

BOSTON SPA ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting is a meeting of the Parish electorate. It is not a Parish Council meeting. The Parish Council Chairman calls and Chairs the meeting. The Annual Parish Meeting must be held between March 1st and June 1st (LGA 1972, schedule 12, paragraph 14). There is no prescribed format for this meeting and its recommendations are not binding on the Parish Council.

Minutes of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on Wednesday 10th May 2017 at 7.30pm in the Jubilee Room, Boston Spa Village Hall.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors M Heum (Chair), K Alderson, J Beeson, S Courts, T Gausson, S Morritt and C Taylor

IN ATTENDANCE: V Hunter (Parish Clerk), Ward Councillor G Wilkinson, D Woodcock (Groundwork), PCSO G Nottingham, 29 members of the public

The Chair welcomed everyone, thanked them for coming and declared the meeting open. Cllr Heum introduced the members of the Parish Council in attendance and the Parish Clerk.

1.	Apologies Apologies had been received from Parish Councillors Newton and Steel and Ward Councillors Lamb and Procter.
2.	Police Matters PCSO Nottingham advised that the number of crimes in 2016/2017 had been 78 a slight increase on the 2015/2016 number of 76. The breakdown of 2015/2016 crimes was as follows – Burglary Dwelling 22, Burglary Other 12, Theft of Motor Vehicle 1, Theft from Motor Vehicle 13, Theft Other 30. PC Chamberlain advised that this figure was low in comparison to the rest of the Leeds District. The highest number of crimes involved burglary and theft. PCSO Nottingham advised residents of the need to ensure that locks fitted were of a suitable standard and that doors were kept locked at all times. There being no questions, PCSO Nottingham was thanked for attending the meeting.
3.	Ward Councillor update Cllr Wilkinson provided updates on a number of issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developer of Church Fields had provided £230,000 to Leeds City Council for traffic mitigation. In addition to this, a further £10,000 had been received in respect of the development at the Moorland. The money will be spent by LCC Highways in consultation with ward councillors. Cllr Wilkinson advised that a meeting had recently taken place with Ward Councillors, Parish Councillors and the LCC Traffic Engineer. At this meeting it had been agreed that suggestions should be invited from residents. Cllr Wilkinson advised that suggestions could either be emailed to the ward councillors or submitted via the Parish Council. A further meeting is scheduled for September.• Cllr Wilkinson provided an update on a number of traffic mitigation issues that had already been agreed. This included a crossing at Deepdale crossing, which is due to be installed in early July and two Vehicle Activated Signs (one at either end of village), which have been purchased and were awaiting installation by LCCs electrical contractor.• Three off-street spaces between Church and Church Street and a further three spaces at the entrance to Coopers Fold were due to be removed to improve sight lines.• Following the accident that had occurred in the High Street car park, two spaces were due to be removed to improve safety. These would be replaced by two additional spaces on the High Street adjacent to Douglas Yeadon hardware.• Following complaints from residents about the tables and chairs outside of Tomfoolery, Cllr Wilkinson confirmed that Leeds CC had now agreed that they were causing an obstruction and had served the establishment with a notice to remove them.

	<p>In response to a question from a resident, Cllr Wilkinson confirmed that the new crossing at Deepdale will be a standard zebra crossing and will be funded from the Taylor Wimpey contribution.</p> <p>In response to a question from a resident, Cllr Wilkinson confirmed that the views of the People Friendly Village Centre group will be taken into account when considering how the Taylor Wimpey money will be spent. The Chair confirmed that the monthly newsletter will be used to raise awareness and illicit views.</p>
4.	<p>Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 11th May 2016</p> <p>The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.</p>
5.	<p>Traffic Mitigation – Cllr Gausson confirmed that this had largely been covered by Cllr Wilkinson. Cllr Gausson confirmed that the PFVC Group views would be considered by the Parish Council along with other feedback from residents but stated that the Parish Council’s current priorities were to reduce traffic, reduce speed, improve safety at junctions and provide safe pedestrian crossings. The Parish Council were keen that any traffic mitigation measures needed to retain a rural aspect and also be good for pedestrians.</p> <p>A resident commented that sight lines out of Clarendon Road and Parkfield Drive were particularly dangerous. It was agreed that all junctions need to be looked at. Cllr Wilkinson confirmed that the issue at Clarendon Road will be resolved by the installation of the crossing.</p> <p>A resident commented on the lack of traffic wardens resulting in existing traffic restrictions often being ignored. Cllr Wilkinson confirmed that civil parking enforcement was the responsibility of Leeds City Council and that they currently visited Boston Spa on one day per week.</p>
7.	<p>Neighbourhood Plan for Boston Spa – In Cllr Steel’s absence, Cllr Heum provide a brief update on the Neighbourhood Plan. The process had started five years ago and had been undertaken by a group of volunteers, who had all worked extremely hard. The Plan is now at final consultation stage with the documents available on LCC website and the PC website. The closing date for consultation is 22nd May following which there will be a yes/no referendum on the Plan. If there is a yes vote it will be adopted and any future developments within the village will be required to comply with the Plan. On behalf of the Parish Council, Cllr Heum extended a big thank you to Geoff Shaw, who had chaired the Steering Group and everybody else who had been involved.</p>
8.	<p>Stables Lane Development – Cllr Kevin Alderson presented an update on the work done to date by the Stables Lane working group and its plans for the site. He reminded residents that his report last year had highlighted a lack of green space and a lack of close access to playing facilities for residents in the south east of the village. The Vision had been to create a community recreational space that supports and promotes health, wellbeing and social interaction. Based on this vision and with the assistance of Groundwork plans had been developed. The plans included a wheelchair-friendly perimeter path around the whole site, a nature area, a sensory garden/seating area, a play area for younger children, which would be designed to have a rural feel, a multi-use games area (MUGA) for older children, mini football pitches and a performance area/stage. Two designs had been recommended by the Working Group with alternative locations for the sensory garden/seating area and the performance area/stage. Copies of the design were passed round and residents were asked to indicate their preference between the two. Cllr Alderson advised that the group were looking at options for introducing access points to include a route past the school and access from the new residential development on the west of the site in addition to the current access from Stables Lane. The intention is to improve existing parking and potentially create an additional overflow car park. The Group had obtained feedback on the alternative designs at the Tour de Yorkshire event and would also be seeking feedback at the Gala before submitting a proposal to the Parish Council with a firm recommendation. The next stage of the process would be to look at funding options to include grants and donations. Cllr Alderson confirmed that the design had been processed in such a way that it could be progressed in stages as funding became available. Residents were asked to submit suggestions for a name for the facility, which currently has a working name of Boston Spa Village Park.</p> <p>In response to questions, Cllr Alderson confirmed that the Working Group had decided against recommending the retention of a full sized football pitch and had also decided against recommending the provision of toilet facilities.</p> <p>Concern was expressed about the lack of direct consultation with residents of Stables Lane, who were worried about the potential for increased anti-social behaviour. Cllr Alderson confirmed that although there had been no direct consultation, there had been a large amount of general consultation and a Stables Lane resident was a member of the Working Group. Cllr Heum confirmed that the proposals are</p>

	<p>based on needs identified through the Neighbourhood Plan, which was also widely consulted on. Cllr Alderson gave an assurance that the Parish Council will look at how it could mitigate the concerns, including asking Groundwork to advise on design elements that could assist.</p> <p>In response to a question, Cllr Alderson confirmed that it is believed that the redesigned site will still accommodate the requirements of the Gala.</p> <p>In response to a question, Cllr Alderson confirmed the intention that the site will continue to be dog-free.</p>
9.	<p>Chair's Report</p> <p>The Chair's report is published in the Annual Newsletter and is available to view on the Parish Council website (Meetings/Annual Reports).</p> <p>Cllr Heum expressed thanks to the former Chair Tim Baker who had resigned from the Parish Council in March for all his hard work during his 8 years on the Parish Council. Cllr Heum thanked the Clerk for her professionalism and patience in carrying out what is not always an easy job. Finally Cllr Heum thanked her fellow councillors for all that they did to help improve the lives of Boston Spa residents.</p>
10.	<p>Financial Statement</p> <p>A statement had been prepared and distributed to the meeting.</p> <p>A resident queried the increased cost of open space maintenance. The Clerk confirmed that this related to the estimated cost of maintaining the public open space at Church Fields that was due to be handed over to the Parish Council.</p> <p>A resident queried whether there were any plans to use the Parish Council's reserves. The Clerk confirmed that of the Council's total reserves almost £100,000 was earmarked for the Stables Lane project. The replacement of the Village Hall boilers was also programmed for 2017/2018 and this would be funded from reserves.</p>
11.	<p>Invitation to Boston Spa Residents to raise any matters of interest</p> <p>i) A resident queried the lack of disabled spaces at Church Fields car park. Cllr Gausson confirmed that there were two spaces but they marked in the brickwork and this was not very clear. Cllr Wilkinson agreed to take this up with LCC parking services.</p> <p>ii) A resident queried whether there should be a time limit on stays at Church Fields car park. This had been looked at for Stables Lane car park following a similar request and following consultation it had not proved popular with either residents or traders. Cllr Gausson agreed to look at the possibility of opening the overflow car park on more occasions that it currently is.</p> <p>iii) A resident requested an update on the Crown Hotel. It was reported that Enterprise Inns had recently replied to a resident indicating that a planning application for the building is due to be submitted in the near future</p> <p>iv) A resident asked about the removal of the hedge at Church Fields, which had been suggested by a Neighbourhood Plan consultant as an option to open up the green space. It was agreed that this would be looked at again once the land had been handed over but it would be necessary to check out what, if anything, was included in the Church Fields planning consent in relation to it.</p>
<p>Next meeting: The Parish Council holds its meetings on the third Monday evening of the month at 7.00pm in the Village Hall, Boston Spa. All meetings are open to the public. Any specific matters for the attention of the Parish Council should be sent to Val Hunter, Clerk to the Parish Council, The Village Hall, 199, High Street, Boston Spa LS23 6AA, by email: clerk@bostonpapc.org.uk, or by telephone 01937 842247. The next Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 9th May 2018.</p>	
<p>Closure - There being no other matters for discussion the Chairman thanked the residents for their attendance and the meeting was declared closed at 21.05 hours.</p>	

Signed

Chairman

Date