

SCARISBRICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 4th January 2021. This meeting was held in compliance with Regulations 5 of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

PRESENT.

Councillor A. Blundell (in the Chair)
Councillor J Marshall
Councillor G Holcroft
Councillor M Andrews
Councillor J Herbert
Councillor N Makin

Councillor E Pope in attendance

Mrs J Smith (Clerk) in attendance

Six members of the public were present

21/001 APOLOGIES.

Apologies were received from Councillor C Marshall.

21/002 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Councillor A Blundell and Councillor J Marshall declared a non-pecuniary interest relating to planning application 2020/1092/FUL in Item 21/005.

21/003 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7th December 2020 be approved and signed by the Chair.

21/004 ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING: to allow a period of public discussion.

It was resolved to adjourn the meeting at 7:33pm.

A resident raised concerns relating to the current planning application by Cerberus Chemicals Ltd. The concerns included:

- location of the proposed development on agricultural/greenbelt land behind the Nellie restaurant and that a previous planning application, by the same applicant, in 2010 had been refused.
- increase in lorries and traffic to the site.
- proximity of the proposed development to neighbouring buildings, drainage, the width of the access track, highway safety issues when pulling out onto Southport Road.

The applicant provided details of the background to the application. He advised that they wanted to be open and honest about the proposed development and had been actively explaining in social media and taking comments. They are disappointed with some of the posts on social media. They stated that Cerberus Chemicals is a small local business that has

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been operating in Scarisbrick since 2012 and there is now a need to expand. They consider that expansion on their existing site is the only viable option and that there is the potential to benefit the local economy significantly. They stated that there will be no noise impact on neighbouring properties and no additional traffic using the access track.

The applicant's agent reiterated what had been said by the applicant. The greenbelt application has been put forward as being the most economic benefit for jobs etc. Cerberus is an existing business on the site that wishes to expand.

There was a lengthy discussion during which councillors requested clarification of some statements made in the application such as employment opportunities, and clean company image.

The meeting reconvened at 8.03pm

21/005 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

The following applications were considered and the decisions taken as shown.

Reference	Details	Applicant	Address	Resolution
REF 2020/1070/FUL (WLBC Response Deadline 08/01/21)	First floor rear extension to extend bathroom and bedroom	Mr Abraham	12 Woodland Avenue, Scarisbrick, Ormskirk, Lancashire. L40 9QL	Parish Council makes no comment
2020/1140/FUL (WLBC Response Deadline 08/01/21)	Removal of condition number 2 imposed on planning permission 8/6/12969 relating to agricultural occupancy restriction	Mr David Crompton	147 Heatons Bridge Road, Scarisbrick, Ormskirk, Lancashire.L40 8QJ	Parish Council makes no comment
2020/1092/FUL (WLBC Response Deadline 15/01/21)	Full planning application for the erection of a building to house a cosmetic manufacturing facility.	Cerberus Chemicals Ltd	Vicarage Barn, Southport Road, Scarisbrick, Ormskirk, Lancashire.	Parish Council resolved to object on the grounds that this is inappropriate development in the greenbelt with very special circumstances not

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2020/1131/FUL (WLBC Response Deadline 15/01/21)	Ancillary accommodation for the family of Mr & Mrs Bennett to be built in the grounds of 'The Barn' at 248 Southport Road, Scarisbrick.	Mr Michael Bennett	The Barn, 248 Southport Road, Scarisbrick, Southport, Lancashire. PR8 5LF	demonstrated. Parish Council makes no comment
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21/006 FINANCE:

It was resolved to pay the following accounts

Payee	Detail	Amount	Authority
J Smith	Salary (Nov 20)	£305.81 *	LGA 1972, s112 (2)
J Smith	Salary (Dec 20)	£611.54	LGA 1972, s112 (2)
I.M O'Donnell	Salary(Dec 20)	£384.00	LGA 1972, s112 (2)
I.M O'Donnell	Expenses	£15.30	LGA 1972, s112 (2)
J Smith	Travel Expenses (Nov/Dec)	£30.80	LGA 1972, s112 (2)
J Smith	Office Expenses (Dec)	£43.96	LGA 1972, s111 (2)
J Smith	Mobile Phone	£49.95	LGA 1972, s111(2)

* This payment was approved at 7th December meeting but cheque was returned by due to an issue with a signature (although all cheques issued on 7th December had the same signatories). Therefore a replacement cheque will be drawn in January 2021. It has been included on January 21 payment list for completion and balance with January 21 cashbook.

21/007 BUDGET UPDATE: The report on the budget position on completion of the third financial quarter (October to December) was presented and its contents noted.

21/ 008 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS:

It was resolved to advertise for new members to seek expressions of interest from persons eligible to stand as a Parish Councillor.

21/009 POLICY REVIEW:

Council's Co-Option Policy: Some amendments were identified relating to the removal of the person specification from the document. Clerk required to action amendment.

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It was resolved to approve the updated Council's Co-Option Policy procedures following completion of amendments.

21/010 POLICY REVIEW:

It was resolved to approve the updated Council's Sickness and Expenses Policies.

21/011 2021/22 PROJECTS:

It was resolved to approve the following projects for 2021/22:

- Measures to address residents' concerns regarding speeding and increasing traffic volumes on our rural roads.
- Measures to address flooding issues and purchase of equipment to assist with flood defences.
- Gathering evidence of the detrimental effects of current traffic volumes on the B5242 (including air pollution). Air pollution measurement and evidencing
- Tree planting scheme.

21/012 2019 GARDENING COMPETITION: To consider outstanding issues relating to the 2019 Scarisbrick Gardening Competition.

Due to the ongoing pandemic and lockdown it was resolved to defer this item to the February 2021 meeting.

21/013 BANKING ARRANGEMENTS:

It was resolved to transfer all existing bank accounts to Unity Trust Bank plc. Clerk instructed to commence this as soon as possible.

21/014 REPAIRS TO WAR MEMORIAL PAVING:

It was resolved to accept the quotation received and for works to be commenced.

21/015 GRASSCUTTING TENDER:

Date of first grass cut is 3rd of May which is the same as the previous contract. Councillors' requested that this be brought forward into April if possible. Clerk to amend the date.

It was resolved to accept the dates shown subject to the date of the first cut being brought forward to April if possible.

21/016 LANCASHIRE COUNCIL PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED SPEED LIMITS:

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It was resolved to support the proposed speed limits shown in the notice. Clerk to advise Lancashire County Council.

21/017 BESCAR LANE FLOODING:

The issue of flooding in Scarisbrick and surrounding areas is a continuing and major concern. The ditches and watercourses into which water needs to flow are the responsibility of the Environment Agency.

It was resolved to write again to the Environment Agency regarding the issues raised in the response of Lancashire County Council. The Council find it curious that the EA regard our call for comment as a Freedom of Information request and are yet to respond (20 working days from 21/12/20). Contact will be made with Rosie Cooper MP for her support in obtaining a response if necessary and expedient. Clerk to follow up when 20 day deadline is reached.

21/018 HMRC PAYE:

The issues raised in the report were noted, including the impact of a significant IT failure. Thanks were passed to the Clerk for her diligence in dealing with the matter.

21/019 CLERKS REPORT: The following items were noted:

- 1) New parish mobile phone purchased - number is 07879713073.
- 2) Difficulty purchasing new parish laptop due to Christmas demand and low stock levels in shops. Hopefully will be possible during January 2021.
- 3) Emailed North West Ambulance Service regarding access issues in Hillock Lane - no response to date.
- 4) Arnold Baker book - the most recent edition is the 12th Edition (published 9th December 2020). I emailed Nexus to see if a copy can be ordered and if they are offering any discount to NALC members (they offered 20% on the 11th edition in 2018). Nexus has confirmed that they will provide a 20% discount so the book will cost £119.99 giving a £30 saving. The purchase was agreed at the December 2020 meeting so the book will be ordered shortly.
- 5) Turning Lane cycle lane bollards - 16/12/20 response received from Lancashire County Council advises that the bollards are scheduled to be installed by the end of March 2021.
- 6) Tender documents for the grounds maintenance contract are being prepared and will be included in the agenda for the February Parish Council meeting. Council approval will be needed at various stages between now and the contract starting in May.
- 7) Following LCC response regarding Bescar Lane flooding the Clerk has written to the Environment Agency for their comments and also to Rosie Cooper to keep her informed so that further assistance can be requested from her.

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20/020 COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS;

Report provided by Councillor O'Toole was noted.

Councillor Makin reported that the bus stop sign opposite West Lancashire Crematorium on Pippin Street is bent. She confirmed that this area is within the Scarisbrick boundary.

The meeting closed at 9pm.