

## **Minutes of the meeting of Blackshaw Parish Council held on Monday 22 April 2013 at Blackshaw Head Methodist Church.**

**Present:** Cllr. Steve Hoyle (Chair), Cllr. Chris Lund, Cllr. Dorothy Sutcliffe, Cllr. Pat Beechill and 2 members of the public.

**In attendance:** Maggie Boyle (Clerk).

- 1. Apologies for absences previously notified to the Clerk:** Cllr. Carol King, Cllr. Tim Cole, Cllr. Mick Davies.
- 2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda:** None were declared.
- 3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 March 2013:** With the replacement of New Delight for Woodman in minute 9 the minutes were agreed.
- 4. Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 March 2013:** The Clerk reported that having contacted Dave Pearson, METRO, about E bus cancellations and requesting timetable information, a reply from him was received: *I have been onto First about the failures earlier in the week, two vehicle breakdowns within 24 hours. I am meeting First again next week to see if we can arrive at an affordable means of replacing the current buses. As to timescale for change, we delayed the changes we were proposing until August at the request of ward members and community groups in Cragg Vale. We don't currently have funding for any additional electronic displays. We are only adding new ones where external funding is available (usually planning section 106 contributions). With regard to the timetable..... the inserts to existing timetables in the area will all be changed next week to accommodate the changes to A/B services.* Cllr. Dorothy Sutcliffe will alert the Clerk if the timetable is not changed so that the Clerk can write to Metro again.  
  
All other matters arising were dealt with under items of the agenda.
- 5. Campaign for faster Broadband in the Parish:** Dr Higgins of BT Openreach has been invited to a public meeting of the Parish Council in early July (date to be confirmed), John Hero, ICT Strategy and Projects Manager, Calderdale Council, will address the issue at the Ward forum in July. The Clerk was asked to send Cllr. Lund the email address of Mary Farrar.
- 6. Campaign for a Play Area:** The Clerk has been in touch with Cllr. Janet Battye who suggested that Andrew Pitts (Town and Parish Council Liaison) may be able to help answer the questions about insurance and other liability of the Parish Council should it become the lease holder for the land for the Play Area next to the New Delight. The Clerk will get in touch.
- 7. Received:** Openness and transparency on personal interests - A guide for councillors from the Department of local Communities and Government.
- 8. To consider the draft Parish Council Newsletter:** The Clerk asked Councillors to read the draft and provide feedback. A meeting to prepare the mailing will be held on 10<sup>th</sup> May at the Blackshaw Methodist Church at 7pm. Cllr. Lund agreed to create the labels, it was agreed to address the newsletter to 'the occupant' as many addresses had multiple residents.
- 9. Great Rock Picnic:** It was agreed to change the date of the picnic to 23 June 2013 and to hold it at 12 noon. This was to avoid the start of the Arts festival and the Handmade Parade taking place in Hebden Bridge on 22 June.
- 10. Parish Clean-up:** This took place on 20 April 2013 when 21 villagers helped to remove rubbish from verges in the village. Cllrs. who attended the clean-up were concerned that at the end of the clean-up not everyone returned to the Methodist Church for tea and cakes, making it difficult to be sure that there had been no health and safety incidents. It was agreed that the organisers would be asked by the Clerk to request that people let them know that they have finished the activity safely.

### **11. Charlestown Allotments:**

11.1. Working parties were held on the allotments on 12 April 2013, 20 April and 25 April. Four trees and many fruit bushes have been planted for community use, the whole site has been strimmed and raked and the water pipe has been laid, the water connection will be made on 25<sup>th</sup> April.

11.2. As the Lease had not reached the Land Registry, Councillors signed it again. The Lease and a new cheque for £50 made out to the Land Registry (the original cheque had not been presented and is now out of date), will be passed to Claire Hamilton, Solicitor, who will send them on to the Land Registry.

## 12. To consider planning related matters:-

12.1. To receive information on previous planning applications and enforcement notices:

13/00122/HSE | Conversion of integral garage to living accommodation and construction of detached garage with ancillary living accommodation above. | 1 Long Hey Top Winter's Lane Blackshaw Head Hebden Bridge West Yorkshire HX7 7JT  
Application refused. **Noted**

12.2. To consider new planning applications (these can be viewed via Calderdale Council website using the reference number shown):

13/00289/FUL | Division of house into two properties | 3 Lane Bottom The Long Causeway Blackshaw Head Hebden Bridge Calderdale HX7 7JD. **This application was no longer valid.**

13/00238/FUL | Tractor/Agricultural Store | Wagtail House Lane Head Blackshaw Head Hebden Bridge Calderdale HX7 7JX.

**After discussion Councillors voted that there should be no objection to this planning application. It was requested that the abstention of Councillor Sutcliffe be noted.**

13/00291/191 | Change of use of land to residential curtilage (Lawful Development Certificate of Existing Use) | Land West Of 2 Edgewood Savile Road Hebden Bridge Calderdale. **This application was noted.**

13/00332/FUL | Installation of a grid connected micro hydropower system consisting of; stainless steel screened intake, 200 metres of 125mm OD mdpe black pipe and pelton turbine/generator in small wooden shed. | Strait Hey Farm Stock Hey Lane Todmorden Calderdale OL14 6HB. **This application was noted.**

## 13. To consider matters relating to highways, bridleways and footpaths:

13.1. A646 – discussion of this issue was postponed until after the arranged meeting of Cllr. Mick Davies with the Head of Highways, Calderdale Council.

13.2. Mountain bike code of conduct – discussion of this issue was postponed to a later meeting at Cllr. Tim Coles request. In the light of a recent mountain bike rally that passed through the Parish and caused distress to some residents, the Clerk was asked to write to the organisers, the Mytri Club requesting that if they plan another event in the Parish they alert the Parish Council well in advance about their intentions and ensure that they inform people living along the route prior to the event.

13.3. It was reported that there is land slipping at the right side of the 1st bend on 'Mytholm Steeps' (bottom of Badger Lane and top of Rawtenstall Bank) going down towards Hebden Bridge and there is more slippage on the right hand side as you go down. Councillors ask that this be investigated. With Lee Wood Road closed, the closure of this route into Hebden Bridge would cause a lot of problems. The Clerk was asked to contact Highways about this.

13.4. There has been more fly tipping in the quarry on Mytholm Steeps, it is suggested that putting big stones across the entrance would stop this behaviour, however space needs to be left for vehicles to pass each other. The Clerk was asked to contact Calderdale Council about this.

13.5. Cllr. Mik Davies alerted the Clerk that there are a couple of land slips which have occurred below Staups Lane as it climbs up from Hippins Bridge towards the Great Rock. This is on a piece of road Calderdale spent quite a lot of time and money on a few years ago. (The landslips can be seen clearly from the track leading up to Hippins Farm). The road is probably not at risk of collapsing at present but some preventative work now may save money in the future. Councillors asked the Clerk to contact Highways and ask that this be looked at and request a report back.

13.6. Cllr. Lund alerted the Council that after a fatal accident involving a street light attached to a telegraph pole in Westmoreland, NW Electricity had decided that telegraph poles should no longer be used to carry street lights - it was noted that the cost of such a proposal in Calderdale would be prohibitively expensive.

## 14. To consider representative reports and invitations:

**3 April, Local Flood Group.** – there was nothing to report.

**19 April, National to the Local event with MP C Whittaker,** no-one could attend.

**29 April, 10am, Calderdale Forum 50+,** The Resource Centre, Hall St., Halifax.

**2 May, 3pm Flood Resilience Community Sub-group meeting** Greenwood Room Town Hall, Cllrs, Steve Hoyle and Mick Davies will attend.

**3rd May, Mayoral Year Celebration,** Halifax Town Hall, invitation to Chairman.

**7 May 6.30pm TPC Liaison Group** Todmorden Town Hall, Room C.

**12 June, 7.30pm YLCA South Pennine Branch meeting**, Methodist Church, Blackshaw Head. The Clerk was asked to request Broadband be added to the agenda. Cllrs will bring items for the buffet. The Clerk was asked to request an invoice for YLCA for the hire of the room.

**6 August 6.30pm TPC Liaison Group** Ripponden.

**12 November 6.30pm TPC Liaison Group** Hebden Bridge Town Hall, Greenwood Room.

**5 October 10.00am - 1.00pm Town and Parish Council Annual Conference.**

**15. To consider the following financial matters:**

**15.1. To consider the draft 2012/13 accounts** - These were agreed. Cllrs. remembered that it was time to value the Chain of Office as it was 10 years since it was last valued.

**15.2. Annual assessment of significant risks** – Councillors considered a wide range of significant risks and identified the following items and agreed the actions to be taken:

**15.2.1. Allotment site:** To ensure that the Allotment site was being maintained in good order there should be an annual inspection that should include an inspection of the path, the fencing and the gate and a check that any sheds erected adhere to guidelines.

**15.2.2. Archiving of Parish Council documents:** To ensure that all relevant documents are kept safely for the correct amount of time the Clerk was asked to ensure that only the current and previous year's files are kept at home. Space is available in the Town Council offices for older files which should be moved on to the West Yorkshire Archive services after five years.

**15.2.3. Avoiding bank charges:** To avoid the possibility of there not being enough in the current account to cover a month's invoices and other expenditure, the Clerk was asked to keep £1000 in the current account.

**2013/14 budget, variances and balances;** The balance of accounts was £9,749.24p, the remaining budget for the year was £5325.76p.

**15.3. To confirm payment of the Clerk's monthly salary** – agreed.

**15.4. To reimburse the Clerk for the Parish Website account renewal** for 3 years of £129.28 – agreed.

**15.5. To confirm payment of membership subscription to Yorkshire Local Councils Association,** £263 – agreed.

**15.6. To consider payment for hire of Town Hall for meeting of the Allotments Cttee** £36 – the Clerk will contact the Hebden Bridge Community Association about cancelling the invoice.

**15.7. To consider an application from BEAT for sec 137 grant** – it was agreed that a grant of £100 should be made to BEAT.

**15.8. To consider an application from Heptonstall Exhibitions and Richard Naylor Charities for financial assistance under sec 137** – it was agreed that a grant of £100 be made to the Richard Naylor Charity.

**15.9. To consider getting an alternative quote for the annual insurance premium** – it was agreed the Parish insurance remain with AON as the quote provided for 2013/14 of £507.51p was lower than for the previous year.

**16. Dates of future meetings:-**

**Parish Council Meetings:** - 24 June 2013, 22 July, 19 August, 23 September, 28 October, 25 November, 16 December, 27 January 2014, 24 February, 24 March, 26 April at Blackshaw Head Methodist Church.

**WayHead meetings** – 17 June 2013 at the New Delight, 14 October venue tbc, 17 February 2014, at the New Delight.

**Allotment Committee** – 16 September 2013, 17 March 2014.

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

Signed *Maggie Boyle*

Clerk to the Parish Council