

MINUTES OF BARUGH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2015, 7.30PM,

BRAWBY VILLAGE HALL, BRAWBY

Present

Chairman	Mrs Sarah Houlston
Vice Chair/Clerk	Mrs Karen Garrett
Councillors	Mr Peter Milner
	Mr Richard Metcalfe
	Mr Duncan Collinson
Apologies	Mrs Carolyn Swift

Village attendees

Janet Isherwood
Peter Clisby
Lesley Salisbury

1. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the Meeting held on 22/7/15 were approved and signed.

2. Matters arising

- a) The issue of salt was raised and Mrs Garrett said that a survey had been completed by Mr Collinson which had been submitted to NYCC. Still awaiting a response.
- b) The issue of potholes between Shamrock Sheds to Great Barugh has been raised with NYCC. A series of photos and measurements have been taken by Mr Collinson. These have been sent to Richard Marr, NYCC highways. He has passed them to his inspector to survey.
- c) The issue of speeding through the villages was discussed. Mrs Houlston said another survey should be carried out. Sean Simpson, a PC from Helmsley had said a survey could be done through Fire Brigade. Mr Milner raised the point that the '30' signs had not been painted on the road as yet following recent roadworks. This to be followed up.

3. Issues raised by villagers.

- a) Janet Isherwood expressed her serious concerns regarding fracking and the implications. She is worried about health, environment, industrialisation and economy.

- b) A letter from Sue Gough, Little Barugh, was read out with her concerns about fracking.
- c) Lesley Salisbury from Little Barugh spoke about residents of Little Barugh offering to tidy and maintain the pond area. He explained she had contacted Don Davies, Countryside Officer who had suggested she speak to Parish for their thoughts. She has been offered assistance and trees/plants by Circle, funded by Flamingoland. Offers of nest boxes/bee houses etc. It would be self-funded.

4. Planning

- a) To consider response to planning application NY/2015/0233/ENV Kirby Misperton Shale Gas Exploration by Third Energy.
The working party had met and formulated a response on behalf of the Parish Council which was proof read with minor amendments and approved by all. The email copy to be sent immediately, followed by hard copy in the post.
- b) To finalise the Parish Council's policy on shale gas exploration.
A policy on fracking was discussed. Mr Milner questioned whether we were allowed to state a policy. Mrs Garrett explained that at the Yorkshire Local Council Association (YLCA) meeting the issue had been raised and advised that the PC was allowed to have a policy, further details are below in any other business.
- c) The council unanimously voted for the Parish Council Statement to be '*We have a number of unresolved concerns about important aspects of fracking, and therefore are opposed to any fracking activities in our locality until such a time as satisfactory answers are forthcoming*'.

5. To consider a solution for the Dog Fouling issue in Little Barugh.

- a) This issue was discussed and it was decided that the dog warden should be informed by a Parish Council member, the dog in question is often roaming and has almost been run over a few times. It was thought it was also a safety issue and the dog warden should speak to the owners. Action: D Collinson.
- b) With regards to waste bins, it was thought that they may not be used and that signs would probably be more effective. This may also assist with the 'human' fouling situation.

6. To consider the offer to improve and maintain the pond area in Little Barugh.

- a) Following on from Ms Salisbury's comments, minute 3. Mr Collinson stated that rejuvenation of the pond area would be good for children to be involved and would make the village more appealing to those who live there and those passing through. Two ponds to be reinstated/tidied but it was thought too dangerous to

do lower pond due to water running off onto the road, creating further ice in wintry conditions and that the ground there is always wet. Mr Collinson suggested getting advice from drainage board to ensure it was all done safely and that it would not be detrimental to road safety. Also Stephen Edwards from Cundalls was a possible contact. Mr Metcalfe asked about species of trees and concerns over location of planting for grass cutting purposes, Ms Salisbury said they would be native and would be situated where they would not be an issue to mowing. It was agreed it would be nice community spirited project. With possibilities for village events to be held subject to necessary Public Liability Insurance as raised by Mr Milner.

- b) Mrs Garrett suggested that a working party be formed to oversee the rejuvenation of Little Barugh pond areas which was agreed. Mr Collinson to look after that and report back to Parish Council.

7. To investigate the Common Rights in Little Barugh.

Mr Milner stated that he still had not heard back from the Secretary of State regarding the paperwork for the Common. He has on file letters from the Countryside Agencies and copies of plans showing the location of original pond areas and the scope of the common. Mr Collinson requested Mr Milner send him a copy.

Any Other Business

Mrs Garrett gave a report on the YLCA meeting and explained to those attending about the YLCA, its role for Councils and the benefits. She also outlined the Transparency Code to explain the requirements now put on Parish Councils.

Report on YLCA Meeting 6/10/15

The main topics of conversation related to:-

1. Work of YLCA

In the last quarter the YLCA have dealt with in excess of 600 email/telephone pieces of casework which they have investigate on behalf of local councils.

2. Digital Transparency

The funding is now available for Items relating to Digital Transparency. The YLCA is administering the paperwork which is then forwarded to NALC for distribution. It remains to be seen what funding will be given, there is no set amount. Items have been applied for by other councils for web hosting, website creation, laptops and scanners. It was advised to put the application in and see what happens. The funding is available for 3 years. After that any costs of web hosting would be borne by the council via precept.

3. Pensions

They reported once again about the need for pensions to be in place for any employees of councils, the fine is £1,000 per day with no appeal. Again, it was noted that Parish Clerks should be employees and subject to relevant employment law. Councillors may be clerks and this negates the requirement for payment.

4. Helmsley Town Council

They spoke about their letters to NYNP and the Energy secretary regarding the 16 week consultation for planning applications relating to fracking. They had questioned the stance to push things through too quickly. Since then, they have had a meeting and have voted for a moratorium on fracking and will be sending a letter of objection to NYCC. Jake said he would forward me a copy. A representative of Middleton PC asked if any form of consultation with residents had taken place, i.e. questionnaire on public opinion. The answer was no but the Town Council had taken many steps to raise awareness on the issue and had been written to by many residents. Nicola from the YLCA said it was not necessary to do surveys unless it was something that would cost the residents money, meaning a rise in the precept.

5. Open forum

Sinnington – raised an issue for YLCA's help. They have applied for planning permission to extend the Village Hall which has been passed but they have found that although they own the land, the act passed in 2006 relating to use of common ground does not permit development. They were not aware at the time that this was the case and have been informed that it will cost them almost £5,000 to apply to change the Land Registry and related legal costs. The YLCA have asked them to supply them with any paperwork relating to the matter so they can look at it and/or escalate it to NALC to see if there is anything they can do. From this the YLCA advised that where planning is concerned that ownership of land is not taken into account in the planning process and any project undertaken on common land would be advised to run past them to ensure the legalities are covered. Any questions over general use of common land/land in trust, they would look at paperwork and advise accordingly

Meeting Closed 9.30pm

Date of next meeting TBA