

Arkholme with Cawood Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held Monday 4 July 2022

Present: Councillors David Howarth, Helen Dinsdale, James Huddleston, Chris Preston, County Councillor Phillippa Williamson and the Clerk, Claire Helme.
15 members of the public were present at the Open Forum

Open forum with public participation:

Planning Application 22/00637/FUL

Land at Grid reference 358185 471983 Kirkby Lonsdale Road, Arkholme (land east of Arkholme Methodist Church)

Application for Oakmere homes (Northwest) Ltd for erection of 23 dwellings with associate access, internal access road, installation of a package treatment plant and diversion of a culvert.

The above application was discussed in detail by all present at the open forum and attendees stated their reasons for objecting to the development; all attendees were opposed to the proposal. It was pointed out that statutory site notices had not been displayed at the site and that the distribution of neighbourhood consultation letters had been patchy thus extra time should be requested. It was also noted that Oakmere Homes were not able to send a representative to the meeting.

Objections were raised as follows:

- **Diversion of the culvert**
Diversion is of major concern as the culvert has flooded previously
- **Housing density**
The original application was for 17 homes but has now increased to 23. The houses are of an urban design placed in a rural setting with no provision for a buffer zone. The elevation of the houses will exacerbate issues of overlooking and loss of light. The affordable housing units are poorly integrated with the rest of the housing.
- **Drainage**
Arkholme is not on mains drainage and relies on a septic tank system.
- **Proximity of housing**
the proposed houses are closer to the Sheiling than in previous plans. The ground level is raised above the Sheiling, parking places are on the border of their gardens and the hedges are too close to the boundary
- **Traffic and Parking**
There are not enough parking places and no provision for visitor parking. There will be increased traffic circulation on the B6254 on which speeding is already prevalent.
- **Pedestrians**
No safe provision is made for a footpath for pedestrians.
- **Sustainability**
Arkholme is classed as an 'unsustainable' village without shops or other facilities. Arkholme Primary School is full. Public transport is limited.

It was resolved that the Clerk write a detailed letter of objection to the Case Officer at Lancaster City Council and that extra time for residents to make comments should also be requested.

The Open Forum finished at 7.40pm. County Cllr Williamson left the meeting.

Parish Council Meeting

1 **Apologies**

County Cllr Phillippa Williamson

2 **Declaration of conflicts of interest:**

None declared

3 **Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of 9 May**

Cllr Dinsdale proposed acceptance of the minutes of 9 May, this was seconded by Cllr Huddleston and was signed as a true record by Cllr Howarth.

4 **Planning updates:**

22/00449/FUL & 22/00450/FUL Greencroft, Borwick Road, Arkholme, LA6 1BG
Awaiting decision

5 **Finance:**

a) Cheque no 000683 for £352.30 for the Clerk's wages April/May/June was approved.

Proposed Cllr Dinsdale

Seconded Cllr Howarth

b) Cheque no 000684 for £21.60 for the Clerk's expenses (mileage to meetings Feb-May) was approved.

Proposed Cllr Howarth

Seconded Cllr Dinsdale

c) **Bank reconciliation**

The balance of account stands at **£7,053.66**. The precept of £3,538 was received on 12 April and outgoings include AVH rent (£60), Auditor fee (£34), and renewal of the parish insurance fixed for 3 years (£454.87).

d) **VAT reclaim**

The Clerk has submitted a VAT reclaim form online for **£200.11**

6 **Platinum Jubilee report:**

Cllr Howarth thanked everyone involved for their efforts regarding the Platinum Jubilee 'big lunch' celebrations especially Dave Airey, Anita Huddleston, Rachel Huddleston, Dave Smith and Christine Turner who helped set up the hall. It was agreed that the event was very successful with a large number of residents attending some of whom had never met each other before.

It was resolved to reimburse Anita Huddleston the sum of £249.69 for the food, wine and table decorations.

Proposed Cllr Dinsdale

Seconded Cllr Preston

7 **Queen's Green Canopy:**

Councillors agreed that a Holm Oak would be a suitable tree to plant to commemorate the Jubilee with a plaque to be placed at the base. It was more difficult to locate a site to plant the tree but a tree near the village hall car park that is growing at a strange angle and is covered in brambles could be removed and replaced with the oak. It was resolved that the Clerk write to the Village Hall Committee.

Silver birch

The silver birch tree near the fence that borders the school is unstable and could fall into the school grounds. Sam Watson (Wood4theTrees) has checked it and ruled out propping up or topping the tree; he could remove it for approx. £100 on health and

safety grounds. It was resolved that the Parish Council pay to have the tree removed as soon as possible.

Proposed Cllr Huddleston

Seconded Cllr Preston

8 **Hopewell Cup:**

The Hopewell Cup competition has not been held for 2 years due to Covid. As it was previously agreed to return to a horticultural theme it was decided to hold a competition this year for the best window box or other planted container. Entries should be emailed to the Clerk by the end of July with the judging to take place mid-August. The winner will hold the Hopewell Cup for one year and both the winner and the runners up will receive national garden centre vouchers. The competition will be open to Arkholme residents only and it is hoped that the last winner will judge the entries and that the Hopewell Cup will be presented to this year's winner at the next Parish Council meeting on 5 September.

9 **Village pounds:**

Jane Howarth would like to take on the rental of the smaller pound this year and this was agreed by all present.

Proposed Cllr Huddleston

Seconded Cllr Preston.

The sum of £15 in cash was received by the Clerk for the rental.

Thanks were expressed to Cllr Preston for mending the door to the smaller pound which had been recently found lying on the ground.

10 **PACT report:**

In April, 6 crimes were reported in the Kellet/Borwick constabulary area with none in or near Arkholme.

There were 2 reported incidents of anti-social behaviour and public order offences in Nether Kellet and 2 reports of anti-social behaviour and violence/sex offence in Over Kellet. There was one report of violence/sex offence on Kirkby Lonsdale Road.

11 **Additional business:**

- Cllr Howarth expressed thanks to Dave Smith and Brenda Ireland for mowing and maintaining the flower tubs on the village green.
- The Clerk reported that the freezer fly-tipped on Docker Lane has been collected and that overflowing bins in the village have been emptied.
- A resident reported urbanisation of the field behind the village hall playing fields where a shed has been erected. As the shed is tidy, the camera/light has gone and it is not in the conservation area there is nothing for the Parish Council to action.

12 **Date of next meeting:**

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 5 September at 7pm.

The meeting finished at 8.25pm

Claire Helme

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