

## Pool-in-Wharfedale Parish Council

### **Minutes of the meeting of Pool-in-Wharfedale Parish Council held at, The Methodist Rooms, Manor Gardens, Pool-in-Wharfedale on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018 commencing at 7.30pm.**

**Present** Councillor Lee in the Chair

Councillors Barlow, Bearpark, Davey, Mifsud, Morris, Rowling and Parker. Also in attendance Parish Clerk John Ryan and Ward Councillors Barry and Caroline Anderson.

2018/283 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman asked that a letter of congratulation be sent to Mr Peter Heald who received an MBE in the New Years Honours List.

2018/284 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The parish council received a written report from the Police. The report noted a number of car thefts, one vehicle was later recovered. Councillor Mifsud informed council of a spate of attempted burglaries involving cars and garden sheds. Ward Councillor Barry Anderson is organising a meeting as soon as possible with Highways and the Police to discuss speed and safety issues on the A660 Leeds Road.

2018/285 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Ward Councillor Billy Flynn.

2018/286 **DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS.**

No declarations were received. The Clerk asked councillors to note that DCLG guidance in relation to dispensations allowed them to participate in council business connected with council tax. "Any payment of, or liability to pay, council tax does not create a disclosable pecuniary interest as defined in the national rules; hence being a council tax payer does not mean that you need a dispensation to take part in the business of setting the council tax precept or local arrangements for council tax support".

2018/287 **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Councillor Mifsud moved that the minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017 be agreed, this was seconded by Councillor Bearpark.

**RESOLVED**

That the Council accepts the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017 as a correct record.

2018/288 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Councillor Bearpark introduced the item and reported that the Neighbourhood Planning Group were ready to move onto the next phase. The Chairman of the Group Mr Jeremy Griffin was invited to address the meeting following some confusion over the required workload and Consultants Fees.

Mr Griffin explained the position and stated that whilst the council had debated the Consultants quote dated the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017 and a possible grant of £3,000 to support the work outlined at a cost of £7,845 (inc. vat) a further estimate of £6,500 (plus vat) has been received, this estimate is to cover work up to examination and referendum. The council was unaware of the additional work when it made its decision in December 2017.

Councillor Morris asked council to note that minute 2017/274 was clear in that the Neighbourhood Plan would be underwritten by the council to a maximum of £4,800 plus the grant of £3,000 if the bid was successful. At the same time the council expects that the Neighbourhood Planning Group will engage with the Consultants to make economies on their planned work.

It was noted that the application for a grant of £3,000 has been approved. After some

debate it was agreed that the council would recommend a finite sum of money to support the work required on the drawing up the neighbourhood plan. It was moved by Councillor Morris and seconded by Councillor Rowling that the council is prepared only to underwrite costs in drawing up the plan to a limit of £4,800.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Parish Council continues to support the work of the Neighbourhood Planning Group and offers to underwrite future costs up to £4,800. The Group will also receive the £3,000 awarded by the Government's Community Rights Programme, Groundwork UK. It was also noted that should new guidelines and grants become available from the Government, the council will make the necessary application if it fits the criteria for the award. Further, it was agreed to consult Leeds City Council's Neighbourhood Planning Team to get advice from them about the work required to complete the project and what resources Leeds Council will provide.

#### 2018/289 **BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR 2018/19**

The Chairman of the Finance Committee Councillor Morris presented the Five Year Financial Strategy 2017/18 Refresh paper to the meeting highlighting the progress that has been made over the last financial year in setting aside cash balances to create a Special Reserves Fund and establishing the principle that general reserves should be held to the value of 50% of annual expenditure. Also, a cross year approach has been adopted to support the Wharfedale Greenway and Neighbourhood Plan, with a minimal call on reserves.

Councillor Morris also reported on the Finance Committee meeting held before the Council meeting that discussed the current financial position and looked ahead to the next financial year and its priorities. The Parish Council has not increased its Precept in the last four years because of years of austerity measures and council tax freezes. However, with inflation and wage restraint being lifted now might be the time to raise the precept to protect the council's financial base and raise funds to support ongoing refurbishment and repairs to the playgrounds and to look ahead at possible new equipment and surrounding surfaces. The recommendation from the Finance Committee was to raise the Precept by 5% an increase to local council tax payers of £1.94 a year.

It was proposed by Councillor Rowling and seconded by Councillor Bearpark that the Parish Council increase the Precept by 5% to £40,732, this was unanimously approved by the Council.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Parish Council levy a Precept of £40,732 on Leeds City Council and the Clerk and Chairman of the Finance Committee draw up a budget for 2018/19 on that basis and submit it to the next Council meeting in February 2018.

#### 2018/290 **COMMUNITY ASSETS**

Following the submission of a Community Assets List under the regulations outlined in the Localism Act 2011 to Leeds City Council, Leeds City Council have asked that each asset be listed on a Community Right to Bid Nomination Form together with information supporting its nomination as a community asset. It was noted that this piece of work may take some time to undertake.

#### **RESOLVED**

That Leeds Council be informed of the Parish Council's willingness to complete the process. Councillor Bearpark to look at the work involved and report back to the next parish council meeting.

#### 2018/291 **TRAFFIC CONCERNS IN POOL**

Ward Councillor Barry Anderson provided the meeting of his analysis of the survey results concerning Old Pool Bank Road. The results are now with Leeds Highways Department. Once their analysis is complete and any recommendations known, he will call a meeting to discuss how we might move forward with any improvements.

2018/292 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Councillor Barlow reported on application 17/07400/FU/NW wooded area, Pool Bank New Road, received since the last meeting. One objection has been received so far. Parish Council concerns remain about potential flooding problems, ownership of the land and access issues.

**RESOLVED**

That the application be noted, and concerns be reported to the Planning and Licensing Authority.

2018/293 **PARISH FOOTPATHS**

Councillor Mifsud reported on progress to date with one remaining footpath to be visited and checked.

2018/294 **CLERK'S REPORT**

The reply from the Chief Constable was noted and that the use of Golden River Data Strips is being considered to measure speed on the A660.

The Council has received a request from Airieinters to use Pool Bank Quarries for an event on June 6<sup>th</sup> 2018. Council agreed the request.

A Notice of Vacancy for a Councillor has been published with a deadline for calling an election of the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018.

Invoices not on Monthly Schedule :

Salaries, Councillor Lee expenses £8.50 and Councillor Mifsud signs £80.00.

**RESOLVED**

That Council approves the Clerk's Report and the actions outlined above, moved by Councillor Barlow and seconded by Councillor Bearpark.

2018/295 **REPORTS FROM MEMBERS**

Councillor Lee attended the recent Leeds Bradford Airport Consultative Committee her report was noted. Also, reports were received from Councillors Bearpark and Parker concerning the RGMC which has recently undertaken a survey of the trees on its property. It was also noted that Otley Action for Older People has moved to new premises.

**RESOLVED**

That the reports be noted.

2018/296 **MONTHLY FINANCE REPORTS**

Councillor Morris moved that the Monthly Finance Reports for December 2017 be approved this was seconded by Councillor Parker.

**RESOLVED**

That council approves the Monthly Finance reports for December 2017.

2018/297 **ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA**

2018/298 **NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at The Methodist Rooms, Manor Gardens, Pool-in-Wharfedale.

The Meeting closed at 9.10 pm

SIGNED BY