

The Minutes of the meeting of Leeds Parish Council  
held in Leeds and Broomfield Village Hall on Tuesday, 12th April 2016 at 7:30 PM.

**Councillors present:** *Beale*  
*Bowles*  
*China*  
*Fort*  
*Govett*  
*Martin*

**Also present:** *Parish Clerk, Mrs Sherrie Babington and members of the public.*

**The meeting was chaired by Councillor Govett.**

**1. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Springford, KCC Councillor Gary Cooke and the Police.

**2. Declaration of Interests.**

No interests were declared.

**3. Minutes of the previous meeting.**

The Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated to all members. These were proposed by Cllr Fort as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr Bowles and agreed by all present. The Minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

**4. Matters arising from the Minutes.**

There were no matters arising.

**5. Public Comments and Observations.**

No matters were raised.

**6. KCC Councillors Report.**

Apologies were received from KCC Councillor Gary Cooke and a written report was noted by members.

**7. MBC Ward Councillors Report.**

MBC Councillor Fort gave her report to the meeting.

**8. Highways Matters.**

A discussion took place regarding the proposed Relief Road and the Maidstone Borough Council Local Plan.

Cllr Fort stated that there had been a noticeable increase in HGVs in the village and this was possibly due to the time of year for fruit packing.

Cllr Bowles stated that the HGVs were accessing local farms. He stated that KCC were writing directly to hauliers in Spain regarding this problem.

**9. Police Report.**

Apologies were received from PCSO Thomas Maybank.

Special Constable Update – Cllr Govett stated that at present he had no further details regarding the Special Constable and he asked the Clerk if she could follow this up with Kent Police.

***Action: Clerk to progress.***

It was reported that a Crow Scarer in a local field was going off during the night. Cllr Beale raised concerns regarding this and stated that it could be heard but not located. Cllr Bowles stated that he would look into this and try to establish the location.

***Action: Cllr Bowles to progress.***

**10. Correspondence Report.**

The correspondence received during the course of the month was noted by members.

**11. Planning Matters.**

**16/501284/FULL Old Caring, Caring Road Leeds Kent ME17 1TH**

Proposed extension to part of a 20th Century addition to a 15th Century house to follow similar materials. Demolition of old concrete garage. Change of use of adjoining land to additional residential curtilage and erection of new Oak framed garage with clay tiled roof.

**16/501289/LBC Old Caring, Caring Road Leeds Kent ME17 1TH**

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**16/502640/FULL Leeds Castle Ashford Road Hollingbourne Kent ME17 1PL**

Construction of single storey rear extension and internal remodeling to existing pavillion building.

Cllr Bowles declared an interest in the planning application for Leeds Castle and withdrew from discussions regarding this.

**12. Financial Matters.**

***a. Financial Statement.***

The Financial Statement was circulated to all members. This was discussed and approved by all present. (Fort/Bowles).

The cheques for payment were then signed by two authorised signatories.

**13. Parish Maintenance.**

The Chairman spoke regarding the parish maintenance and explained the process by which the Parish Council had sought quotations for the parish maintenance for the year 2016/17.

He stated that the Parish Council had received four tenders for the work to be undertaken and confirmed that these were on a like for like basis to enable them to be considered fairly by members.

Cllr Beale declared an interest and left the meeting to enable this matter to be discussed.

The tenders were presented to members, it was agreed that the tender for Scenic Garden Services would be excluded as this was not compatible on a like for like basis.

The three tenders were then considered by all present. Following a discussion and clarification of the specification it was agreed that Stephen Waring would be appointed to and to take the parish maintenance for the year to 31st of March 2017.

A further discussion took place regarding the areas of maintenance for the parish and it was agreed that Cllr China and the Clerk would liaise with Stephen Waring regarding his appointment.

It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the unsuccessful tenderers.

**Action: Cllr China/Clerk to action.**

**14. Leeds Playing Field and Pavillion.**

Cllr China reported that the new posts and nets had been delivered for the tennis court and it was agreed that these should be erected as soon as possible.

Pavilion – Cllr Bowles stated that the back of the pavilion needed painting and it was agreed that Cllr China would seek a quotation to have this undertaken.

**Action: Cllr China to action.**

Parking in Playing Field Car park – Cllr China reported that the football teams were currently using a neighbour in business site for parking.

He suggested that parking in the Playing Field Car park could be maximised if this was white lined. This was discussed and agreed by members.

**Action: Cllr China to seek quotations for white lining.**

The parking in the car park was discussed by members and it was suggested having an overflow car park area on the playing field. It was agreed that Cllr China would seek costs for bollards and a rollout surface for the Playing Field.

**Action: Cllr China to progress.**

**14. Street Lighting.**

No matters were raised.

**15. Joint Parish Group and Local Plan.**

No matters were raised.

**16. Public Comments and Observations.**

No matters were raised.

**17. Urgent Matters.**

Cllr Govett spoke regarding the use of the Village Hall and asked members how the Parish Council could assist the Village Hall Management Committee to encourage further use of the hall.

This was discussed by members and it was agreed that the Clerk would liaise with the Village Hall Management Committee Secretary to see whether a meeting could be convened to discuss this further.

***Action: Clerk to progress.***

It was also agreed that Community Organisations/Grants should be placed on the next agenda for further consideration.

***Action: Clerk to place item on next agenda.***

**18. Date of next meeting.**

10th May 2016.

***There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.50pm.***

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_