

# Lothersdale Parish Council

Clerk: Esther Barrows  
8 Rook Street, Lothersdale, BD20 8EH  
estherbarrows@hotmail.co.uk 01535 636776

## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> February 2013, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

**Present:** Councillor Stephen Cohen (Chairman)  
Councillor Catherine Gott  
Councillor Peter Harrison  
Councillor Patrick Mulligan (NYCC)  
Councillor Mark Wheeler (CDC)  
Newly elected Cllr Michael Edward Cullen  
Clerk Esther Barrows

**2/01 Apologies were received and accepted from:**  
Councillor Pat Fairbanks (CDC)

**2/02 Declaration of Interest:**  
Cllr Harrison and Cllr Cullen declared a personal interest in item 2/04 h.  
Cllr Gott declared an interest in item 2/08: Planning Application number:  
53/2013/13243

**2/03 Reports from invited guests:**

**Cllr Mulligan** reported on the issue of surface water on Sidegate Lane. Although the clerk reported this in October 2012, it has not been resolved. Cllr Mulligan has spoken to Highways and is hoping that he can encourage the work to be carried out in the next year, from April 2013.

Budget presentation: Initially there were cuts expected of up to £69 million in four years, but now an additional £23 million of cuts is also expected. Savings are to be made through efficiency, removing subsidies, public transport, music lessons in schools etc. There is estimated to be a 1% rise in Council Tax for the coming year, with a realistic five to seven years of austerity ahead. The council is only receiving 75% of what it received five years ago. North Yorkshire is being efficient and dipping into reserves and has an insurance fund in place.

The Tour de France will be coming through Skipton, Bolton Abbey, Silsden and Keighley. This should bring a positive economic impact to tourism and hopefully a legacy impact. There will be television exposure, and the Police will be warning people about road safety as more cyclists will be coming to look at the route.

**Cllr Wheeler** reported that CDC is not setting a freeze on Council Tax this year. The pressure group SPARSE, which represents rural councils and are lobbying as the amount allowed per head for urban areas is greater than rural. Although CDC have received a one off grant of £30K, and the opening balance for the year will stay at just over £1 million, the net cost of services is still expected to be £5.8 million. While there is 20% in reserves, the net cost is still 0.5% lower than last year. In 2014/15 there is expected to be a further budget cut of between £400-500K. CDC may need to look at outsourcing services that the Council offer which could be done by other sources, eg legal and democratic. Although planning issues need local specialist knowledge, the processing doesn't need to be done by CDC. While the capital program for 2013/14 has been adequately sourced, 2014/15 may see borrowing necessary. In 2017/18 if capital projects come to fruition then they may need over 2 million to fund capital resources.

**2/04 Minutes:**

- i) Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on January 10<sup>th</sup> be signed as a true record. It was noted that the clerk had omitted to add the subject of employing a Lengthman for the village to the agenda. This will be added to the agenda for March.
- ii) Clerk's and members' reports on updates and actions taken on matters discussed at the previous meeting:
  - a) Tennis net storage: This item has been moved forward to the March meeting as Cllr Harrison has been unable to gain the information required this month.
  - b) MUGA defects: The clerk met with a representative from Playdale Park and leisure to look at the MUGA. After reporting the information to the Council, the clerk is to contact Quantum Arbiter and Landscape Engineering about the height of the fencing, and request that the fence is lowered where necessary.
  - c) Queen Elizabeth Fields Challenge/Land Registry: The valuation for the recreation ground is complete and has been handed to the Solicitors to go ahead with registering the recreation ground with the Land Registry. The new valuation will not affect the public liability insurance.
 

A representative from the Fields Trust met with the Chairman at the recreation ground, and gave details of funding available, which is very limited at the moment. The clerk is awaiting further details about the name change.
  - d) Village Map: The clerk has placed notices on the website, in the Parish Magazine and in the noticeboards giving residents notice about the update of the map and deadline for amendments. The local illustrator has worked with the clerk to select numerous birds, flora and fauna which are to be added to the map. They will be completed over the next few weeks. The clerks has contacted the printers who at present are unable give an exact price for producing smaller copies, but are happy do so when necessary.
  - e) Digley Annual Risk Assessment of the recreation ground: The clerk informed the Council that the risk assessment from Digley is still running late, and so was

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<p>unable to add the review of the Councils risk assessment to the agenda for the meeting. The clerk is to chase up the report for the March meeting, adding the six monthly review to the agenda.</p>	<p>Action EB</p>
<p>f) Street furniture license: The clerk is organising the placement of the memorial bench at Four Lane Ends with M. Cullen and M. Parker. This should be completed within the next few days. The clerk is to present the invoice for works completed at the next meeting, with M. Cullen initially paying outstanding monies due.</p>	<p>EB</p>
<p>g) Bank Account/Internet Banking: As Barclays give the highest interest rate on the high street, it was agreed to keep this account open and the clerk has set up internet banking to transfer the savings from HSBC to Barclays. (To gain a higher yearly interest). The chairman agreed to transfer funds from HSBC using internet banking, with invoices only being transferred across every month.</p>	<p>EB</p>
<p>h) Playing Fields/MUGA License: The clerk and Chairman met with the Head Teacher of Lothersdale Primary to discuss the annual license fee for the recreation ground and MUGA. The school agreed to raise the original amount, the Council agreed with the proposal and the school is to forward payment as soon as the clerk issues an amended invoice.</p>	<p>EB</p>
<p>i) Tree Pruning/Maintenance: The Clerk had met with the tree surveyor and presented the costs for the annual tree risk assessment and woodland management plan to the Council. While the Council agreed that these were necessary, the clerk was asked initially to research the possibility of funding available to assist with the cost of the annual tree risk assessment for the recreation ground. (To contact the Woodland Trust, The Craven Trust, and request these forms when the trees come into leaf.)</p>	<p>EB</p>
<p>j) Precept: The clerk and chairman attended a consultation with CDC for assistance with the changes affecting the precept for 2013/14, and gave details to the Council. It was agreed to adjust the figures and the clerk is to forward the precept request for 2013/14.</p>	<p>EB</p>
<p>k) Telephone box: The clerk has forwarded the information for the purchase of the telephone box, which can take up to three months to process. At present no information has been received back from BT.</p>	
<p>l) Public question time Jan update: The clerk informed the Council that the prospective purchasers of the Bethel chapel may be initiating the repair of the water pipe to the Chapel, therefore hopefully reducing the flooding of the MUGA.</p>	
<p>m) Speed concern letter: The clerk had contacted Highways North Yorkshire to request details of the investigation carried out to address speed concerns at Rook Street, Lothersdale. No response has yet been received.</p>	
<p>n) Councillor introduction: The clerk had advertised the Councillor vacancy on the website and noticeboards for a period of fourteen days, and as no petition came</p>	

forward for a vote, the Council unanimously agreed to co-opt Michael Edward Cullen as Councillor. Mr. Cullen was given a copy of the YALC revised code of conduct and filled in the register of interest form which the clerk will forward to CDC, who need to be informed of the successful candidate.

**2/05 Public Question Time:**

There was no adjournment for public question time.

**2/06 Finances:**

Esther Barrows (Clerk) Dec - Jan invoice	204.34	
Chris Cowgill – winter maintenance	78.40	
Hunters Park valuation	<u>150.00</u>	
TOTAL	432.74	

(ii) January 2013

Opening balance	£	
Current account	15,311.64	
Deposit account	<u>7,043.02</u>	
	22,354.66	22,354.66
Receipts		
2.1.13 Interest	<u>5.21</u>	
	5.21	22,359.87
Payments		
Esther Barrows Dec - Jan fee	211.29	
CAB donation	<u>20.00</u>	
TOTAL	231.29	<u>231.29</u>
		22,128.58

Closing balance (January)

Represented by:		
Cleared cheques	-211.29	
Uncleared cheques	-20.00	
Lodgements/petty cash		
Current Account Barclays	15,311.64	
Deposit Account Standard Life	<u>7,048.23</u>	
	22,128.58	22,128.58

**2/07 Correspondence:**

- a) Boundary Commission update: The clerk informed the Council that as a result of the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 receiving Royal Assent on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013, the date of the next Parliamentary constituency boundary review has been postponed until 2018.
- b) Traffic concern, Lothersdale Primary School: At the January meeting Cllr White had requested that the issue of traffic outside the primary school was added to the agenda. As Cllr white was not present this item will be added to the March agenda.

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## 2/08 Planning:

### **Notice Of Refusal Of Permission By Craven District Council To Carry Out Development:**

**Application number:** 53/2012/13165

**Proposal:** Proposed siting Of no.30.4m High (Hub) Wind Turbine With A Tip Height Of 45.4m And Creation Of Access Track, Turbine Foundation And Installation Of Cables.

**Location:** Hawshaw Heights. Hawshaw Lodge Farm, Lothersdale. Keighley. BD208HP

### **Notice Of Grant Of Permission By Craven District Council To Carry Out Development:**

**Application number:** 53/2012/13093

**Proposal:** Installation Of A 15m High Wind Speed Anemometer Mast For A Temporary Period Of Four Months

**Location:** Location: Hawshaw Heights. Hawshaw Lodge Farm, Lothersdale. Keighley. BD208HP

### **Planning applications received:**

**Application number:** 53/2012/13190

**Proposal:** Installation Of 1 x 50kw Wind turbine With an Overall Height Of 34.2 m

**Location:** Bent Laithe Farm, Lothersdale. Keighley. BD20 8HS

The council objected to the above planning application: It would be visible from Pinhaw Beacon, the permanent local landmark and recreation point. It will be highly sensitive in accordance with sensitivity criteria.

**Application number:** 53/2013/13243

**Proposal:** Erecting of Greenhouse & Installation of Vegetable Beds

**Location:** Knott Barn, Whitehill Lane, Lothersdale. Keighley BD20 8HX

The council raised no objection the above planning application, but would like to see the greenhouse painted, not anodised.

## 2/09 Members' Community Reports:

**Date of the next meeting March 21st 2013**

Signed..... Date