

The Minutes of the next Meeting of Leeds Parish Council
held in Leeds and Broomfield Village Hall on Tuesday, 11th July 2017 at 7:30 PM.

***Councillors present: China
Fort
Govett
Springford***

Also, present: Parish Clerk, Mrs Sherrie Babington, KCC Councillor Cooke, and members of the public.

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Govett

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Martin, Beale, and Bowles.

2. Declaration of Interests.

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting.

The Minutes of the previous meeting was circulated to all members.

These were proposed by Cllr Fort as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr China and agreed by all present.

The Minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

There were no matters arising.

5. Public Comments and Observations.

A resident attended the meeting to speak regarding the small piece of land to the rear of their property, she stated that they wished to preserve and maintain this land.

Cllr Fort stated that many years ago the Parish Council was looking to take over the ownership of this land, however there were problems with the legalities of ownership. It was suggested that the PC may wish to maintain the land for the benefit of the parish.

This was discussed and it was suggested that the land may be owned by Golding Homes. It was agreed that Cllr China would contact Golding Homes regarding this matter.

It was also agreed that Cllr Fort would try to establish the ownership of the land.

Action: Cllrs China and Fort to action.

A resident spoke regarding the traffic concerns in the parish, she stated that the new lining on Upper Street was causing large vehicles and lorries to mount the pavement and speed.

A resident reported that some Public Rights of Way were blocked in the Parish. It was agreed that the resident would inform the Clerk of the footpath numbers to report to KCC.

Action: Clerk to progress.

6. KCC Councillors Report.

KCC Councillor Cooke gave his report to the meeting.

He reported on issues affecting KCC and stated that they needed to make savings of 40 million for the next financial year.

7. MBC Ward Councillors Report.

MBC Councillor Fort gave her report to the meeting.

She stated that MBC were considering grant funding for play areas and this was likely to be available in September 2017.

8. Highways Matters.

Councillor Cooke spoke regarding the Relief Road and stated that a Joint Transportation Board Meeting was due to take place on 12th July and the main item on the agenda was item 13 – To receive an update in the Relief Road.

He spoke regarding the meeting report and confirmed that KCC were collecting data and looking for greater cooperation from MBC regarding the Section 106 and CILs.

He stated that the data and the results would suggest the impact of a relief road on the B2163 and Willington Street. He reported that Langley Parish Council had submitted an objection to the Relief Road.

He stated that until recently MBC had stopped discussing S106 with KCC therefore KCC Highways Officers had been dealing directly with developers.

He confirmed that the potential route of the Relief Road was still not being discussed, although there were observations in the report to the JTB.

Councillor Cooke stated that MBC had adopted their own Transport Strategy and this had not been supported by KCC.

The Chairman spoke regarding the potential cost of the Relief Road and Councillor Cooke stated that this was expected to be in the region of 50 to 70 million.

Councillor Cooke stated that the Leadership of MBC had suggested that the Relief Road should be looked at in 2021, when the Local Plan was reviewed and this had also been included in the Planning Inspectors report, however, KCC had stated that there was a need for this to be progressed as soon as possible but they did not have the funding for this.

He stated that KCC were commissioning Consultants to develop a business case for the Relief Road, the DCLG had announced a pot of money to relieve congestion and improve the environment and it was hoped that KCC could put for a case to support the Leeds Langley Relief Road.

He stated that he did support the Relief Road but it was important that it was designed to do what it was supposed to do and relieve congestion.

The Chairman confirmed that residents were able to attend the JTB Meeting and members of the PC would also attend.

He suggested that there were MBC elections next year and therefore there was an opportunity for political will to move this forward.

Councillor Cooke confirmed that the intention was that Parish Councils would be consulted on route options by the end of the year. He stated that there was a full Council Meeting of KCC on 14th July and item 8 on the agenda was Local Transport and therefore there was an opportunity for the Relief Road to be discussed at this meeting and it made reference to the Leeds Langley Relief Road as a policy.

The Chairman asked if the Parish Council wished to allocate a fund to support the Relief Road, it was agreed that this would be discussed further at a future meeting.

Councillor Cooke summarised his discussions and stated that the JTB was an advisory group and had no powers, however on Thursday 14th July it would be discussed at KCC Full Council and a policy would then be established to support the Relief Road if this was adopted.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Cooke for his report.

9. Police Report.

PCSO Boyd gave his apologies to the meeting and a written report was noted in his absence.

A discussion took place regarding the Speed Watch Scheme and Cllr Govett stated that he would take this up with the police.

10. Correspondence Report.

The correspondence received during the month was noted by members.

11. Planning Matters.

New Applications Received

No new applications

MBC Decisions

17/501906/LBC

Cordwainers Cottage Caring Lane Leeds Maidstone Kent ME17 1TJ

Listed Building Consent for installation of new shower room at first floor, alteration of partition to existing bathroom and new hatch to roof space.

Application Permitted

12. Financial Matters.

a. Financial Statement.

The Financial Statement was circulated to all members. This was discussed and approved by all present. (Fort/Govett).

Bank Balances

Opening Balance on Community Direct Plus Account	£61061.29
Less/Add Account transfers/deposits	£0.00

Less Account for payment	£1187.09
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Closing Balance on Community Direct Plus Account	£59,874.20
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Opening Balance on Business Select 14 Day Account	£30136.07
Less/Add Account transfers/deposits	£0.00

Closing Balance on Business Select 14 Day Account £30,136.07

Balance on all PC Accounts **£90,010.27**

The Clerk spoke regarding the Parish Councils bank balances and advised members that these were now above the level protected by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

This was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk would open another bank account at the HSBC and transfer some of its reserves over to the new account.

This was proposed by Cllr Fort, seconded by Cllr China, and agreed by all present.

Action: Clerk to progress.

13. Parish Maintenance.

Members discussed recent Litter Pick in the Parish and it was reported that 14 residents attended and 18 sacks of rubbish was collected.

A discussion took place regarding the fly tipping in the parish and Cllr Govett spoke regarding the offer put forward by a resident at the previous meeting to jointly fund a CCTV camera system on Forge Lane to monitor fly tipping.

He reported that the cost of the CCTV camera was £350 and two were needed, to jointly fund this with the resident would cost the PC £350. He asked for members approval to progress with the scheme.

Cllr China proposed to progress with the CCTV camera system, this was seconded by Cllr Springford and agreed by all present.

Action: Cllr Govett to liaise with the resident regarding this matter.

Cllr China stated that a similar system was needed along Burberry Lane. Cllr Govett stated that he would liaise with the Chairman of Leeds Castle regarding this.

Action: Cllr Govett to progress.

Cllr Fort stated that she would liaise with MBC to see whether she could get some CCTV signage.

Action: Cllr Fort to progress.

14. Village Gardener/Handyman.

Members discussed whether a village gardener/handyman was needed for the parish.

This was discussed and it was agreed that at present there was not enough work in the parish to warrant employing a gardener. It was therefore agreed that this item would not be progressed and would be removed from the agenda.

15. Leeds Playing Field, Tennis Courts, Pavilion, and Children's Play Area.

Cllr China informed members that the Clerk had recently circulated the annual inspection report for the play area.

He stated that he had asked Steven Waring to remove the weeds around the play area as identified in the report.

A discussion took place regarding the play equipment and whether this did need to be replaced.

Cllr Fort stated that Leeds had been identified by MBC as a Strategic Play Area and therefore match funding of up to £10,000 may be available from September.

CLlr China stated that the cost of a new play area would be in the region of £30,000. This was discussed and it was agreed that options up to £20,000 would be considered at the September meeting.

CLlr China reported that the sign would be placed on the tennis courts in the new few days and the keys would then be available to purchase from the pub.

16. Street Lighting.

CLlr China reported on the street lighting in the parish.

17. Joint Parish Group and Local Plan.

No matters were raised.

18. Public Comments and Observations.

A resident spoke regarding the proposals for Ledian Farm and asked where the access to this site would be. CLlr Fort explained the details to the resident.

19. Urgent Matters.

No matters were raised.

20. Date of next meeting.

9th September 2017.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.50pm.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____