

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5th September 2023

Present

Councillor J. Bellhouse	Councillor S. Jones
Councillor P. Brown	Councillor E. Knight
Councillor K. Cook	Councillor A. May
Councillor L. Gettings	Councillor J. Moxon
Councillor A. Holroyd	Councillor C. Nixon

Councillor R. Finnigan MBI

63.0 Apologies for Absence

63.1 Apologies were received from Councillors Bailey and Barker.

64.0 Declaration of Interest

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

65.0 Police: Monthly Report

65.1 PCSOs Bev Haile attended the meeting.

65.2 The monthly crime report was as follows:

Commercial Burglary – 0

Residential Burglary – 1

Theft of vehicles – 0

Theft from vehicles – 3

Criminal Damage – 3

Anti- Social Behaviour - 5

65.3 Councillor Moxon raised the issue of E bikes around the village and Councillor Brown reported the problem with quad bike outside the Meeting Hall.

66.0 Chair's Remarks

66.1 Councillor Jones reported that a formal election would not be required following the statutory publication of a councillor vacancy. The co-option process would therefore take place.

67.0 Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th July 2023

67.1 The Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th July 2023 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

67.2 There were no Matters Arising.

68.0 Correspondence

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

meeting, and some would be discussed in Agenda items.

69.0 Finance Sub-Committee Update: Budget Report and Future Projects

69.1 A copy of the minutes for the meeting held on 2nd August 2023 was distributed to all councillors. Councillor Jones referred to the current balances and potential expenditure for the rest of the financial year.

69.2 Councillor Jones then focussed on the Finance Committee's proposal that an extra £7000 should be put towards the Playground Project, making a total of £17000. This would enable the project to go ahead. Discussion took place following Councillor Brown's reference to the fact that the playground was the responsibility of Leeds City Council. It was finally agreed that unless the Parish Council funded the project, the essential maintenance work and installation of new equipment would not go ahead. Councillor Jones proposed the additional £7000, Councillor Gettings seconded and the proposal was agreed upon.

69.3 The Clerk advised that an application for grant funding had been submitted to Screwfix, and a decision should be reached before the end of September.

69.4 Councillor Finnigan answered a query from Councillor May regarding a comment on Facebook. He also confirmed that a substantial amount of money had been awarded to Birchfield Primary School to pay for essential fencing around their school grounds.

70.0 Village Maintenance

70.1 It was agreed to purchase two extra litter bins. One to be placed at the new seating area outside the Meeting Hall, and one near Harthill Rise. Councillor Finnigan to part fund.

70.2 The request by the Green family, for a memorial bench to be placed on the landscaped area at Griffin corner, was agreed upon.

70.3 The Clerk to contact Claire Batley regarding setting up the Little Plant Library. The bottle bank area was suggested as a possible location.

70.4 The Clerk to contact Mark Taylor regarding the memorial bench/trough for Colin Taylor.

71.0 Meeting Hall Update

71.1 Councillor Jones read an update from Councillor Bailey regarding the acoustic panels for the Meeting Hall. This confirmed that Agile would commence the installation this month.

72.0 Highways Issues

72.1 Councillor Finnigan stated that he had contacted LCC Highways department regarding the re-location of the SID, and hoped for a response by the end of the week.

73.0 Past & Future Events

73.1 Councillor Jones thanked Councillor Bellhouse for organising the Table Top Sale in July. It was agreed that this had been successful, despite the weather. Councillor Bellhouse advised that this event might require earlier publicity next year.

73.2 Councillor May suggested having a number of smaller notice boards around the village –

in shops, pubs etc. This was considered a good idea. Councillor Gettings also advised using the Baptist Church notice board for publicity.

73.3 Remembrance Sunday

Councillor Gettings confirmed that she had contacted the Lord Lieutenant's Office and would contact the Police regarding the road closure. Councillor Brown to contact Eddie regarding the sound system. All those available to meet at the Meeting Hall at 9.30am.

73.4 Light Up Night

The Clerk to contact LCC re road closure/ Roger Bennett re Fireworks/ Mascot company/ Phil Hird re the Christmas sign/ make enquiries about a Christmas tree. Eddie had previously discussed the location of the big screen. Additional help would be required with the lights along Town Street and on the tree.

Discussion took place following Councillor May's suggestion that Light Up Night should become a bigger Christmas / Charity Event engaging the whole community, perhaps along the lines of Christmas Market. Councillor Finnigan advised visiting Drigh Fest in December. Councillor Jones proposed that a working group was set up, with a view to look at the possibility of planning for such an event next year. Councillors May, Moxon and Holroyd offered to spearhead this group.

73.5 It was agreed that all those available would meet at 10.00am on Saturday 9th September to take the remaining bunting down.

74.0 Mill Lane Project

74.1 Councillor Cook advised that the contractor was looking at the price of slides.

75.0 WhatsApp: It's use by the Parish Council

75.1 Councillor May considered the use of WhatsApp to be an essential platform for providing information of council business. It was agreed that responses to correspondence emails sent out by the Clerk could be made via WhatsApp, whenever necessary.

76.0 Parish Council Equipment: Lend/Hire

76.0 Councillor May put forward the idea of the creation of a community hub for community groups to hire/borrow equipment. Discussion took place with some councillors agreeing in principle, but concerned about the difficulties of management, storage and maintenance. Councillor Moxon considered an alternative might be to negotiate between the different groups

77.0 Footpaths

77.1 The Clerk advised that she had reported two blocked footpaths to Bob Buckenham. Footpath 26, was the Cricket Hill Farm footpath, which had been a problem in the past. A Maintenance Officer was to be sent to inspect both.

77.1 A resident had also reported an extremely overgrown hedge along the ginnel down to the Springbank area. The Clerk to contact Parks and Countryside.

78.0 Planning

78.1 Councillor Cook had prepared a list of all applications and decisions for July and August. This had been sent out to all councillors prior to the meeting.

78.2 Councillor Jones stated that there were still issues with Planning Enforcement not taking action regarding the property at 21 Harthill Parade,

79.0 Finance

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

Finance Report – July 2023

79.1 The balance on the Parish Council's **Current Account** currently stands at: £15,214.46

79.2 Payments made via Bankline :

HMRC/June PAYE	99.60
Brosnans/Payroll	288.00
P.Brown/Shed/Painting Notice Board	20.00
British Gas/MUGA Electricity Supply	54.85
Ms J. Latham/Website Support	29.30
P.May/Ink Cartridges	21.96
P.May/July Salary	398.53
Bankline Fee	<u>5.60</u>
	917,84
TOTAL	917.84

79.3 Payments Received

HMRC/VAT Refund	1,843.87
Nat West Interest	50.23
TOTAL	1894.10

79.4 The balance on the Parish Council's **Reserve Account** currently stands at: £44,715.75

Finance Report - August 2023

79.5 The balance on the Parish Council's **Current Account** currently stands at : £14,484.85

79.5 Payments made via Bankline :

HMRC/July PAYE	99.80
British Gas/MUGA Electricity	24.38
Ms J Latham/Website Support	29.30
P.May/August Salary	398.73
B.Haigh/Garden Services	75.00
Transfer to Petty Cash	100.00
Bankline Fee	<u>2.40</u>
	729.61

TOTAL 729.61

79.6 Payments Received

Nat West Interest	53.23
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79.7 The balance on the Parish Council's **Reserve Account** currently stands at £44,768.98

80.0 Applications for Grants

80.1 There were non.

81.0 Date of Next Meeting

81.1 The next Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 3rd October 2023 at 7.00pm, at Gildersome Meeting Hall.

