

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7th September 2021

Present

Councillor K. Bailey	Councillor G. Haigh
Councillor D. Barker	Councillor S. Jones
Councillor J. Bellhouse	Councillor J. Moxon
Councillor P. Brown	Councillor C. Nixon
Councillor K. Cook	Councillor L. Rawson
Councillor L. Gettings	
Councillor R. Finnigan	MBI (arrived during Item 56)

49.0 Apologies for Absence

49.1 Apologies were received from Councillor Knight.

50.0 Declaration of Interest

50.1 Councillor Moxon declared that he was an employee of Leeds City Council.

Attendance of a Resident

Anita Dulku, a resident of Kings Park cul-de-sac (Suffields Estate), attended the meeting to raise concerns regarding security, following the theft of a number of motor vehicles. Mrs Dulku was suggesting some form of joint community security. She had sent a letter out to all residents on the estate, and the Parish Council had also received a copy. Councillor Jones advised that, while sharing her concerns, it was not in the remit of the Parish Council. He suggested contacting the Ward Councillors, as they were the direct link with LCC who may be involved with such matters. The Clerk to forward email details to Mrs Dulku.

51.0 Police: Monthly Report

51.1 PCSO's Jeff McGregor and Debbie Watson attended the Meeting.

51.2 PCSO McGregor reported that the vehicle thefts the Suffields had been logged, and that these so called 'keyless' thefts were becoming common across Leeds, and indeed the UK. He advised that the purchase of a Faraday Pouch was a useful deterrent to this type of theft. Councillor Brown also suggested the 'crook lock'. Information to be posted on the website.

51.3 PCSO Watson reported that there had been a theft of tools from a van, and windows had been smashed at an empty house on Finkle Lane. The Police had also attended a number of incidents of anti-social behaviour at the Meeting Hall. The Clerk confirmed that she had received many emails relating to ASB incidents, around the Meeting Hall and in the children's playground. The Police suggested having the large refuse bin chained the wall to prevent it being moved to the rear of the building, and aiding access onto the roof.

51.4 Councillors Gettings and Bailey raised their concerns about the erratic and dangerous manner in which E bikes were being driven by youths on Town Street. PCSO McGregor confirmed that the use of electronic bikes was illegal on public roads and pavements. The Police to forward a poster to the Clerk, to be posted on the Parish Council website.

52.0 Chair's Remarks

52.1 Councillor Jones advised all councillors to be wary of emails requesting financial assistance, and using the name of Steven Jones. These were 'scam' emails.

53.0 Minutes of Meeting held on 6th July 2021

53.1 The Minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.

53.2 There were no Matters Arising.

54.0 Correspondence

54.1 Details of Correspondence for July and August had been sent out by the Clerk prior to the meeting.

54.2 There were no items of Correspondence requiring further discussion.

55.0 Meeting Hall Update

55.1 Councillor Gettings stated that as in previous negotiations with Leeds City Council, there had been a distinct lack of communication.

56.0 Village Maintenance

56.1 Playground Issues: In view of the complaints about litter in the children's playground the Clerk suggested the purchase of an extra litter bin. Councillor Bellhouse requested a bin for Meeting Hall grounds, and Councillor Brown advised that one was required at Branch End. Councillor Gettings proposed that Parish Council fund the purchase of the additional bins, and this was unanimously agreed upon.

Regarding anti-social behaviour problems in the playground, Councillor Moxon proposed that the present CCTV installation in the playground should be investigated, by contacting Leeds Watch, who monitor the systems. The Clerk advised that Councillor Finnigan had stated in a recent email, that there were certain legal restrictions regarding CCTV surveillance in playgrounds. Councillor Jones stated that further enquiries needed to be made.

56.2 Village Green: Councillor Brown reported that BT were planning to install an additional telegraph pole on the Green. As Councillor Brown, and other councillors had concerns regarding this installation, Councillor Finnigan agreed to make further enquires with BT as to the need for this pole, and request that it was not installed.

56.3 Grass Cutting: Due to the Parish Council's dissatisfaction with the standard of work carried out by LCC's contractor Continental, other options were discussed. It was decided to look into sourcing their own contractor, using funding from LCC. Following Councillor Barker's query about length of contract Councillor Finnigan suggested that it may be initially be for 3 years. Plus, as any contract would have to be in place for the new financial year. Councillor Finnigan would request a spec, and all relevant information.

56.4 Trees at Church Avenue: It was confirmed that there was still dissatisfaction from both residents and some councillors regarding the trees planted by LCC at Church Avenue. Councillor Finnigan stated that they could be moved, but alternative locations would be required. Suggestions included the edge of Street Lane playing fields, to screen the industrial units, and in the grounds of Gildersome Primary School. Councillor Moxon to liaise with Councillor Finnigan regarding the latter location.

56.5 The location of the seat, originally planned for Church Avenue was discussed. Councillor Jones reported that Street Lane Playing Field, near the site of the MUGA was the favoured location. Councillor Cook stated that permission would have to be given by the Playing Fields Association.

56.6 The Clerk advised that the promised completion of the work by the Forestry Department had not yet taken place.

57.0 Future Landscape Projects

57.1 Councillor Jones referred to the previous landscape project at Branch End, and thanked Councillor Brown for arranging for the gable end to be painted. He added that it had been a massive improvement. Councillor Brown advised that the retaining wall around the grassed area still required repair. A quote of around £500 had originally been received from David Cowburn. It was agreed to arrange for suitable topping stones required to complete the work, and request a final quote. A decision on whether to paint the concrete part of the wall would be made later.

57.2 Discussion took place regarding proposals for the utilization of the grassed area at Mill Lane. All Councillors were given the detailed information regarding a proposed outdoor play area at this site. This had been submitted by Bethan Mcewan. Councillor Gettings stated that she did not feel this project was correct for this area, mainly on the grounds that it was seen as a business venture. There was general agreement from the Council.

Councillor Brown put forward her ideas for the Mill Lane area, based on a 'rough' woodland type playground, with rocks and tree stumps for the children to climb on. Discussion took place and Councillor Jones proposed that a sub-group be set up to make plans for the area. Councillor Brown to lead this, with Councillor Bellhouse organising a WhatsApp group for the project.

Councillor Bailey suggested that the area behind the Meeting Hall might be suitable for Beth Mcewan's outdoor playgroup, and the Clerk advised that as the Mill Lane project developed some of Beth's ideas might be incorporated into that area.

58.0 Container for Additional Storage

58.1 Councillor Gettings gave an update regarding the offer of the container for extra storage, confirming that it belonged to LCC. Discussion took place regarding the difficulties in siting the container, and the possibility of purchasing a purpose built storage unit. Councillor Bailey to make enquiries and obtain quotes.

59.0 Past and Future Events

59.1 Councillor Jones commented on the very successful Table Top Sale organised by Councillor Bellhouse.

59.2 Remembrance Sunday:

Councillor Gettings advised that the new vicar at St Peter's Church would be contacted regarding the procedures for Remembrance Sunday. Discussion took place regarding an audio system for this event, and Councillor Bailey suggested contacting Tony Copley.

59.3 Light Up Night:

The need for a good audio system on Light Up Night was also raised. Councillor Moxon suggested using Gildersome Primary School PA system. It was confirmed that it was an effective system. Councillor Jones proposed that the two options regarding the audio system be investigated. The Clerk advised that Councillor Andy Hutchison had been contacted regarding lamp post conversions at the cenotaph and the Meeting Hall, and LCC would be contacted regarding the closure of Town Street on Light Up Night. Councillor Brown to order the costume required for this event.

60.0 Footpaths

60.1 The Clerk advised that Bob Buckenham, Parks and Countryside, had contacted the landowners to cut back the hedges restricting access to Footpath 22/139 to Farnley. The Clerk was also hopeful that action would be taken regarding Footpath 26, as the bird nesting season was coming to an end.

60.2 Councillor Bailey reported his concerns about the wall adjoining the footpath at the side of the Primary School. The wall, belonging to the Quaker Meeting House, was leaning quite badly towards the footpath. The Clerk to contact them.

61.0 Planning

61.1 Councillor Cook confirmed that she had prepared a lists of all applications and decisions for July and August. These had been sent to all councillors prior to the meeting, and posted on the Parish Council's website.

62.0 Finance

(The Clerk had sent out the following Finance Reports prior to the Meeting.)

Finance Report – July 2021

62.1 The balance on the Parish Council's **Current Account** currently stands at: £24,724.02

63.2 Payments made via Bankline:

HMRC/June PAYE	98.00
C.Gamble/KreativeInc/Monthly Host Fee	10.00
S.Jones/Zoom Account/Monthly Fee	14.39
Brosnans/Payroll	252.00
Gildersome Spurs JFC/Grant	250.00
P.May/July Salary	391.67
PKF Littlejohn/AGAR	240.00

Bankline Fee	<u>3.20</u>
	1259.26

62.3 Payments made by cheque:

B.Haigh/Garden Help	100.00
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TOTAL 1359.26

62.4 The balance on the Parish Council's **Reserve Account** currently stands at: £24,429.77

Finance Report – August 2021

62.5 The balance on the Parish Council's **Current Account** currently stands at : £24,071.37

62.6 Payments made via Bankline:

HMRC/July PAYE	98.00
Kreative Inc/Monthly Hosting Fee	10.00
S.Jones/Zoom Account/Monthly Fee	14.39
E.May/Lap Top Update Software	35.99
P.May/Petty Cash	100.00
P.May/August Salary	391.87
Bankline Fee	<u>2.50</u>
	652.65

TOTAL 652.65

62.7 The balance on the Parish Council's **Reserve Account** currently stands at: £24,429.98

63.0 Application for Grants

63.1 The Council agreed to a Grant Application from Gildersome Baptist Church for £100. This was towards the cost of maintenance work on the Nature Walk at the Church.

63.2 It was proposed and agreed that Councillor Brown could apply for a Cosco card on behalf of the Parish Council.

64.0 Date of Next Meeting

64.1 The next Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 5th October 2021, at 7.00pm, at Gildersome Meeting Hall.

