

The Minutes of the Meeting of Leeds Parish Council
held in Leeds and Broomfield Village Hall on Tuesday, 14th March 2017 at 7:30 PM.

***Councillors present: Beale
Bowles
China
Fort
Govett
Martin***

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

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Govett.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr Springford.

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 China as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr Fort 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 seek clarification on the Leeds Langley Relief Road.

The Chairman stated that Councillor Cooke would report on this under his report.

A resident raised concerns about the HGV's driving through the village. He stated that these were damaging the rural lanes.

6. KCC Councillors Report.

KCC Councillor Cooke stated that he had circulated his update report by email to all members, this was noted.

He reported on his Public Annual Residents Meeting held in February attended by Helen Whateley MP.

Councillor Cooke reported that since the Planning Inspectors Interim Report had been issued, KCC had decided to press ahead with evidence to support a Leeds- Langley Relief Road. He stated that they were currently updating information held with the view of consulting with the local parishes on the Leeds Langley Relief Road by the end of this year.

He confirmed that KCC was not prepared to discuss route options at this point but would by the end of the year.

He stated that MBC was firmly of the opinion that all that was needed to solve the traffic problems was a bus lane on the Sutton Road, and this had been supported by the Planning Inspector. He stated that this need was based on a study undertaken by MBC, not KCC as the Highways Authority. He confirmed that the Relief Road would be a freight route for HGV's, taking these off the B2163 and Willington Street.

Cllr Govett stated that he was disappointed that 2021 had been stated in documentation regarding the relief road by MBC. Councillor Cooke confirmed that this was the date that a review period for the Local Plan would take place and there would be another Call for Sites by MBC. He stated that he hoped that there would be progress with the Relief Road before this date. He confirmed that KCC were working towards the Motion agreed by the Joint Transportation Board.

Councillor Cooke spoke regarding the Local Plan and stated that MBC were bound by the Planning Inspectors findings but KCC were not, and KCC did not wish to have a bus lane on the Sutton Road.

It was reported that MBC Councillor David Burton had stated at Cllr Cooke's recent Otham event with the local MP (Helen Whately) that as soon as KCC had issued their plans for the Relief Road, then MBC would engage with KCC to look at funding options (as openly raised at the Otham meeting by Cllr Govett).

Cllr Fort stated that she would liaise with MBC Councillor Burton to seek clarification of this statement.

Action: Cllr Fort to action.

A discussion took place regarding the anticipated cost of the Relief Road and how this could be funded.

Cllr Govett spoke regarding availability of the route options and Councillor Cooke clarified that KCC would consult with the parishes regarding route options by the end of the year and a public consultation would then take place after this.

Cllr Govett confirmed that Parish Councils position to support the need for the Relief Road regardless of the route.

Councillor Cooke reported on general highways matters and the pot hole blitz that was currently underway by KCC.

Cllr Govett asked when the new road markings on Upper Street would be undertaken. Councillor Cooke stated that he would look into this, but anticipated that work would commence before May.

He reported that due to the KCC elections Purdah was due to start on 24th March 2017.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Cooke for his report.

7. MBC Ward Councillors Report.

MBC Councillor Fort gave her report to the meeting.

She spoke regarding the Local Plan Public Inquiry and the Woodcut Farm Appeal.

The Clerk confirmed that the PC objections to this application had been submitted to the Planning Inspector.

8. Highways Matters.

No matters were raised.

9. Police Report.

PCSO Boyd attended the meeting to introduce himself to members. He gave a crime report to all present.

Cllr Govett raised concerns about an advertising van parked on the M20 roundabout. PCSO Boyd stated that the police were aware of this, however it was a legal vehicle and therefore police action could not be taken.

Councillor Cooke stated that the roundabout was the responsibility of Highways England, however KCC had spoken to the White Horse Public House regarding the vehicle and they were trying to get this removed.

Cllr Govett reported that he had attended the public meeting held by Councillor Cooke and as a result he had contacted the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding the Special Constable. He stated that he had now been invited to attend a meeting with Police Inspector Neil Parker to discuss this further.

Concerns were raised regarding the issue with fly tipping in the parish. PCSO Boyd stated that this was a nationwide issue. Cllr Fort reported that MBC were not able to provide CCTV cameras for the problem areas.

PCSO Boyd informed members that battery operated security cameras were available to purchase from Maidstone NHW.

A discussion took place regarding the possibility of the Parish Council purchasing its own cameras and it was agreed that Cllr Bowles would investigate this further and the Clerk would seek advice on the legalities of this.

Action: Clerk and Cllr Bowles to action.

Councillor Cooke stated that it was the responsibility of MBC to clear fly tipping and the question of enforcement of PC owned security cameras was discussed.

The Chairman thanked PCSO Boyd for attending the meeting.

10. Correspondence Report.

The correspondence received during the month was noted by members.

11. Planning Matters.

Neighbourhood Plans.

Councillor Cooke spoke regarding the benefits of a Parish having its own Neighbourhood Plan and this was discussed.

It was agreed that further information regarding Neighbourhood Plans should be circulated to all members.

Action: Clerk to action.

12. Financial Matters.**a. Financial Statement.**

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

Bank Balances

<u>Opening Balance on Community Direct Plus Account</u>	£45263.88
Less/Add Account transfers/deposits	£0.00
Less Account for payment	£7624.90
Closing Balance on Community Direct Plus Account	£37,638.98
<u>Opening Balance on Business Select 14 Day Account</u>	£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	£67,775.05

13. Parish Maintenance.

Members discussed the maintenance undertaken within the parish.

Cllr China reported that Steven Waring would commence the maintenance work in April 2017.

Cllr Govett spoke regarding the planting around the Parish and suggested that bulbs could be planted. It was agreed that a build planting event would be arranged in September 2017.

Action: Clerk to place item on agenda in July 2017.

Cllr China spoke regarding a parish litter pick and it was agreed that one should be arranged for the Saturday following Easter.

Action: Cllr China to progress.

The Clerk referred to an email received from KCC regarding a Parish Clean-up. It was agreed that the area to be cleaned was Penfold Hill, vegetation and footpaths and the creeping vegetation around the Village Gates.

Action: Clerk to liaise with KCC.

14. Fire Hydrants.

Cllr China reported that all fire hydrants in Leeds had now been marked and identified.

Action: Item to be taken off the next agenda.

15. Leeds Children's Play Area.

Cllr China reported that he was currently seeking quotations for the new play area as these were needed to put together a grant application.

He stated that the public had been consulted to ascertain their views regarding a new play area and only two comments had been received, one positive and one against.

He suggested that the Parish Council should establish whether there was a need for a new play area before committing fund to this.

This was discussed and it was agreed to continue to seek quotations for the new equipment and press ahead with the grant application.

Action: Cllrs China and Springford to progress.

16. Leeds Playing Field and Pavilion.

Cllr China reported that the white lining of the Tennis Courts was due to be undertaken at the end of the week.

Cllr Govett spoke regarding the damage caused to the tennis courts and suggested that these should be locked and available to residents on request.

This was agreed and Cllr China stated that he would range for a sign to be placed on the tennis courts and for a lock to be fitted.

Action: Clerk to action.

17. Street Lighting.

Cllr China reported on the street lighting repairs and maintenance.

He stated that there had been a delay on the replacement of the next phase of LED lights due to a delay in the supply of the lighting from the supplier. He confirmed that the date for the work was now 20th March 2017.

18. Joint Parish Group and Local Plan.

No matters were raised.

19. Public Comments and Observations.

No matters were raised.

20. Urgent Matters.

Cllr China reported on the Volunteer Warden Launch event he had attended.

Ledian Farm – A discussion took place regarding the current situation regarding this development. Cllr Fort stated that she would seek an update on this for the next PC meeting.

21. Date of next meeting.

13th April 2017.

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

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____