
The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at the Bowling Pavilion, Steeton on Wednesday 22 April 2009 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Councillor Mullen (Chairman),
In Attendance: Councillors Mrs. Blagden, Mrs Emmott, Miss Henson, Mrs Pickard, Mrs Thompson and Mrs.Townend
and Weller.
Inspector Sanderson, PCSO Walton.
Mrs. C. Brown, Clerk
2 Members of the public

1. Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hargreaves and Lambert.
2. Minutes: The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 23 April 2008 were approved and signed.
3. Chairman's Report: The Chairman gave his annual report (Appendix 1)
4. Public questions
 - o The cost of providing an extended footway to the Leeds platform of the railway station was queried. The Chairman explained the reasons behind the provision of the footway to improve access for passengers with mobility problems, parents with children in prams and those with heavy luggage. The cost is being met from the Ward Investment Fund and Bradford Council's Transport Planning department. There is no contribution from the parish council precept.
 - o It was suggested that bollards are installed at the top of the footpath that leads to the Leeds platform at the railway station. The Chairman informed the meeting that bollards had already been installed to prevent vehicles driving down the footpath.
 - o The provision of residents parking permits for the railway station was advocated as the perception is that many passengers use the Steen and Silsden car park when they travel from out of the area. The Joint Transport Working Group has already attracted funding to carry out a survey of car park usage which is planned for the near future. It was also noted that the metro Zone will be extended to Skipton on 17 May 2009.
 - o There was a query about any subsidy from the council tax of local residents to the rail operator. It was suggested that this information will be available in the leaflets accompanying the council tax bills.
 - o There was a complaint about the lack of enforcement of the speed limits within the parish. It was accepted that the police can not be present to apprehend the drivers of these vehicles 24 hours a day. Inspector Sanderson reported that regular Speedwatch sweeps are carried out and reports of the number of vehicles that exceed the speed limits are sent to the Traffic Police for action. Inspector Sanderson also confirmed that the PCSOs are being trained to issue fixed penalty tickets for speeding. Inspector Sanderson also invited members of the public to become volunteers and get involved with the Speedwatch initiative in the parish. The painting of double white lines down the centre of the main road was also advocated by a member of the public. The cost of the Traffic Regulation Orders and the consultations that would have to be undertaken to be able to implement this measure were thought to be prohibitive.
 - o The effectiveness and safety of the build –out at the junction of Thornhill Road and Skipton Road were queried. The Chairman explained that this had been done to improve the restricted sight lines when exiting Thornhill Road on to Skipton Road.

5. Police Report

Inspector Sanderson circulated the latest Neighbourhood Policing Team newsletter. She reported that annual crime figures had shown a slight reduction in the number of reported crimes. It was felt that incidents at Airedale General Hospital increased the overall crime figures and these had little or no impact on the residents of Steeton and Eastburn. The number of burglaries had increased from 5 to 8 in the annual figures but when compared with other areas in the Craven Ward this figure is very low but this did not mean that the police were complacent about these local incidents. The usual entry point for burglaries was by dismantling EuroProfile locks on doors. Inspector Sanderson demonstrated the design of the lock and how the mechanism can be removed to allow entry through a door. The police recommend the fitting of Snapsafe locks to doors.

Inspector Sanderson reported that PCSO Walton is the designated Neighbourhood Police Support officer for the Steeton and Eastburn areas. Inspector Sanderson also outlined the Policing Pledge and informed the meeting that police surgeries will be held where residents are welcome to attend and inform the police of any local issues. The venues of the surgeries will be rotated between Steeton-with-Eastburn, Addingham and Silsden.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.22p.m.

Chairman.....

Date.....