

The Minutes of the meeting of Leeds Parish Council
held in Leeds and Broomfield Village Hall on Tuesday, 8th December 2015 at 7:30 PM.

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

Also present: Parish Clerk, Mrs Sherrie Babington, KCC Councillor Gary Cooke, the Police and members of the public.

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Govett.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bowles and Springford.

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 Govett as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr Fort 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.

A resident attended the meeting to ask whether the vegetation along George Lane and the bollards at Wykeham Grove were being progressed.

Cllr China reported that the overgrown vegetation on George Lane was on private land and therefore would not be actioned by Kent County Council. He stated that he would forward the email response from KCC on to the resident for information.

He reported that the KCC Highways Steward had inspected the site and stated that bollards had to be a metre in from the kerb. He confirmed that the Highways Steward was going to liaise with Highways Officers regarding this matter and report back to the Parish Council.

The problem with parking at the junction of Wykeham Grove was discussed with the PCSO in attendance and he agreed to inspect the area and liaise with the residents regarding this problem.

6. KCC Councillors Report.

KCC Councillor Gary Cooke circulated a report to members. He spoke regarding KCC budget cuts and the savings that would have to be made by cutting services.

Highways – Councillor Cooke reported that MBC Councillor Gill Fort had presented a petition to the Joint Transportation Board Meeting on 7th February.

He spoke regarding the motion put to the Joint Transportation Board in support of a Relief Road and stated that this motion was passed and this was a move forward with the Leeds/Langley Relief Road. He confirmed that KCC and MBC would now work together to agree and find the appropriate funding take this forward.

He confirmed that a vote by roll call was cast and this was a unanimous vote in favour of a Relief Road.

Councillor Cooke thanked all residents for taking this forward and stated that the petition had nearly 1200 signatures.

He stated that there was still more work to be done and funding to be found and some parishes would still object as there would be a need enabling development in some parishes.

7. MBC Ward Councillors Report.

MBC Councillor Fort reported further on the Joint Transportation Board meeting and confirmed that there were 1183 signatures on the petition.

8. Leeds/Langley Relief Road – E-Petition.

The Chairman thanked all residents to various assistance with the petition.

Councillor Cooke stated that he felt that the presentation of the petition changed the mindset of people and had worked positively, however there was a need to maintain the momentum and continue to collect signatures in support of the Relief Road.

He stated that the next step would be to agree a route for then the Relief Road and this would form part of a consultation process.

A discussion took place regarding potential routes and the pros and cons of these.

9. Highways Matters.

A resident raised concerns regarding the road surface at Ashbank Cottages. Councillor Cooke stated that this had been inspected by KCC and the road surface was worn and damaged and would be actioned.

10. Police Report.

The police gave a crime report to the meeting.

11. Correspondence Report.

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

12. Planning Matters.

Ledian Farm -The clerk confirmed that she had put the objection to this application through to MBC as agreed.

15/508443/LBC Brogden Farm Cottages 1 Old Mill Road Leeds Kent ME17 1RT
Replacement windows and frames to two bedrooms at front of property.
Replacement window, not frame, to living room, with Crittall windows.

15/509670/FULL Arnold Hill Cottage Back Street Leeds Kent ME17 1TF

Demolition of outbuildings, 2 storey rear extension, single storey rear extension and new porch; internal alterations.

15/509671/LBC Arnold Hill Cottage Back Street Leeds Kent ME17 1TF

Demolition of outbuildings, 2 storey rear extension, single storey rear extension and new porch; internal alterations.

13. Financial Matters.

a. Financial Statement.

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

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

b. 2016/2017 Budget.

The 2016/17 draft circulated to all members for consideration.

It was proposed by Cllr Fort to set a precept of £30,293, an increase of 5% on last year's precept.

This was seconded by Cllr Martin and agreed by all present.

2016/17 Precept set at £30,293.

Cllr Fort gave her apologies and left the meeting at 8:32 PM.

14. Parish Maintenance.

A discussion took place regarding the parish maintenance and it was agreed that Cllr China would bring a proposal to the next meeting for formal discussion.

Action: Cllr China to action.

15. Church Car Park.

Cllr China reported that the bin at the church car park was not being emptied and he was liaising with Maidstone Borough Council regarding this matter.

16. Leeds Playing Field and Pavillion.

No matters were raised.

17. Street Lighting.

Cllr China reported on street lighting in the Parish

18. Joint Parish Group and Local Plan.

A discussion took place regarding the Local Plan.

19. Public Comments and Observations.

No matters were raised.

20. Urgent Matters.

No matters were raised.

21. Date of next meeting.

9th February 2016.

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

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____