



BARDSEY CUM RIGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
held on 24th April 2024 at 7.30pm in Bardsey Village Hall

Commenced: 7.30pm

Concluded: 8.25pm

Present: Cllrs Stentiford, Bosomworth, Denby, Flockton, Hoyland, Jackson, Osborne, Tatman and Ward. The Parish Clerk and 7 members of the public.

1. Introduction from the Chairman

Cllr Stentiford welcomed all to the meeting.

2. To note apologies for absence

No apologies, all councillors were present.

3. To approve minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 19th April 2023

Resolved to approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 19th April 2023 as a true and accurate record.

4. To receive a report from the Chairman on Bardsey Parish Council activities for the year 2023-24

Cllr Stentiford gave an update on the Parish Councils activities in the previous year. This report has been attached as **Appendix 1**.

5. To receive a Financial Report from the Clerk

As of March 31st 2024, the balances in the Parish Council bank accounts are:

Community Account	£44,627.90
Business Premier Account	£18,212.92

This gives a total amount of £62,840.82

The total expenditure for the fiscal year 2023/24 was £33,445.62

The main items of expenditure this year have been:

- Grants to local groups: £4157
- Improvements to Park Field: £3470
- Grounds Maintenance in the village: £5250

The total income received was £45,365

The main items of income for 2023/24 are:

- The precept: £40,729
- Grants: £1784

The precept applied for 2024/2025 was £42,400 This was received into the Parish Account on 3rd April 2024.

6. To receive a Highways Report from Cllr Hoyland

Please see **Appendix 2** for the full report.

7. To receive a Planning Report from Cllr Denby

Please see **Appendix 3** for the full report.

8. To receive a report from councillors

The following updates were received:

- The proposed footpath from East Keswick to Collingham has not progressed due to land owner not giving consent.
- The company installing utilities to the new build have not made good the land around the village pond.
- The Sports Club is a real village asset. It requires more events and support to ensure its future. Recent events have been successful.
- The Village Meeting Place will be installed around the 3rd week in May weather permitting.

9. Residents questions

9.1 An update was requested on the matter of a footpath from Gateon House Lane to the Leeds Country Way on Wike Lane. The Council responded that it still ongoing with the possibility of a permissive path to the bend. The rest of the route requires the agreement of the landowner.

Appendix 1

Chair's Report 2024 – by Cllr Stentiford

A series of annual reports have been produced for a range of activities undertaken by the Parish Council over the past year, some of these will be presented by lead councillors in the area. These reports will be posted on our website together with our Annual Parish Meeting report.

Vicki Forbes, our Clerk, has been with us for just over a year now and has done an excellent job both with day-to-day issues and advising on the codes of practice which we need to adopt to comply with our legal requirements.

I know that Bardsey is very fortunate to have such a committed and professional council working on your behalf

Some of our key areas covered over the past 12 months are covered in the following.

Planning - David Denby, Linda Flockton and Geoffrey Tatman have continued to carry out excellent work, considering over 44 applications in the Village over the past year with varying degrees of complexity.

Highways - Despite the difficulties of meeting with many of the officers on site Barbara Hoyland has managed to cover a wide range of highways and public rights of ways issues achieving some impressive outcomes despite the many additional pressures. Some new 20mph areas were designated by LCC in Bardsey, and whilst we are generally in agreement with the improvement in safety these bring, our attempts to extend this to cover Rigton Bank, Mill Lane and Wood Lane were unsuccessful.

Sports Club – Mike Bosomworth has continued as Chairman of the Sports Club and has been largely responsible for developing the Club in a very positive way. This past year has seen many successful fund-raising events, in particular the Gala and re-establishing the Bardsey Beer Festival post covid.

Village Pond - Mike has, amongst other things, continued to look after the Village Pond ensuring it has coped with the unusual amount of rain occurring over the winter and maintaining its level of biodiversity,

Parish Council IT and Village Meeting Place – Kieran Osborne has kept our IT provision up to speed and has also been very active in setting everything up for the Village Meeting place which will shortly be put in place adjacent to the children's playground,

Playground and Parkfield - Martin Ward has continued to work on ensuring that these village assets continue to be well utilised by the residents. The replacement of most of the wooden steps with concrete this year should mean that they don't need repairing so regularly in the future.

Our thanks also go to the Friends of Parkfield who do an excellent job maintaining the nature feel of Parkfield as will be clear to anyone enjoying walks in the area.

Flowers around the Village – Linda Flockton – has brought a wide range of colour and variety to the planters around the Village and I am looking forward to seeing this year's displays

Village assets - I would like to thank the Village Hall Committee, the Sports Club, Tennis Club and Bowling Club for the excellent job they have done in managing their Village's assets on behalf of the residents of Bardsey

Bardsey Fields – the purchase of the land opposite the School was completed early In 2023 and whilst the land is owned by the East Keswick Wildlife Trust (EKWT) as part of our involvement in providing some of the funding the Parish Council owns 10% of the land.

A big ‘thank you’ to Jeanne Jackson, our representative on the EKWT board of trustees, who has done a huge amount of work over the past 12 months to ensure that the elements involved in launching a project such as this have been put in place..

Litter picking – Volunteer litter pickers in the Village have continued to make great efforts all around Bardsey making an enormous impact on the appearance of the Village. Thanks go especially to one resident who once again who has had a large part in setting up and supporting the litter picking work in Bardsey

City Councillors - I would like to take this opportunity to thank our City Councillors who have given us great support over the past 12 months.

Thanks once again to all my fellow councillors who have freely contributed so much time and effort to support the community over the past year.

Appendix 2

Highways Report by Cllr Hoyland

A58 - An application for an island crossing was started in 2022 but after assessment LCC Highways advised was not high enough to fit the criteria to qualify under LCC limited funding for crossings. BPC agreed to contribute towards the crossing but only recently LCC Highways advised location was not wide enough for an island crossing and suggested moving to the Grange Close area. BPC didn't agree with the re-location as it didn't achieve the objective and have now requested a pelican crossing at original location and, as BPC would have to contribute, costs involved.

Also on the A58, followed up these issues: sunken drain by bus stop (a recurring problem and LCC are investigating further), water pooling by the bus stop, defective bus shelter lighting, missing 'Bardsey Cum Rigton' sign, collapsed, and unstable road signs and inappropriately placed 'For Sale' signs which should be within the boundary of the property.

Ongoing concerns with regard to the stability of trees along the embankment area between Church Lane and Cornmill ginnel. Several incidents when branches have fallen onto the path and highway. After a meeting with LCC they confirmed it is the responsibility of landowners who have previously been notified of their responsibilities.

KESWICK LANE – after a follow up request by a resident dropped kerbs have been installed at the bottom of Woodacre Lane.

Request for a safer crossing area by the exit from Blacksmith's field was making good progress but appears to have stalled and an update has been requested.

WOODACRE LANE – there has been a further request for car parking bays on the Keswick Lane end of Woodacre Lane. This has been followed up before and rejected by LCC due to low traffic flow and cost. Resident suggested a possible other location could be on Keswick Lane. The situation is problematic and I have seen approximately 14 parked cars along this area but it is difficult to know how this can be addressed and where that number could be accommodated.

OTHER ISSUES FOLLOWED UP

Blocked drains, water flows on Church Lane, raised kerb by school and potholes. Due to farm machinery potholes on Holme Farm Lane are a recurring problem. This week advised building work at 14 Congreve Way is causing considerable damage to the footpath and will be followed up. Although it was agreed LCC have still not installed 'narrow road' signage on Rigton Bank.

VERGE CREEP – Possibly under the 'Community Payback scheme' BPC has formally requested the addressing of verge creep on large areas of the A58 and part of Church Lane.

20 MPH AREAS – after implementation very few issues required follow up.

PROW - Footpath 7 – Blackmoor Lane–Syke Lane – overgrowth obstructing the footpath was reported to Prow and addressed quickly.

Footpath 18 – signpost in poor condition and notified PROW who referred to Marc Douglass, Maintenance Officer, for attention.

Bus service – Harrogate Bus Company carried out a consultation. Concerns regarding scheduling and route changes were discussed by BPC.

Appendix 3

Planning Report by Cllr Denby

Since the last Annual Parish Meeting there have been 44 Planning Application. Of these the Parish Council made objective comments on 20 and neutral comments on 24.

The comments made are in an attempt to ensure that development accords with the street scene and the Neighbourhood Plan, but also considers such matters as potential overlooking issues, off street parking, Conservation Area considerations etc.

During the year there were 34 applications approved, 7 refused and 6 withdrawn. 11 applications have not yet been determined. These clearly include applications that had not been determined by last year's Annual Parish Meeting.

During the year there have been three appeals to the Secretary of State of which 2 were dismissed and one is outstanding.

In addition to dealing with these applications the Parish Council have made representations to Leeds City Council in a number of cases where owners have carried out work without permission resulting in retrospective applications being submitted in some. There are also cases where owners have carried out works contrary to the Planning Permission plans or conditions.

Our Housing Needs Survey identified clear demand for housing for older residents looking to downsize and for more affordable homes for younger people. Despite this demand we are finding that the smaller 3 bed houses and 2 bed bungalows are obtaining consent to enlarge to 4 and 5 bed properties. The Parish Council are now looking into revisions to the Neighbourhood Plan in the hope of updating the Plan to cater for future needs and are liaising with Leeds City Council in this respect.