

PRESENT: Cllrs:- V.M. Whitbread (Chairman), L.D. Blanchard, R.A. Gibson,
F. Henderson, K.W.J. Innocent, A.J. Mackie, M.R. Rhodes.

OTHERS: Cllr J. Procter, PC M. Byfield, PCSO J. Cornes,
S. Jones, A. Jones, T. Silverwood, I. & M. Seth, J. Hopps,
J. Paterson, R. Robinson.

IN ATTENDANCE:- C.C. Pool (Clerk), A.J. Henson (Clerk elect)

PUBLIC SESSION

The Chairman introduced Mrs Henson, who will be taking over as Clerk to the Council in October and the Council wished her well in the job.

Several residents had attended to express their views about the Planning Application for a 5 bedroom detached house in the curtilage of the Barn House, with a frontage on Folly Lane. Mr Seth said that he had been verbally informed by the applicant that the application was to be withdrawn, but that he had been advised by LCC that until this was confirmed, it was advisable to continue to comment on the application. One of the main objections was that there are 8 mature trees in the area which will need to be removed. There is a report from an arboreal consultant which states that all of them are in some way diseased. Other comments were that the size of the development in relation to the plot was oppressive; the new building would be out of character with the other properties in Folly Lane; the house would be behind the building line of adjacent properties, so would give rise to problems with overlooking neighbours; the narrowness of the driveway giving problems with access onto Folly Lane. Cllr Procter, who did not take part in the discussion, said that if officers were minded to approve the application, he would refer it to the Plans Panel.

1. LOCALISM

Resolved to suspend Standing Orders to permit Mr Robinson to address the meeting. Mr Robinson of DPP, a planning consultancy, spoke about the Localism Bill which is due to be enacted in November and is likely to be effective in late Spring 2012. He said that the objective is to replace Central Planning guidance with local decisions, but there is a presumption in favour of further development to meet housing needs. Parishes are encouraged to produce Neighbourhood Plans but these will need to dovetail into the LCC UDP, which will set targets for housing development. The Plan will identify locations for new development and the nature and density of the dwellings, but will also need to include plans for Transport, Education and other community requirements such as shops. Plans will need to be agreed by 50% of the community and also by LCC.

Plans will almost certainly need assistance from professionals and the first two pilots being developed have each received a grant of £50,000. In future, parishes will probably have to fund their own plans.

There are opportunities for income from a New Homes Bonus, and in the longer term, a Community Infrastructure Levy, but in the first instance this money will pass to LCC.

Mr Robinson said that he did not think there was an urgency to rush into a Plan yet, as LCC was not yet geared up to participate. In response to a question, Mr Robinson said that he saw no benefit in developing a Village Design Statement, but that some of the elements could be included in a Neighbourhood Plan.

The possibility of parishes joining forces to produce a Plan is still being discussed in the House of Lords.

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The Council thanked Mr Robinson for his presentation.

Resolved to resume Standing Orders.

The Clerk said that he had been in communication with Andrew Birkbeck, the Localism officer for LCC NE. He is looking at assisting two areas (one in each of Harewood and Wetherby Wards) and in particular is forming a committee to look at whether it is feasible to produce a plan, or common elements of separate plans for the 5 parishes East of the A1. He had suggested that Cllrs Innocent and Gibson might be suitably knowledgeable candidates from Bramham for this activity.

Resolved that the Council should work with the other local Councils to explore the development of Neighbourhood Plan and that Cllrs Innocent and/or Gibson be nominated to the committee. It was also **agreed** that Mr Birkbeck be invited to the next meeting. Clerk to advise Mr Birkbeck.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Batt and Halliday.

3. DECLARATION OF PREJUDICIAL/PERSONAL INTERESTS

Cllrs Blanchard and Innocent declared personal interests in agenda item 11 as members of the BSLA. Cllrs Mackie and Henderson declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 14 in respect of the planning application for 4 Freely Fields. The Chairman declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 15 as the recipient of a payment. Cllr Mackie lodged a change to her registered interests.

4. POLICING MATTERS

PCSO Cornes said that there had been no reported crimes in August, compared with 2 last year. These figures excluded the Leeds Festival where the number of crimes was down on previous years. She said that the police are continuing to monitor anti-social behaviour at the children's playground. Cllr Blanchard said that he had been advised of youths smoking illegal substances in the area of the Lyndon Avenue garages. PCSO Cornes advised that anyone witnessing such activity should telephone the Police.

5. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING held on 6 July having been circulated to all members, were **agreed** as correct.

6. MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING held on 25 August having been circulated to all members, were **agreed** as correct.

7. CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE (not covered by Agenda items)

Bramham House

LCC had responded to state that the sale details are with their Legal Department.

Invitation to meeting to discuss LCC Planning Strategy

Cllr Innocent had attended the meeting.

LCC

Notification that Continental Landscapes Ltd has been awarded to Grounds Maintenance contract from 2012

Introduction of Andrew Birkbeck as new Localism Officer

Minutes of Harewood and Wetherby Forum 21/7/11

All Saints' Church (Gill Young)

Letter of thanks for donation for Annual Report activity

Npower

Notification of increase in monthly direct debit for OP shelter electricity (£45 to £58).

Prof Tony Cusens

Letter about the article in the August edition of the village magazine. **Resolved** to defer discussion on this until the October meeting.

8. TRAINING FOR THE CLERK

Resolved to purchase "Local Council Administration"; to fund the attendance of the new Clerk on WWYC and CiLCA training and to reimburse her for the additional time spent on training.

9. COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAMME

The Council clarified the status of the programme. Cllr Mackie had distributed the draft programme at the July meeting and asked for comments and some members had responded. There had been a misunderstanding about what had been agreed regarding placing the article in the Parish Magazine. The Clerk said that as the programme would require Council expenditure, these elements need to be costed and agreed before the Council approves it. Cllr Mackie apologised if she had been out of line.

Cllr Gibson said that he didn't think that the programme would add anything over what is done now. The Council had produced a Parish Plan, Annual Reports, a monthly update in the Magazine and minutes on the website. It had introduced the 20 minute period for residents to address the Council and there were contact details in the magazine. He considered that any additional expenditure would be a needless expense.

Cllr Mackie said that there was always room for improvement and the Chairman said she felt there was a need for more communication with residents. **Resolved** that Cllr Mackie should produce the costs of the programme and that it be discussed in full at the October meeting.

10. STREET LIGHTING

Cllr Innocent said that whilst most of the new street lighting was now installed, there were some parts left to be done including the Square. He had been discussing these with LCC with a view to accommodating Christmas lights. This will require some slightly larger fittings.

Resolved that the Council should do this and that Cllr Innocent should instruct LCC accordingly.

11. BSLA MATTERS

Some members had requested clarification of the roles of the BSLA and the Council in relation to the playing field. The field is owned by the Council. Most of it, but not the children's playground or the strip of land adjoining Freely Lane is leased to the BSLA for 30 years. The lease requires the BSLA to obtain Council approval for any structure on the field. This is a legal document and cannot be amended without the consent of both parties. In this respect, the Council is the landlord and the BSLA the tenant. In recent months there had been requests from the BSLA to its landlord and during construction of the pavilion, these are expected to increase. Because of the fixed timescales of Council meetings, there is a requirement for a faster response to requests. **Resolved** that the Clerk be delegated to respond to urgent requests from the BSLA. Cllr Innocent said that there was no point in members debating the lease when they didn't know what was in it. **Resolved** that the Clerk should send a copy of the lease to members for discussion at the October meeting.

Cllr Henderson raised the issue of the fence recently built by the BSLA. She said that she had received 14 complaints from residents that the concrete poles were unsightly and not in line with the permission given by the Council. It was **agreed** that the Council had not given permission for this type of structure. Cllr Gibson said that he understood that LCC Planning had visited the site and found the structure to be acceptable.

Resolved to suspend Standing Orders to permit members of the BSLA to address the meeting. Mr A. Jones said that there was a need to fence off the rollers to prevent misuse and the BSLA had all the materials – concrete posts and scaffolding poles - to build it. Cllr Mackie said that if it was a question of cost, the Council was financially able to meet such an expense. Cllr Rhodes suggested that it should be possible to get Mr Simpson to build a picket fence to be attached to the existing enclosure. Cllr **11/30**

Innocent said that the BSLA had obtained some trees from the Woodland Trust and that it might be possible to use these to screen the fence.

Resolved that the BSLA should present revised proposals for the next meeting.

Resolved to resume Standing Orders.

Cllr Gibson said that the BSLA was seeking permission to erect some outdoor gym equipment along the lines suggested by Mr Dickson at the last meeting. The area alongside the footpath was being considered. **Resolved** that the BSLA should submit a formal request to be considered at the next meeting.

12. ARCHIVE PROJECT

The team digitising the archive are looking for guidance from the council as Custodian of the archive. **Resolved** that a committee should be appointed for this purpose comprising the Chairman, Cllr Gibson and the Clerk. Clerk to advise Mr Ferres.

13. PROPOSED PARISH BOUNDARY CHANGES

The Clerk had represented the Council at two meetings to discuss these. In the provisional arrangements, Bramham would transfer the area at the North end of Windmill Road and a field near the former A1 lay-by to Clifford, the area North of Bar Lane to Boston Spa. Bramham would transfer in a large portion of the Bramham Park Estate including the Terry Lug cottages from Barwick, two farms on the North of the A64 from Aberford and the primary school from Clifford. **Resolved** to agree these changes. **Resolved** that the two properties potentially transferring out that regularly apply for Leeds Festival tickets should continue to receive them. Clerk to write to the residents affected.

14. PLANNING MATTERS

Cllr Mackie asked whether any action could be taken over the partially completed property at the foot of Almshouse Hill. The Clerk said that the developer had fulfilled his planning obligation by starting construction within the required period and that there was no legal requirement to complete to any timescale. It might be possible to take action if the site was considered as “Untidy Land”. The clerk is taking this up with the LCC Enforcement team. The following application has been refused by LCC:

P/11/01683/FU/HE – 3 Freely Fields - Removal of condition 6 of previous approval 31/204/97/FU and alterations to garage to form habitable room; two storey and first floor side/front extension; detached double garage and enlarged vehicle access.

The Council recorded the delegated decisions made on the following applications:

P/11/02762/LI/HE – Carlton House, Tenter Hill – Internal alterations to listed building No Council objections.

P/11/03082/FU/HE – 4 Cropstones – Single storey rear extension. No Council objections. The Council considered the following new applications:

P/11/03502/FU/HE – 4 Freely Fields – Two storey first floor extension including two new windows to side. No Council objections.

P/11/03481/FU/NE – The Barn House, High Street – Detached five bedroom house. In view of the possibility of this application being withdrawn, it was **resolved** to defer and delegate a decision to the Planning Committee.

15. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Resolved that the following accounts be passed for payment:

AWM Ltd (Waste collection)	£73.57
Write Design & Print (Annual Report)	£459.00
SLCC (CAB Manual for Clerk)	£60.80
CPRE (Annual membership)	£29.00
V. Whitbread (Reimbursement - Advertisement for Clerk)	£491.47
Mazars LLP (External audit)	£162.00
K & P Simpson (Fencing and roofing work)	£120.00
WARDEN (Annual subscription)	£10.00
YH RTP (Clerk's WWYC training)	£50.00

16. MINOR ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Village Hall

Cllr Mackie reported that the building work was now virtually finished and will reopen on 17 September.

Council meetings

Cllr Henderson said that she was not happy with the layout used for Council meetings.

Leeds Festival tickets

Cllr Gibson said that he had received a verbal complaint about the misuse of residents tickets by a councillor. It was agreed that councillors must under no circumstances misuse tickets.

Environment

Cllr Rhodes said that there was regular evidence of someone – probably to the west of the village – burning plastic at night. Cllr Rhodes to refer to WY Police.

Cllr Blanchard said that there was concern about the amount of litter and general untidiness in the village. Agreed to discuss at the October meeting.

Telephone box

Cllr Blanchard said that the box on Lyndon Avenue still has no handset. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact BT and request that the box be repaired or removed completely.

Leeds Festival

Cllr Innocent suggested that the Council should request Festival Republic to attend for a debrief on this year's festival. Clerk to invite Ms Blake to a future meeting.

Diamond Jubilee

Cllr Innocent said that this would be a one day gala event on 3 June with a tea dance and gala gig following a week later. He said that he was hoping to provide commemorative medals for children but was unaware of numbers. Other possible activities include planting an oak tree and the footbridge across the beck.

Wetherby Road

Cllr Innocent said that the final grant has now been secured and it is expected that the landscaping work at the junction with Lyndon Avenue will start in December.

Old People's Garden

The Clerk said that one of the memorial benches in the garden is in poor condition and that the Council might like to consider a replacement.