

SCARISBRICK PARISH COUNCIL.

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 8.00pm in the Village Hall on Monday 6th February 2017

PRESENT.

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

Councillor Mrs G Holcroft
Councillor I Tinsley
Councillor M Cox

No members of the Public were present.

17/22..APOLOGIES.

These were received from Councillors Mrs M Edwards, L Green and H Ascroft.

17/23... DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were none

17/24...CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES.

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 23rd January 2017 were a true record and should be signed by the Chairman.

17/25...ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING.

The meeting was not adjourned as there were no members of the Public present.

17/26... PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

(1) 2016/1272/FUL: 13 Smithy Lane Scarisbrick: **No Objection**

17/27...FINANCE

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

	DETAILS	AMOUNT	AUTHORITY TO INCUR EXPENDITURE
T Houghton	Salary £428.06 *expenses £49.68	£477.74	LGA 1972 s112 (2)
Champion Newspapers	Newspaper advert placed in Ormskirk Champion newspaper re Invitation to tender for grass cutting contract	£107.88	LGA 1972 s232
Scarisbrick Village Hall	Room Hire 2016-17	£312.00	LGA 1972 s111

Maypole Manufacturing Ltd (Shelter Solutions)	2 Bay Bus shelter delivered and installed at Bescar Brow Lane	£2,503.20	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953, s4
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*includes

Mobile phone £9.99
Mileage/Car Park £16.90
Ink £17.99
Postage £4.80

17/28...INTERNAL AUDIT:

The Clerk reported that the 6m internal audit had been completed and that the Auditor has signed to confirm that all accounting standards are being met and that there is no need for a further examination.

17/29...GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT:

Comments have been received from the existing contractor that the number of cuts in the specification are insufficient and it will be difficult to cut to a height of 5cms. It was noted that there is scope to amend the specification under condition 10 of the Conditions of Tender document should the need ever arise.

It was resolved that the existing tender documents be left unaltered and the Clerk noted that site visits are now being arranged with prospective tenderers later in February.

17/30...DAMAGED BUS SHELTER:

The Clerk advised that we had received notification earlier today that the tender from AJS Joinery was acceptable to the Insurers.

17/31...SECTION 106 MONIES:

The Clerk advised that progress is being made in identifying a short list of acceptable equipment manufacturers. The proposed site of the equipment is land at Scarisbrick Village Hall and the Vice Chair is to represent the Council at the next management meeting.

It was resolved that the Vice chair be given power to negotiate with Scarisbrick Village Hall in respect of the proposed equipment site and any conditions which may apply.

17/32...ALT CROSSENS:

The Clerk had received an email from the EA earlier in the day confirming that the notice period for the 5 pumps in the catchment area had been extended to 31 Dec 2018. The lack of progress following the ballot of landowners by NFU 12m ago is seen as disconcerting and the re vamping of an Alt Crossens advisory group is seen as an urgent next move.

It was resolved that the Clerk respond to the email from the EA urging that the reinstatement of a new advisory group with a revised terms of reference now be a priority.

17/33...SPECIAL LEVY:

Councillor Herbert explained the difference between collecting funds for an IDB via a Levy and a Precept. The adoption of a precept type collection of funds is seen as the most transparent way forward. This item will be revisited at a future meeting of the Council.

17/34...GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND CYCLING STRATEGY CONSULTATION:

It was resolved that the Clerk respond to the consultation to WLBC broadly supporting the positives of improving cycle tracks in the area. The Council strongly supported tracks which were sited away from main roads; particularly as many of the roads in the Village are not thought suitable for increasing numbers of cyclists. It was also noted that some of the cyclists are not conversant with the rural environment where there is a higher percentage of vehicles engaged in the agricultural industry than in urban areas.

17/35...SCARISBRICK VILLAGE MATTERS:

The Chairman reported that funds of £89 were in the bank account of SVM. The annual cost of 3 publications is £1200. The importance of maintaining a means of communication with the residents was highlighted and agreed by the Council. It was thought the SVM committee will look to raise funding via advertising for the later 2 publications in 2017. Funding of £320 is needed for the Spring edition and there was a positive feeling at the meeting to support.

It was resolved that £320 of ear marked reserves presently set aside for Bus shelters be moved to cover an immediate contribution to SVM. It was further resolved that £320 cheque be raised at the March meeting.

17/36...SCARISBRICK VILLAGE HALL:

A request for more Council support from the Village Hall was discussed. There appeared no scope for Councillors to become involved in the practical running of the Hall.

It was resolved that one Councillor would attend alternate meetings of the Management committee on a rota basis through the year.

17/37...BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION:

It was resolved that the Council submit an entry to the 2017 competition.

17/38...GARDEN/SUNFLOWER COMPETITION:

It was resolved that a garden and sunflower competition be held in 2017.

17/39...DATES OF MEETINGS :

It was resolved that the meetings be agreed as per the list circulated by the Clerk. It was further resolved that the start time be moved forward to 7.30pm for each meeting.

17/40...ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:

Initial discussions were held about approaching a possible speaker. A final decision was deferred to a later meeting.

17/41...CLERKS REPORT:

The fence has been extended by Paul Gore at the Millennium Wood . Shortly afterwards, David Ashton advises that someone has cut the wires of this extended fence to force open a gap again.

Clerk attended the Clerk Liaison meeting in January. Main item was a talk by Inspector June Chessell – she informed us that the force had been inundated with a spate of burglaries in December across West Lancs – 57 in total along the A57 corridor. These have now ceased albeit no arrests have been made, but was seen as an out of town team who have moved on. June also indicated that she had a full complement of PCSO's. There is also an internal realignment of the Teams in West Lancs which is seeking to improve responses times and having the right team in place to deal with each incident.

Officers from WLBC discussed CIL – the Borough Plan of 2012-2027 suggest new housing totalling 4,860 units which will result in the CIL pot increasing to £10m by 2020.

A response from LCC re the mole problem is awaited.

Steph Morley has provided the latest crime figures.

43 incidents overall, of which there were 5 reported crimes and 0 reported incidents of ASB. Same time last year there were 30 incidents of which 2 were crimes and 2 ASB.

5 reported crimes

1 X harassment

Attempted burglary in a building other than a dwelling on Black Moss Lane

2 theft from vehicle on Black moss Lane and Southport Rd

Criminal damage to farm equipment on Bescar Lane

Finally, thanks to Cynthia Dereli for agreeing a £500 Parish Champion grant for the WW1 Memorial.

17/42...COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

The Chairman confirmed that she had attended the annual County carol service on Feb 5th.

Residents had complained about parking on Fieldlands which is causing obstructions to cars turning in from Southport road.

A discussion was held about the website which will be an agenda item in the next meeting.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50pm
