

# Lothersdale Parish Council

Clerk: Esther Barrows  
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## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> July 2012, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

**Present:** Councillor Stephen Cohen (Chairman)  
Councillor John Brown (Vice Chair)  
Councillor Catherine Gott  
Councillor Julian White

County and District Councillors:  
Councillor Pat Fairbank  
Councillor Patrick Mulligan  
Councillor Mark Wheeler

Clerk Esther Barrows

Two members of the public were in attendance

**7/01 Apologies were received and accepted from:**  
Councillor Peter Harrison

**7/02 Declaration of Interest:**  
There were no declarations of interest.

**7/03 Reports from invited guests:**

**Councillor Pat Fairbank** is currently investigating problems with fly tipping in the area. Sites where fly tipping take place, such as the top of Side Gate Lane and Hawshawe Road were known to Pat, and Tom Lane was also reported. While charges are now in place for requesting the removal of items from residents' addresses, (the removal service used to be free) this has increased the number of reports of fly tipping in the area. It was discussed that possibly the inability or unwillingness to pay has contributed to this increase. Pat is to research the savings the council are making through charging for removal of large domestic items in relation to the money lost for the removal of dumped rubbish. Lothersdale Parish Council is to keep Pat informed if any further fly tipping is reported in the area.

Pat also discussed the issue around some residents not having enough room on their land to house a blue bin. These residents pay the same rates as their neighbours' yet do not have this service open to them. How do residents recycle their rubbish therefore? Pat is to research this and feed back to the council.

**Councillor Mark Wheeler** reported on Budget Monitoring: At the end of the municipal year the council services are at £6.537 million, which represents an £182k underspend on top of the £250k added to reserves. The hope is to get this saving up to £1 million. Services should stay acceptable. £1/2 million in savings should show a leaner, fitter organisation.

Mark also noted that there was a higher rate of road deaths in Skipton than in any other Craven area.

**Councillor Patrick Mulligan** reported that the Highways Budget was turned off in the year 2011-12 and has not been turned on again for 2012-13. However, there is now money available to repair the growing number of potholes in the area. The list of priority pot hole repair includes White Hill Lane, Skipton Old Road and Earby Junction. The clerk is to inform Patrick if any other sites become known.

Wind Turbines: North Yorkshire County Council does not have a policy on wind turbines. There are legal implications for the County of adopting a policy. The recommended distance between a property and a wind turbine is two thousand metres, which would mean if this distance became policy then there would probably be no turbines, as most properties are less than 2km apart.

The discussion was raised about fracking, where the shadow flicker of turbines can cause disturbance for people living in close proximity to a turbine. The clerk is to send Cllr John Brown information on fracking.

#### **7/04 Minutes:**

- i) Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2012 be signed as a true record.
- ii) Clerk's and members' reports on updates and actions taken on matters discussed at the previous meeting:
  - a) Pothole update: The clerk has contacted the council regarding concerns from residents over the number of potholes on roads in and around the village. The information given by Cllr Mulligan on potholes was confirmed to the clerk.

There is some money available for the repair of potholes. Once a pothole has been reported it is inspected and graded. If it falls within certain criteria it is fixed. Otherwise it will be put on a pothole Rota and will be assessed regularly until it is deemed necessary to repair. The clerk is systematically reporting potholes as she sees them and as are reported to her and will continue to do so.
  - b) Redundant Chapel update: The Bethel Chapel representative asked the PC to investigate the possibility of village organisations joining together to keep the chapel for village use. The response has indicated that there is no interest at present in this idea. As a recent planning application for the Chapel was also approved, the council is not to investigate this matter further.

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| <p>c) Street Light Funding: The clerk offered to research the possibility of gaining funding to support the replacement of the village street lights, in order to bring them up to adoption standard. Whilst the clerk has registered the council's interest with various fundraising bodies, the process of applying for funding can take months, with the whole process taking up to 3 years. The clerk will continue to research this opportunity when available and will feed back to the council with updates.</p>                             | <p>Action</p> <p>EB</p> |
| <p>d) Localism Bill (Parish Plan &amp; Action Plan). The Council had placed an updated copy of the Village Action Plan in the noticeboard for two months. The deadline for comments was 12<sup>th</sup> July. As no responses have been made the clerk is to organise the neighborhood planning session for Councillors before progress can begin on the current Action/Parish Plan. EB to inform Councillors when date has been set and request that all Councillors attend.</p>   | <p>EB</p>               |
| <p>e) Tennis Net storage: The clerk has contacted the clubhouse who do not have enough room to store the tennis net for the MUGA. EB is to contact the school and also research the cost of purchasing a garden storage unit for the recreation ground with coded lock.</p>   | <p>EB</p>               |
| <p>f) Working With Your Council course: The council have agreed to pay the clerk one hour extra per week in order for her to complete her studies in 'Working with your Council'.</p>   |                         |
| <p>g) Update on MUGA water problem: Recent investigative work revealed a pipe blockage in the junction near the MUGA. Yet due to the regularity of rain over the summer and the pipes inadequacy even when not blocked, this junction has continued to overflow. Before further work can be carried out, the clerk is to contact a hydrologist to give an initial report on the volume of water in and around the Recreation Ground. The Councillors have given the clerk permission to employ these services if they fall within a set budget.</p> | <p>EB</p>               |
| <p>h) Update on leaning tree in Millennium walk: While waiting for approval for the removal of the leaning cherry tree in the recreation ground, heavy winds assisted the tree which fell one evening. The clerk contacted the council and gained approval for the removal of the tree. EB to inform the groundsman to remove and give photographic evidence to Craven District Council.</p>  | <p>EB</p>               |
| <p>i) Tender discussion: Chris Cowgill attended the meeting to discuss his Tender arrangements and charges to the council. The council is happy to retain his services at the agreed rate.</p>  |                         |
| <p>j) Speed gun update: The clerk met with Nicola Smith from Crosshills Police Station to monitor traffic in the village. While this meeting did demonstrate the council's eagerness to address the problem of speeding, due to the purely observational nature of the visits, the council has asked the clerk to query the need for more punitive action to be carried out. The clerk is to investigate.</p>   | <p>EB</p>               |

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|--|----------------------|
| <p>k) Craven District Council Art Features: The clerk is to meet during the week with Catherine Johnson to assess the park, particularly the Millenium Walk, and choose possible sites for art installation. The clerk to update the council.</p>  | <p>Action<br/>EB</p> |
| <p>l) Kirkwells Neighborhood Planning Session: The Councillors do not work in August, therefore the clerk is to arrange a date for the meeting in September and inform the council.</p>  | <p>EB</p>            |
| <p>m) Jubilee Village Events funding: As the Jubilee Committee was undecided as to the spending of the profits from the Jubilee Party, The council have requested the refund of the £200 donated. The original donation of £142.00 to pay for the Public Liability Insurance was not recalled. The refund has been received along with a card of thanks for supporting the event.</p>  |                      |
| <p>n) Overhanging bushes: There are still overhanging bushes and trees posing a problem for residents in the village. Notices were posted in the Parish Newsletter and on the noticeboards. Street lights which are meant to illuminate the pavements in the evening are being overshadowed by overgrown trees. Residents have to step out into the road to avoid overhanging bushes. The clerk is to liaise with the chairman to compose a letter to send out to residents.</p> | <p>EB</p>            |
| <p>o) Dog Bag prices: The clerk has researched the price of dog bags as Councillor Pat Fairbank had received information regarding their possible increase. The clerk reported that the cost of dog bags remains the same. Lothersdale Parish Council charge 1p per bag, in a 50p bundle. With a box costing the council £30, the council makes a profit of approximately £14 on each box sold. The clerk is to inform the council and Pat Fairbank if the price changes.</p>    | <p>EB</p>            |
| <p>p) Adopting a Code of Conduct: the Council will discuss this item at the next meeting. The clerk is to gain further information from Craven District Council.</p>   | <p>EB</p>            |
| <p>q) MUGA defects: The Council has not received a reply from Quantum Arbiter or Landscape Engineering with regards to the defects in the MUGA construction. The clerk is to contact Groundworks for assistance in the way forward.</p>  | <p>EB</p>            |
| <p><b>7/05 Public Question Time</b></p>  |                      |
| <p>One member of the public was in attendance to discuss an RSS feed on the PC website. This would enable residents to receive updates whenever they were available. The clerk is to research the cost of this addition.</p>   | <p>EB</p>            |
| <p>The resident also queried the need for faster wireless broadband. Cllr Cohen informed those present about Graham Wadsworths' campaign to bring faster broadband into the village. Since becoming the Digital Champion Graham has already secured over 40% of residents signatures supporting this request.</p>  |                      |
| <p>The discussion was also raised by Cllr Cohen about the possibility of improving the website in order to be able to download multiple images. (Cllr Cohen downloaded multiple images celebrating the Jubilee event, however the current method is too slow.)</p>   |                      |

The cost for the website improvement is £60. The Council has approved this cost and the clerk is to inform Vision ICT.

Action  
EB

### 7/06 Finances

(i) Resolved: That the accounts presented be paid:

|                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Chris Cowgill          | 405.80 June Fees      |
| Chris Cowgill          | 360.00 Tree removal   |
| Esther Barrows (Clerk) | 193.24 Salary         |
|                        | <u>19.57 Expenses</u> |

TOTAL: £ 978.61

(ii) June 2012

|                 |                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Opening balance | £               |           |
| Current account | 14,032.33       |           |
| Deposit Account | <u>7,006.66</u> |           |
|                 | 21,038.99       | 21,038.99 |

Receipts:

|                            |               |           |
|----------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Social Club Jubilee refund | <u>250.00</u> |           |
|                            | 21,288.99     | 21,288.99 |

Payments:

|                                      |               |                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Broker Network Insurance             | 902.17        |                 |
| Nestegg Services Internal Audit      | 50.00         |                 |
| CDC Electricity charges              | 250.00        |                 |
| M. Parker stone step repair          | 672.00        |                 |
| Chris Cowgill drainage investigation | 220.00        |                 |
| Esther Barrows Salary                | 193.24        |                 |
| Omnis Print Services (MUGA)          | 142.00        |                 |
| Esther Barrows Expenses              | 40.27         |                 |
| Chris Cowgill May Fees               | 425.40        |                 |
| Esther Barrows MUGA expenses         | 14.14         |                 |
| Helen Ball MUGA expenses             | <u>268.12</u> |                 |
|                                      | 3,177.34      | <u>3,177.34</u> |
|                                      |               | 18,111.65       |

Closing balance:

|                           |                 |           |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Represented by:           |                 |           |
| Cleared cheques           | -2,767.22       |           |
| Uncleared cheques         | -410.12         |           |
| Lodgements/Petty cash     | 250.00          |           |
| Current Account HSBC      | 14,032.33       |           |
| Desposit Account Barclays | <u>7,006.66</u> |           |
|                           | 18,111.65       | 18,111.65 |

## 7/07 Correspondence:

### (i) Notice Of Grant Of Permission By Craven District Council To Carry Out Development:

Decision date 6<sup>th</sup> June 2012  
Decision number: 53/2012/12559  
Proposal: Proposed Stable Block.  
Marl Hill Farm, Lothersdale. Keighley. BD20 8HJ

Decision date 3<sup>th</sup> July 2012  
Decision number: 53/2012/12630  
Proposal: Proposed Porch Extension.  
1 Brook Terrace, Lothersdale. Keighley. BD20 8EY

Decision date: 5<sup>th</sup> July 2012  
Decision number: 53/2012/12622  
Proposal: Conversion And Extension Of Former Chapel To Form One Unit Of  
Workspace With Ancillary Living Accommodation.  
Bethel Chapel, Lothersdale. Keighley. BD20 8HB

CLlr Cohen has requested that in future all Planning Grant Notices be moved from  
Correspondence to Planning.

(ii) The Queen Elizabeth 11 Fields Challenge: The clerk has informed the council of the  
possibility of gaining extra funding if the recreation ground was renamed the Queen  
Elizabeth 11 Field. The clerk is to investigate the logistics and report to the council.

(iii) SLCC Membership Renewal: The council has agreed to pay for membership of The  
Society of Local Council Clerks. EB is to confirm the new premium.

(iv) YLCA Joint annual meeting 2012: The clerk informed the council of the upcoming  
Annual meeting, and agreed to pass further details forward should any Councillors wish  
to attend.

(v) Local Support: Correspondence for Proposed Two Storey Extension to 2 Peel Terrace.  
The clerk is to write to the residents thanking them for their support.

(vi) Bethel Chapel Water Leak: The Bethel Chapel Trustees have reported back to the  
council on the subject of the water leak and their offer of support. While the council  
thanks the Trustees for their offer to repair the leak, the council is not able to comply  
with all of the requests contingent with the offer. The clerk is to return correspondence  
and inform the council when a response has arrived.

(vii) James Walker, Website feed request: This item was discussed within the Public  
Question Time as the resident attended the meeting.

(viii) Sidegate Lane water leak: the report from residents about the surface water on  
Sidegate Lane has been reported by the clerk. The clerk will be informed when an  
investigation has been carried out.

Action

EB

EB

EB

EB

(ix) Declaration of acceptance of office: The clerk has queried the Councillors need to fill this form in and will present them at the September meeting.

(x) Website upgrade: This item was discussed in item 7/05: Public question time. The council has approved this upgrade. EB to initiate.

**7/08 Planning:**

***Application Number 53/2012/12727***

***Proposal:*** Replacing All Windows - Currently mixed materials UPVC Frames and Timber Georgian Window. Proposed Change To Complete UPVC Georgian Style Windows, Including Four Small On Front South Side. Two Are On Ground Floor Level And Two Are On First Floor. Three Small Windows On The Gable End, One On Ground Floor, One First Floor, One Second Floor.

*Replacement Timber/Glazed Barn Door (Ground Floor) And Three Glazed Top Light Section.*

*Replacement Timber Stable Door And Half Glaze Side Panels Proposed Change To Composite/UPVC Half Glazed Door With Half Glazed Side Panels.*

***Location:*** Curlew Cottage, Springs, Lothersdale. BD20 8HH

***Applicant:*** Mrs. Karin Bowker

The council raises no objection to the above planning application.

**6/09 Members' Community Reports:**

There were no members community reports to the council.

**Date of the next meeting September 13<sup>th</sup> 2012**

Signed..... Date

Action

EB

EB