

Minutes of Blackshaw Parish Council Meeting held at Blackshaw Head Methodist Chapel, Blackshaw Head, on Monday 22 August 2011.

Present: Cllrs Dorothy Sutcliffe (Chairman), Pat Beechill, Tim Cole, Steve Hoyle, Chris Lund, Carol King, Mick Davies.

In attendance: Lars Hansen, the Clerk.

- 1. Accepted apologies** – none were accepted.
- 2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda** – none were declared.
- 3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 July** – agreed.
- 4. Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 July** –
Dog poo poster competition – Members were asked to contact the Clerk if they wanted copies of the posters for distribution.
- 5. The Charlestown Community garden and allotments** – There had been little progress due to holidays. The Clerk and Cllr Davies would progress the matter.
- 6. A walk in aid of famine relief in Africa** – It was agreed to sponsor a local walk for famine relief in Africa. A budget of £40 and insurance cover was agreed. Cllr Cole agreed to co-ordinate.
- 7. Calderdale Council conservation Strategy** – Members were of the opinion that there was insufficient information to enable meaningful comment. The Clerk was asked to invite officers of the Conservation Team and other Town and Parish Councils to a special meeting on either 5 or 12 September to discuss the matter.
- 8. “Britain in Bloom”** – noted.
- 9. Supporting BEAT to get grant aid for improving insulation at Blackshaw Head Chapel** – Members agreed to send a letter of support.
- 10. The Parish Emergency Plan** – Member agreed to become the main point of contact after the Clerk in a telephone tree for emergencies. To help the process and support the locally housebound it was also agreed that members would serve as a point of contact for the housebound in getting local help and assistance. The Clerk said he would produce a new draft on that basis. It
- 11. Representation on the Hebden Royd Town Council Picture House Committee by the Hill Top Parishes** – It was agreed to support the Erringden nomination.
- 12. Planning related matters:** -
 - 12.1. Feedback on previous planning applications:** –
08/01580/NMA to substitute sewage treatment plant for connection to main drain at Upper Blackshaw Royd, Marsh Lane Blackshaw Head – approved. Members were concerned that this had been approved without the benefit of local knowledge and that as a consequence the sewage treatment plant had been approved despite the fact that it was situated on

top of a water course. The Clerk was asked to complain to Calderdale Council.

12.2. New planning applications: - there were no new planning applications.

13. Matters relating to highways, bridleways and footpaths:-

Grass verges – The Clerk was asked to complain to Calderdale Council that the grass verges in Blackshaw Head had only been cut once this year whereas the grass verges in Heptonstall were being maintained as if they were a bowling Green.

Obscured warning sign above High Street, Blackshaw Head - The Clerk was also asked to write and complain that the serious accident on 13 August at Jack Bridge could possibly have been prevented if the sign above High Street, warning of the dangerous bend had not been obscured by the tree growing on the verge. The Parish Council has complained about this repeatedly in the past but no action has ever been taken.

Vehicle Activated signs – The Clerk was asked to put this item on the next agenda.

Todmorden bus – The Clerk was asked to write to Calderdale Community Transport asking about the future of the service.

14. The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee celebrations – It was intended to consult on this in the Big Red Council Tent at the Fete.

15. Representative reports and invitations:

- **3 September Blackshaw Head Fete** – noted.
- **10 September retirement of Ian Strong as Secretary of YLCA at The Tithe Barn, Poppleton** – noted.
- **13 September Town and Parish Council Liaison Group at Hebden Bridge Town Hall** – Cllr Lund to attend.
- **10am to 1pm 1 October Annual Town and Parish Council Liaison Group** – All Members and the Clerk are expected to attend.
- **3 October Planning Impact Training** – New members were encouraged to attend.
- **10.30am 16 October Blackshaw PC Chairman’s Civic Service** – Members were invited to attend. The Chairman stated that her chosen charities for the year were “The Pen, the conservation of artefacts by SHED and the Children’s Cancer Charity, “Candlelighters”.
- **15 November “What Councillors need to know”** – New members were invited to attend this training course at £35 a head. Cllr Hoyle asked to attend.

16. Financial matters:

16.1. 2011/2012 budget and balances – The remaining budget for 2011/2012 was reported as £5,959.16 and the Council balances as £8,212.98. It was agreed to transfer £500 from the Reserve Account to the Current Account.

16.2. 2010/2011 Audit – The audited accounts had been approved without comment. It was agreed to pay the £120 plus Vat fee.

16.3. New authorised banking signatures – There was now only one Councillor who had not managed to go to the bank to verify their identity to be included on the Baking mandate.

16.4. 2011 Parish Council elections – It was agreed to pay the £60.43 costs.

16.5. Book Token prizes for the “Scoop the poop” poster competition – It was agreed to reimburse the Clerk £45.

16.6. Copying and laminating “Scoop the Poop” posters – it was agreed to reimburse Clerk £57.79.

16.7. Retirement gratuity for Ian Strong retiring Secretary of YLCA – It was agreed to pay £20.

16.8. The Clerk’s monthly salary and computer allowance – The Clerk’s salary minus tax and the £10 monthly computer allowance were confirmed for payment.

17. Dates of future meetings:

Parish Council Meeting: - 26 September; 24 October, 28 November, 12 December, 23 January 2012, 27 February, 26 March, 23 April.

WayHead Meetings: - 17 October at the Sportsman, 20 February 2012 at Stubbings Wharf.

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting - 7 or 28 May 2012 at Hebden Bridge Town Hall.

Signed