



BARDSEY CUM RIGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
held on 20th April 2022 at 7.30pm in Bardsey Village Hall

Commenced: 7.30pm

Concluded: 8.10pm

Present: Cllrs Stentiford, Osborne, Hoyland, Flockton, Denby, Tatman, Ward, and Bosomworth.

1. Introduction from the Chairman

Cllr Stentiford welcomed all to the meeting.

2. To note apologies for absence

It was noted that Ward Cllrs, Matthew Robinson, Ryan Stephenson and Cllr Sidle had sent their apologies.

3. To approve minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 21st April 2021

Resolved to approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 21st April 2021 as a true and accurate record.

4. To receive a report from the Chairman on Bardsey Parish Council activities for the year 2021-2022

Cllr Stentiford gave an update on the Parish Councils activities in the previous year which included the following:

A series of annual reports have been produced for a range of activities undertaken by the Parish Council over the past year and these will be posted on the website together with the Annual Parish Meeting minutes and Annual Report.

It has been another difficult 12 months for most people with the ongoing restrictions relating to Covid. The PC is now operating somewhere near 'normal' although it is a different normal to the one before Covid 19 arrived.

From June 2021 the Parish Council's meetings stopped being on zoom and returned to face-to face in the Village Hall.

The Parish Council has seen a big change this year as after more than 30 years as Parish clerk, June Gallant, retired at the end of December. June put a huge amount of work into the PC and has been a steadying influence over all those years. The PC made a presentation to June in November thanking her for all the work she put in and the pleasant way she interacted with Councillors over all those years.

The PC welcomed Becky Crabtree as Clerk to the Council. Becky has already started to contribute very positively to the work of the PC and the Councillors look forward to working with her in what are becoming ever more challenging times.

The PC has welcomed a new councillor, Kieran Osborne. Kieran has a wide range of skills and has been working closely with Chris Sidle to develop the PCs IT profile and produce the Village Survey seeking views from residents on what they want to happen in Bardsey.

Bardsey is very fortunate to have such a committed and professional council working on behalf of the residents.

Some of our key areas are:

Planning - David Denby, Linda Flockton and Geoffrey Tatman have continued to carry out excellent work, considering over 52 applications in the Village over the past year, several of these were very complex.

Highways - Despite the difficulties of meeting with many of the officers on site, Barbara Hoyland has managed to cover a wide range of highways and public rights of ways issues maintaining a high commitment and achieving some impressive outcomes despite the many additional pressures.

Sports Club – Mike Bosomworth has continued as Chairman of the Sports Club and has been largely responsible for developing the Club in a very positive way. Those that use the Club regularly will be aware of its new vibrancy. Mike has, amongst other things, continued to look after the Village Pond to ensure its continued biodiversity, last year saw the moorhens reported raising 3 broods.

Parish Council website – Chris Sidle has made the website very user-friendly, and has made it an essential tool, not only for carrying out Parish Council commitments but also for keeping residents updated on covid requirements. Chris has been involved in many other facets of the PC's operation and brings a level headed sanity to many of the issues the Councillors have had to deal with. This is in addition to the excellent support he has given to Cllr Stentiford over the year as Vice-Chairman.

Playground and Parkfield - Martin Ward has accomplished much over the past year with both the playground and Parkfield, especially given the many restrictions imposed because of covid. Thanks to his efforts arranging the resurfacing of the playground area, the surrounding area has now been tidied and the hard surface paths in Parkfield have all been repaired.

Flowers around the Village – Linda Flockton has continued to bring a wide range of colour and variety to the planters around the Village.

Village assets – Cllr Stentiford thanked the Village Hall Committee, the Sports Club, Tennis Club and Bowling Club for the excellent job they have done in managing the Village's assets on behalf of the residents of Bardsey.

Litter picking – Volunteer litter pickers in the village have continued to make great efforts all around Bardsey making an enormous impact on the appearance of the Village. Thanks go especially to Bev Humphries once again who has had a large part in setting up and supporting the litter picking work in Bardsey.

City Councillors – Cllr Stentiford took the opportunity to thank the Leeds City Councillors who have given the PC great support over the past 12 months in very difficult times.

Cllr Stentiford thanked his fellow councillors who freely contributed so much time and effort to support the community over the past year.

Cllr Stentiford said a special thank you to Chris Sidle who started working with the PC on the Neighbourhood Plan being one of the main agents in seeing the whole process through. The special thank you was because after approximately 10 years with the PC he has decided to step down. Chris has contributed enormously to the activities of the Council and his input will be sadly missed, but particularly by Cllr Stentiford as he has been a very supportive Vice-Chairman for many years.

5. To receive a Financial Report from the Clerk

The Clerk gave the following update:

It was noted that due to the change in Clerk, the PC has been unable to access the bank accounts and therefore, the Clerk has been unable to receive the bank statements to prepare the year-end figures. The financial figures will be provided at the meeting in May and in the Annual Report.

The main expenditure this year has been towards grounds maintenance in the village and Parish Council assets. This includes:

- Repairs at Park Field
- Tree clearance at the playground
- Tree work at the pond
- Grass cutting
- Footpath maintenance

The PC received S106 funds at a total of £20,000.00 to contribute towards the new playground surfacing and the work was carried out in July 2021.

The PC continues to provide grants to local groups and granted £2500 to Bardsey Sports Club to help towards repairs.

6. To receive a Highways Report from Cllr Hoyland

Cllr Hoyland gave the following Highways Report:

After a prolonged period of pursuing with Highways, the problem with water issuing from Rigton Bank causing pooling on the A58 carriageway was dealt with but she has reported the current British Gas work on Rigton Bank which could undermine the remedial work and they are now monitoring.

Cllr Hoyland confirmed that she reports blocked drains that could cause additional problems if they are not kept free to LCC.

An issue with vibration from clean water covers on the A58 carriageway by bus stop near Mill Lane is being followed up with Yorkshire Water and awaiting an outcome.

Please see Appendix 1 for the full report.

7. To receive a Planning Report from Cllr Denby

Cllr Denby gave the following Planning Report:

Since the beginning of April 2021 there have been 52 Planning applications. Of these the Parish Council made 25 objections and 27 neutral comments.

The comments made are in an attempt to ensure that development accords with the street scene and the Neighbourhood Plan, but also considers such matters of potential overlooking on Neighbours, off street parking, Conservation Area considerations etc.

Of these 52 applications

30 were approved

6 were refused

5 were withdrawn

19 have not yet been determined.

It appears that Covid has resulted in it taking considerably longer for LCC to determine applications.

During the year there have been 9 applications appealed to the Secretary of State and there was one appeal outstanding from 2021

Of those appeals

6 were dismissed and

4 were allowed.

In addition to dealing with these applications the Parish Council have made representations to Leeds CC in a number of cases where owners have carried out work without permission resulting in retrospective applications being submitted.

8. To receive a report from councillors

No further reports were given.

9. Residents questions

Residents asked the following questions:

A resident enquired about the skip and toilet at the Bowling Club. Cllr Ward confirmed that the toilet repairs were halted due to an issue with the roof. A roofer has agreed to carry out the work but it has not started yet due to the bad weather. The works will take around 2 months to complete. The skip is situated there ready for when the work commences.

A resident enquired about the progress of the proposed footpath on Gateon Lane. Cllr Stentiford confirmed he has made enquiries to find out who owns the pieces of land on the proposed route of the path and will continue to investigate.

A resident asked about the wheelchair at the Village Hall and Cllr Flockton agreed to look into this.

Cllr Stentiford thanked all for attending and the meeting closed.

Appendix 1

Highways Report by Cllr Hoyland (BH)

There have been many and varied Highway and Public Rights of Way issues, some as below and some still being pursued. Covid impacted on LCC's response in several areas.

A58 (WETHERBY ROAD) - by Rigton Bank. After a prolonged period of pursuing with Highways the problem with water issuing from Rigton Bank causing pooling on the A58 carriageway was dealt with. BH has reported the current British Gas work on Rigton Bank which could undermine the remedial work and they are now monitoring.

BH has reported the issues with water between Church Lane and Cornmill Ginnel several times which LCC has dealt with.

A pedestrian crossing on the A58 was requested by resident and although this has been looked into on other occasions and a suitable safe location was not found, an update has been sought from Christopher Proctor, LCC Senior Traffic Engineer.

CHURCH LANE –After several requests, raised kerbs have been installed by Church Lane properties that were vulnerable to water flowing from Woodacre Lane.

The banking opposite the Church has not been maintained as planned. This is being pursued with LCC, Parks and Countryside. Any work will probably have to wait until after the daffodil and bird nesting season. Concerns about tree growth etc was also raised by resident.

Vehicles have been mis turning and tipping by the beck opposite the Bingley Arms. Advice is being sought how to mitigate this situation.

CONGREVE APPROACH – Many potholes across the entrance from the A58 have been reported to LCC Highways

CORNMILL LANE GINNEL – An attempt to steal coping stones was reported to Highways and is awaiting remedial work. Concern about the condition of Kidsdorf Bridge was reported and investigated and no issues were found.

WAYSIDE CRESCENT – The poor road surface has been reported and BH also requested the relocation of the grit bin from a private property to communal area.

WOODACRE LANE – The water pooling by Bardsey School was reported and dealt with.

The hedge growth opposite the school has been a problem since the farmer, Mr Foster, died. This has been reported and is being followed up by LCC.

There are highway footpaths that are problematic for residents and need verge encroachment removing. This has been pursued for a while with Nigel Eastwood, LCC Highway Maintenance, who suggested it may be addressed through The Community Payback Scheme.

The grit bins are refilled as requested.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY –

FOOTPATH 18 - leading from Wayside Mount – There are times when the way is very muddy covering the whole width of the path and cropped branches have been left in the way. The branches were moved out of the way and PROW is going to deal with the condition of the footpath. If possible, the footpath needs to be kept in order as it can be a shortened route for residents to access buses on Wetherby Road.

FOOTPATH 16 - access from Woodacre Lane by Callister Hall. The broken handrail was reported to PROW who promptly dealt with it.