

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 19 May 2014 in the Council Chamber Hebden Bridge Town Hall.

Present: Cllr. Mick Davies (in the Chair), Cllr. Steve Hoyle, Cllr. Dorothy Sutcliffe, Cllr. Carol King, Cllr. Chris Lund, Cllr. Tim Cole and 2 members of the public.

In attendance: Maggie Boyle (Clerk)

1. **Welcome** – The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Apologies** – Cllr. Pat Beechill.
3. **Minutes of last year's Annual Parish Meeting held on 20 May 2013** – These were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising.
4. **Annual Report from the Chairman of the Parish Council** – The Chairman's report had previously been sent to everyone on the electoral register (attached). The Chairman particularly emphasized
 1. how well the allotments were being utilized;
 2. next year's elections to the Parish Council – he encouraged residents to think about whether they may want put themselves forward;
 3. the launch of the Emergency Plan at the Fete;
 4. the new bus service run by TLC – 'use it or lose it';
 5. the plans for Superfast Broadband in the Parish were now shown on a map but difficult to interpret
 6. the Tour de France – BPC was communicating with CMBC about appropriate preparations;
 7. BPC was participating in drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan with Hebden Royd, Heptonstall and Erringden.
 8. BPC had been involved in resolving several Highways issues this year – more below.
5. **To receive an update about the Community Turbine** – BPC had received an update from Directors of Pennine Community Power. Unfortunately during the intended repairs the furling mechanism had broken and blades could not be changed. Directors are awaiting a higher platform which will enable the repairs to be carried out very soon. Cllr. Cole was disappointed that the turbine had not been decommissioned as BPC had requested – the problems have now been going on for months. It was felt that it is unacceptable that the turbine can't be stopped and a question was asked about whether there are any regulations about this and whether the turbine complies. The Clerk was asked to write to PCP at the end of May and ask whether the higher platform had been procured and the repairs completed.
6. **To consider Highways issues in the Parish** – Cllr. Davies reiterated the problems (A646) at Thistle Bottom (bus stops on both sides but dangerous to cross the road) and Ingle Dene (residents can't get to the bus stops or drive safely out of the exit); at Mytholm Steeps/Glen View residents feel unsafe as traffic manoeuvres round the bend on a very narrow road -as yet no one has been fatally injured but many parked vehicles have been damaged and several cats killed. BPC has been in touch with Highways and informed Ward Councillors about both issues but no improvements for residents so far. The recent resurfacing of roads in the village were commented on – beyond the newly surfaced area the side of the road is already eroded and creating puddles in some areas; the reflectors indicating the edge of the road are now lower than the road surface; some manholes have been covered. The Clerk was asked to enquire whether there would be an inspection of the work and if so could BPC be informed of the date and time so that an elected member could meet with officers to point out the issues.
7. **To consider the Campaign for faster Broadband in Blackshaw** – The map appearing on the Superfast Broad band website was projected and discussed. BPC have asked for clarification of what will happen in a number of areas which cannot be interpreted from the map but have not had any response yet.
8. **To consider how to commemorate the Great War in the Parish** – Hope Baptist Church has been booked for a service of remembrance on 3rd August. Councillors would like more details – the Clerk was asked to enquire. A group in the Parish have red poppy seeds. It was suggested that the banking on the A646 adjoining the Allotments can be sown with poppy seeds (perhaps on June 14th when the working party is taking place) and that the new banking created on the Steeps could also be sown. There will be a nation-wide vigil on 4th August at 11pm – perhaps something can be organised in the Parish.
9. **Any other community issues** –
 - 8.1 A member of neighbourhood Watch spoke about the group's discussions about acquiring CCTV in the village. There had been a number of bike thefts, cable thefts, vehicle part thefts and even some big bales stolen from fields. It was felt that the thieves arrive in the village in vehicles and a vehicle recognition camera could be used to advantage. It is possible the Police may provide a camera that would be connected to their systems. It may be necessary to raise some funding for a

camera. The Clerk was asked to keep the item of CCTV on the PC agenda. Residents were encouraged to attend Neighbourhood Watch meetings.

- 8.2 The issue of the Power Surge was raised – 20 properties were affected with households experiencing losses of £1500 on average. It was suggested that a modern PME supply should have stopped the voltage drifting and less equipment would have been damaged. The PC was asked to write to Northern Powergrid about this. Could a fire had resulted? Is wiring still safe? Could they provide an account of what happened? There are people dependent on power for medical equipment – how can they protected? What will Northern PowerGrid do to prevent power surges in the future given they have a duty to keep their supply within safety limits which were breached in this case? The Clerk was asked to request that YLCA put this issue on their June agenda.
8. **The Chairman has donated** £68 from the Chairman's allowance to Todmorden Food Bank and this has been augmented by a further £132 that was raised for the Chairman's Charity. The remainder of the Chairman's allowance of £132 will be split between Colden School, the Todmorden Food Bank and Charlestown Allotments group.
9. **Local residents were invited to join the WayaHead Committee** – the Emergency Plan will be discussed on 16th June.
8. **Open forum to discuss other matters of public concern** - no other issues were raised.
9. **Date of next Annual Parish Meeting – this will be held within two weeks of the Elections to the Parish Council 2015** - It was suggested that the mailing of the Parish Newsletter was brought forward so that it could be used encourage residents to stand and to publish the timetable for submitting nomination forms for the elections.

This meeting was followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting.