



## BARDSEY CUM RIGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
held on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7.30pm in Bardsey Village Hall

Commenced: 7.30pm

Concluded: 8.30pm

**Present:** Cllrs Stentiford, Flockton, Hoyland, Jackson, Osborne, Tatman, Ward

### 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 Cllrs Bosomworth and Denby had sent their apologies.

### 3. To approve minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 20th April 2022

**Resolved** to approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 20th April 2022 as a true and accurate record.

### 4. To receive a report from the Chairman on Bardsey Parish Council activities for the year 2022-2023

Cllr Stentiford gave an update on the Parish Councils activities in the previous year. This report has been attached as **Appendix 1**

### 5. To receive a Financial Report from the Clerk

The Clerk gave the following update of the unaudited accounts:

As of March 31<sup>st</sup> 2023, the balances in the Parish Council bank accounts were:

Community Account	£32,924
Business Premier Account 1	£2538
Business Premier Account 2	£15,458

This gives a total amount of £50,910.

The total expenditure for the fiscal year 2022/23 was £59,127

The main items of expenditure this year has been:

- Contribution to the purchase of Bardsey Field (£30,200)
- Grants to local groups (£3,940)
- Grounds Maintenance including remedial works in the village (£7,216)

The income received was £49,907

The main items of income for 2022/23 are:

- The precept (£36,435)
- Community Infrastructure Levy payment (£5701)

The precept applied for 2023/2024 was £40,050. This was received into the Parish Account on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

## **6. To receive a Highways Report from Cllr Hoyland**

Please see Appendix 1 for the full report.

## **7. To receive a Planning Report from Cllr Denby**

Cllr Tatman gave the following Planning Report:

Since the last Annual Parish Meeting there have been 61 Planning Applications. Of these the parish Council made objective comments on 23 and neutral comments on 38.

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 as potential overlooking on neighbours, off street parking, Conservation Area considerations etc.

Of these 61 applications (2022 - 52)  
30 were approved, (2022- 30)  
10 Refused, (2022- 6)  
4 withdrawn, (2022 – 5)  
17 Applications are currently undecided. (2022 – 19)

During the year there have been 8 appeals to the Secretary of State of which 3 were dismissed, 2 allowed and 3 that have not been determined.

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 in some. In addition there are some cases where owners erect boundary walls or fences onto the highway that contravene sight line or height regulations.

## **8. To receive a report from councillors**

No further reports were given.

## **9. Residents questions**

Residents asked the following questions:

9.1 A resident commented on the Parish Council's 10% interest in Bardsey Field and what the ongoing costs would be to Bardsey Residents.

Cllr Jackson who is the Council's link with East Keswick Wildlife Trust responded. EKWT have access to many donors and have extensive knowledge and expertise in managing such a project as Bardsey Field. The EKWT AGM will take place in East Keswick Village Hall on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023. Bardsey Field is still in its early days and there are no immediate plans until a long term strategy is formed. A site visit is planned in the near future. A recent botanical survey identified 185 species of plants, 30 species of birds and 7 deer. Access to the site will be available but without causing any negative impact to the field.

9.2 A resident raised concerns over speeding traffic on the A58, especially passing Wood Lane. The Council responded that there are several police speed checks in the area. A traffic island is being considered by LCC. LCC are studying the A58 as a whole and if data shows the need for cameras, they will be installed.

9.3 A resident asked about the progress of a PROW on Wike Lane from Gateon Lane to join the Leeds Country Way. BPC replied that there has been talks about a permissive route but this would only be part of the way (which is the least exposed part). BPC will continue to add pressure.

Cllr Stentiford thanked all for attending and the meeting closed.

## **Appendix 1**

### **Chair's Report 2023 – by Cllr Stentiford**

A series of annual reports have been produced for a range of activities undertaken by the Parish Council over the past year, some of these will be presented by lead councillors in the area. These reports will be posted on our website together with our Annual Parish Meeting report.

Following presentation of these reports we will take questions regarding any specific items about issues that have arisen over the last year

Becky Crabtree, who replaced June Gallant as our Clerk, did an excellent job for us but was headhunted part way through the year and reluctantly left us. In January this year we welcomed our new Clerk, Vicki Forbes, who is proving to be an excellent successor to Becky.

The vacancy on the Council following Cheri Sidle's decision to step down has been filled by Jeanne Jackson, who has hit the floor running, One of the roles Jeanne has taken on is to be the Council's link with East Keswick Wildlife Trust working on Bardsey Fields.

I know that Bardsey is very fortunate to have such a committed and professional council working on your behalf

Some of our key areas covered over the past 12 months are covered in the following.

Planning - David Denby, Linda Flockton and Geoffrey Tatman have continued to carry out excellent work, considering over 96 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 of you who use the Club regularly will be aware of its new vibrancy and the addition of a running section..

Village Pond - Mike has, amongst other things, continued to look after the Village Pond to ensure its continued biodiversity, last year saw the moorhens raised 3 broods, and their first brood for this year is already loose on the pond. In mid- An information board was installed at the pond this year, funded by the family of a former long term resident of Bardsey to demonstrate her love for the Village.

Parish Council IT – Kieran Osborne has been very active in bringing our IT system up to speed and supporting fellow councillors overcoming many of the difficulties which we have encountered with establishing our system. Keiran has also carried out a village survey to gather views on what residents see as key issues for now and future years. The outcomes from the survey will be used in helping to formulate future activities for the Parish Council.

Playground and Parkfield - Martin Ward has continued to work on ensuring that these village assets continue to be well utilised by the residents. Their enthusiasm for the area, particularly, Parkfield, has been demonstrated by the formation of a Friends of Parkfield group who have carried out a range of work, not least of which was removing all the Himalayan balsam from the site.

Flowers around the Village – Linda Flockton – has continued to bring a wide range of colour and variety to the planters around the Village and I am looking forward to seeing this year's displays

Village assets - I would like to thank the Village Hall Committee, the Sports Club, Tennis Club and Bowling Club for the excellent job they have done in managing their Village's assets on behalf of the residents of Bardsey

Bardsey Fields In November two parcels of land adjacent to the School came up for sale with submissions of bids

required within in 3 weeks of the announcement. One of the pieces of land, opposite the School, had not been intensively farmed and was rich in native flora and fauna. East Keswick Wildlife Trust working with the Parish Council, Leeds City Council and a wide range of donors successfully bid for these 24 acres of land.

This piece of land is now part of a wildlife trust which will work to improve it unique biodiversity profile. The constitution of the Trust means that the land, which is at the core of the Village, will continue to be an environmental asset to Bardsey and surrounding communities for many years to come.

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 one resident who once again who has had a large part in setting up and supporting the litter picking work in Bardsey

City Councillors - I would like to take this opportunity to thank our City Councillors who have given us such great support over the past 12 months.

Thanks once again to all my fellow councillors who have freely contributed so much time and effort to support the community over the past year.

## Appendix 2

### Highways Report by Cllr Hoyland (BH)

A resident's request for a crossing on the A58 was followed up with a site meeting attended by LCC Highways and Bardsey Parish Councillors and a suitable site for an island crossing by Cornmill Ginnel was established. An assessment was carried out by LCC and a decision was expected early this year but as yet a response has not been forthcoming. Across Leeds there is funding for about 6 new crossings a year and ranked according to need.

There have been many concerns with regard to the area on the Wetherby Road between Mill Lane-Rigton Bank including narrowing of footpath, excessive overgrowth, felling of trees and other issues. These issues have been vigorously pursued with LCC and work has been carried out by LCC alongside the footpath but to remove the verge encroachment we have been advised to pursue through the 'Community Payback Scheme' which we are doing.

Residents raised several concerns with regard to Rigton Bank with Ward Councillor Robinson and a meeting was arranged chaired by Ward Councillor Robinson, and attended by the local residents, who raised the issues, Chris Procter, LCC Highways, and Bardsey Parish Councillors. As well as work on water gully and cutting back it was agreed to install 'narrow road' signage and although advised earlier this year was being produced as yet not installed.

A wheelchair bound resident requested dropped kerbs along Keswick Lane to East Keswick which was followed up and site meeting held with Luke Wood, LCC, and Parish Councillor but, although advised dropped kerbs would be installed before the end of 22/23 financial year, none have been installed and no update forthcoming.

Many other highway issues across the village were followed up. Potholes, some extensive, several problems with drain covers and blocked drains, debris, unstable trees, damaged signage, empty grit bins, overgrown hedges, grit removal left after road surfacing work which had resulted in bad injuries to a cyclist.

Before implementation LCC notified the Parish Council of the roads to be included in the change to 20 mph zones. The Parish Council would have liked some other roads to be included but as yet not possible.

Resident raised concerns about the barriers etc still remaining by the footpath below the Bingley Arms. This has been followed up with LCC.

BPC was asked by the Church for its opinion and agreed with the proposal for a disabled area on Church Lane opposite the vicarage.

Following an attempted coping stone theft on Cornmill Ginnel new coping stones were instated and the original stones, rescued by residents, were collected by Highways.

There were several Public Rights of Way issues followed up including broken beck railing, Hetchel Wood, overgrowth on several footpaths and also excessive cutback.

PROW, LCC, pointed out from a PROW perspective landowners are required, prior to the nesting season, to keep hedges cut back so as not to impede the use of public paths and may also have to allow for vehicle access.

Getting responses from LCC and work carried out is now particularly difficult but the Parish Council will endeavour to pursue matters in whatever way it can.

X98/X99 bus services. It was brought to the Council's attention the bus company Transdev were looking in to terminating in Leeds at the Bus Station instead of Infirmary Street. BPC is opposed to this and actively monitoring the situation.