

Minutes of Blackshaw Parish Council Meeting held at Blackshaw Head Methodist Chapel, Blackshaw Head, on Monday 24 September 2012.

Present: Cllrs Carol King (Chairman), Dorothy Sutcliffe, Steve Hoyle, Chris Lund, Mick Davies and 2 members of the public.

In attendance: Lars Hansen, the Clerk, Ian Hughes from Calderdale Council.

- 1. Accepted apologies** – Cllrs Tim Cole and Pat Beechill.
- 2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda** – no issues were raised.
- 3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20 August** – The title of Item 7 should refer to “floods” and not “foods” With that amendment the minutes were agreed.
- 4. Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting held on 20 August: -**

Outstanding enforcement issues – The Clerk reported that the attendance of the Head of Planning Enforcement had been postponed until the October Meeting because of the attendance of Ian Hughes. Cllr Lund raised the Enforcement Notice served on land adjacent to Green Barn, Dark Lane, Blackshaw Head and asked that the Head of Enforcement be informed that this could be dealt with when she was able to attend.
- 5. Minutes of the Allotments Committee Meeting held on 17 September** – agreed.
- 6. Matters arising from the Allotments Committee Meeting held on 17 September** – Members agreed that the £250 agreed to help pay for the fence with the Naze could be used flexibly together with the various grants to pay for the setting up costs. This would enable the use of the various grants to be optimised.

Members of the Allotment Committee who also intended to become allotment holders were granted a dispensation from having to declare an interest as otherwise it would make the working of the Allotment Committee unworkable.
- 7. The new register and disclosure of Members interests as proposed by Calderdale Council** – Ian Hughes presented this report and answered questions. This meant that in future declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests would have to be published on the Parish Council website. The Parish Council would also have to review its Standing Orders in the light of the required changes. The report was agreed.
- 8. The new Code of Conduct for Members as proposed by Calderdale Council** – Ian Hughes presented this report and answered questions. The report was agreed.
- 9. Calderdale Council's new arrangements for the investigation of alleged breaches of the new Code of Conduct for Members** – Ian Hughes presented this report for information and answered questions. As at present Calderdale Council would investigate any alleged breaches but it would be up to the Parish Council to decide what sanctions if any should be applied following such an investigation.

10. Recent flooding in the Parish –

10.1. Woodland View, Halifax Road, Charlestown – The Clerk reported that officers of Calderdale Council were preparing a group repair scheme to help the properties.

10.2. Jumble Hole Clapper Bridge – The Clerk reported that the bridge had been badly damaged in the recent flooding but there was a lot of local volunteers willing to help with the repair of this Class 2 Archaeological site and Grade 2 listed. After a long discussion Cllr Hoyle agreed to lead on this project.

10.3. Other issues – Cllr Sutcliffe read a letter from Mrs Margery King requesting some tarmac and turn byes to Hudson Mill Lane re. Mrs King had sent the letter to Calderdale Council but not had a response. The Clerk was asked to try and get a response.

11. The introduction of Dog Control Orders – These were introduced on 3 September 2012 and it was now illegal for dog walkers not to pick up their dog's litter.

12. The Review of Parliamentary Constituencies – Members were invited to consult www.independent.gov.uk/boundarycommissforengland. This is now complete but because of disagreement within the coalition government the review is unlikely to be implemented.

13. Planning related matters: -

13.1. Feedback on previous planning applications: – nothing to report.

14. Matters relating to highways, bridleways and footpaths: - Comments were made about the poor state of footpaths in particular below Winters but also in general. Cllr Sutcliffe thought that part of the problem was caused by Himalayan Balsam and asked for the WayaHead Committee to look at both issues. Concern was also raised about the safety of the footpath going up the western side of Jumble Hole Clough.

The Clerk was asked to write to Calderdale Council expressing concern that the road safety concerns about the A646 in Charlestown were not being considered at the Ward forum.

15. Litter bins – Deferred to next meeting.

16. Representative reports and invitations:

10am to 12 noon 27 September, Locality launch for the Upper Valley Early Intervention Strategy at Hebden Bridge Town Hall – Members were invited to attend.

2 October Ward Forum – Members were advised to attend to lobby for road safety improvements to the A646 for residents of Charlestown.

6 October Town and Parish Council Annual Conference – everyone is expected to attend.

17. Financial matters:

17.1. 2012/2013 budget, variances and balances – The remaining budget for 2012/2013 was reported as £5,357.16 and the Council

balances as £7,690.76. It was agreed to transfer £750 from the Reserve Account to the Current Account.

17.2. Another Section 137 grant to the Heptonstall Exhibitions and Richard Naylor Charities – Deferred for consideration to next year.

17.3. Chairman's allowance for 2012/2013 – It was agreed to pay the Chairman the £200 annual allowance.

17.4. Annual rent to Blackshaw Head Methodist Church – It was agreed to pay the £220 annual rent.

17.5. Recruitment advert – The Clerk reported that this had been badly handled by Johnston press in that they had charged £84 more than quoted and failed to place the advert as agreed. The Clerk was expecting a 100% refund but should this not be achieved any reimbursement would have to be dealt with at the next meeting.

17.6. Clerk's monthly salary and computer allowance – The Clerk's salary and monthly computer allowance were confirmed for payment.

17.7. Quarterly payment to HMRC – It was agreed to pay £134.40p.

18. Arrangements for the appointment of a new Parish Clerk – It was agreed to hold the interviews on

19. Dates of future meetings:

Parish Council Meeting: - 22 October, 26 November, 17 December, 28 January 2013, 25 February, 26 March, 22 April at Blackshaw Head Methodist Church.

Allotment Committee – 19 March 2013 at Hebden Bridge Town Hall.

WayaHead Committee: - 15 October at The New Delight, 18 February 2013 at Stubbing Wharf.

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting - 20 May 2013 at Hebden Bridge Town Hall.

Signed