

Minutes of Blackshaw Parish Council Meeting held at Blackshaw Head Methodist Chapel, Blackshaw Head, on Monday 24 October 2011.

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

In attendance: Lars Hansen, the Clerk, and Donna Goodman, secretary of Charlestown Allotments.

- 1. Accepted apologies** – Steve Hoyle.
- 2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda** – none were declared.
- 3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24 October** – The minutes were agreed.
- 4. Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting held on 24 October** –
The Closure of the Sportsman – The Clerk reported that Calderdale Council were in discussion with the Landlord.
- 5. Minutes of the Special Parish Council Meeting held on 17 October** – agreed.
- 6. Matters arising from the Special Parish Council Meeting held on 14 November** – matters arising were already on the agenda.
- 7. The Queen's Diamond Jubilee** – The site for the beacon would probably be Dorothy Sutcliffe's field. Colden School had responded to the idea of a time capsule but there was still no response from Hebden Royd School.
- 8. Charlestown allotments** – Members discussed progress with the Secretary of Charlestown Allotments. Interested residents have now formed an allotment group with a constitution, Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and are opening a Bank Account to enable them to apply for funding. They have also established a website, Google group and applied to join the Association of Calderdale Allotment and Leisure gardens. They have organised a Cleanup of the site for Saturday 10 December which the chairman, Cllr Dorothy Sutcliffe, urged members to attend. The Clerk agreed to help by borrowing Hi Visibility Vests for participants. They are also working to finalise the layout of the site and the requirements for applying for Planning Application. It was agreed to ask the group to make a presentation of their proposals to the next Parish Council Meeting.

9. Government proposals for elected Mayors - noted

10. Planning related matters: -

10.1. Feedback on previous planning applications: –

Land Farm, School Lane, Blackshaw Head – An appeal has been lodged for the refusal to convert to plant nursery into living accommodation;

11/00223/FUL Conversion of farmhouse to one dwelling at Higher Heath, Moor Lane, Blackshaw Head – approved;

11/01013/FUL for two storey extension to existing holiday cottage at The Barn, Staups Len, Todmorden - refused.

10.2. New planning applications: -

11/01201/CON for conversion of 2/3rds of existing garage/stable to form 2 bed dwelling at West Gable, The Long Causeway, Blackshaw Head, HX7 7JB – It was agreed to object to the application on the grounds that the building was approved and constructed as a garage cum stable and that there was a need for that use to continue. The existing building was not constructed of suitable materials for a new dwelling in “Areas around Todmorden”. If it was to be approved there should be a condition that the building should be clad in the same traditional materials as the adjoining houses. If the application was approved it was likely to be supplemented in future years by another application for another garage and or stable.

Prior to any approval there should be consultations with Yorkshire Water to ensure the long term sufficiency of the water supply. The water is supplied by Yorkshire Water through a private arrangement for neighbouring properties and would need to be assured in terms of adequacy of pressure and availability for an additional dwelling.

11/01367/HSE for first floor extension above existing garage, two storey and single storey extension to rear and new porch to front elevation at 4 Pennine View, Blackshaw Head, HX77JS – no objection.

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

11.1. Chapel Lane, Blackshaw Head – Cllr Sutcliffe had come into possession of a detailed solicitors account from 1906 to the Blackshaw Head Wesleyan Chapel for the diversion of a road. This had been passed to a barrister who working pro bono had provided an unequivocal legal opinion that Chapel Lane was a Road maintainable at public expense by the Highways Authority. This had been copied to Calderdale Council. In view of the financial implication The Council had asked for a copy of the relevant Court papers in 1906 before they would accept responsibility. These copies have now been obtained from the West Yorkshire Archives and would be presented to Calderdale Council. Once Calderdale Council had accepted their responsibility a letter of thanks should be sent to Cllr Sutcliffe who found the evidence and the barrister Nigel Clayton who provided the irrefutable legal opinion.

11.2. Charlestown “Safe route to school” and Ingle Dene exit road – Cllr Mick Davies presented a detailed paper on the problems and the response from Calderdale Council so far. To help raise the profile of the problem it was agreed that Cllr Davies would send his paper to Cllr Battye and Councillors and residents would lobby for more meaningful action at the Ward Forum on 15 December and at Cllr Battye’s Ward surgery.

11.3. Other Matters: -

- Cllr King reported that Street light 7 on New Shaw Lane was not working.
- Cllr Beechill reported that Jan Gibson from Calderdale Council had offered help for repairing the ditches on Marsh Lane.

12. Representative reports and invitations:

- **9 November YLCA South Pennine Branch Meeting** – Cllrs Hoyle and Sutcliffe attended.

- **15 November “What Councillors need to know”** – Cllr Hoyle attended.
- **19 November “Small community – Big Society” conference** – Cllrs Hoyle, Sutcliffe and the Clerk attended.
- **22 November Blackshaw Neighbourhood Watch** – Cllr Davies attended.
- **24 November Hebden Bridge Community Association AGM** – noted.
- **9 December Hebden Bridge Teenage Cancer Appeal Charity concert** – noted;
- **15 December Calder Ward Forum and PACT** – Members were urged to attend especially with regard to the problem of vehicles getting stuck on Mytholm Steeps and matters associated with Blackshaw Neighbourhood Watch.

13. Financial matters:

13.1. 2011/2012 budget and balances – The remaining budget for 2011/2012 was reported as £4,839.82 and the Council balances as £7,058.48. It was agreed to transfer £450 from the Reserve Account to the Current Account.

13.2. New authorised banking signatures – Cllr Cole reported that as he had an existing account with the NatWest he did not need to provide further proof of identity.

13.3. Remembrance Service Wreath – It was agreed to pay Hebden Bridge Royal British Legion £18 for the Remembrance Service Wreath.

13.4. Parish Council Insurance – it was agreed to pay £13.97 for including £1,000 worth of Computer equipment on the Council's insurance policy.

13.5. Chapel Lane, Blackshaw Head – It was agreed to reimburse the Clerk £25.37 for obtaining copies of the 1906 Court records for the diversion of Chapel Lane, Blackshaw Head.

13.6. Blackshaw Head Methodist Church rent – It was agreed to pay the £210 annual rent for the use of the Church by the Parish Council.

13.7. The Clerk's monthly salary, income tax and computer allowance – The Clerk's salary minus tax plus £10 monthly computer allowance were confirmed for payment.

14. Dates of future meetings:

Parish Council Meeting: - 12 December, 23 January 2012, 27 February, 26 March, 23 April.

WayaHead Meetings: - 20 February 2012 at The New Delight.

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting - 28 May 2012 at Hebden Bridge Town Hall. **Signed**