

The Minutes of the meeting of Leeds Parish Council
held in St Nicolas Church on Tuesday, 10th March 2015 at 7:30 PM.

***Councillors present: Bowles
China
Fort
Springford
Young***

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

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Fort.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Govett and Gallihawk.

2. Declaration of Interests.

Cllr Bowles - Relief road due to current employment at Leeds Castle.

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 Young and agreed by all present. The Minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

Litter Bin - Cllr China informed the meeting that this had now been delivered to site.

6. Public Comments and Observations.

A resident attended the meeting and asked whether a decision had been made on the route of the proposed relief road.

KCC Councillor Cooke confirmed that as yet no route had been agreed. He stated that when this was known there would be a full public consultation period. He stated that KCC were looking at a route that was agreeable to both Leeds and Langley.

7. KCC Councillors Report.

KCC Councillor Gary Cooke gave his report to the meeting.

He spoke regarding the relief road and confirmed that KCC were looking at all possibilities for a route, however as yet no decision had been made.

He stated that the relief road had the support of the Leader of Kent County Council in principle. He stated that he had campaigned for 6 years for this road and would continue to do so.

He spoke regarding the timescales and stated that when a decision had been made and the route agreed, then this would take approximately 3 to 5 years to deliver.

Councillor Cooke stated that the modelling for this was currently being undertaken and would be reported to the Joint Transportation Board in the next few months.

He spoke regarding the funding for the road and stated that this would be part funded from Section 106 monies.

A Resident spoke regarding the road near to Church Hill Cottages and stated that the road was narrower than before the hole and this was causing minor accidents with vehicles, he asked whether CCTV cameras could be put in place to monitor the situation.

A discussion took place regarding this and whether CCTV cameras would be enforced by the police.

Cllr Springford stated that he felt that foreign signs should be placed alongside the existing signs in the area.

A discussion took place regarding the Local Plan and the housing numbers.

Councillor Cooke reported on secondary school admissions within Kent and informed the meeting that 86% of children were given their first choice.

He stated that school places would become a big issue with the house that was currently being developed in the area.

He reported that Members Grants were being retained for the following year and a combined grant fund of £25,000 for community and highways matters was available.

Kerbing outside of Ashbank Cottages – Councillor Cooke stated that he was currently looking into this matter and would report back to the Parish Council.

He suggested that a highways meeting was set up with the PC to look at outstanding issues.

Action: Councillor Cooke to arrange a date for a meeting.

Junction 8 – Councillor Cooke spoke regarding the Appeal for development at Junction 8 and raised concerns at the new policy adopted by MBC which appeared to support development at Junction 8.

8. MBC Ward Councillors Report.

The Chairman welcomed Cabinet Member MBC, Councillor John Perry to the meeting.

Councillor Perry informed the meeting that he was visiting parishes to speak regarding the MBC Parish Charter.

He stated that the new Charter was currently being worked on by MBC and KALC and this would set the framework for the relationship between MBC and Parish Councils.

He informed members that the consultation process would commence in early April and run for five weeks.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Perry for attending the meeting.

9. Highways Matters.

No further matters were reported.

10. Special Constable Update.

No matters were raised.

11. Police Report.

PCSO Ryan Waring attended the meeting and gave a report to all present.

12. Correspondence Report.

The correspondence received during the course of the month was noted by members.

13. Planning Matters.

15/501113/FULL Arnoldbrae Oast Back Street Leeds Kent ME17 1TF - No Objections.
Erection of an oak framed gazebo in the garden.

14. Financial Matters.

a. Financial Statement.

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

The cheques for payment were then signed by two authorised signatories.

15. Parish Maintenance.

Cllr Fort spoke regarding the maintenance for the parish and it was agreed to advertise for a Parish Warden in the local magazine.

Action: Chairman to progress.

16. Church Car Park.

Cllr China reported on the cost of the replacement of the height barrier for the church car park and the quotations sought for this.

These were discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk would order a new barrier from McVeigh Parker at a cost of £429.60+vat and arrange for this to be installed by TCM at a cost of £600.

Action: Clerk to progress.

It was agreed that the rubbish bin should be installed in the church car park, near to the recycling containers.

Action: Cllr China to progress.

17. Leeds Playing Field and Pavillion.

Cllr China reported on the progress of the Playing Field and Pavilion.

18. Street Lighting.

Cllr China informed members that he had met with the street lighting Contractor to discuss the Parish Council's lights. He spoke regarding the current energy tariff and stated that this could be reduced if the Parish Council changed to LED lighting. He stated that the Contractor had offered to fit two LED lights free of charge to see whether the Parish Council wish to use these.

This was agreed by all present.

Action: Cllr China to liaise with Contractor.

19. Joint Parish Group and Local Plan.

No matters were raised.

20. Public Comments and Observations.

No matters were raised.

21. Urgent Matters.

No matters were raised.

22. Date of next meeting.

14th April 2015.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed to the press and public at 9.05pm.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____