

Arkholme with Cawood Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held Monday 7 September 2020

This meeting was held in Arkholme village hall with appropriate social distancing in place due to Covid-19 regulations.

Present: Cllrs Graham Jackson-Pitt, David Howarth, James Huddleston,
Chris Preston, Co Cllr Phillipa Williamson and the Clerk Claire Helme.
Also present
Helen Dinsdale

1 **Apologies:** None received.

2 **Declaration of conflicts of interest:** None received.

3 **Minutes of the last meeting held 6 July:** Cllr Huddleston proposed acceptance of the minutes of 6 July, this was seconded by Cllr Howarth and signed as a true record by Cllr Jackson-Pitt.

4 **Clerk's report:**

The Clerk went through the SLCC/NALC checklist for holding council meetings under the current restrictions and this was signed by the Chair. She also highlighted the Arkholme Village Hall risk assessment for hirers and made sure that all social distancing, cleaning and ventilation procedures were correctly observed by all present.

Highways

Works had commenced on the A590 and the Burton roundabout had been put into contraflow to enable traffic to be directed to J35 of the M6, rather than J36, and to avoid the railway bridge near the roundabout.

Various planning consultations on the Local Plan, devolution, etc had been received but as none of them were directly relevant to the area no comments were made by councillors. Public spaces such as libraries, swimming pools and community halls were due to reopen and the relevant information had been received, noted and forwarded where applicable.

5 **Finance:**

a) Cheque 645 for £50 for the Refugee Council was signed in memory of Cllr Michael Mumford, our Kellet Ward Councillor, who died recently.

b) The Clerk's salary will be discussed at a more appropriate time/place.
Cllr Jackson-Pitt to forward the new NALC salary scales to all councillors and then finalise at the next meeting.

c) The Clerk had made no progress on opening a new online account at Lloyds mainly due to the constraints of lockdown. Changing the account will be complicated and require councillors' and clerk's details/signatures again and it may be worth investigating other account providers. It was agreed by all present that it would be helpful to have a third signatory on the account and Cllr Howarth agreed to do this. When the old account is switched over Rachel Gibson needs to be removed as a signatory.

6 **Planning applications:**

a) **20/00773FUL** Docker Park Farm, Docker Lane, Arkholme, LA6 1AR.

Demolition of agricultural and kennel buildings, conversion of a stone barn, stone reception building and agricultural barn into five dwellings.

Following concerns from residents councillors agreed to object for following reasons:

Poor access to the site with traffic approaching at speed over the hill and around the tight bend potentially endangering pedestrians particularly dog walkers; inadequate water pressure in the area; lack of consultation with neighbours and proposed development of the static caravan site reception building thus leaving no reception area for the owner; lack of facilities in the immediate area for the proposed 5 dwellings and concerns about other potential future development on the site.

The Parish Council will withdraw its objections if these points are adequately addressed.

- b) **20/00786FUL** Bullcopy Farm, Kirkby Lonsdale Rd, Arkholme, LA6 1AR
Change of use of agricultural land to residential land; installation of cladding, replacement roof and a flue; alterations to windows and doors; installation of a sewage treatment plant; soakaway system and ground source heat pump.
Councillors agreed to object to the change of use of agricultural land to residential use.
- c) **20/00879/FUL** The High Farm, Docker Lane, Arkholme, LA6 1AR
Erection of a 2 storey agricultural worker's dwelling.
Councillors made no comments on the application.
- d) **20/0124/TCA** Poole House, Main St, Arkholme, LA6 1AU
Fell 5 leylandii.
Councillors made no comments on the application. Cllr Preston advised that the application was actually only to fell one large leylandii and not 5 trees as stated.

7 **Public Rights of Way:**

Co Cllr Williamson agreed to chase up the faults on footpaths 4 and 5 reported in the summer. In addition, councillors identified a rotting footpath sign near the church to report.

The stile on footpath 5 has been mended twice by the PROW team but the stone step has since been removed again and the reason for this needs further investigation.

The Clerk has not been contacted about the joint parish council letter to be sent to the PROW department regarding work to be done on the Lune Valley ramble.

The Parish Council still needs to identify suitable footpath work on which to spend the £500 PROW grant.

Action

Cllr Huddleston and Cllr Preston to walk around the village and identify suitable work and list.

8 **Co-option of fifth parish councillor:**

Cllr Howarth proposed that Helen Dinsdale be elected onto the parish council and this was seconded by Cllr Preston and agreed by all present. Helen was warmly welcomed onto the council and all co-option paperwork was duly completed.

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PACT report:

Phillippa Williamson reported in her monthly update the same pattern of agricultural vehicles and machinery being stolen including catalytic converters. Recently, a trailer was stolen in Arkholme with some of its contents found in Locka Lane. Cllr Howarth had also reported people on Arkholme Village Hall roof in the summer. Some new police recruits to the Lancaster area are being used to enhance the rural task force on the north side of the River Lune and the team size should increase from 3 to 6 officers. On the constabulary website the Clerk reported that 2 crimes were reported on/near Meadoway and Carus Park in June and one on/near Carus Park in July.

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Additional business:

Environmental Services/grass cutting

The Clerk reported that LCC are working on recovery mode to get the grass cutting around the district back to a reasonable level. Over the Covid period an exercise to map all grass across the district which will show who is responsible for which piece of land has been undertaken. A grass cutting strategy to increase wildlife is also being worked on by the council.

Christmas

The Clerk reported that we need to start thinking about sourcing/financing a Christmas tree. Councillors asked if any Arkholme residents might consider sponsoring a tree as the cost last year was quite high. (Clerk to email)

The pillar feed needs checking by an electrician as the lights could not connect last year. (Clerk to action)

Parish council to investigate cost of purchasing our own set of LED lights to cut costs.(Clerk to action)

The ground spike needs checking as Gavin Charlesworth had advised last year (Cllr Howarth/Cllr Jackson-Pitt to action).

500 words competition

Although the competition could not take place with the presentation as last year children could still potentially write entries.

Cllr Jackson-Pitt to go into school and ask the headteacher.

Hopewell Cup

The competition cannot take place this year (Clerk to email)

The Hopewell Cup itself still needs to be engraved and valued but this had been delayed because of lockdown.

Cllr Jackson-Pitt to organise when possible.

Anti-Social behaviour

Cllr Huddleston had been asked by residents to report to the council on anti-social behaviour and dog barking issues at addresses in the Parish. Councillors stated that, in the first instance, complaints should always be addressed to the relevant authorities by those directly affected. The Clerk was asked to find the appropriate contact details at Lancaster City Council.

Highways

Co Cllr Williamson has reported the school warning lights that are continually flashing to the highways department.

The flooding on the B6254 near Redwell caused by unauthorised building of a bund at Restarigg Farm is being dealt with by Planning Enforcement officers. The bund

has been built over the outlet for the beck and there are also issues with collapsed pipework. It may take many months to clear the rubbish tipped there.

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Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Monday 5 October at Arkholme Village Hall.

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