

December 2023

Barley with Wheatley Booth Parish Council (BPC)

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 13th December'23 at the Village Hall

Present: Cllr. D. Heap (Chair) Cllr. D. Goldsbrough Cllr. J Connor
Cllr. L. Rushworth Cllr. J. Harthan

In Attendance: C A Heap (Clerk & RFO) **Public:** None

1.	Apologies: Cllr L. Hunt	Absent: None																																																																					
2.	Councillors Declaration of Interest Cllr Rushworth declared she had been involved in Planning Application 23/0780/HHO. Since the applicant was not in attendance the Chairman requested Cllr. Rushworth remain to answer any questions regarding the application but instructed not engage in any discussions or voting.																																																																						
3.	To Approve the Minutes of the Council Meetings held on 8th November 2023. It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting should be APPROVED and that the Chair sign them as a correct record.																																																																						
4.	Public Participation: None																																																																						
5.	Financial Matters: The following payments were approved / ratified for payment:																																																																						
	<table border="1"><thead><tr><th>November'23</th><th>Expenditure</th><th></th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>13</td><td>Whitehough Sign Post Repair D. Armstrong</td><td>408.00</td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>PwE Commission October'23</td><td>546.62</td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>Remembrance Day Vicar Flowers</td><td>20.00</td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>British Legion Wreath</td><td>30.00</td></tr><tr><td>15</td><td>Octopus Energy Electricity</td><td>77.05</td></tr><tr><td>16</td><td>Northback Ltd 3 Gazebos</td><td>780.00</td></tr><tr><td>16</td><td>Defibrillator Battery & Pads DH</td><td>358.80</td></tr><tr><td>20</td><td>UU Water Toilets Oct-Nov</td><td>205.70</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>LCC Road Signs for Xmas Pedestrian Management</td><td>259.20</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>N. Dewhurst Electric Sockets Toilets</td><td>30.00</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>Amazon Printer Ink RFO</td><td>39.16</td></tr><tr><td>December 4</td><td>Wilkinson Toilet Clean Nov</td><td>360.00</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Xmas Lights Blachere Ltd</td><td>518.40</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>CMS Website Hosting Fee</td><td>162.00</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>L. Hudson BNR Pruning</td><td>48.00</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>Xmas Pensioners Tesco</td><td>250.00</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>Xmas Pensioners FH Biscuits</td><td>218.00</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>Xmas Lights Amazon Solar</td><td>71.95</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>Xmas Q Hanger Hooks x 2</td><td>43.96</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>Xmas ABC Electric Works</td><td>1690.00</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>Store Cabinet Manutan Ltd</td><td>253.80</td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>Manutan 3No Cabinet Keys</td><td>21.32</td></tr></tbody></table>	November'23	Expenditure		13	Whitehough Sign Post Repair D. Armstrong	408.00	13	PwE Commission October'23	546.62	13	Remembrance Day Vicar Flowers	20.00	13	British Legion Wreath	30.00	15	Octopus Energy Electricity	77.05	16	Northback Ltd 3 Gazebos	780.00	16	Defibrillator Battery & Pads DH	358.80	20	UU Water Toilets Oct-Nov	205.70	24	LCC Road Signs for Xmas Pedestrian Management	259.20	24	N. Dewhurst Electric Sockets Toilets	30.00	24	Amazon Printer Ink RFO	39.16	December 4	Wilkinson Toilet Clean Nov	360.00	4	Xmas Lights Blachere Ltd	518.40	4	CMS Website Hosting Fee	162.00	4	L. Hudson BNR Pruning	48.00	11	Xmas Pensioners Tesco	250.00	11	Xmas Pensioners FH Biscuits	218.00	11	Xmas Lights Amazon Solar	71.95	11	Xmas Q Hanger Hooks x 2	43.96	11	Xmas ABC Electric Works	1690.00	11	Store Cabinet Manutan Ltd	253.80	13	Manutan 3No Cabinet Keys	21.32	
November'23	Expenditure																																																																						
13	Whitehough Sign Post Repair D. Armstrong	408.00																																																																					
13	PwE Commission October'23	546.62																																																																					
13	Remembrance Day Vicar Flowers	20.00																																																																					
13	British Legion Wreath	30.00																																																																					
15	Octopus Energy Electricity	77.05																																																																					
16	Northback Ltd 3 Gazebos	780.00																																																																					
16	Defibrillator Battery & Pads DH	358.80																																																																					
20	UU Water Toilets Oct-Nov	205.70																																																																					
24	LCC Road Signs for Xmas Pedestrian Management	259.20																																																																					
24	N. Dewhurst Electric Sockets Toilets	30.00																																																																					
24	Amazon Printer Ink RFO	39.16																																																																					
December 4	Wilkinson Toilet Clean Nov	360.00																																																																					
4	Xmas Lights Blachere Ltd	518.40																																																																					
4	CMS Website Hosting Fee	162.00																																																																					
4	L. Hudson BNR Pruning	48.00																																																																					
11	Xmas Pensioners Tesco	250.00																																																																					
11	Xmas Pensioners FH Biscuits	218.00																																																																					
11	Xmas Lights Amazon Solar	71.95																																																																					
11	Xmas Q Hanger Hooks x 2	43.96																																																																					
11	Xmas ABC Electric Works	1690.00																																																																					
11	Store Cabinet Manutan Ltd	253.80																																																																					
13	Manutan 3No Cabinet Keys	21.32																																																																					

Confirmed Minutes

Derek Heap

Date: 18 January 2024

1

6. **Planning Applications (PA) for Consideration & Updates:**

A) APPLICATION: 23/0814/TWR

PROPOSAL: There are 30 ash trees to dismantle and remove which have ash die back. Replanting of 30 native trees will take place after work is complete. These trees are hanging over private roads and activity areas.

AT: Boothman Park Barley New Road Barley **FOR:** Mr Joshua Gibson

The Council concluded that the "Application for Tree Works" did not provide sufficient information to permit the Council to make an informed decision. They expected better plans identifying the trees, a Tree Specialist Report to justify the removal of the trees, an indication of any trees covered by a TPO and information on the type and size of the replacement trees.

The application form sets out the requirements upon the applicant and it would appear insufficient information has been provided. It was **RESOLVED** to object to the application for the above reasons.

B) APPLICATION: 23/0780/HHO

PROPOSAL: Full: Erection of an extension to existing outbuilding.

AT: Overhouses Lower Barn Barley Lane Barley **FOR:** Mr Rodger Lowcock

The application is to extend an existing outbuilding by 2.2m in length and 1.1m in width. The height is to remain at 3.6m with a pitched roof. The footprint area will increase from 11.2SqM to 24.2SqM (116% increase).

Members thought it was a quirky building with protecting walls at each end which must have had some purpose and did not know if it warranted any conservation status but the proposed extension will make it more like any other building and one of the walls will be lost.

Members could think of no reasons to object to the PA but agreed to ask the PBC planning officer to look in to any heritage status that might protect it for the future. It was agreed to request that recycled stone is used if planning is approved. **Action: Clerk.**

7. **Parish Maintenance & Village Projects – Members to receive Reports & Proposals Update on Playground Upgrade**

The Chairman informed Council that Kompan had confirmed that by re-aligning the boundary fence to extend the playground width it would allow for a triple swing and that creates an additional space for another piece of equipment to be installed. They suggested an addition swing or a rotating piece of equipment, such as a spinner, would ensure a good range of play facilities. Cllr. Harthan said residents had indicated that additional swings would be the preference. Councillors thought the spinner was too basic.

Council **RESOLVED** to add an additional swing to the project rather than rotating equipment.

Councillors indicated that the swings should be situated as one 'baby' swing and two 'junior flat' swings as a trio and the single separate swing would be a "You & Me' swing.

Kompan had, as requested, amended the climbing tower design so that it included a ladder and a climbing pole to make it more attractive to a wider group of ages. The tower, the climbing net and the fireman's pole were retained. Members indicated they were satisfied with the design. Cllr. Heap said there would be additional costs to the project including groundworks, extra carpet and equipment costs. A revised quote would be requested. **Action: Cllr. Heap**

The Council agreed that the costs for a replacement fence and footpath works will be included in a separate project. A fencing specification would be prepared and three contractors requested to provide a quote, including Kompan. **Action: Cllr. Heap.**

Update on Repairs to Masonry Wall between Cabin & Village Green

The Chairman reported that Pendle BC still required the PC to sign a land access license agreement before works could start. This would appear to be the new way of working so the Council will have to accept this position; it is reasonable and no real problem for the PC.

He also reported that he had used the BwP Committee meeting to formally request that the BC Engineering Department attend site to agree on the extent of the works before Contractors are invited to prepare quotes. A response is awaited from PBC.

Update on Xmas Lighting Decorations Project – Cllr. Goldsbrough

Members felt the new light installations were a success and the Village looked very festive. The installations were within budget but most of the costs had been installing new cabling, sockets and timers. Cllr Heap added that electrical safety had to be to a high standard and that the 'solar' lights on the trees on the VG were weak due to lack of sunlight. Members expressed gratitude to the Hargreaves family and Nigel Dewhurst for their help with the installation. Cllr Heap reported that the missing Xmas lights had been found in the Chapel

It was **RESOLVED** to request ABC electrical to de-commission the lights on the Village Hall, Chapel and Toilet block post-Christmas. **Action: Cllr Heap.**

8. Traffic Issues, Turning Area, Car Park & Planned Events

Resident Parking Update

The Chairman reported that LCC had been in contact informing that they intended to undertake the necessary lining works on Tuesday 19 December providing it was not raining. They had asked that the PC undertakes a letter drop to residents to inform them of the works and identify the areas where people should not park their cars on the day from 0800Hrs. It was agreed that:

- Cllr Heap would prepare a letter and arrange the letter drop,
- Cllrs Connor & Goldsbrough would deploy "no parking cones" where possible on Monday,

He chairman also advised that once the installation works are completed a further order had to be processed by LCC and that it could be late January before the scheme was launched.

Closure of Barley New Road January 2024

The Chairman reported that Barley New Road would be closed from 10th to 21st January to allow for highway improvements (drainage, footways) before carriageway surfacing works.

Events:

Members agreed that the Xmas Event held on 10th December, organised by the Events Committee, had been a success and well attended despite inclement weather. The three Gazebos had been most useful and it was unfortunate that one had been overturned by the wind and damaged. The "Santas Grotto" in the Bus Shelter was popular and the "Barley to Bethlehem" had been very well supported and was again a big attraction.

The Pendleside Hospice Winter Wander 3/12 had been cancelled due to inclement weather.

9.	<p>Reports from Chairman</p> <p>Update on delivery and testing of Second Tablet for use in the Turning Area. Cllr Heap reported that testing had raised some problems but these had been resolved and PCN's were now being received by PwE.</p> <p>Update on purchase of new secure storage unit located within the Village Hall A lockable storage cabinet has been purchased and installed upstairs in the Village Hall. There were only two keys supplied so an extra three keys have been ordered today. This will provide additional security for PC equipment stored in the Village Hall.</p>
10.	<p>Members to review and update (if necessary) the Parish Council's Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Members discussed the briefing note that had been circulated by the Clerk and the policy before they RESOLVED to adopt the "Code of Conduct" policy.</p>
11.	<p>Clerk & Financial Officers Report</p> <p>The current bank balance was £102,111.68 and after setting aside commitments, and reserves, the monies available for the Council to spend is £33k.</p>
12.	<p>Members to Approve the Clerk, RFO and Gatekeeper Annual Salary increase in accordance with National Association of Local Councils Guidelines.</p> <p>The Chair reported that the PC follows national pay grades for local government officers and that the PC can only influence the grade for the job and the number of working hours. These two issues were agreed by Council less than 2 years ago.</p> <p>The Chair further reported that the national pay increase for lower grade / paid staff has been significant for 2023/24 and that the Parish Clerk rate is now £13 / Hour and the RFO is £12.50 / Hour compared to the national minimum wage of £10.42 per hour.</p> <p>Cllr Grimshaw reported that he had checked the pay rates on line and they were correct.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to implement the pay increase and back date it to 1 April 2023 as per the national agreement.</p>
13.	<p>Reports from Councillors & Borough Councillor Reports</p> <p>Cllr. Grimshaw reported that the first bend on the Avenue was hazardous. If cars were parked on the roadside drivers were forced onto the other side of the road and into the path of oncoming vehicles. It was agreed that this is reported to LCC with the suggestion that double yellow lines be added to the bend when the PC requests double yellow lines are installed outside the Village Hall in early 2024.</p> <p>Cllr Connor reported that a gully was completely blocked near the Hargreaves Farm which was causing excessive shale to gather on the highway. It was agreed to report the gully to LCC and to ask PBC to send a 'sweeper' to clean the road. Action: Cllr. Goldsbrough to report gully and Cllr. Heap to request sweeping.</p>
15.	<p>Members to collect and distribute gifts to Pensioners within the Parish</p> <p>Chocolates and biscuits had been issued to each member for distribution this week.</p>
16.	<p>Date of the next meeting: Thursday 18th January 2024 (agenda items by 11th Jan'24)</p>