

BARDSEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING APRIL 25th 2019

Chairman's Welcome The Chairman welcomed a small number of residents to the meeting. He said that unfortunately none of the 3 Ward Councillors can attend as Ryan Stephenson and Sam Firth are both today attending Matthew Robinson's wedding. He offered congratulations from the Council to Matthew and his wife and best wishes for a happy and healthy future.

He welcomed the newest member of the Parish Council, Andrew West, and expressed a big 'thank you to all the Parish Councillors for their amazing work over the year., work which often goes unnoticed by residents but which they would soon be aware of if it were to stop. He also thanked the Clerk for her work over the year.

Village Hall – On behalf of the Parish Council and the residents of Bardsey, he wished to thank the VH committee, especially the fundraisers. Events such as the beer festival and cinema nights (using the new projector system) were particularly successful this year.

Apologies for absence Cllr Tatman, Ian Frankland.

Minutes of 2018 APM .The Clerk had circulated copies of last year's minutes at the start of the meeting. It was proposed Cllr Flockton, seconded Cllr Sidle, and agreed unanimously that these be approved as a true record.

Police Report for 2018-19 The crime figures for the year had been sent to the council prior to the meeting. There had been 21 burglaries residential, involving 1 arrested for 2 offences , convicted, and serving 8 years; 3 arrested for 3 offences with 1 charged; 1 arrested for 1 ; and 2 suspects interviewed. In addition, there had been 21 incidents of criminal damage, 11 thefts from motor vehicles, and 3 thefts none specific (Yorkshire stone).

Report from the Chairman on the Work carried out by the Parish Council during 2018-19 and Outline of Future Plans.

Neighbourhood Plan – The Plan, which was made in November 2017, is regularly used by the parish council planning team and Leeds City Council when considering planning applications.

Village Pond – Thanks to Cllr Bosomworth, the pond management programme ran successfully through the year, with the pond clearing in January. It is nice to see the moorhens have returned this year.

Footpaths and Bridleways – We are continuing to work to secure our rights of way in Bardsey, and Cllr Bosomworth is pushing forward with the need to confirm that the railway line from Hetchell View to Scarcroft is a public Bridleway. This is something most of us thought was in place but has never been formally recognised. He thanked Cllr Bosomworth for all his work on this.

Parkfield and the Playground – These both continue to be well used by residents of Bardsey and thanks to Cllr Ward for his efforts in obtaining funding through the

Emmerdale 106 fund towards renovating the existing path and extending the path to complete a circuit along the Parkfield boundary.

Website and broadband – Thanks to Cllr Sidle for his efforts over the year to update the website, keep it lively and extending its coverage. In addition, he is now working with a group in the village to obtain better broadband connections for parts of Bardsey – the first stage will include the School and Village Hall.

Re-surfacing of the Bingley Ginnel – Thanks to Cllr Hoyland for all her efforts in not only obtaining funding for the re-surfacing of the ginnel, but also securing a contractor willing to undertake the work.

Re-engineering the Cornmill Ginnel – Thanks to Cllr Tatman for his perseverance on this issue which was eventually completed in March this year.

Highways – Highways continue to be a core item at all our meetings – on going maintenance and repair have become more of a challenge as the funding allocation from LCC has reduced. Many thanks to Cllr Hoyland for ensuring that Bardsey has good support from Leeds. She will give a fuller report later.

Speed Indicator Devices (SIDS) – Cllr Tatman has worked very hard to keep this project moving, but unfortunately the same cannot be said of Leeds City Council. The latest issue has been Leeds ‘mislaying’ the 4 units for erection in Bardsey for which we had already been offered a grant. Residents should keep checking the website and PC minutes for updates on this.

Planning – Firstly many thanks to Cllr Denby and his planning team, Cllrs Flockton, Tatman and West for all the work they have put in over the year, often under challenging circumstances. This year has been particularly busy with the Bramham application featuring highly.

Fly Tipping – This continues to be a problem, but we are currently receiving excellent service from Leeds with prompt collection of reported waste.

Vandalism in Bardsey – There has been an increasing amount of vandalism in Bardsey over the last 6 months culminating in the setting fire to a gas main on Keswick Lane in March. The police are aware of the culprits and action is being taken. The Parish Council is liaising with residents, the police, and ward councillors to ensure that appropriate action is taken to control the problem.

Much of the future work will be more of the same. A few key points are:

- Responding effectively to planning applications with the Parish.
- Implementing some of the aspirations in the Neighbourhood Plan, e.g. securing and developing our rights of way network
- Ensuring that assets such as Parkfield, the Village Pond and the Playground are managed effectively.

Financial Report from the Clerk. The Clerk had circulated copies of the unaudited accounts to those present and gave a fuller explanation of some of the items of both receipts and payments. The Council has agreed to a modest increase in the precept which for next year will be £34,000. She thanked the Internal Auditor, Philip Oddy, for all his help with checking the annual accounts and completing the forms for submission to the External Auditor.

Planning Report from Cllr Denby. Since the 2018 APM there have been 57 planning applications of which 37 have been approved, 6 refused, 2 withdrawn and 12 not yet determined. Of the refusals, 3 were appealed to the secretary of state, with 1 appeal allowed and 2 dismissed.

Of the 57 applications the parish council objected to 7 of those approved, all of those refused or withdrawn, and 8 of those not yet determined.

Reasons for PC objecting are not being in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan or out of character with the surrounding properties or the street scene, or over intensification of use or plot size, together with access, parking and highway difficulties.

Whilst not objecting to the majority, we have made general comments to some where we felt it appropriate.

We have also advised Leeds Planning Department where we have seen development taking place without Planning Permission, and this has resulted in Planning Applications being submitted and in one case the application was refused.

Highway Report from Cllr Hoyland. Cllr Hoyland had brought the following to the attention of LCC:-

- Flooding on the A58 by the traffic lights and Hetchell View, and water issuing from Rigton Bank (*a continuing problem*).
- Carriageway deterioration near entrance to Church Lane from A58; blocked drains and water collecting by the bridge; poor road surface near Bingley Arms (*last item not yet addressed*)
- Encroachment on Footpath 14 through Congreves in area established to be owned by LCC, and broken Congreve Way sign reported (*replaced*).
- Over growth on Blacksmith's Field and issues with footpaths on Keswick Lane, together with a number of minor matters (*Addressed*).
- Need for additional work on gullies on Wike Lane (*Addressed*)
- Dissatisfaction with surface dressing work on Woodacre Lane and need for more drainage clearance (*need for return of contractors conceded*).

In addition, she had been responsible for obtaining Emmerdale funding for resurfacing of Bingley Ginnel and the refurbishment of the Yorkshire Stone area; had finally got Highways to install the Reflector Posts at the entrance to Church Lane; had persuaded fellow Cllrs to restore and improve the daffodil area near the church; and had established that the allotments are under housing but managed by City Development and the unused plot 3 is to be advertised shortly for rent.

A.O.B. After a few comments from residents, the Chairman concluded the meeting, thanking those who had attended and inviting them to enjoy a further drink.

Signed:

Date:

APM 2019 Mins.