

Minutes of Blackshaw Parish Council Meeting held at Blackshaw Head Methodist Church, Old Shaw Lane, Blackshaw Head on Monday 13 December 2010.

Present: Councillors Dorothy Sutcliffe (Vice-chairman), Carol King, Frank McLaughlan, Coun Roger Greenwood (Erringden Parish Council), and 2 members of the public.

In attendance: The Clerk, Graham Lindsey and Claire Fyffe (Environment Agency) and Amanda Webster (Calderdale Council Emergency Planning Officer).

1. **Accepted apologies** – Couns Sally Jones, Michelle Dargan-Cole, Pat Beechill. Coun Sutcliffe took the Chair.
2. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda** – none accepted.
3. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22 November** – agreed.
4. **Information on matters arising from the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22 November:** -

- ✿ **Efficiency and Effectiveness of the Planning Service** – It has been agreed to continue to provide paper versions of planning applications for the time being.
- ✿ **Blackshaw Food Network** – A letter from the Blackshaw Food Network (BFN) was read out by the Clerk. The letter complained that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25.10.10 stated that the Blackshaw Food Network had been refused a section 137 grant because it was a commercial organisation. It was agreed that the minutes were a correct record of the decision of the Parish Council but it was acknowledged that the BFN is predominantly a voluntary organisation helping to fulfil the objectives of the Parish Plan. However the application for a grant was for the Blackshaw Food Directory and that included some organisations that were purely commercial and Councillors felt that it was wrong to use public money to subsidise commercial advertising.

5. **Flooding issues and the draft Emergency Plan** – Officers from the Environment Agency outlined the current arrangements for warning residents of the risk of flooding. There is a free warning service to all those at extreme risk of flooding which is automatically triggered by flood gauges and given first as a “Flood Alert” and then two hours before any expected “Flood Warning”. The warning is issued by a siren, phone and fax services. Properties are matched to landline numbers. People can more fully register for the warning service via the Environment Agency website and thereby also receive warnings via mobile phone text or email messages. Evacuation is organised by the Local Authority, Police and Fire Services but in practice most people at risk prefer not to be evacuated and simply move upstairs.

There is a volunteer Flood Warden in Charlestown but the Parish Council agreed that more should be encouraged especially to help vulnerable people. It was therefore agreed to go door knocking together with Environment Agency staff in the Spring to try and encourage each

collection of houses near the River Calder to have a flood warden and to get organised.

6. The draft West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan – The Clerk was asked to write commenting on the Plan.

7. Planning related matters

7.1. Information on previous planning applications –

10/00214/VAR for removal of condition one (personal permission) and variation of condition two (to allow extraction to continue until 31 March 2020) of planning permission 89/03579 for extraction of minerals at Rock End Moor Delph, Staups Lane, Todmorden – approved.

A new planning application had been registered with Calderdale Council after the Parish Council agenda had been published. It was agreed to hold a Special Parish Council Meeting to consider the application at 6.30pm on Friday 17 December immediately before the Carol Service.

Knowle End Farm – The Clerk had been assured that the enforcement notice had been passed to Calderdale’s legal section prior to being served.

8. Matters relating to highways, bridleways and footpaths: - none were raised.

9. Representative reports and invitations:

- **25 November Hebden Bridge Community Association AGM** – Apologies were sent because of the bad weather.
- **30 November Calder Ward Forum and PACT** – noted.
- **1 December “More than a Home”** – postponed to Wednesday 16 February.
- **7 December Town and Parish Council Liaison Group** – Coun McLaughlan attended what was a very useful meeting. He reported on the consultations about the Calderdale Council budget for 2011/12.
- **17 December Town Hall User Group** – The Clerk and Coun Sutcliffe to attend. This would be followed by a Christmas open afternoon hosted by the Mayor and Mayoress of Calderdale.

10. A survey about a car park for Mytholmroyd Rail Station – Councillors agreed that they had no knowledge of any local residents using Mytholmroyd Railway Station and the Clerk was asked to respond accordingly.

11. Financial matters:

11.1. 2010/2011 budget and balances – the remaining budget for 2010/2011 was reported as £3,436.66 and the Council balances estimated as £6,827.37. It was agreed to transfer £545 from the Reserve Account to the Current Account.

11.2. Draft budget for 2011/2012 – The draft budget and proposed precept were discussed prior to a final decision being made in January 2011.

11.3. Electrical Christmas lights installation – It was agreed to reimburse Coun McLaughlan £232.41 including Vat for the materials required to complete the permanent installation for the Christmas lights. Coun McLaughlan was thanked for all his work.

11.4. Annual subscription to the Society of Local Council Clerks – It was agreed to pay the £72 annual subscription.

11.5. Computer usage in October, November and December– It was agreed to pay the Clerk £30.

11.6. Clerk's fee – The Clerk's fee was confirmed for payment.

12. Dates of future meetings:

Parish Council Meeting – 24 January 2011, 28 February, 28 March, 17 April.

Wayahead Committee Meetings – 17 January at the Sportsman and 21 March at the New Delight.

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting – 9 May 2011 at a venue to be confirmed.

Signed