

The Minutes of the Meeting of Leeds Parish Council on Tuesday, 12th April 2022
at 7.00pm in the Leeds and Broomfield Village Hall.

*Councillor's present: China
Fort
Gallafant
Greeff
Springford*

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

The meeting was chaired by Councillor China.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bernini and Ingram.

2. Declaration of Interests.

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were circulated to all members.

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

The minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman of the meeting.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

No matters arising.

5. Public Comments and Observations.

A representative from the Church, Brian Hardy attended the meeting to speak regarding the PC's suggestion to have a beacon sited within the church grounds. He stated that he was not sure if this was an appropriate site.

Cllr China stated that the location was still under discussion as was how it would be burned.

He stated that one option was to have a gas ring placed inside of the beacon cage and hooked up to a gas bottle.

This was discussed and it was agreed that this method of burning it would be preferable to a log burner.

It was also agreed that the most suitable location would be to site this on the small, grassed area outside of the church car park.

The Chairman reported that he had sourced a pole for the beacon through a local company.

The Chairman asked if the Bell Ringers were available for the Jubilee celebrations and Brian Hardy stated that he would try to book them for 2nd June.

Church yard Lighting – The Chairman stated that he was still awaiting details regarding the cost of installing lighting at the Church. When he had received this, the PC would liaise with the church to seek permission. Brian Hardy confirmed that a faculty would be needed for such work.

6. Highways Matters.

No matters were raised.

7. **Clerks Report.**

The Clerk's Report was noted by members.

8. **Chairman's Report.**

The Chairman gave his report to the meeting.

9. **Financial Matters.**

a. **Financial Statement**

The Financial Statement was circulated to all members present and agreed. (Fort/Greeff)

10. **KCC Councillors Report.**

No matters were reported.

11. **MBC Councillors Report.**

Cllr Fort gave her report to the meeting.

She reported that MBC elections were due to take place in May 2022, and this was the last of the three yearly elections. The next full elections would take place in 2024.

She reported on the Ward Boundary Review and spoke regarding the requirement for this, and the reduction in MBC Ward Councillors from 55 to 47.

She reported on a Scheme being undertaken by KCC to apply to the DoT from a licence to give fixed penalty notices. She stated that Leeds had been selected for this scheme, if successful and the B2163 weight limit would be the first scheme. This would be operated and managed by KCC through Automated Number Recognition Cameras.

She stated that no date or timescales for this were available at present.

12. **Planning Matters.**

New Applications Received

22/501154/FULL Grays Meadow Farm Caring Lane Leeds Kent ME17 1TJ

Change of use of agricultural/former stable building to 1no. holiday let, with associated external alterations, access, parking and landscaping and enclosure of part of existing canopy.

22/501294/FULL Leeds and Broomfield Church of England Primary School Lower Street Leeds Kent
Demolition of dilapidated mobile classrooms to rear of school.

21/506208/FULL Ledian Farm Upper Street Leeds Kent ME17 1RZ
additional details.

22/501651/FULL Dunelm Caring Lane Leeds Maidstone Kent ME17 1TJ
Erection of a single storey rear extension with 2no. roof lanterns

Planning Decisions

22/500315/FULL

April Cottage Lower Street Leeds Maidstone Kent ME17 1RJ

Erection of detached single storey garage.

Application Permitted

21/506551/FULL

Leeds Abbey Farmhouse Lower Street Leeds ME17 1TL

Change of use and associated works to convert existing ancillary barn to stables, feed storage, and a lean-to

greenhouse, and change of use of the paddock to the rear of Abbey Farmhouse to equestrian, including installation of post and rail fencing to the garden boundary (part retrospective).

Application Permitted

Other Planning Matters

Members spoke regarding a possible planning application for Abbey Farm, and Councillor Fort confirmed that to date no application had been submitted to MBC.

This was discussed and Cllr Fort referred to a meeting that she had with the developers and their discussions about allowing walkers through the southern side of the site. She stated that nothing had come of this, and the footpath was still close.

She said that the Parish Council had considered an application to have this registered as a public right of way and had placed an item on the website to try to seek assistance in this process.

Cllr Gallafant stated that he would look into this and take forward on behalf of the PC.

Action: Cllr Gallafant to progress.

13. Parish Maintenance.

Cllr China reported on the potholes in the church car park and stated that he had received a quotation for £1400 to repair these.

It was agreed that two further quoted would be sought.

14. Leeds Playing Field.

It was agreed that a new hire form should be sent to the Loose Lions for completion to update the PC records.

Action: Clerk to action.

15. Street Lighting.

The Chairman reported that the light in Burgess Hall Drive had been reported to the Contractor for repair.

16. Email Policy.

A draft Email Policy was circulated to all members.

It was proposed by Cllr Greeff to adopt this, seconded by Cllr Fort and agreed by all present.

17. Church Yard Lighting.

No further matters were raised.

18. Parish Defibrillator.

The Clerk reported that this item had been placed on the agenda as residents had asked the PC to consider having a defibrillator installed at the village hall end of the village.

This was discussed and it was agreed that a quotation should be sought for this.

It was further agreed that the Clerk should arrange for an annual inspection to take place for the existing defibrillator at the playing field.

Action: Clerk to action.

19. Parish Christmas Tree.

It was agreed that the Christmas Tree at Wkyeham Grove needed to be replaced. The Clerk was asked to write to Kingswood Trees to ascertain costs and availability.

Action: Clerk to action.

20. Jubilee Celebrations.

The Chairman spoke regarding the Parish jubilee celebration and asked the PC to agree a budget for this.

It was proposed by Cllr Greeff to set a budget of £5000 for the celebrations, this was seconded by Cllr China and agreed by all present.

The Chairman stated that KCC Cllr Cooke had stated that he would jointly fund this and therefore the Clerk was asked to submit a grant application to Cllr Cooke for £2500.

Action: Clerk to progress.

21. Annual Meeting of the Parish.

It was agreed that this would be held prior to the PC meeting in June.

The clerk was asked to send out the invitations for this to village organisations .

Action: Clerk to progress.

22. Items for the next agenda.

Parish Defibrillator.

23. Date of next meeting.

10th May 2022.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.10pm.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____