

BOSTON SPA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 19th July 2021 at the Village Hall, Boston Spa at 7.00 pm

Present: K Blake (Chairman), M Heum (Vice chair), S King, E Molyneux, K Alderson, S Courts, G Bowen, M Harris

Apologies: None.

In Attendance: D Marshall (Clerk to the Council),

Guests: Ward Councillors Linda Richards & Norma Harrington, Mr Sandy Goodall - Chairman of Elmet & Rothwell Conservative Association.

No members of the public were in attendance. The Chairman welcomed the Ward Councillors and Mr Goodall and invited them to address the meeting. Mr Goodall attended the meeting to inform the Parish Council of the proposals put forward by the Boundary Commission of England to revise the constituency boundary. The purpose of review is to create constituencies which have a more equal number of electors. The Elmet and Rothwell constituency currently has 80,957 electors and this total needs to be brought down to between 69,000 and 77,000. The new boundary proposal would result in a radical change in which Elmet and Rothwell would lose the three southern wards of Rothwell, Garforth and Kippax and take on parts of Selby & Ainsty, Harrogate, Malton and Thirsk, creating a new constituency of Wetherby and Easingwold. This would result in a constituency embracing four local authorities. In response, the Conservative Association has developed a counter proposal which would retain Garforth but incorporate Tadcaster, Appleton Roebuck and Temple Newsome. This would result in a less safe Conservative seat and create a constituency that would stretch over only two local authorities. Mr Goodall said this was the start of a 2-year consultation period and that there were likely to be other counter proposals. People are welcome to comment in the first stage up until 2nd August. Cllrs Harrington and Richards said that the new boundary would not affect the Wetherby Ward but that it made sense for only 2 local authorities to be included within a constituency. Cllr Blake said that the change would not affect the Parish Council but that it is important to spread awareness of the proposed changes so that the public has the opportunity to comment.

Cllr Blake thanked Cllrs Richards and Harrington for their work with LCC on the production of the Village Centre Plan which is now being taken forward by LCC Highways. Cllr Richards said that she had asked for the latest graffiti to be removed from the gazebo at Stables Lane Park and that she is now engaging with the antisocial behaviour team after there had been a serious issue at the park over the weekend. Cllr Blake asked why the bins at Clarendon Road, Jackdaw Crag, Primrose Lane and Londis had still not been replaced. Cllr Harrington said that the bins were still on the list but that LCC were experiencing problems with supplier delivery and that demand for bins was exceeding the supplier's ability to keep up.

168/21	To accept apologies for absence and approve reasons for absence
	None.
169/21	To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests
	None.
170/21	To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 21st June 2021 and review the action list
	043/21ii To contact Path improvement providers and bring back quotes/proposals for the improvement of the Riverside paths. – ongoing 154/21i Chase for confirmation of LCC funding for section 50 bus shelter installation works - ongoing 154/21ii Submit bin list to Cllr Richards and liaise with green group regarding funding/placement of compostable materials waste bin- ongoing 156/21ii Seeks clarification from Green Group as to when riverside should be strimmed – ongoing 160/21i Speak to Touch Telecom regarding Wi-Fi for Village Hall and High Street – ongoing
	Resolved: That the minutes be accepted as a true record and the action list updated.
171/21	To review the monthly figures

	The figures had been previously circulated.
	Resolved: That the figures be accepted as a true record
172/21	Planning issues
	i) To receive any updates on the revised planning application 19/05151/FU – Land at Wharfeside
	Cllr Blake confirmed that the planning application had been refused on 25 th June.
	ii) To review the remaining planning applications and agree responses
	21/04959/FU 1 Bridge Close – No comment
	21/04930/FU 6 Hampole Way- No comment
	21/05085/FU 4 Oxclose Road – No comment
	21/05326/FU 5 Oxclose Road- No comment
	21/05377/FU 10 Pine Tree Avenue- No comment
	21/05452/FU 84 Clifford Moor Road- No comment
	21/05390/FU 18 Hampole Way- No comment
	21/05452/FU 84 Clifford Moor Road – No comment
	21/04597/LI 112 High Street- No comment
	21/05599/FU 39 Clarendon Road – No comment
	Resolved: The Clerk to submit responses on behalf of the Parish Council to Leeds CC where appropriate.
	iii) Other planning issues
	A resident had enquired about testing taking place on land at Low Field Farm where developers (GMI holdings) have drawn out proposals for a retirement village. Cllr Blake confirmed that the site had not been included in the SAP and was excluded from the Neighbourhood Plan as the site is also on Greenbelt Land. LCC had confirmed that there was planning history on the site and that LCC had not been approached in relation to the proposal.
173/21	To receive any crime reports or updates from the PACT meeting
	Cllr Blake attended the PACT meeting on 6 th July. Crimes numbers and types have remained the same, but there was a big increase in total number of crimes because of 22 public order offences which occurred on the same day in the same location. Catalytic converter thefts are down but keyless car thefts have increased. The public are reminded not to leave their car keys on the hall table and preferably to keep them in a metal box.
174/21	Chairman’s Business
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Morrith had contacted the PC regarding the November Remembrance Day. It was agreed that Cllr Heum would liaise with Mr Morrith and manage the arrangements • The Crown Hotel has asked for an extension to its morning opening hours to serve breakfasts.
175/21	To consider the initial Village Centre Plan and agree LCC feedback
	Cllr Bowen had held a Zoom meeting with Jack Young from LCC Highways, Cllr Blake, Ward Cllr Richards, Penny Stables from the Green Group and Jeff Newton from the Neighbourhood Planning Group. A number of requests had been discussed and these are currently under consideration by Highways. Many of these are complex and may need to be put into phase 2. A consultation is also required with local businesses in regards the loss of car parking outside their premises. A further meeting is being awaited with LCC to discuss the feasibility of the requested changes. Cllr Blake said he did not see the plan changing significantly from how it currently stands.
	Resolved: That the Parish Council welcomes the current outline plan for the village centre.
176/21	To consider costs for work to repair the Boston Spa War Memorial
	The Clerk confirmed that Stephenson’s Memorial Services had inspected the damaged stone blocks and had confirmed that they cannot skim over the latest damage. Several of the stone blocks need to be removed and replaced. Lanstone Conservation of York will contacted to provide a quote.
177/21	To consider the adoption of the Boston Spa War Memorial by the Parish Council
	As the Village Hall Committee are now advancing towards achieving Charity Status and adoption of the ownership of the Village Hall, it was considered whether the Parish Council should retain the ownership of the land containing the war memorial and the small garden which is currently included with the Village Hall on the land registry. It was agreed that a cost would be sought from Hart Law, the incumbent conveyancer to assess the charges to split off the land.

	Resolved: That a cost be obtained from Hart Law.
178/21	To receive an update from Boston Spa Green Group (Cllr King)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr King said the stand that Green Group had had outside Costcutter during the festival had been well visited by the public. • The Green Group are revisiting the idea of launching a repair café for electrical goods
179/21	To receive an update on highways, parking and streetscene matters
	i) To consider the Planned Highway Maintenance Programme 2021/22 to 2023/24 and decide whether any changes should be requested
	The plan had been reviewed by the Councillors. It was agreed that the streets with most serious surface issues had been included in the plan.
	Resolved: That no adjustments be requested to the existing Maintenance Programme
	ii) To consider a review of the maintenance contract for Millennium Gardens
	Concerns had been raised about the maintenance of the garden in 2021. The incumbent contractor has agreed to step down from the contract. Wharfe Valley Maintenance Services had been contacted and has agreed to take over the contract from 1 st August 2021 until 1 st April 2023 in line with their quote of £2330.00 per annum.
	Resolved: That Farm and Land services be released from the 3 year contract to be replaced by Wharfe Valley Garden Services.
	iii) To consider a donation to the Collingham branch of the Royal British Legion as a thank you for the maintenance of the garden area at the Memorial
	G Baxter and Partners had agreed to maintain the garden area of the Memorial at no cost, but had asked the PC to consider making an additional annual donation to the Royal British Legion Collingham Branch. The PC already makes an annual donation of £75 to help fund a Remembrance Day wreath. It was considered that an annual donation of £200 would be appropriate.
	Resolved: That the PC make an annual donation of £200 to the British Legion and that the memorial garden be added to the existing grassed areas maintenance contract.
	iv) To receive an update on the installation of a shelter
	Cllr Blake said he has spoken to Leeds Highways and is awaiting a response.
	v) To consider any highways and parking issues
	Nothing to report.
180/21	To receive an update on Allotments (Cllr Harris)
	i) To review the rents for the year commencing 1st October 2022
	The current rent of £30 per plot was discussed. In view of current allotment rent prices and the Covid situation it was considered that no increase should be made in 2022.
	Resolved: That there be no rental price increase for the allotments in 2022.
	ii) Neglected Allotments
	Residents and existing plot holders had submitted complaints that many allotments had now become neglected at the Primrose Hill site and were becoming full of invasive weeds. The Clerk confirmed that she had already spoken to one allotment holder. Cllr Harris had inspected the site and confirmed that plots 10,11 and 13 was sufficiently neglected to warrant a warning letter.
	Resolved: That the owners of plots 10,11 and 13 should receive a letter.
	iii) Other issues
	Cllr Harris had noted that there was bindweed in the hedge. It was agreed that G Baxter would be asked to remove it and trim the hedge when the bird season is over.
181/21	To receive an update on riverside issues (Cllr Harris)
	i) To consider any quotes or proposals in relation to path improvements
	Cllr Harris confirmed he had spoken to two companies and is still awaiting a quote.
	ii) Other issues
182/21	To receive an update on issues concerning Stables Lane and receive any updates from the Friends of Stables Lane Working Group (Cllr Alderson)
	i) To receive an update on the reinstallation of a temporary camera
	Cllr Harrington said that it was necessary to prove that a camera was required and that they are only permitted to stay in place for 9 months. Cllr Harrington said it is vital that people report all incidents of antisocial behaviour in order to prove that a camera is absolutely needed as there is

		not just the cost of initial installation to consider but also human resource required to monitor it.
	ii)	Other issues
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Alderson confirmed that he is still awaiting the receipt of tenders for the junior play equipment. Depending on the height of the equipment, planning permission may be required. • There have been a number of issues of vandalism and graffiti over the last few weeks. This has been reported to the Police and ASB team. • The park sign at Cohen's Chemist has now been mounted together with the Kirby's sponsored noticeboard. Fitness and sports class providers have been invited to advertise their classes on the board. The new BBQ's will be installed this week. • It was agreed that the existing horizontal gate pole should be replaced with a gate. A quote is being sought from Hartwell Engineering. • The FOSL litter pickers had asked whether a trolley could be purchased to transport rubbish from the bins at the far end of the park to the entrance. A budget of £100 had been agreed for the trolley.
183/21		To receive an update on any matters relating to Church Fields (Cllr Blake)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Blake confirmed that Brooks Ecology had cut the meandering path in wildflower meadow and at the SuDS bowl. Cllr Blake has requested the report on the health of wildflower meadow. There are concerns that it may need to be reseeded. • Farm and Land have been reminded that they must adhere to the fortnightly schedule of grass cutting. • There are some invasive weeds, such as thistle in the bund. Farm and Land has removed some of the heads. • A light trim of the High Street and Moorlands hedge has been undertaken by Farm and Land.
184/21		To receive an update on any matters relating to Deepdale Skate Park (Cllr Blake)
		Cllr Blake said the picnic bench had now been removed.
185/21		To receive reports from members who have attended other committees and meetings
	i)	To receive any updates from the Village Hall Management Committee (Cllr Heum)
		Nothing to report.
	ii)	To receive any updates from the Neighbourhood Planning Liaison Group (Cllr Bowen)
		Nothing to report. The group is awaiting the outcome of the questions raised in the initial village centre plan meeting with LCC.
186/21		Exchange of Information – to raise any emerging issues
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notification had been received that Leeds City Council has begun consultation on its draft Local Plan Update, which will set out the authority's approach to planning policy and new development across the district over the next decade and beyond. It was agreed that Cllr Bowen would communicate any updates to the PC and consider any responses.
187/21		Clerk's verbal report
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Clerk advised that a grant of £1025 had been requested from the Community Wellbeing Fund to cover costs from the festival, but that only £500 MICE funding had been received. The Clerk said she has asked whether the £525 shortfall could be made up from the Community Wellbeing Fund.
188/21		To note correspondence received – items of interest (to follow)
		Nothing to report.
189/21		To approve responses/action to items of correspondence
		None
190/21		To receive late items of correspondence
		None
191/21		To approve payments and receipts in accordance with the budget

	D Marshall	Salary & Expenses	£930.86
	G Baxter & Partners	Stables Lane and Landscaped areas interim payment	£4,800
	Deans Computer Services	ESET Anti-virus	£20.95
	Farm & Land	Church Fields Maintenance	£756.00
	Keith Blake	USB Stick	£15.99
	Farm & Land	Churchfields Maintenance	£756.00
	FDB Design	Scarecrow Trail Maps	£546.72
	Receipts		
	Various	Newsletter Adverts	£96.00
	Boston Spa Village Hall	Insurance Recharge – Village Hall	£237.26
	WiSE	Insurance Recharge – Village Hall	£62.62
	Leeds City Council	MICE Funding – Festival	£500.00
	Five Star Sports	Party Hire – Stables Lane	£12.00
192/21	To receive items for the next Parish Council meeting on Monday 16th August		
	None.		
Next Meeting	The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 16st August 2021 at the Village Hall.		
Closure	There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20.32 hours.		

ACTIONS

	15th February 2021	
043/21ii	To contact Path improvement providers and bring back quotes/proposals for the improvement of the Riverside paths.	Cllr Harris
	21st June 2021	
160/21i	Speak to Touch Telecom regarding Wi-Fi for Village Hall and High Street	Cllr Blake
	19th July 2021	
177/21	Obtain quote from Hart Law for transfer of war memorial land and garden to PC ownership	Cllr Blake
179/21iv	Chase for an update from LCC regarding the installation of a shelter	Cllr Blake
183/21	Obtain a Wildflower Meadow report from Brooks Ecology	Cllr Blake

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

19/08/20	Receive expected date for adoption of Church Fields by Leeds City Council	
	To receive an update on the approval of resident-only parking on Bridge Close and Church Mews.	
21/05/21	To investigate the reinstatement of the temporary camera at Stables Lane	
21/07/21	To chase for replacement of 4 bins	