

ABERFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 16 April 2013 at the Methodist Chapel, Aberford at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr David Howson (Chairman)
Cllr John Barker
Cllr Keith Dunwell
Cllr Ian Forster
Cllr Paul Hancock
Cllr Jacqueline Jeffrey
Cllr Marolyn Piper
Cllr Ruth Reed

Two police officers
Mr Tom Holvey – Leeds City Council Economic Policy Manager
6 members of the public

Apologies received from Cllrs Ray Alderson and Gill Broadley.

Clerk Ms Julie Sou

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

12/214 **Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th March 2013 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the meeting

Note: Cllr Forster later noted a mistake in the minutes of the previous meeting in that Minute no. 12/211 should refer to the A642 and not the B1217. The mistake to be corrected.

12/215 **Co-option of councillor**

RESOLVED: that Marolyn Piper be co-opted as a councillor.

Clerk's note: Cllr Piper's declaration signed.

12/216 **Broadband**

This item was moved forward in the agenda. Mr Tom Holvey, Leeds City Council Economics Policy Manager, gave a report on fast broadband in West Yorkshire. Leeds City Council (LCC) is working with British Telecom (BT) with the aim that 90% of properties in Leeds will achieve broadband speeds of 24Mbps/s and the remaining 10% at least 2Mbps/s. The main aim is to benefit residential properties, but businesses in Aberford will also benefit from the improvement.

Mr Holvey explained that there may be limitations on the speeds that can be obtained, dependant on distances from the exchange and telecoms cabinets, and the number of people online at any one time. Mr Holvey believed Aberford had two cabinets and may share or have its own exchange. It was asked whether it would expedite faster broadband to Aberford to link into the Barwick exchange as Barwick already had superfast broadband but Mr Holvey said it was not always necessarily easier to link to the next exchange.

A website where people can register their interest will be going live in a few weeks and people should be encouraged to register as BT is more likely to prioritise

those areas with more demand.

Councillors noted Mr Holvey's report.

12/217

Police Matters

The police officers in attendance gave details of three reported crimes: an attempted break-in whilst the owner was on holiday, items stolen from a shed and a trailer taken from a driveway after a wheel clamp was cut off. Advice was given that UPVC doors with locks more than 12 months old should be upgraded to comply with the new standard TS007 for anti-snap locks.

Cllr Barker requested an item in the Neighbourhood Policing News to remind residents to check their alarms were serviced and working.

Cllr Howson reported seeing cars gathering at Kingfisher Lane and the possible smoking of banned substances. The police advised that members of the public should telephone 101 to report such matters.

12/218

Public participation on agenda matters

Cllr Howson invited comments from the public on agenda matters only.

A member of the public was concerned that the Parish Council's response to LCC Planning Department on Application P/13/00484 had not included the objection made by one councillor. The councillor who had objected shared the concerns. It was explained that two drafts of the response had been circulated to all councillors prior to submission to LCC. The final version submitted to LCC reflected the majority view of the Parish Council and had elicited no comments from councillors when circulated to them and had therefore been deemed approved.

12/219

Matters Arising

- a. **12/203 Village Design Statement** – the final draft is still to be agreed. It was agreed that members of the Village Design Statement group would email availability dates for a meeting to Cllr Piper. The meeting to discuss amendments to the final draft before circulation to other members of the Parish Council and submission to LCC.
- b. **12/204 Aberford and District Community Interest Company** – Cllrs discussed whether to respond to the email from Mr David Gluck. It was agreed not to respond to the email.
- c. **12/206(b) seat repairs** – see Minute 12/223c.
- d. **12/206(e) bus service** – it was noted that Ward Councillor Matthew Robinson had written to First Bus and Metro and that responses were awaited
- e. **12/206(h) Village Hall** – the Clerk reported that LCC was seeking a guarantee from the developer that the residential properties would not be built before the village hall was refurbished. This was in view of the fact there was insufficient funding offered from the developer to complete the refurbishment to the village hall. The Clerk had been told that the application will go before LCC planning committee in a few weeks.
- f. **12/206(i) Fallen trees Cock Beck** – Cllr Howson reported he had been left a message by the Environment Agency and that he would endeavour to make

contact again.

- g. **12/211(a) issues relating to Garforth** – Cllr Forster reported that there was still no progress with regards to the traffic issues on the A642 and he would continue to pursue this.
- h. **12/221(b) Tree Preservation Orders Parlinton Estate** – Cllr Jeffrey reported she would speak to the member of the public in order to identify the trees and would pursue this.
- i. **12.221(c) Dog fouling** – it was noted that this has not been so noticeable following the streets having been cleaned recently.

12/220

Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Reed reported that there had been several resignations from the group. SHLAA was due on 8th May 2013 and the Group was waiting for the outcome of that. It was noted that the Neighbourhood Plan is important in order to provide more influence over planning decisions, but should be read together with the Village Design Statement.

12/221

Reports from Sub-Committees

- a. **Broadband** – see above Minute 12/216.
- b. **Footpaths** – Cllr Howson reported that the Estate Woodsman had cleared the footpath near the allotments behind his house.
- c. **Allotments** – nothing further to report.
- d. **Traffic Management**
 - Proposed road markings outside Priory Park – LCC Highways Officer Nick Borrás had emailed a drawing but it was too small for councillors to give proper consideration. The Clerk confirmed that hard copies of the drawing had been requested.
 - Proposed yellow lines on the bridge at Main Street - the Clerk reported that at present LCC had no funding for the proposed yellow lines.
RESOLVED: the Clerk to request costs of the yellow lines proposal from LCC for consideration by councillors.

12/222

Jubilee Field – Cllr Howden gave an update on the works. Construction is to begin in the first week in May and is estimated to take just over three weeks to complete. School children will be provided with hard hats and jackets and will be able to watch some of the works being carried out. Some of the donated trees had died and would be replaced at no cost from LCC stock and tree planting would now be delayed until next year. The bowling club now required two gates on either side of the club house – these were required for security purposes and to provide level access all around the building and would in part replace the security fence that had originally been specified. Seats, bins and signage have still to be decided.

The Clerk reported the following financial information:

- The church gate had been re-priced at £650 from the original quote of £850.
- LCC had quoted £2000 for the two new security gates and this would include an extra section of fencing alongside the new access path.

- LCC was still to provide the final discounted prices from SMP Playgrounds Limited (SMP) for the six pieces of outdoor green gym equipment decided on by the sub-group.
- The £7000 Well Being Award earmarked for seats, litter bins, signage and soft landscaping had been transferred directly to LCC in February 2013 by the awarding body.

Members proposed that as LCC was already holding the £7000 Well Being Award it should be used against the supply and installation of the outdoor gym equipment from SMP as this was being co-ordinated by LCC on behalf of the Parish Council and would be paid for through LCC.

RESOLVED:

1. To authorise LCC to supply and install an access gate to the church yard for £650 and to supply and install two security gates on either side of the bowling club for £2000.
2. The Clerk to seek authority from the awarding body to use the £7000 Well Being Award against the purchase of the outdoor gym equipment.

12/223

Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were noted:

- a. Letter from Leeds City Council advising that works to the timber footbridge over Cock Beck were now scheduled to start in July 2013.
- b. An email notifying that the first agenda item at the Boston Spa Parish Council meeting on 24 April 2013 would be to discuss the closure of Primrose Hill Care Home. Cllrs Howden and Dunwell said they would attend.
- c. Quotation from Mr C Cliff to repair and repaint five benches for £225.

RESOLVED: to accept the quotation and the Clerk to authorise Mr Cliff to carry out the works.

12/224

Planning

The following applications were considered.

Applications

- a. 13/01106 Oliver Cottages, Main Street - first floor conservatory and extended raised balcony to rear: a visit to the property was considered necessary and Cllrs Howson and Reed undertook to do this.
RESOLVED: Cllrs Howson and Reed to make a site visit to the property and, if they have no objections to the application, the Clerk to submit their comments to LCC Planning Department.
- b. 13/01167 Gardens House, Parlington Lane - listed building application for internal and external repairs, alterations and replacement.
RESOLVED: no objections but like for like materials should be used.
- c. 13/01417 The Rowans, Greystone Park – new first floor to existing bungalow.
RESOLVED: no objections.
- d. 13/01246 2 Woodbridge Avenue, Garforth – part two storey, part single storey side/rear extension: this was the third application relating to the property; the first had been granted and the second refused; works were already being carried out to the property.
RESOLVED: no objections to the current application but the Clerk to contact the LCC Enforcement Officer to discover if the works being carried out are in accordance with the already approved application.

- e. 13/01304 12 Brierlands Close, Garforth – single storey rear extension, conversion of integral garage to form habitable rooms.
RESOLVED: no objections.

The Clerk reported the following:

Pending

- 13/00659 – 1 Anning Fold, Garforth
12/05435 – Village Hall and land to rear, Main Street
12/00725 – Aberford Road, Garforth – outline application for employment park

Refused

- 13/00484 – new house on land off School Lane. The Clerk read the grounds for refusal in Leeds City Council decision notice 8 April 2013.

12/225

Accounts

The Year End report was received by Councillors.
The Clerk reported that a VAT claim had been made.
The Clerk reported that HSBC had wrongly advised the former Clerk and it was not possible to give a mandate enabling the Clerk to request transfers between Parish Council accounts over the Internet unless the Clerk was made a sole signatory to the account.

RESOLVED:

- a. To pay a £250 grant to Garforth in Bloom Group.
- b. To authorise the advance signing of internal transfer request forms by two signatories to the Parish Council accounts, such transfer request forms to be held by the Clerk on file and completed by the Clerk only when required to effect necessary internal transfers.
- c. To ratify a payment of £24 to Mr D Gluck for Village Design Statement printing.

Balances

The Clerk reported the following balances:

	£
HSBC Current a/c	1,053.12
HSBC No 1 Int a/c	30,486.48 (Revenue Reserve)
HSBC No 2 Int a.c	78,024.04 (Capital Reserve)

Notes

Revenue Reserve includes (i) £360.00 Parish Partnership money which is set aside to pay the contractor for maintenance of footpaths, (ii) £5,009.86 from Leeds Fest ticket sales and (iii) £10,000 Big Lottery Fund grant.
Capital Reserve is allocated for refurbishment of Jubilee Field.

To pay

RESOLVED: to pay the following cheques:

Cheque no.	Amount (£)	Details
100443	40.00	Hire of the Methodist Chapel on 2 occasions
100444	170.90	Clerk's salary
100445	182.09	Clerk's expenses, including £80.00 Society for Local Council Clerks membership and joining fee and £49.05 pre-appointment mileage

100446	474.00	YLCA yearly subscription
100447	9.00	S Piper expenses for NP postage
100448	15.00	YLCA – website advertising fee
100449	20.00	Hire of Oriel Room for NP meeting

12/226

Matters for Information

- a. The Clerk proposed that Declarations of Interest should be made a specific agenda item at the start of each meeting. This was agreed.
- b. Cllr Dunwell reported receiving complaints about the collected pool of water in the Dale Field on Main Street, north of the Royal Oak. The Clerk was requested to raise this with LCC Environmental Health.
- c. Cllr Dunwell had attended an event at Lotherton Hall which had allowed access to the domestic quarters which were not normally open to the public and which had featured an exhibition on fashions during World War II. The Mayor had also been in attendance.
- d. Cllr Forster reported that he would be resigning from 22 May 2013. He outlined the current issues of concern in the Garforth area of the parish:
 - speeding on the A642 for which he was attempting to have vehicle activated signs installed
 - the lack of progress with the North Newhold industrial development
 - Sturton Grange SHLAA site allocation - there was no progress and no meetings had been arranged by the ward councillors in relation to the SHLAA site allocations for Garforth
 - the litter problem on the A656 which involved the Caird Barden tip
 - complaints received about smells from Bretts Farm emanating from slurry

Cllr Forster would continue his efforts with regard to highway matters on the A642 with LCC Highways Officer Nick Borrás, and would continue to attend the Garforth Forum, the next meeting of which would be about HS2. Cllr Forster would continue to copy in the Clerk on matters of interest and concern to the village.

- e. Cllr Jeffrey had been contacted by residents regarding a fence that had been taken down between their property and Jubilee Field with a request to know whether a replacement fence would be erected. Cllr Jeffrey was informed that the only works carried out had been to cut back a hedge and no fence had been removed.
- f. Cllr John Barker had information relating to seats and benches which he could circulate to other councillors.

12/227

Open to the Public

- a. A member of the public commented that a bus driver had said the new schedule did not allow enough time to pick up passengers before their hours ran out; the driver had said he therefore had no choice but to drive straight through the village
- b. A member of the public commented that yellow lines on the bridge would be a waste of time as the police did not enforce them.

12/228

Close of Meeting

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.55pm.

The Parish Council complies with the Mandatory Publication Scheme under the Freedom of Information Act. Information about the Council can be obtained from the Council's website at www.aberfordonline.com or by contacting the Clerk.