

**The Minutes of the Meeting of Leeds Parish Council  
held by Zoom on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.00 PM.**

***Councillor's present: China  
Bernini  
Fort  
Greeff  
Ingram  
Martin  
Springford***

***Also, present: Parish Clerk, Mrs Sherrie Babington and KCC Councillor Gary Cooke and One member of the public.***

***The meeting was chaired by Councillor China.***

**1. Apologies.**

No apologies were received.

**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 Martin as a true record, 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.**

No matters were raised.

**6. KCC Councillors Report.**

KCC Councillor Cooke gave his report to the meeting and referred to his written report circulated to all members.

He spoke reported that the *Unsuitable for HGV* signs had been installed as agreed.

A discussion took place regarding the HGV's travelling through the village.

He informed members that KCC had resumed its pothole blitz and the contract had been awarded to a local company who were working on a find and fix basis.

He stated that Maidstone surge testing regarding the South African variant had found 400 positive tests for Covid-19, but no cases of the variant.

Cllr Cooke reiterated that the 17 tonne weight limit signs were a mandatory statutory limit, not advisory and were enforceable, contrary to the belief of the PCSO. He stated that he would write to the PCSO to advise her of this fact.

Cllr China reported that the PCSO had not yet clarified her understanding regarding the weight restriction signage. This was discussed and it was agreed that they would await a response from her before following this up with her superiors.

The Clerk was asked to chase the PCC Matthew Scott for an answer to the queries that the alcohol raised at the March PC meeting.

***Action: Clerk to liaise with PCC Matthew Scott.***

**7. MBC Ward Councillors Report.**

MBC Councillor Fort gave her report to the meeting.

She reported on MBC matters and stated that MBC had increased their budget by 2%. She confirmed that the fly tipping at Penfold Hill and Old Mill Lane had been cleared and she had requested that MBC undertake a litter pick in the area.

**8. Highways Matters.**

Cllr Springford spoke regarding the confusion over the signage in Forge Lane when Back Street was closed, he said the signage stayed in place long after the road was reopened. He stated that he removed the signage himself and KCC collected this. He raised concerns regarding the poor coordination regarding the signage.

**9. Correspondence Report.**

The correspondence received during the month was noted by members.

**10. Planning Matters.**

**New Applications Received**

No applications were received this month.

**MBC Decisions**

21/500589/SUB

Leeds Abbey Farmhouse Lower Street Leeds ME17 1TL

Submission of details pursuant to condition 3 (details of proposed timber frame repairs in the form of a method statement and large-scale drawings) of application 20/501290/LBC.

Application Permitted

**Other Matters.**

Cllr Fort reported that rubbish was being burnt at Abbey Farm, she had visited the site, and this had now stopped.

She reported that she was drafting the letter to Fernham Homes regarding the footpath, and would forward this to the Clerk to send on behalf of the Parish Council.

**11. Financial Matters.**

***a. Financial Statement***

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

**12. Parish Maintenance.**

Cllr China circulated that 2021/2022 Maintenance pricing schedule to members for consideration. This was discussed and it was proposed by Cllr Greeff to accept the prices for the 21/22 maintenance year. This was seconded by Cllr Martin and agreed by all present.

***Action: Clerk to liaise with the contractor.***

It was reported that there was mud at Penfold Hill, and the road was still in a poor condition. Councillor Cooke stated that KCC had undertaken work in that area, however the mud on the road was an MBC responsibility. Cllr Fort stated that she would investigate.

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

Cllr China reported that the Loose Lions were due to start using the field again at the end of the month.

He reported that they had asked for permission to install flood lighting at the playing field, and he asked members for their views. This was discussed and it was agreed that Cllr China would liaise with Loose Lions to ascertain the anticipated hours of use for the lighting.

**14. Street Lighting.**

Cllr China reported on the street lighting.

He reported that the build out light had now been replaced, and a shield had been installed on the lights at Brogden Crescent. There were no other outstanding issues at present.

**15. Urgent Matters.**

Members discussed the presentation given regarding Ledian Farm and it was agreed that the Clerk would liaise with the developer to request that a Public Consultation was undertaken to inform residents of the proposals.

***Action: Clerk to write to Developers.***

**16. Date of next meeting.**

13<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

***There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.20pm.***

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_