

## **Minutes of the Blackshaw Parish Council Meeting on 28 July 2014 in Blackshaw Methodist Church**

**Present:** Cllr. Mick Davies (in the Chair), Cllr. Dorothy Sutcliffe, Cllr. Steve Hoyle, Cllr. Chris Lund, Cllr. Carol King, Cllr. Pat Beechill and five members of the public.

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

**1. Apologies for absences previously notified to the Clerk –** Cllr. Tim Cole.

**2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda –** None were declared.

**3. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23 June 2014 –** These were agreed.

**4. To receive information on matters arising from the Parish Council meeting 23 June 2014:**

**4.1. White Lining post resurfacing of Badger Lane –** It was agreed that the Clerk should ask Ward Councillors to support the Parish Council in its robust request to Highways that the white lines at the verges on Badger Lane be repainted so that the distance between them is as it was prior to the resurfacing and that **remedial** action is taken to make the cats eyes visible, to address the already deteriorating edges of the tarmac and to replace rumble strips. The Clerk was asked to write to the Friends of Colden School requesting information about the numbers of children walking to Colden School from the village.

**5. Minutes of the WayaHead meeting on 16 June 2014 –** noted.

**6. To receive information on matter arising from the WayaHead meeting 16 June 2014**

**6.1. TLC attending Fete –** noted.

**6.2. Clapper Bridge –** The Chairman thanked all the local volunteers who assisted in reinstating the bridge after its damage during the flooding in 2012.

**6.3. Emergency Plan –** the Clerk reported that section 1 of the Plan will be proof read by Cllr. Davies and some copies will be printed for display and distribution at the Fete.

**7. To consider correspondence about/from**

**7.1. Wagon bodies –** the response from the owner that remedial work would be completed by the end of summer was noted.

**7.2. The recent power surge –** The Clerk reported on the response from residents about the compensation/ insurance pay out received to cover equipment damaged as a result of the power surge that resulted from cable thefts. Some had received up to £200 from Northern Powergrid, The insurance company of the home owner who had received a crime number had covered the cost of replacing damaged equipment. Other home owners were not given a crime number by Police. Cllr. Davies will discuss the issue with PC Stocks. The Clerk will write to a contact at the National Trust who dealt with a similar problem.

**7.3. Yorkshire Water supplies –** Cllrs. considered the number of contacts YW reported for the last 3 years in response to a query submitted under the Freedom of Information Act. They were concerned that the number was high and indicative of the frequent bursts of a pipe that had been laid in 1972. The Clerk was asked to write to YW and ask what they had done as a result of the most recent burst and what their timescale was for replacement of the old pipe.

**7.4. PCP Turbine –** Cllrs. noted that the blades had now been changed. Cllr. Davies would arrange a meeting with Directors.

**7.5. Charlestown Allotments Lease –** This has still not been received. The Clerk was asked to complain about the delay to the Land Registry and let the solicitor know.

**7.6. Banners –** The issue was raised by Ward Cllrs. at a meeting of the Cabinet at which it was agreed that pending the agreement of a new policy, banners can be displayed by not for profit community organisations at the turning circle and the railings in the Centre of Hebden Bridge, Neighbourhood Co-ordinators will be involved in monitoring the situation.

**7.7. Coal Clough Wind Farm –** a reply had been received from Burnley planning department which indicated that the access road would remain for the period of operation of the Wind Farm.

**7.8. Extension, Scout Moor Wind Farm, Lancashire, consultation –** The Clerk was asked to reply indicating that Councillors held the view that the unique landscape of the South Pennines has been harmed by the already existing/permitted wind farms.

**7.9. NALC Guidance – handling complaints –** It was agreed that the NALC Template guidance would be considered and adopted if appropriate at the next meeting.

**8. To receive information about the Neighbourhood Plan –** Wadsworth PC had agreed to join in the project. This meant that each Parish would have one vote and Hebden Royd would have four votes. Councillors agreed that Cllr. Mick Davies would represent the PC and Cllr. Steve Hoyle would attend as a substitute.

**9. To consider planning related matters:-**

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

**9.1.1. Update from Anne Markwell, Enforcement Team Leader** – no communication had been received for at least 2 months. The Clerk was asked to contact Ward Councillors.

**9.2. Email from Planning re. App. 14/00051** – The Case Officer had replied to the Clerk's email explaining that the reason the application for a turbine had been declared invalid after initial documentation was posted on the Planning website was because it had been realised that new planning guidance applied which required prior consultation with the community. Another similar application had been consulted on at about the same time but the new guidance had not been applied due to an oversight.

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

**9.3.1. Installation of 1 Tozzi Nord TN535 Wind Turbine with an overall maximum height from base to tip of 21.6m (height to hub 15m) Land South Of Lower Earnshaw Water Farm The Long Causeway Blackshaw Head Hebden Bridge Calderdale – neighbourhood consultation, (documents sent via Google group)** – The Clerk was asked to reply that

**9.3.1.1.** The height of the turbine would adversely dominate the local area, the proposed turbine site is only 60m from Lower Lane.

**9.3.1.2.** The cumulative effect of another turbine added to the three already located in close proximity to the proposed site would harm the visual amenity (the proposed site is in the Area Around Todmorden and in a Special Landscape Area).

**9.3.1.3.** It is a short distance from the water course and works may impact water drainage and quality.

**9.3.1.4.** Residents nearby are already adversely affected by noise from existing turbines in close proximity to the one that is now being proposed so its location would compound the problems already being suffered (it should be noted that, in particular, elderly and disabled people cannot get away from the noise).

**9.3.1.5.** The proposed site is in a wildlife corridor.

**9.3.1.6.** The cumulative effect of the turbines in the area is known to be adversely affecting property prices.

Councillors would like the applicants to note that a recent application for a similarly sized turbine was objected to by 80 residents and encourage the applicant to take note of the Planning Officers report and to address the issues raised.

**9.3.2. 14/00730/HSE** | Single storey extension to North East elevation | Green Barn Dark Lane Blackshaw Head Hebden Bridge West Yorkshire HX7 7JR – The Council resolved to object to this application on the same grounds as were cited when a previous version of this application was considered, i.e. that a footpath would be affected if the extension was permitted.

**9.3.3. 14/00802/192** | Conversion of outbuilding to summerhouse (Lawful Development Certificate) | Rawtonstall House Dark Lane Blackshaw Head Hebden Bridge Calderdale HX7 7JR - Councillors were not sure whether the proposal met the criteria for lawful development but could not see any reason to object to the conversion as proposed.

**9.3.4. 14/00832/FUL** | Change of use from agriculture to touring caravan site, including 39 pitches, office/toilet facilities, earthworks to create central mounds, internal access road and new boundary walling. | Land Off Smithwell Lane Heptonstall Hebden Bridge Calderdale – The Clerk was asked to express Councillors concerns that the development would impact the roads in the area – specifically Lee Wood Road, the road at Jack Bridge by Colden school and the road through Heptonstall. The latter two allowing only one way traffic, the prospect of drivers towing caravans having to reverse on meeting the bus and endangering pedestrians was raised.

**10. To consider matters relating to highways, bridleways and footpaths:**

**10.1. Jumble Hole collapse** – Work was expected to start within the month. The PC would keep a watching brief.

**10.2. Ingle Dene to Stubbing Wharf – update** – Cllr. Davies would explore the idea of a petition for the exit and road crossing at Ingle Dene.

**10.3. Cows with calves kept in fields with footpaths** – An incident had occurred in the Parish in which a walker had been seriously injured and his dog had been trampled to death by a stampede of cows with calves. The Clerk was asked to write to Calderdale Rights of Way team and the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator to ask if there was any guidance for walkers with dogs.

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

**11.1. To consider the updated Financial Regulations** – The Clerk presented the final version with the previously agreed edits. The matter of the use of personal credit cards was discussed. It was

agreed that in future the Clerk would obtain an invoice for stationery from Viking and present a cheque to be signed for the Yorkshire Water bill for the Allotments. The Chairman raised the need to have a performance appraisal system for staff – this would be discussed at a future meeting.

**11.2. Budget (2014/15) and balances, bank reconciliation and transfer of funds between accounts** – The Balance of accounts was £9,964.66p which reconciled to the cashbook (the paperwork being inspected and signed by a Councillor), the budget remaining was £4,863.30p and it was agreed to transfer £280 from the Reserve to the Current Account;

**11.3. To consider completing form to receive interest on Reserve Account gross** – A letter produced by the Clerk was signed.

**11.4. To make a donation to CROWS for work on Calderdale Way, £40 (Power to repair and maintain footpaths and bridleways)** – Agreed (the matter of an annual statement of accounts for the group was raised and the Clerk asked to request this).

**11.5. To reimburse the Clerk for payment of latest bill for water used on Allotments £14.69 (agreed by Council to pay from allotment rents)** - Agreed

**11.6. To pay for repair of Parish Lap Top £30 (Financial Regulations 4.5)** - Agreed;

**11.7. To confirm payment of the Clerk's monthly salary-** Agreed.

**12. To consider representative reports and invitations:**

**2 July Flood Action group** – The first Flood Store was in position behind the Mill at Garden Street

**15 July Ward Forum** - Councillors were pleased that the issue of Banners had been resolved, TLC buses were reporting a 50% increase in traffic on January. There was £5000 available to be spent on issues identified by the Ward Forum and there was a consultation in place as to how the money would be allocated.

**17 July Flood Community Project Board** – work was ongoing.

**18 July Presentation about Fracking** – It had not been possible for Councillors to attend.

**30th July 2014 – Neighbourhood Planning meeting**

**18<sup>th</sup> September Flood Recovery Programme Board meetings** – 2pm until 3:30pm in Halifax Town Hall,

**1st September 2014 Neighbourhood Planning meeting**

**6th October 2014 Neighbourhood Planning meeting**

**13 October Heptonstall Exhibitions and Richard Naylor Charities**

**17th November 2014 Neighbourhood Planning meeting**

**10<sup>th</sup> December – 2pm until 3:30pm in Halifax town hall Flood Recovery Programme Board meetings**

**Neighbourhood Planning meetings: Monday 12th January 2015, Monday 16th February 2015, Monday 30th March 2015**

**Dates of future meetings:-**

**Parish Council Meetings:** - 18 August, 22 September, 27 October, 24 November, 15, December, 26 January 2015, 23 February, 23 March, 27 April at Blackshaw Head Methodist Church.

**WayAhead meetings** –13 October New Delight, 16 February 2015, Council Chamber, Hebden Bridge Town Hall .

**Allotment Committee** – 15 September 2014, 16 March 2015, Council Chamber Hebden Bridge Town Hall.

**Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting** – to be confirmed for 2015 at Hebden Bridge Town Hall.