

SCARISBRICK PARISH COUNCIL.

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm in the Village Hall on
Monday 2nd October 2017**

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PRESENT.

Councillor Mrs J Marshall (in the Chair)
Councillor J Hankin
Councillor D Oakes
Councillor I Tinsley
Mr T.J. Houghton (Clerk – in attendance)

Councillor J Herbert
Councillor L Green
Councillor H Ascroft

13 members of the Public were present.

17/158..APOLOGIES.

These were received from Councillors Holcroft and Cox

17/159... DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Councillor Herbert declared a personal interest in item 17/163

17/160...CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES.

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on Mon 4th September 2017 and the specially convened meeting of Mon 4th September 2017 were a true record and should be signed by the Chairman.

17/161...ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING.

The meeting was adjourned at 7.32 pm

The prize presentation to the winners of the Garden competition was made by the Chairman
Councillor Pope responded to the Highway Report forwarded to him from the September meeting. He confirmed that a sum of £5m had been allocated to Highways to improve all areas of the County. In the short term, WLBC have recently sprayed verges in the parish and new contracts were being drawn up to increase cuts from the present 2 per annum. As such a steady improvement is anticipated.

The meeting was reconvened at 7.42pm.

17/162....FINANCE

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

	DETAILS	AMOUNT	AUTHORITY TO INCUR EXPENDITURE
T Houghton	Salary £432.99 *expenses £75.98	£508.97	LGA 1972, s112 (2)
HMRC	Quarter 2 PAYE re Clerk	£324.80	LGA 1972, s 112 (2)
BDO	Annual External Audit	£240.00	LGA 1972 s111
Good Shepherd Mission	Church Grant	£150.00	LGA 1972 s137
St Marks Church	Church Grant	£150.00	LGA 1972 s137
Drummersdale Mission	Church Grant	£150.00	LGA 1972 s137
Friends of Bescar Lane Station	Grant	£100.00	LGA 1972 s137
Scarisbrick Village Matters	Grant	£250.00	LGA 1972 s137
Bibby Factors	New Bus Shelter at Heaton's Bridge £2,125 + VAT £425	£2,550.00	Local Government (Misc Provisions) Act 1953 s4
Mrs G Holcroft	Expenses re Sunflower Competition	£14.25	LGA 1972 s137
Maric Trophies	Engraving and Trophy repairs	£95.00	LGA 1972 s137
Champion Newspapers	Advert re vacant Clerk position	£358.56	LGA 1972 s232

*includes

*Mobile phone £9.99

* Mileage £13.50

* Ink £52.49

17/163....LICENSING AUTHORITY (NORTH WEST):

The application was considered and no comment recorded

17/164....EXTERNAL AUDIT:

It was resolved that the External Audit report be approved.

17/165...INTERNAL AUDIT:

It was resolved that the circulated 2017-18 Internal Audit plan be approved.

17/166....BUDGET REPORT:



The Clerk provided a 6m budget report which concluded that there was likely to be over expenditure in the Clerk's salary when the new Clerk is appointed in Quarter 4. The excess expenditure under Bus shelters was fully explained in point 5 of the report. All other expenditure is presently within budget.

17/167...BENCH AT WW1 MEMORIAL:

It was resolved that a 6ft solid teak bench costing £650 be purchased from Hayes Garden World. It was further resolved that the Clerk will liaise with the Chairman to arrange for a suitably worded plaque to recognise retired Councillor Edward's contribution to the Parish to be included in the purchase.

17/168...BUS SHELTERS:

Given the high level of the quotes received for bus shelter preservative treatment, it was resolved to defer any work until the next inspection of the shelters which will be held in the Spring 2018.

17/169...MILLENNIUM WOOD:

The Chairman provided an update on the recent visit to the Wood when Messrs Ashton and Feehan showed Councillors Marshall and Holcroft around the site. There appears to be a significant amount of maintenance work to undertake and Councillor Marshall has explored the possibility of a team from Myerscough College being tasked to help remove dead wood and overgrowth.

It was resolved that the Clerk liaise with Burscough PC to ascertain what other local groups may be available to call upon with a view to formalising a future Volunteer weekend to help at the Wood.

17/170...CLERK VACANCY:

In Councillor Holcroft's absence, the Clerk reported that there was presently 11 candidates interested in the post with 4 completed application forms returned. Closing date is October 20th.

It was resolved to form a working party of the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Councillors Ascroft and Oakes who will short list and interview candidates. The proposed successful candidate to be confirmed by the Council at the next Council meeting.

17/171...HIGHWAYS REPORT:

Councillor Marshall reported that a Ward visit had been made by the Chief Executive of WLBC accompanied by the Director of Street Scene. As a result of this visit and using the Highways report produced by SPC at September's meeting, a comprehensive record of issues raised has been produced. This record will be worked on by LCC and WLBC to improve the many concerns raised by Parish Councillors. The aforementioned record will be forwarded by Councillor Marshall to all Councillors.

17/172...ROAD SAFETY ISSUE:

The question of dangerous car parking practices in the parish was raised. It was noted that it becomes a police matter when obstruction occurs and the Police would need to enforce.

It was resolved that the Clerk should write to the Borough Commander/ Police Commissioner to reflect these concerns and to query why PACT meetings are no longer held

17/173...PLANTERS:

Councillor Marshall investigated the model of planters as used by a neighbouring Parish and reported that the costs of taking this forward were prohibitive.

17/174....CLERKS REPORT:

Highways have reported back to confirm that bus stops will be installed on Jacksmere Lane in the next 2/3 months.

The Highways District Lead Officer is investigating why the long awaited bollards have not been installed on the corner of Turning Lane and his response is awaited.

The next Area meeting of LALC will take place at WLBC offices on Thursday 19th October. Agenda is to be made available shortly and will be forwarded to all Councillors.

An email received from Michael Cox has expressed regret at his decision to resign from the Council due to family issues and work commitments.

The Annual Civic Service is confirmed as being held at Bescar Lane Methodist Church at 11.00am on Sunday 26th November.

Crime figures provided by Steph Morley as follows:

In total we had 35 calls, of which there were 3 reported crimes and 5 reported incidents of ASB.

2 x assault

1 residential burglary in Bescar Lane, the offenders are believed to have been on a white older style motorcycle.

5 reported incidents of ASB

1 was a call for info or advice

4 x nuisance behaviour, speeding vehicle on Smithy Lane, parking issues outside Pinfold School, young males playing on hay bales on Narrow Moss La and complaints of persons engaging in sexual activity to the side of a residents property on Meols View.

For the same period last year there were 70 calls of which 9 were reported crimes and 4 were ASB.

Steph also reported that there had been no vehicle obstructions evident on Moorfield Lane following visits to the area. Residents are advised to take vehicle registrations and report to the Police at the time of the obstruction being in place.

17/175...COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

Councillor Oakes reported that the formation of an IDB to cover the Alt Crossens area was becoming a protracted issue with legal obstacles to overcome. The EA have recently confirmed that the pumps will remain in place after the present Dec 2018 deadline.

Councillor Marshall advised that Rosie Cooper, MP will be inviting the Chairman to a meeting to discuss flooding issues in the area.

The Clerk advised that Councillor Holcroft had awarded certificates to winning participants at Pinfold re the Sunflower competition. Councillor Marshall also confirmed that she had made an award in Rufford.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 pm
