

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
WEST CRAVEN COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE RAINHALL CENTRE, BARNOLDSWICK
ON 7TH JANUARY 2025**

*PRESENT –
Councillor D. M. Whipp (Chair)*

Councillors

*C. Church
D. Hartley
S. Land*

Police

Sgt P. Meades

Officers Present

*D. Walker
N. Watson
J. Eccles*

*Assistant Director Operational Services and Area Co-ordinator
Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services
Committee Administrator*

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The following people attended and spoke on the item indicated -

<i>Phillip Moorhouse Tim Piggott Shelagh Thake</i>	<i>22/0540/CND - Approval of Details Reserved by Condition: Discharge of Condition 4 (Site Levels), Condition 9 (Drainage Details), Condition 13 (Highway Improvements) of Planning Permission 21/0111/FUL (Appeal APP/E2340/W/21/3288078) on Land to the West of Brogden View, Brogden Lane, Barnoldswick</i>	<i>Minute 136(a)</i>
<i>Martin Wellock</i>	<i>24/0761/FUL- Full: Change of use of land from agricultural to a mixed use of agriculture and a dog training enclosure with fencing at Land to the northeast side of Kelbrook Road, Salterforth</i>	<i>Minute 136(a)</i>

132. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests.

133. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

134. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd December 2024, be approved as a correct record.

135. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The following crime statistics for December 2024 had been circulated prior to the meeting. They were broken down as follows –

Burglary – Residential	2
Burglary – Other than dwelling	3
Vehicle Crime	6
Assaults	29
Theft	5
Arson/Criminal Damage	22
All Recordable Crime	67
All Recordable Crime (year to date)	711
Hate Crime	9
Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)	13

Councillors asked if it was possible to have an accompanying commentary on the monthly crime figures to give them some context. Sergeant P. Meades explained that he put together the monthly statistics for the area committees and that a detailed commentary each month would be very time consuming. He agreed going forward that he would try to highlight any serious incident or trend in the monthly crime statistics, for instance any serious assaults. The assaults classification ranged from very minor assaults e.g. an unwelcome push to assaults with weapons. However, he was pleased to report that none of the assaults reported in December had involved weapons or were a cause for concern. This month it included 6 dog bites.

Members raised concerns about ASB in Barnoldswick getting out of hand. They had hoped that senior management might have attended this meeting so they could express their concerns. There had been no CBM in post for 15 months and whilst the addition of PCSO R. Riley was welcomed they felt that there was still not enough of a Police presence in the area. Early Councillors commented that the public had lost confidence in the Police attending incidents. As they were not very visible around the town there was a perception that there was no point in reporting all crimes, especially not serious ones.

Sergeant P. Meades informed the Committee that the Police were starting to use more civil orders e.g. Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBO) to tackle antisocial behaviour, which was helping to deal with some offenders. He also assured the Committee that all individual reports of crime were looked at, no matter how minor, and there was never a time when nothing was done, although he appreciated it might not appear that way. He acknowledged that feedback was not always given or possible in all cases. He said that it was vital for members of the public to report all crimes or concerns in the appropriate way, either online, via 101 or 999 or direct to the Neighbourhood Team. They could email him or PCSO R. Riley any time. It was important that crimes were reported to get a true picture of the problems in an area and for the appropriate Police resources to be allocated.

RESOLVED

That the Committee's previous request for a senior Police officer to attend a meeting of this Committee be reiterated and if this was not possible, that they be invited to attend a separate meeting at their convenience with Councillors which was open to the public.

136. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) Planning applications for determination

The Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report on the following planning applications for determination -

22/0540/CND *Approval of Details Reserved by Condition: Discharge of Condition 4 (Site Levels), Condition 9 (Drainage Details), Condition 13 (Highway Improvements) of Planning Permission 21/0111/FUL (Appeal APP/E2340/W/21/3288078) on Land to the West of Brogden View, Brogden Lane, Barnoldswick for Applethwaite Ltd*

RESOLVED

- (1) That the discharge of Condition 13 be approved and the discharge of Conditions 4 and 9 be refused as follows -

Condition 4 (Site Levels) The levels as submitted are not as built, details of the as built levels are required to assess their acceptability. The discharge of condition is refused.

Condition 9 (Drainage Details) The submitted details do not adequately address the risk of flooding on Brogden Lane from water that would have previously flowed onto the site. The discharge of condition is refused.

Condition 13 (Highway Improvements) the submitted details are acceptable. The condition is discharged subject to implementation.

- (2) That a breach of condition notice be served for Conditions 4, 9 and 13.

24/0761/FUL *Full: Change of use of land from agricultural to a mixed use of agriculture and a dog training enclosure with fencing at Land to the northeast side of Kelbrook Road, Salterforth for Mr & Mrs Wellock*

RESOLVED

That consideration of the planning application be **deferred** to allow for discussions with LCC on highway safety concerns regarding right turning vehicles into the site.

(b) Planning Appeals

The Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services reported that there was one outstanding planning appeal, which was noted.

137. ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The Legal Services Manager submitted a report giving the position on prosecutions and a further update at the meeting which was noted.

138. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972

In accordance with the provisions of Section 100 (B)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended, the Chair agreed that the following item should be considered as a matter of urgency, the ground being the inadequate response to snow and ice in the area and its effect on highway safety were a matter for immediate consideration.

139. WINTER MAINTENANCE - RESPONSE TO SNOW AND ICE

The Chair reported the County Council's inadequate response to the recent bad weather and the considerable reliance on PBC to fulfil its responsibilities e.g. gritting pavements, treating car parks etc. when there was the option of having contractors on standby in periods of bad weather. The Assistant Director Operational Services explained that there was a winter maintenance arrangement in place with LCC where PBC released some of its Operational Staff to help with treating Council owned car parks, and some pavements and highways where necessary using grit provided by LCC, but not the necessary equipment.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Engineering Manager be asked to express grave disappointment at the inadequate winter maintenance provided by LCC; that they be asked to learn from their experience this time round and the reported problems at various locations to improve their future response to snow and ice in West Craven; and to look in particular at the following issues -
 - Grit bins not being filled
 - Coates Lane School – road ploughed but snow dumped on the pavement
 - Priority pavements, access/routes to schools and fire stations not being fully gritted
 - Ramp up to Church School, Kelbrook Road was unsafe
 - North Yorkshire County Council treated the road down to Wysick. It was not clear if they did this out of necessity or because they had been asked by LCC. Was it the case that LCC's gritter turned back before Wysick?
 - Secondary routes left untreated, e.g. Rainhall Crescent which has two care homes on it
 - And the reports of flooding issues on the highway listed at Min 146(c) below.
- (2) That the Pendle Rural County Councillors representing this area be invited to a future Council meeting to discuss the current arrangements for responding to severe weather conditions.
- (3) That the current winter maintenance arrangement between LCC and PBC in times of severe weather be referred to the Executive for consideration.

REASON

In the interests of public and highway safety.

140. AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET

The Head of Economic Growth submitted a report on the Committee's area committee budget for 2024/25.

Members considered a bid from Barnoldswick Town Council applying for £15,000 for public realm work and event equipment.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the underspend of £412 not be deallocated from the Barnoldswick table at Appendix 1 in respect of the Barnoldswick interchange Public Realm scheme, as an interpretation board for the Old Gormless still needed to be installed.
- (2) That the underspend of £30.70 be deallocated from the Barnoldswick table in respect of the CCTV camera for West Close Road.
- (3) That the remaining Barnoldswick township allocation of £10,239.99 (Barnoldswick Ward) and £4,187.38 (Coates) totalling £14,427.37 be granted to Barnoldswick Town Council for public realm work and event equipment as outlined in their proposal.

REASON

To enable the area committee budget to be allocated efficiently and effectively.

141. TRAFFIC LIAISON MEETING

The minutes of a meeting of the Traffic Liaison Meeting (TLM) held on 25th November 2024 were submitted for information.

It was noted that the TLM agreed with the request from this Committee for a bus stop to be changed into a bus stand on Station Road, Barnoldswick to enable bus drivers to use the facilities at Barnoldswick Civic Hall. The TLM had also discussed a suggestion to move the Disabled Parking Bay from outside the Civic Hall. Members also discussed the merits of introducing some further parking restrictions on Earby Road.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the agreement to proceed with the idea of implementing a bus stand on Station Road, Barnoldswick be welcomed and the TLM be recommended to move the Disabled Parking Bay outside the Civic Hall, Barnoldswick to in front of the Station Road car park with two spaces.
- (2) That the Engineering Manager be asked to arrange for members of this Committee to be included in future informal consultations on TROs and SROs including the one proposing introducing 20m of parking restrictions on both sides of Earby Road between the blind bend before Klondike Hill and Sykes Close and the bus clearways on Gisburn Road.

REASON

In the interests of highway safety.

142. ROYAL MAIL SERVICE

A representative from Royal Mail had been invited to the meeting to discuss mail deliveries to addresses in West Craven which were served by Barnoldswick Delivery office. However, in view of the weather and no-one being able to attend, this item was deferred.

RESOLVED

That a representative from Royal Mail be invited to attend the next meeting of this Committee on 4th February.

REASON

In an attempt to improve postal deliveries in the area.

143. PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS – PARKS AND SPORTS GROUNDS

This item had been deferred from the last meeting to seek the views of town and parish councils on the proposals for the extension of the Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) in relation to parks and sports grounds. Earby Town Council and Barnoldswick Town Council had been approached about their previous comments but had not submitted their formal response.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the extension and variation of the current Parks and Sports Grounds Public Spaces Protection Orders generally and the inclusion of parks and sports grounds in West Craven specifically be approved on a temporary basis.
- (2) That both Earby and Barnoldswick Town Councils be formally requested for their views on the PSPOs and on receipt of detailed proposals they be reconsidered and following further public consultation, they be amended as appropriate.
- (3) That Earby Town Council be asked to put the fencing in good order at Earby Recreation Ground.

REASON

To enable the Council and its partners to respond to concerns regarding behaviour that is detrimental the quality of life in public spaces in Pendle, including enforcement action.

144. YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROVISION

The note of a meeting held on 4th December with County Councillor M. Goulthorp was submitted for information. Members noted the current situation and reaffirmed their disappointment about the lack of funding for the provision of youth activities in the area.

145. EARBY FLOOD ALLEVIATION FEASIBILITY STUDY

The Engineering Manager reported that the Council was now at a point where it had commissioned AECOM to undertake stage 1 of 3 stages for the Wentcliffe Brook flood storage area, costing approximately £60,000. The timeline for the work was attached. Stage 1 was to be completed by May 2025. Stages 2 and 3 (if it was decided to proceed would be completed by the end of October 2025. At that point, there should be a scheme that the Council was able to tender. It was noted that there were significant gateway reviews in the work schedule but they were optimistic that it would result in some upstream storage to reduce the risk of flooding on Water Street, Earby.

There followed a discussion about the recent risk of flooding in Earby on New Year's Eve in view of the very heavy rainfall in a short period of time, which had flagged up a number of issues that needed further attention – a co-ordinated community response, and access to sandbags in good order.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the commissioning of the Earby Flood Alleviation Feasibility Study be noted and regular monitoring reports be submitted to this Committee based on the gateway reviews.
- (2) That the Engineering Manager be asked to review the flooding response in Earby and the Earby Flood Warden Community Flood Scheme.
- (3) That Earby Town Council be asked to ensure that there was adequate provision of and access to sandbags in Earby in the event of an emergency.
- (4) That the Engineering Manager request the Environment Agency to visit to look at the beck walls in Earby with a view to removing any vegetation including residuary roots which were at risk of blocking the flow of water, together with the structural integrity of walls alongside the watercourses.

REASON

To prevent the flooding of properties in Earby.

146. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(a) Access to dentistry services in Earby

Members discussed problems that had been highlighted by residents struggling to access dentistry services in Earby.

RESOLVED

That the problem with access to dentistry services in Earby be raised with the LSC Integrated Care Board Patient Experience Team and a report be requested to come back to a future meeting.

REASON

In the interests of public health.

- (b) To consider access and parking issues in the vicinity of St Andrews House, Barnoldswick.**

Members discussed an issue with access to St Andrews House occupied by residents with disabilities, many who used wheelchairs. Some people were parking vehicles very close to their access making it difficult for patient transport, a minibus or ambulance to pick up/drop off residents.

RESOLVED

That LCC be asked to put yellow lines down in the vicinity of St Andrews House and provide a disabled parking bay for the minibus used to transport residents.

REASON

To improve access and parking to help with the transportation of residents of St Andrews House,

- (c) To consider various flooding issues across West Craven following heavy rainfall recently.**

Following the heavy rainfall over New Year the Chair, on behalf of the Committee, had reported issues with flooding on the highways in several locations to LCC and suggested the action that needed to be taken. There were also a couple of places on the Yorkshire border which had been reported to North Yorkshire County Council (NYC).

RESOLVED

That the Committee confirm the representations made by the Chair prior to the meeting reporting incidents of flooding on the highway at the following locations -

- Skipton Road, Kelbrook by the Old Stone Trough
- Skipton Road, Earby from New Road through to Victoria Street
- Church Lane, Kelbrook at the junction of Skipton Road
- Groundwater welling up on Wentcliffe Drive that had frozen, causing problems on highway and pavements
- Flooding in the dip at Bracewell, Bracewell Lane, B625
- Flooding on Brogden Lane adjacent to new development
- Flooding on A56, Skipton Road, Earby near Punch Bowl caused by culvert opposite the pub not taking water
- Flooding on Church Lane, Thornton-in-Craven (reported to NYC)
- Ponding in a couple of dips in the camber on the A56 going down Wysick towards Earby (reported to NYC)
- Persistent problem with flooding on the B6252 at Ghyll, a problem compounded by water surcharging from a NYC highway drain at Nutter Cote

- Flooding of two systems (LCC and YW) on Salterforth Road, Earby
- Flooding on the A56 Sough bend
- Surface water problem in Walmsgate

and the Engineering Manager be asked to request a comprehensive report from LCC on what had or was being done to resolve the problems with surface water on the highways at the earliest opportunity, and that this be reported back to this Committee.

REASON

In the interests of highway safety.

(d) To consider problems with streetlights being out for months due to electric supply failures in West Craven.

Members noted that streetlights had been out for months due to Northern Powergrid electrical supply failures at Dale Street, Alder Hill Street in Earby, and Back Hollins Road in Barnoldswick, and possibly one at Monkroyd.

Barnoldswick Town Council had also had an issue with a feeder pillar not having power on Gisburn Road.

There were also issues with streetlights not working on Low Moor Lane and Back James Street in Barnoldswick.

RESOLVED

- (1) That Northern Powergrid be asked to restore power to streetlights not working at Dale Street, Alder Hill Street in Earby and Back Hollins Road in Barnoldswick and to repair the feeder pillar on Gisburn Road.
- (2) That LCC be asked to look into the streetlights not working on Low Moor Lane and Back James Street in Barnoldswick.

REASON

In the interests of public and highway safety.

(e) To consider Lancashire County Council's renewal of Traffic Regulation Order markings

Members were disappointed to see the recent repainting of lines on Station Road by LCC when the Traffic Liaison Meeting were considering changing the existing parking permissions. It seemed to be a waste of resources.

RESOLVED

That the Engineering Manager be asked to find out why LCC had decided to repaint the markings on Station Road when there were ongoing discussions about changing the existing parking permissions.

REASON

In the interests of efficiency and effectiveness.

- (f) **To consider naming the unnamed side street to the rear of Barnoldswick's Town Square.**

Members noted that LCC had named the street to the rear of Barnoldswick's Town Square as Albert Square in a temporary Traffic Regulation Order. However, it was noted that the street had never been called that and that the naming of streets was the responsibility of Ward Councillors.

RESOLVED

That the Engineering Manager be asked to inform LCC that this was a PBC responsibility and that the unnamed side street to the rear of Barnoldswick's Town Square should not be called Albert Square.

REASON

The naming of streets is the responsibility of Pendle Council.

- (g) **To consider street names for the development at Long Ing.**

Earby and Coates Ward Councillors had consulted with Barnoldswick Councillors on the street names for the development at Long Ing as it was on the boundary and a sizable development. It was noted that the following names would be conveyed to the Planning Department in due course –

Blue area on the developer's site plan – Little Cut Close

Red area – Rainhall Rock Road

Green area – Barnsey Meadows

Puce area – Watershed Way

Brown area – to be determined, but probably including the name Bagshaw referencing Sir William Bagshaw who lived at Coates Hall when the canal was built.

REASON

The naming of streets is the responsibility of Ward Councillors.

147. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

Members agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during the following items of business in pursuance of the power contained in Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 as amended when it was likely, in view of the nature of the proceedings or the business to be transacted, that there would be disclosure of exempt information which was likely to reveal the identity of an individual or any action to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of a crime.

148. OUTSTANDING ENFORCEMENTS

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report on outstanding enforcements and a number of cases were discussed.

149. PROBLEM SITES

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report on problem sites in West Craven.

RESOLVED

That the Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services provide an update in the next report with progress in relation to PLE/23/1716.

Chair.....