

SCARISBRICK PARISH COUNCIL.

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 8.00pm in the Village Hall on
Monday 9th January 2017

PRESENT.

Councillor J Herbert (in the Chair)
Councillor D Oakes
Councillor J Hankin
Mr T.J. Houghton (Clerk – in attendance)

Councillor Mrs J Marshall
Councillor Mrs G Holcroft
Councillor M Cox

Two members of the Public were present.

17/1...APOLOGIES.

These were received from Councillors I Tinsley, L Green, Mrs M Edwards and H Ascroft.
The Council approved that Councillor Ascroft's absence was due to ill-health in accordance with LGA 1972 s85.

17/2... DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were none

17/3...CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES.

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5th December 2016 were a true record and should be signed by the Chairman.

17/4...ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING.

The meeting was adjourned at 20.02 to allow members of the Public to address the Council.

Father Boniface wanted to place on record his support of the objection recently raised by a resident to the proposed sale and development of the Bescar Brow Lane depot.

Councillor Dereli discussed the continued worries about adequate drainage systems in West Lancashire. She also discussed the implications of a 2% rise in Council tax to fund social care and the poor record of academy trusts in education. The Council was also advised to resubmit the grant application re WW1 in a revised form before the end of March.

17/5... PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following applications were considered and resolutions were made as follows:

- (1) 2016/1163/FUL: Pool Hey Caravan Park, Pool Hey Lane : **Against**
 - (2) 2016/1198/FUL: 1b Woodmoss Lane: **No Objection**
 - (3) 2016/1299/LDC: Bruffs Farm, Drummersdale Lane : **No Objection**
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17/6 ...FINANCE

It was resolved that the following accounts be passed for payment:

	DETAILS	AMOUNT	AUTHORITY TO INCUR EXPENDITURE
T Houghton	Salary £428.06 *expenses £11.79	£439.85	LGA 1972 s112 (2)
HMRC	Clerk PAYE – Quarter 3	£321.00	LGA 1972, s112 (2)
J & D Webster Ltd	2 x Bus shelter removals	£240.00	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953, s4

includes:

- Monthly mobile phone fee of £9.99
- Mileage £1.80

17/7...DAMAGED BUS SHELTER:

The two quotes provided were discussed. The quote from AJS was seen to be the nearest to a like for like replacement given red cedar wood was being used. The question of whether the existing base is fit for purpose was also raised.

It was resolved that the Clerk obtains confirmation from the two contractors that no extra expenditure will be incurred in respect of the base.

It was further resolved that the Clerk wrote back to the Insurers outlining that the more expensive quote from AJS Joinery was the closest of the 2 quotes to a like for like replacement given the respective timbers being used.

17/8...MILLENNIUM WOOD:

(a) It was resolved that P Gore be used to undertake the work to extend the fence.

(b) It was further resolved that a replacement plaque be acquired for the Millennium Oak. The wording to be used being ‘The Scarisbrick Parish Oak, planted in 2000 to celebrate the Millennium’. It was further resolved that the Clerk obtain quotes for a suitable plaque. It was also resolved that the Chairman will review the entrance of the Wood and report back to the Council at a later date.

17/9 ...GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT:

(a) It was resolved that the tender documents (circulated) be approved subject to a specification that the grass should be cut to a height of 5cms and that cutting the entrance area of Millennium Wood be added to the specification.

(b) It was resolved that the tender list include J Forshaw, J & D Webster Ltd, K Boardman, A E Formby Ltd and Greenfingers Landscape Ltd. It was also resolved that the Clerk place an advert inviting other contractors to apply via the local Champion newspaper.

(c) It was resolved that the Clerk write to the County Council to enquire what their proposals were for dealing with the weed problem on certain Highways which is presently an increasing problem.

(d) It was resolved that the Clerk writes to the Borough Council to request their proposals for dealing with the mole problems on the grass verges for which the parish maintains responsibility for grass cutting.

17/10...2017 PROJECTS:

Numerous potential projects were highlighted ahead of the forthcoming budget meeting.
It was resolved that the Clerk obtains quotes for benches and speed calming measures to be made available at the next meeting.

17/11...BUDGET UPDATE:

The Clerk presented a quarter 3 update which was received by the Council

17/12...CLERK ANNUAL APPRAISAL:

It was resolved that the Chairman and Councillor Holcroft be appointed as the personnel committee to manage the Clerk's annual appraisal.

17/13... CLERKS REPORT:

Highways have confirmed that the bollards on the cycle path by Turning Lane will be installed in the next 4 weeks.

The Internal Audit is close to completion and will be an agenda item in the February meeting. James Forshaw has promised to complete the bus shelter repairs during January.

The sum of £122.50 was sent to the Mayors charities from the collection held at the Civic Service.

Mary Ormsby has mentioned the possibility of hosting a heritage weekend in the Village later this year involving the Churches, local businesses etc.

Elizabeth Blamires has brought up the lack of Parish Council presence on the Village Hall management committee.

Crime figures for last month as provided by PCSO S Morley are

4 X Burglary in a dwelling, Snape Green, Jacksmere La, Moorfield La and Southport Rd.

1 X attempt burglary in a dwelling, Rimmer Green

3 X theft

2 X theft from a M/vehicle, Hillcrest Dr and Greenfield Rd

1 X Assault, dog bite.

1 X theft of a M/vehicle, Wyke La insecure with keys

3 reported incidents of ASB

The next meeting of West Lancashire Area Committee of LALC is scheduled for 7.30pm on 19th January at WLBC offices. Details circulated.

The annual LCC Parish and Town Council conference is to be held on Saturday 25th February at Preston County Hall, commencing at 9.30. We are invited to send 2 representatives.

Cynthia Dereli has provided us with posters to be put on the Village Boards advertising free computer courses hosted by the Burscough hub Group. Courses start on Feb 1st at the Methodist Church on Orrell Lane.

It has been confirmed that the Government has not extended the Council tax referendum principles to Parish and Town councils in 2017-18

17/14.....COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

The Chairman advised that she attended the Carol concert run by Scarisbrick Hall School in December which was a successful event.

Councillor Herbert confirmed that he attended a transport seminar last month which outlined various initiatives that parishes can undertake. A full report will be made available in the February meeting.

Councillor Oakes advised that the next NFU newsletter is shortly due out which will cover topics such as Alt Crossens pumping stations. This will be an agenda item at the next meeting.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40pm
