

Minutes of Blackshaw Parish Council Meeting held at Blackshaw Head Methodist Chapel, Blackshaw Head, on Monday 26 March 2012.

Present: Cllrs Dorothy Sutcliffe (Chairman), Chris Lund, Carol King, Mick Davies, Steve Hoyle, Pat Beechill, Tim Cole, Ward Cllr Janet Battye and 1 member of the public.

In attendance: Lars Hansen, the Clerk.

- 1. Accepted apologies** – everyone was present.
- 2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda** – The Clerk and Cllr Lund declared a personal interest in the planning application, item 10.2, for Badger House because the Clerk is a near neighbour and Cllr Lund is a family friend.
- 3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27 February** – agreed.
- 4. Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting held on 27 February:** - all relevant items were on the agenda.
- 5. Minutes of the Special Parish Council Meeting held on 19 March** – agreed.
- 6. Matters arising from the Special Parish Council Meeting held on 19 March:-** It was agreed to mention the role of the Vice chairman and another Councillor in providing additional financial scrutiny on the May agenda.
- 7. Progress on the Charlestown allotments site** – Most of the Tree felling by volunteers is now complete and a decision on the planning application is expected by 5/4/12. Calderdale Council have proposed a set of “Heads of Terms” which just need amendment to enable the actual allotment area to be sub-let. Cllr Davies read out a letter of concern about the tree felling from a resident of Ingle Dene. The need for the tree felling prior to the planning approval was discussed. It was noted that this had been agreed at the previous meeting following advice from Calderdale Council about the urgency of felling the trees before birds started to nest in the trees. There was however a concern to take a more cautious approach to avoid unduly upsetting neighbours of the allotment site.
- 8. The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee** – Cllrs Cole and Hoyle reported that there was going to be an additional event for Toddlers at 2pm to 3.30pm and 3.30 to 4.30pm for Children’s games. It was suggested that the bonfire could be lit early for the children to enjoy and that the special beacon should still be lit at 10pm. Cllr Beechill agreed to liaise with a local resident to have the beacon moved to the site and erected safely.

A time capsule measuring 15” x 8” x 8” was being prepared for use by Colden and Mytholm schools. Further details concerning the burying and future unearthing of the capsule should be discussed at the next meeting.
- 9. The West Yorkshire/Calderdale Council and Blackshaw Parish bid for improved Broadband** – The 2011 bid for improved band for Blackshaw which was put together by a group of local residents has now become the centrepiece of several West Yorkshire/ Calderdale Council bids for

improved broadband. The bids are based on using a commercial contractor and making available the normal range of commercial providers to subscribers at a competitive price. The details of how it will work are still not clear but we are advised that residents should register for Superfast Broadband because it will help to make BT more interested in providing services to the hilltop parishes and in particular to provide fibre-optic cabling to the BT boxes at Blackshaw Head and Colden.

10. Planning related matters: -

10.1. Feedback on previous planning applications: –

12/00005/LBC for installation of solar panels to south elevation (listed building consent) at 3 Davy Cottages, Blackshaw Head, HX7 7JE – refused. Concern was raised about this and other recent decisions concerning solar panels and wind turbines. It was agreed that the Clerk contact Richard Seaman, the planning development manager, and invite him or one of his colleagues to attend a future meeting.

12/20009/TPO to fell one tree at Oak Crest, Oakville Road, Hebden Bridge, HX7 6NP - approved.

10.2. New planning application:-

12/00152/FUL for a detached stable block at Badger House, Badger Lane, Blackshaw Head – no objection.

11. Electing a representative to Calderdale Small grants panel – It was decided to vote for Heath Gray in category 1, Donna Elliott in category 2 and Cllr Mick Davies in category 3.

12. Support and services to the voluntary sector in Calderdale –

Members asked for a pdf version to be circulated to enable a meaningful response at the next meeting..

13. Matters relating to highways, bridleways and footpaths:- Cllr Davies reported on a very useful meeting and walk with Ward Cllrs and Calderdale Highways Officers at Charlestown examining the difficulty of providing a safe route to school. The Officers were very sympathetic but funds are short and anything substantive may have to wait to be financed through developments in the Charlestown area. There would be a report back to the next Ward Forum.

The Clerk was asked to write to Metro concerning the rapidly deteriorating bus service to Blackshaw Head by Tyrer buses. Nearly half the buses were missing Cllr Batty said she would raise it with Caroline Walton who is taking over from Dave Tee, who is retiring.

14. Representative reports and invitations:

- **8 March Calder Ward Forum and PACT –** Members attended and lobbied for a Safe Route to School from Charlestown and a Code of Conduct for Mountain Bikers. Further meetings with officers were arranged to take these issues forward. There was also a useful presentation on the bid for improved broadband.
- **14 March YLCA South Pennine Branch Meeting –** Cllrs Hoyle and Sutcliffe attended.

- **27 March Members development programme** – noted.
- **20 March Town and Parish Council Liaison Group at Hebden Bridge Town Hall** – Cllr Lund reported on the gritting issue and the proposed new planning website. The issue of Parish Council election costs were still being discussed locally and at national level.
- **29 March “Planning for the future of your Neighbourhood”** – Cllrs Cole and Hoyle to attend. The Clerk and Cllr Davies gave their apologies.
- **6 October Town and Parish Council Annual Conference** – everyone to attend.

15. Financial matters:

15.1. 2011/2012 budget and balances – The remaining budget for 2011/2012 was reported as £2,439.56 and the Council balances as £4,641.21.

15.2. New authorised banking signatures – Cllrs Lund and Davies had still to contact the bank with their identity documents.

15.3. Section 137 grant application from Relate – noted.

15.4. Travelling costs for 2011/2012 – It was agreed to reimburse the Clerk £215.95 for travelling expenses during 2011/2012.

15.5. Clerk’s annual pension gratuity for 2011/2012 – In accordance with the Clerks contract of employment the Clerk’s retirement allowance based on 3.5% of his salary was agreed as £93.95 which when added together with allowances from previous years would be a total of £619.09.

15.6. The Clerk’s monthly salary and computer allowance – The Clerk’s salary plus £10 monthly computer allowance were confirmed for payment.

15.7. Payment of 3 months income tax to HMRC – It was agreed to pay HMRC £134.20p.

16. Dates of future meetings:

Parish Council Meeting: - 23 April, 25 June, 23 July, 20 August, 24 September, 22 October, 26 November, 17 December, 25 January 2013, 22 February, 27 March.

WayHead Meetings: - 18 June at Stubbing Wharf, 15 October at The New Delight, 18 February at Stubbing Wharf.

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting - 28 May 2012, 27 May 2013 at Hebden Bridge Town Hall.

Signed