

SCARISBRICK PARISH COUNCIL.

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 8.00pm in the Village Hall on Monday 9th May 2016

PRESENT.

Councillor Mrs J. Marshall (in the Chair)	Councillor Mrs M Edwards
Councillor Mrs G Holcroft	Councillor D Oakes
Councillor J Herbert	Councillor H Ascroft
Councillor M Cox	

Mr T.J. Houghton (Clerk – in attendance)

Six members of the Public were present.

16/83 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor Mrs J Marshall was elected Chairman for the next 12m. She then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

16/84 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor J Herbert was elected Vice-Chairman for the next 12m.

16/85 APOLOGIES.

These were received from Councillor J Hankin and Councillor I Tinsley and PCSO S Morley

16/86 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Councillor J Herbert declared a non pecuniary interest in item 16/91

16/87 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES.

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4th April 2016 were a true record and should be signed by the Chairman.

16/88 ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING.

The meeting was adjourned at 20.03 to allow members of the Public to address the Council.

The owners of the Kale Farm on Asmall Lane gave a detailed history of the farming operation at Asmall House Farm which they ultimately took over from father and Uncle in 2013. They stated that activity levels at the farm have reduced over the last 3 years as the business concentrates on Kale production having relinquished supermarket contracts for a variety of products and as a consequence they are farming a much smaller land area, with no future growth plans for the business.

They also stated that the equestrian area which is presently under planning consideration is purely for private purposes with 3 horses being stabled there. They stated that they are working closely with WLBC to meet their planning requirements.

Father Boniface advised that there is a recital planned at St Elizabeth's Church on July 15th with proceeds from the collection going to the WW1 Memorial appeal. Such funds will help to fund part 2 of the project which is to create Memorial books to be distributed between the schools and churches in the Parish.

Councillor Dereli welcomed the efforts of all concerned and requested to be kept informed.

The meeting was reconvened at 20.50

16/89 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

- (a) 2016/0354/FUL: 113 Hall Rd, Scarisbrick. **No Objection**
- (b) 2016/0332/FUL: 281 Smithy Lane, Scarisbrick **No Objection**
- (c) 2016/0230/FUL: Barley Farm, Southport rd, Scarisbrick **Against this application**
- (d) 2016/0368/FUL: 10 Churchfields, Scarisbrick **Against this application**
- (e) 2016/0373/FUL: 25 Turning lane, Scarisbrick **No Objection**
- (f) 2016/0392/FUL: New Hall Farm, New Hall Drive, Scarisbrick **No Objection**
- (g)2016/0394/FUL: 173 Southport rd, Scarisbrick **No Objection**
- (h)2016/0405/FUL: 7 Pinewood Close, Scarisbrick **No Objection**
- (i)2016/0293/PNH: Pear Tree Cottage, Narrow Moss Lane, Scarisbrick **No Comment**

16/90 FINANCE.

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

	DETAILS	AMOUNT	AUTHORITY TO INCUR EXPENDITURE
T Houghton	Salary £428.06 *expenses £33.39	£461.45	LGA 1972 s112 (2)
J Forshaw	April grounds maintenance	£288.88	Open Spaces Act 1906, s10
Bibby Factors Manchester Ltd	Bus shelter repair at Otterstye	£1,440.00	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1953 s4
LALC	Cilca Training for the Clerk	£150.00	LGA 1972 s111
Maric Trophies	Engraving on mayoral badge	£20.00	LGA 1972 s137

includes:

- Monthly mobile phone fee of £9.99.
- Mileage £23.40

16/91 INTERNAL CONTROL

It was resolved to approve the risk assessment and the risk management strategy

16/92 INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS

The Clerk provided an updated Insurance schedule from the present insurers Zurich which included an increase in cover for fixed assets per the updated Register of Assets and cover for contract disputes. Competitor quotations were also circulated.

It was resolved to renew the Insurance with Zurich for 1 year at a cost of £627.45

16/93 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

It was resolved to approve the Financial Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31/03/2016.

16/94 GOVERNANCE DOCUMENTS

The Clerk provided the updated 2016 model covering Financial Regulations which are significantly enhanced. It was agreed that the governance documents required further discussion.

It was resolved that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk form a working group to study all governance documents in more detail and report back to the Council.

16/95 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

It was resolved that the Complaints procedure be looked at by the working group and reported back to Council

16/96 WLBC CONCURRENT GRANT AGREEMENT

It was resolved that the Clerk sign the Concurrent Grant agreement and return to WLBC

16/97 APPOINTMENTS TO EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

No agreement was reached in respect of representation being made on the Village Hall Management Committee and this item will be brought back to Council later in the year.

16/98 COUNCILLOR VACANCY

The Clerk reported that WLBC had confirmed that no election has been called for in respect of the present vacancy and that the Council are now free to co-opt.

It was resolved that the Clerk puts a notice of vacancy on the Parish notice boards and request the post be advertised on Q Local. An article will also be included in the Summer edition of SVM should the post remain vacant by the time of the next publication.

16/99 CLERKS REPORT

1 We have presently received 37 replies from the survey in the Spring edition of Scarisbrick Village matters. Out of an approximate total of 1505 households in the Parish this represents a 2.5% response rate. A fuller report of the findings will form part of the June agenda.

2 It has been noted that there is no written contract with James Forshaw, Gardens Maintenance, and this will be an agenda item in the July meeting.

3 Policing - Crime figures for April were 7 reported crimes and 2 incidents of anti social behaviour. Crimes included 2 thefts from vehicles, 1 attempted theft of a farm vehicle, 1 burglary (non residential), 2 assaults and 1 threat to murder.

4 The first half of the Precept has been credited to the Bank account. We received £9,891 which is made up of 50% of the precept (£8,670) and £1,221 which is the annual council tax support grant.

5 Margaret Wiltshire of the West Lancs District of CPRE has invited anyone interested in attending the District's AGM on Friday 13th May at 7.30 at the Old Coach House, Scarisbrick Park. The AGM will be run as a social gathering and refreshments will be available. Numbers are requested for catering purposes.

6 We have been notified that Arriva Rail North is to re route all Southport to Manchester trains to Manchester Victoria from Dec 2017. No trains will run directly to Piccadilly or Manchester Airport. LALC are encouraging Parish Councils to write to express concerns to Arriva. This will be an agenda item in June.

7 For new Councillors (and for older ones who may desire a refresher) there are workshops available in June and July covering the role of a Councillor. They are held at the Lancashire County Training Partnership in Penwortham. Anyone interested should drop the Clerk an email.

16/100 COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS.

With regards to fund raising for the WW1 project, in addition to the recital, there is a cheese and wine evening arranged for the 9th June and the Clerk will post notices on the Village Boards to help advertise the event.

It was noted that the ballot of farmers showed 95% in favour of looking to form an Internal Drainage Board in respect of the Alt Crossens issue. The next step is expected to be to work out boundaries, work to be done and costings.

A hole in the pavement on Bescar Brow Lane which is a danger to pedestrians has been reported to Highways. The Clerk will follow this up by writing to the Chief executive.

The question of the website will be the subject of an agenda item at one of the next few meetings.

Councillor Holcroft confirmed that she has been in to all 4 primary schools in the Village to launch the Sunflower competition for the 5 -11 year old group.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.50.