

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LEEDS PARISH COUNCIL
Held in the Playing Field Pavillion on Tuesday 11th September 2012 at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr China
Mrs Fort
Mr Govett
Mr Wallace
Mrs Young

In attendance: Mrs Sherrie Babington – Clerk, KCC Councillor Cooke and members of the Public.

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Fort.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Councillor Gallihawk and Borough Councillor Peter Parvin.

2. Declaration of Interests.

No interests were declared.

3. Parish Councillor Vacancy.

The Clerk informed members that one application had been received for the Parish Councillor vacancy; she circulated the application from Mr Springford to all present and passed on his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting.

Members considered the application and it was proposed by Councillor Young to co-opt Mr Springford onto the Parish Council, this was seconded by Councillor China and agreed by all present.

Action: Clerk to place item on next agenda and action as necessary.

4. Public Comments.

A resident attended the meeting to ask three questions concerning the Parish as follows:

- He asked when the build-outs at Upper Street would be completed.
Councillor Cooke spoke in response to this query. He informed the meeting that the gates would be completed on 12th November 2012 and he stated that a road closure would be needed.
- He asked what the PC views were on the redevelopment of the Ten Bells with regards to parking.
Councillor Fort informed the resident that the PC had objected to the application and had asked for it to be reported to the Planning Committee.
- He stated that he had attended the June Parish Council meeting to report on a problem with an HGV from Dairy Crest. He stated that he had taken this matter up with the company and complained about the incident. He informed the meeting that Dairy Crest had sent a cheque for £100 for the PC to enhance the signage for HGV's.
He passed this cheque to the Chairman who thanked him on behalf of the PC.

It was reported that there had been a problem with the street light at Wykeham Grove; the Clerk confirmed that this had been repaired by the lighting contractor.

Concerns were raised that the 20mph signs were still being flouted and it was suggested that there was no sign to indicate the change in speed limit. Councillor Cooke stated that this had now been rectified and vegetation had been cut back to clearly show the signage.

A discussion took place regarding the possibility of having a mobile camera in the parish.

A general discussion took place concerning highways matters.

5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

The minutes from the previous meeting were circulated to all present. These were then proposed by Councillor Young seconded by Councillor Govett and agreed by all present. These were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

6. Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising.

7. Police Report.

The police were not present at the meeting.

The Chairman read out a crime report from PCSO Kirby to all present.

8. Parish Council Website.

Councillor Fort stated that she had been asked by Councillor Gallihawk whether the discussion on the website could be deferred until the next meeting to enable this matter to be considered further.

This was approved by members.

Councillor Govett spoke regarding the specification that had been sent out to three website companies. He reported that he had received two quotations back and the third company was unable to offer a quotation.

He spoke regarding the options for the new website and spoke of the budget that the PC had for the upgrade of the website. He stated that the PC needed to be clear on what they wanted from the website. He felt that the new website would need to be functional and he urged members to look at other PC websites in order to establish their views before the next meeting.

It was agreed that the PC would seek to get a third quote before the next meeting.

Action: Seek a further quotation for the website.

9. MBC Borough Councillor Report.

Borough Councillor Peter Parvin gave his apologies to the meeting.

10. KCC Councillors Report.

KCC Councillor Gary Cooke gave his report to the meeting.

He spoke regarding the 340million in savings made by KCC over the past three years which had been undertaken without affecting services.

He stated that it was the intention of KCC to freeze their precepts for April 2013.

He gave a reported on schools in Maidstone and the success of the Leeds and Broomfield School and the positive progress of this.

Councillor Fort stated that she had recently visited the school and she had been impressed with it.

Councillor Cooke reported on the MBC Core Strategy and his concerns for Junction 8 and stated that he was working with Paul Carter and Jenny Whittle regarding this.

11. Correspondence & Clerks Report.

Members noted the Clerks Report and the correspondence received during the course of the month.

12. Planning Matters.**New Applications Received**

MA/12/1202 The Ten Bells, Upper Street, Leeds.

Conversion of existing dwelling to two dwellings and erection of three dwellings to the rear of site.

MA/12/1106 Foley Oast, Lower Street, Leeds.

Application for listed building consent to strip peg tiles and battens from existing roof and replace with a breather membrane, new battens and existing peg tiles.

MA/12/1231 Arnold Farm, Back Street, Leeds.

Removal of existing lean-to storage building and erection of a replacement general purpose agricultural storage building and covered access.

MA/12/1203 The Ten Bells, Upper Street, Leeds.

An application for conversation area consent for the demolition of existing extensions.

MA/12/1433 Barnhall Lodge, Gravelly Bottom Road, Kingswood.

Part retrospective application for the erection of replacement detached dwelling and garage.

MBC Planning Decisions

12/0764 ARNOLD YOKE, BACK STREET, LEEDS, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1TF

An application to discharge conditions relating to MA/11/1982 - (Listed Building Consent for erection of a

two-storey extension; installation of 1No. Conservation roof light to rear elevation; alterations to fenestration replacement of windows to front elevation.

Approved/Granted

12/0765 ARNOLD YOKE, BACK STREET, LEEDS, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1TF

An application to discharge conditions relating to MA/11/1981 (Erection of a two-storey extension and replacement porch, alterations to fenestration including new French doors beneath gable roof to rear elevation, and alterations to barn including demolition.

Approved/Granted

TA/0074/12 2, YEW TREE COTTAGES, UPPER STREET, LEEDS, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1RU

Conservation Area Notification: Leeds Conservation Area notification of intention to fell a Norway Spruce and a Bay Tree.

Raise No Objection - 6 wk period expired

12/1335 ARNOLDBRAE OAST, BACK STREET, LEEDS, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1TF

Application for a non-material Leeds amendment following a grant of planning permission MA/10/1900

(erection of three bay garages etc).

Refused.

12/1231 ARNOLD FARM, BACK STREET, LEEDS, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1TF

Removal of existing lean-to storage Leeds building and erection of a replacement general purpose Agricultural storage building and covered access.

Approved/Granted with Conditions

12/1022 MERRIAMS FARM, CARING LANE, LEEDS, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1TJ

An Application to discharge conditions relating to MA/11/1159 - (Alterations to Hill Barn to form living accommodation renovation/replacement of long barn to form garaging and provision of link, all ancillary to existing dwelling)

Approved/Granted

12/1093 MERRIAMS FARM, CARING LANE, LEEDS, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1TJ

An application for discharge of conditions relating to MA/11/1160 (An application for listed building consent for alterations to Hill Barn to form living accommodation, renovation/replacement of Long Barn to form garaging and provision of link.

Approved/Granted

12/1106 FOLEY OAST, LOWER STREET, LEEDS, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1RR

Application for listed building consent Leeds to strip peg tiles and battens from existing roof and replace with a breather membrane, new battens and existing peg tiles.

Approved/Granted with Conditions

13. Financial Matters.

a. Financial Statement.

The financial statements for the Parish Council and Playing Field Accounts was presented to Councillors and approved. (Young/Fort).

b. Parish Services Scheme.

The Clerk reported on the Parish Services Scheme and the offer from MBC to hold a meeting to discuss its funding requirements for the forthcoming financial year. She drew member's attention to the latest email from MBC asking for details of land owned by the PC in order for them to calculate payments for the maintenance of PC land. It was also reported that the KALC advice at present was not to complete the forms and to await the outcome of their negotiations with MBC.

It was reported that a KALC meeting was due to take place in the near future to discuss this further.

This was discussed by members and it was agreed to await the outcome of the KALC negotiations before meeting with MBC or supplying them with any further details.

14. Parish Maintenance.

Councillor Fort spoke regarding the overgrown hedges in the church car park; she stated that Chris Brace had offered to meet with Paul Waring, the grass cutting contractor to discuss the cutting of these. The Clerk was asked to liaise with the contractor concerning this matter.

Action: Clerk to progress.

Councillor Cooke informed members that KCC would be undertaking a cleanup of his parishes again this year; this was likely to take place in November.

15. Playing Field.

It was reported that the PC had not been approached by any potential football hirers this year.

Councillor Young stated that she would liaise with the Football League regarding the future hire of the pitches. It was agreed that the PC would consider football or rugby hirers.

Action: Councillor Young to progress.

Councillor Young stated that there had been a problem with youths playing on the shelter.

16. Highway Matters.

a) Village Gates.

Councillor Cooke reported that the village gates and build outs at the southern end of the village would be completed with the rumble strip.

He spoke regarding the gates at the northern end of the village; he confirmed that the request from members to move this further down last month was not possible. He stated that it had been agreed to leave the gate where it was at present and spoke of the PC concerns regarding the rumble strip and its effects on the local businesses.

A resident in attendance at the meeting stated that he had spoken to the business near to the gate and they had confirmed that the installation of a rumble strip would not cause them a problem.

Councillor Govett asked if the PC could write to the businesses and residents in the area to seek their views on the rumble strips with a view of progressing these if there were no concerns.

Councillor Cooke stated that he would liaise with residents in the area to seek their views.

b) Road Safety Improvements at School.

No further matters were raised.

c) General Matters.

It was suggested that the height barrier at the car park may need a reflective strip, this was discussed by members.

d) Lorry Watch.

Councillor Fort reported on the Lorry Watch Scheme and the meetings that she had attended with the police and KCC. She stated that this was a pilot scheme with Leeds and Langley Parish Councils. She reported that she had 25 signs to place around the parish to fetch awareness to the scheme. She informed members that this commenced on 1st November and was volunteer led. She explained how this would operate.

Councillor Govett suggested that the PC deliver leaflets to residents to try to seek volunteers for the scheme.

17. Joint Parish Group & LDF.

Councillor Fort reported on the JPG.

18. Further questions from public.

It was reported that a lamp was on all day and night at Burgess Hall Drive.

Action: Clerk to report.

It was reported that the gullies were flooding at Lower Cottages and the allotments.

Action: Clerk to report.

19. Urgent Matters.

Councillor Fort informed the meeting that the Parish Clerk had tendered her resignation and would be leaving the employment of the Parish Council at the end of the year.

This was discussed and the Clerk was asked to draft an advert for the vacancy.

Action: Clerk to progress.

20. Date of next Parish Council Meeting.

Tuesday 9th October 2012 at Leeds Pavillion.

There being no further business the meeting was closed 9.35pm.

Signed _____

Dated _____