates Estate.

REASON

In the interests of local residents.

(c) Broadband 'not spots'- to consider areas which haven't been connected to fibre networks.

It was noted that Broadband didn't reach certain spots in the area. These included half way up Salterforth Road, and the outlying moors area.

RESOLVED

That Openreach be asked if they were able to extend coverage to the 'not spots' in West Craven.

REASON

To ensure all residents and businesses of West Craven had access to broadband.

(d) Northholme Community Centre - to consider residents' requests that the community centre be reopened.

In 2022, Members met Together Housing (TH) to discuss the possibility of re-opening Northholme Community Centre. At the time, TH had indicated they would consider a request for the building to transfer to a body wanting to operate it as a community centre.

RESOLVED

That Together Housing be approached to see if their willingness to transfer Northholme Community Centre to a body wanting to operate it as a community centre still stood, and if so, that a meeting be held with interested residents to discuss this further.

REASON

To provide a local space for local residents and groups to meet.

128. 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.

129. OUTSTANDING ENFORCEMENTS

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report on outstanding enforcements. It was noted that a meeting had been arranged with interested parties

concerning the first case. An update was give on the third case which also appeared on the problem site list.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the progress outlined in the report be noted.
- (2) That the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services be asked to remove the third case from the outstanding enforcements list.

130.

PROBLEM SITES

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report on problem sites which were all long-term empty properties. At the meeting an update was given on the four cases. It was noted that a report would be considered by the Executive at their next meeting on three of the four cases listed setting out options for bringing them back into use.

Chair.....