

Minutes of the meeting of Blackshaw Parish Council which will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 25 March 2013 at Blackshaw Head Methodist Church.

Present: Cllr. Carol King (Chair), Cllr. Dorothy Sutcliffe, Cllr. Tim Cole, Cllr. Mick Davies, Cllr. Chris Lund and one member of the public.

In attendance: Maggie Boyle (Clerk).

- 1. Apologies previously notified to the Clerk:** Cllr. Steve Hoyle and Cllr. Pat Beechill.
- 2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda:** None were declared.
- 3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 February 2013:** Confirmed.
- 4. Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 February 2013:** These were considered under appropriate items of the agenda. .
- 5. Minutes of Allotments Committee held on 19th March 2013:** Confirmed.
- 6. Matters arising from the Allotments Committee held on 19th March 2013:** Cllr. Mick Davies had visited the owner of the Naze and had established that a 30ft fence would be required to maintain the privacy of the Naze garden. The owner was also concerned about maintenance and it was suggested that a yearly inspection was carried out. The Clerk reported that the Lease had not arrived at the Land Registry as the Parish Council cheque had not been cashed but after enquiries with the group of solicitors overseeing the transaction the copy of the lease had not been found. It has been suggested that the copy signed by Calderdale is signed by the Parish Council, the Clerk was asked to check how to arrange for the signing.
- 7. Campaign for faster Broadband in the Parish:** It was reported that Cllr. Steve Hoyle has passed on the report of the survey and other information collected during the course of the campaign to Mary Farrar, Calderdale Council, who has been invited to a meeting of the Parish Council in the near future. The Clerk reported that Dr Trevor Higgins had replied to the letter from the Parish Council about the need for faster speeds in Blackshaw: *'We have investigated the upgrade of the Hebden Bridge cabinet which serves Charlestown. The cabinet is in the Openreach commercial roll out and, the good news is that, although it is still in the build stage, we are hoping that it will be ready for customers to place orders by Mid-April. However, I can tell you that the new FTTC fibre broadband is distant dependant, meaning that to attain the highest speeds, you need to be located reasonably close to an upgraded cabinet. Although until the cabinet goes live I cannot detail what the speed of individual premises will actually be, the closer to the cabinet the higher the speeds received. So the provision of fibre to Charlestown will provide a solution for most residents but not for all. This is a technological issue rather than a commercial one. I suggest that the best plan of action is to wait until fibre is provided and ready for orders, re-evaluate the impact on Blackshaw and then review our course of action, which may (if needed) include a visit to Parish Council, early July.'* Cllr. Lund thought that the only way that speeds would be improved for most residents of Blackshaw Parish would be if a 'green cabinet' was sited in Blackshaw Head village. The Clerk was asked to invite Dr Higgins to a special meeting of the Parish Council in early July. The Clerk was also asked to remind Jae Campbell and Councillor Janet Battye to add the issue of Broadband in rural areas to the agenda for the summer meeting of the Ward Forum and to enquire whether the issue is to be considered by the YLCA at their Annual Conference.
- 8. Updates to the Emergency Plan:**
 - 8.1. BPC liaison with essential services:** The following Cllrs. volunteered to be a lead contact with essential services in the event of an emergency: Water - Cllr. Tim Cole, Electricity – Cllr. Steve Hoyle, Gas – Cllr. Mick Davies, Highways – Cllr. Carol King, Telecoms - Cllr. Chris Lund. The Clerk reported that David Sheard, Emergency Planning Team, Calderdale Council has written back with suggested contacts at the essential services and the Clerk was asked to write and suggest liaising with named Councillors in the event of an emergency who would ensure that the situation on the ground is effectively communicated to the essential service and information about the evolving situation is promptly distributed to those affected. The Clerk as asked to write to the Emergency Planning Team about the problems that emergency services could encounter on Cross Stone Road (due to its narrowness and its propensity for grid lock) when the A646 is blocked and suggest that signs and one way systems on either side of the valley could be set up to ensure traffic flow, and also to thank the team for their contact and information during the recent heavy snow.
- 9. Campaign for a Play Area:** The Clerk reported that Mick Wilby, Calderdale Council had replied to a query by the Parish Council about liabilities associated with taking on the Lease at the New Delight for the Play Area but had provided no new information. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr. Janet Battye to see whether she could help with finding a way to clarify the situation. Finn Jensen informed the meeting that there was a funding opportunity that the Play Area Group could apply for which had a

deadline in mid May. Issues with the Lease would have to be addressed before then for the application to have a chance of success.

10. Arrangements for Parish Council Newsletter: The newsletter goes out with the notices of the Annual Parish Council meeting in May, and Cllrs. stressed the importance that every household gets a copy. The Clerk will send out a draft to Councillors by email in April.

10.1. Update of Parish mailing list for annual Parish newsletter: A reply had been received from Calderdale Democratic and Partnership Services suggesting that a Councillor may request a data copy of the Register, the Clerk will pass on the request form to Cllr. Lund.

10.2. Questions about Website development for the Parish Newsletter: The Clerk suggested a range of questions and was asked to contact the 'web masters' to ask for their input. The responses would be useful as an input to the October WayaHead meeting where it was agreed the development of the website would be the main item of the agenda.

10.3. Arrangements for stuffing of envelopes and local delivery: The Clerk was asked to book a room in the Methodist Church (in mid May) and invite help via the google group to stuff the envelopes.

11. Great Rock Picnic – 22 June 2013, to consider the formation of a working group: It was agreed that a working group would not be required. The announcement of the picnic should be included in the Newsletter and everyone invited to bring a picnic for the afternoon.

12. To consider planning related matters:-

12.1. Information on previous planning applications and enforcement notices:

12/01355/WDF | Construction of 5no Wind Turbines of a maximum height of 125m to blade-tip and associated infrastructure, including 85m high meteorological mast, switch gear/control building, crane hardstandings and access tracks extending from Bacup Rd, Todmorden | Land South West Of Gorphey Reservoir Bacup Road Todmorden Calderdale **Refused** – This decision was noted.

12/00632/FUL | Proposed siting of 1 x 31.5m high (hub) ACSA A27 225KW Wind Turbine. Widening of access from Moorcock Lane and temporary road (and associated works) to turbine site. | Land West Of Burnt Edge Lane Hebden Bridge West Yorkshire. **Appeal in Progress.**

The Clerk was asked to write to the Case Officer and inform him that the Parish Council stand by their original objection to the application and support Calderdale Council in their decision to refuse it. Councillors are prepared to attend the appeal hearing and present the experience of villagers of the noise produced by existing turbines. Councillors would welcome early notification of dates of the site visit and the appeal hearing.

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

13. Highways, bridleways and footpaths:

13.1. A646 – report from Ward Forum 19 March: It was reported that this topic was not discussed, however Cllr. Janet Battye is inviting Cllr. Mick Davies to a meeting with the Head of Highways to discuss the issues of providing a continuous pavement, safe exit from Ingle Dene and traffic flow along the A646 from Ingle Dene to Hebden Bridge.

13.2. Mountain bike code of conduct: Cllr. Tim Cole recommended that the Parish Council adopt the International Mountain Biking Association UK Code of conduct. However the Parish Council need to do more than simply adopt the code if there is to be any significant benefit. The Clerk was asked to find the names of those that came to a WayaHead meeting when the issue was discussed so that Cllr. Cole would contact them and invite them to help disseminate the code to local clubs. It was agreed that wider relationships should be built with the mountain bike community through e.g. contacts at Blazing Saddles shop and the Alternative Technology Centre in Hebden Bridge.

14. Representative reports and invitations:

18th February 6.30pm meet with Chief Superintendent Chris Hardern , Inspector Dave Browning and Sergeants from the Upper Valley Neighbourhood Police team: Cllrs. Dorothy Sutcliffe and Patsy Reilly attended. Cllr. Sutcliffe reported that the Chief Superintendent had presented the idea of introducing Police Officers on horseback to patrol in the rural areas.

4 March Upper Valley Community Subgroup – Flood Resilience, Greenwood Room, Hebden Bridge Town Hall. Cllr. Steve Hoyle had attended. It was reported that the group had submitted a bid for funds to the Government (Pathfinder) and that the group were identifying sites for containers holding useful supplies for a flooding event.

13 March, 7.30pm South Pennine Branch Meeting, Mirfield Town Council: Was held in Ripponden, Cllrs. Carol King, Dorothy Sutcliffe and Steve Hoyle attended. The Clerk was asked to

thank the Chair of Ripponden Parish Council for providing the facilities at short notice. There was a presentation about Leeds Bradford airport and speeding in Ripponden was discussed. The June meeting will be in Blackshaw, the Clerk was asked to contact YLCA to ask that Broadband speeds be put on the agenda and to book a room. It was suggested that a display is prepared to show the active groups in the Parish and to have copies of the Village Plan available for display. The Clerk was asked to put arrangements for this on the agenda of the next Parish Council meeting.

19 March, Calder Ward Forum Hebden Bridge Town Hall: Cllrs. Dorothy Sutcliffe, Steve Hoyle and Chris Lund attended, there was a presentation about responding to Domestic Violence and information about Calderdale Customer First and the Police having space in the Town Hall where local residents can make contact. It was reported that the promised changes to buses serving outlying communities will not be implemented until August, .s made strenuous representations about how the current poor service impacts the most vulnerable in these communities. The Clerk was asked to request information about cancelled buses and forward them on to Metro, to request an update about the timescale of service changes and to request a new timetable for the bus stop in the village. Cllrs. suggested that an information board informing passengers about the service running in real time, such as the one in Hebden Bridge, be installed in the village.

26 March, The Oak Room at the Royal York Hotel, York Northern Gas Networks and our social obligations, your chance to shape our plans Tackling fuel poverty and improving carbon monoxide awareness: No-one could attend.

3 April, White Lion, Local Flood Group: Cllrs. Mick Davies or Steve Hoyle will attend.

11 April Induction Day for Newer Clerks, Wakefield: The Clerk was asked to enquire about content and decide whether to attend.

19 April 2013, 9.30 - 1.00 at the Salem Resource Centre, Central Street, Hebden Bridge, National to the Local event with MP C. Whittaker: The Clerk was asked to circulate the invitation.

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

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

??? June, 7.30pm Methodist Church, Blackshaw Head, South Pennine Branch meeting

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. Financial matters:** The Clerk notified that Andy Glyde had agreed to be the internal auditor for the Annual Return process and that she was implementing the HMRC PAYE Real Time Reporting for 2013/14. Cllr. Lund has enquired about his specimen signature not being accepted by Nat West. The cheque made out to the Land Registry had not been presented; it was written over 6 months ago and is now out of date.

15.1. To note limit to Sec 137 expenditure for financial year 13/14: It was noted that the limit for 2013/14 was £6.98.

15.2. 2012/13 budget, variances and balances: The balance of accounts was £4349.21, the remaining budget for the year was £952.24 and it was agreed to transfer £1000 from the reserve to the current account. Notice of bank charges of £70 had been received for a returned cheque, the Clerk was asked to write to NatWest complaining that the charges were not reasonable due to the delay in receiving the notification of the return of the cheque.

15.3. To reimburse Clerk for office supplies purchase £345.61 (not £345.53 as in agenda, small amendment due to addition error) (includes envelopes and stamps for the upcoming Parish Newsletter): Agreed.

15.4. To reimburse Clerk for mileage £96.34: Agreed.

15.5. To confirm payment of the Clerk's monthly salary: Agreed.

15.6. To confirm payment of invoice for Allotment Fencing £300: Agreed.

15.7. To confirm payment for hire of Stubbing Wharf room for February WayaHead meeting £37.50: Agreed. It was requested that the WayaHead meeting in June consider whether the expense of booking the Stubbing Wharf room is justified and whether there is a room that can be booked for free for the October meeting.

15.8. To confirm payment for hire of Town Hall for meeting of the Allotments Cttee. £36: The invoice had not yet been received and it was reported that the Parish Council are entitled to book meetings in the Town Hall for free. The Clerk was asked to clarify this.

15.9. To consider an application from BEAT for sec 137 grant. Finn Jensen spoke to the application which was to cover insurance for BEAT activities. Unfortunately the Application was not accompanied by a statement of accounts which is required before a decision can be made. Finn was asked to resubmit the application for the next meeting.

16. Dates of future meetings:-

Parish Council Meetings: - 22 April Blackshaw Head Methodist Church.

Allotment Committee: – tbc.

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

Signed *Maggie Boyle*

Clerk to the Parish Council