

The Minutes of the meeting of Leeds Parish Council
held in St Nicolas Church, Leeds, on Tuesday 9th September 2014 at 7:35 PM.

Councillors present: Fort
Govett
Springford
Young

Also present: Parish Clerk, Mrs S Babington, KCC Cllr Gary Cooke and members of the public.

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Fort.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors China and Gallihawk and MBC Ward Councillor Peter Parvin.

2. Declaration of Interests.

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Cllr Govett as a true record, these were seconded by Cllr Young 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. Parish Council Vacancy.

The Chairman informed the meeting that due to the resignation of Cllr Wallace, a vacancy now existed on the Parish Council.

The Clerk explained the process by which the vacancy would be filled and informed members that the first stage notice had now been displayed.

6. Public Comments.

A resident raised concerns at the poor condition of the pavement leading from the Old Post Office to the end of the footpath.

Action: Clerk to report to MBC.

Bridleway opposite Chapel Cottage – It was reported that during the road closure a trench had been dug alongside the bridleway KH260 to drain the water and this area still needed to be reinstated.

Action: Clerk to report to KCC.

A resident reported that some of the street lights in Burgess Hall Drive were in need of attention. Cllr Fort spoke regarding the problems the Parish Council had with maintaining the parish lights and stated that these were now under review.

A resident attended the meeting to speak about the bypass proposed Kent County Council and he raised concerns regarding the Local Plan and the need for infrastructure.

He read out a statement to members and expressed concern that the Parish Council had supported the KCC suggested bypass without a formal consultation with the Parish.

The Chairman stated that the overwhelming desire of the village was for a bypass and therefore the Parish Council felt that it did not need to re-consult with the village.

The resident stated that he was also concerned about the local infrastructure if development was to take place at Kingswood. He stated that he had produced a report for consideration by Kent County Council and the Parish Council.

The Chairman thanked the resident for his comments and report and stated that the Parish Council would consider this.

A resident raised concerns about a box van parked on the corner of Brogden Crescent causing an obstruction to the junction. It was agreed that this should be brought to the attention of the PCSO.

Action: Clerk to report to PCSO Richard Kirby.

7. KCC Councillors Report.

KCC Councillor Gary Cooke spoke regarding the KCC response to the Local Plan and the relationship between Maidstone Borough Council and Kent County Council. He spoke regarding the reduction in the housing numbers from 19,600 to 18,600 that stated that KCC would prefer the numbers to be nearer 14,000.

He reported that the KCC preference was to deliver a link road from the Sutton Road to the A20 and confirmed that the need was recognised based on the existing use, however KCC did not have the finance for this and therefore they were putting through an option for a spur road big enough to take the HGV traffic away from the centre of Leeds which would eliminate the noise, disturbance and property damage.

He stated that at present the KCC response was a consultation document and not a formal proposal. He reiterated that the KCC preferred option would be a bypass.

He reported on the progress of the weight restriction proposals for the B2163.

8. MBC Councillors Report.

Apologies were received from Ward Cllr Peter Parvin.

9. Highways Matters.

No further matters were raised.

10. Special Constable Update.

Cllr Govett reported that there were currently two recruits for a Special Constable, the first one had started training and the second was still going through the recruitment process.

11. Police Report.

No matters were reported.

12. Correspondence and Clerks Report.

This was noted by members.

13. Planning Matters.

No matters were reported.

14. Financial Matters.

a. Financial Statement.

The Financial Statement was circulated to members for consideration. The cheques for payment were proposed by Cllr Fort, seconded by Cllr Springford and agreed by all present.

The cheques were then signed by two authorised signatories.

b. Request for financial assistance from Leeds and Broomfield CP School.

Correspondence from Leeds and Broomfield School was circulated to all members seeking financial assistance to help with the refurbishment of a memorial garden at the school.

This was discussed by members and it was proposed by Cllr Springford to make a donation of £200, this was seconded by Cllr Govett and agreed by all present.

Action: Clerk to respond to school and place cheque on next financial statement.

15. Parish Maintenance.

It was reported that the verge from Ashbank to the bridge was in need of attention. The Clerk was asked to seek a quotation from Steven Waring to have this cut.

Action: Clerk to progress.

16. Playing Field and Pavilion.

The Chairman reported that work had been undertaken at the Pavilion as agreed at the previous meeting and she thanked Cllr China for his work on this matter.

It was reported that there were currently potholes in the Church Car Park. Cllr Young stated she would look into having these repaired.

Action: Cllr Young to progress.

17. Street Lighting.

It was reported that a street light by the Old Vicarage was burning day and night.

18. Joint Parish Group and Local Plan.

No matters were raised.

19. Public Comments and Observations.

A discussion took place regarding the development at Ledian Farm and the Chairman stated that work was due to commence in the New Year.

20. Urgent Matters.

Cllr Young reported that a new Headteacher had been appointed at Leeds and Broomfield school.

21. Date of next Meeting.

14th October 2014.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed to the press and public at 9:10 PM.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____