
BLACKSHAW PARISH COUNCIL

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Draft Minutes of Blackshaw Parish Council 7.30pm on Monday 28th October 2019 at Blackshaw Head Methodist Church Blackshaw Head, Hebden Bridge, HX7 7JY.

Present: Cllr Bowen (Chair), Cllrs Butterworth, Lacey, Lomax, Patterson

1. Apologies for absences previously notified to the Clerk. Cllr King, Cllr Tiler-Ansell
2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda. None.
3. Confirmed the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 23rd September 2019
4. Information on matters arising from the meetings on 23rd September. Drainage issue on Long Causeway has been resolved according to email from Highways. Had email from parishioner regarding further issues with building site at top of Davy Lane – Clerk has advised what steps have been taken thus far to ensure better safety.
5. Guest speaker on flood resilience – Andrew Entwistle. Lead Flood Warden for Hebden Bridge. HB Flood Action Group came out of 2012 floods. Joined with Environment Agency and CMBC, got grant money and spent on containers for first aid equipment that people can help themselves to. News is that CMBC have agreed to fund a new container to go in next to Charlestown Rec. Legal department just need to give a license, and then they'll get it in situ, hopefully before Christmas. Keysafes on all containers – number for residents to access in case of flooding is 2015. Andrew aware that there are also issues on the tops, but hasn't had resources or time to assist up here. Aware of flooding problems at Jack Bridge and is trying to get a space to put a small flood store in nearby area. Been offered some metal containers / clothing stores to use as small stores. Suggestions regarding the pub car park, or the field behind the new holiday lets. Cllr Butterworth to approach various people regarding a spot to put store. Considerable amounts of water have been flowing down Smithy Lane, but this was helped by clearing a drain there. Useful to have flood wardens up here, to let main wardens know how things are. Flood Group have tools and can clear drains if they know where the problem is. Communications have improved by using radios. Can't do huge amounts, but helping people to help themselves is main aim. Cllr Lacey asked about the Hebden flood plan. Andrew replied that lots of work behind the scenes on planning and surveying – it is an extremely complex scheme, needing lots of engineering and planning decisions. Won't start work till winter of next year, as finance isn't yet in place, as it is costing millions. Cllr Butterworth asked about Yorkshire Water, and the reservoir levels, and Andrew responded that negotiations were in progress. Cllr Patterson pointed out that people need to be encouraged to look after their immediate gulleys/drains. To conclude, everyone needs to be individually prepared, *and* as a community.
6. Further information on the Blackshaw Climate Summit meeting on 1st December. Good preparatory meeting held with about 12-13 people. Speakers are confirmed and facilitators in place, with just a few slots left to fill. Another meeting on 4th Nov to work out a number of remaining tasks. Meeting on 19th for group leaders/facilitators. Concerned about publicity for it, as need wide spread of people there. Few posters perhaps, open to ideas. Cllr Lomax raised the issue of having a budget for this, and agreed to put it on the agenda for next meeting. Could make a banner or two to be put up locally.
7. Arrangements for a December Parish Council meeting. Carol Service is on 20th December, and councillors usually make or buy mince pies. But difficult to have meeting then as building very busy. Agreed to schedule a short meeting with a limited agenda on Monday 23rd December.
8. Feedback from the Allotment Committee meeting on 7th October. Allotment group very grateful for consistent support from the parish council. Minutes of this meeting are available on the website. Issue of the banking of parish council grass usually cut by the gardener, proposal to mark out as a wildflower meadow. Agreed to arrange a meeting for Cllr Lomax and Dan the gardener together. Issue regarding membership of National Association of Allotments. Some in allotment group think people should be forced to be members as part of their contract, however the councillors on the allotment committee do not think this is appropriate and the full council agreed with this.
9. Proposal by Neighbourhood Watch group to site CCTV cameras on the Chapel. Proposal to put 2 cameras on the side of the chapel, using power supply from in the Chapel. Cameras aren't very expensive and they believe they will pick number plates up. Volunteers will be doing this for now.

10. To consider planning related matters: -

10.1. To receive information on previous planning applications:

10.1.1. - **19/00873/FUL** | Agricultural building | Lower Murgatshaw Farm Old Shaw Lane Blackshaw Head Hebden Bridge Calderdale HX7 7HZ. **Permitted.**

10.2. Update on Enforcement and other planning issues.

10.2.1. Chimney being demolished on the Steeps. Civic trust has got involved, and a lively objection. Objections need to be lodged by 14th November as this is the deadline (because they didn't put the correct application in). Developers own the land/chimney. Agreed to put in objection mentioning the following: Iconic chimney, not in currently dangerous state, and repairs should be done. Landmark on approach to village and parishioners have expressed concern about losing it and we as PC would like it to remain. Historic importance, first chimney of its kind in Hebden Bridge.

10.2.2. High House Farm enforcement action takes place in court in Bradford on 1st November.

10.3. To consider new planning applications:

10.3.1. 19/01133/FUL | Importation of inert material and the installation of an agricultural track (Retrospective) | Land At Coordinates 395460 427045 Cow Side Road Todmorden Calderdale. Land owned by one of CMBC's main road contractors, and the company is also a major processor of green waste in Calderdale. Of this waste, they burn some, sell some, and are left with the residual, which has in the past reportedly been spread in areas of the parish, eg Steeps, possibly leading to invasion of Himalaya Balsam. Cllr Butterworth thinks application may be to import this stuff to spread it on the countryside in the future. Also query the materials for the track. 500 tonnes of '6F2'. But the photos show that it is not 6F2. Further the invoice wasn't invoiced until 6 months later. And if a track was needed, why immediately grass over it? Agreed to write to highways regarding Roadworks in Jan/Feb 2019 in Lydgate and Cornholme, asking if they could they tell us what happened to that waste material. If no response, use FOI act to find out. Agreed to object to this application. Need to clarify initially whether this is all retrospective or something for the future. Also need to know more about residue of green waste.

11. To consider matters relating to highways, bridleways and footpaths

11.1. Feedback from meeting at Highways. Three councillors attended and felt it was productive meeting. Discussed 20mph zone – is with legal team. Asked about restoring white lines and Kevin Moran has since added that reinstating white lines to original position should be happening in short term. Mytholm Steeps, Kevin has agreed should be a width restriction, and takes point about HGV sign not being visible. Length restriction sign also being discussed. Street lights – Mary Farrar of CMBC said residents can object and ask for them to be removed, and residents have already written. Oakville Rd ownership is a quagmire that seems no-one is going to take responsibility for. Request for stone village entrance sign is with the legal team.

11.2. Feedback from CROWS regarding footpath issues raised at last meeting and discussion of their proposal for future funding. Clerk explained proposal to have separate budget agreed each year, as Heptonstall PC have just decided on. Agreed to budget for this in next year's budget, award grant at start of year for reporting at end of financial year.

11.3. Speeding enforcement on Long Causeway. An incident was reported to the council by parishioner and she wanted to know what we can do to reduce speed. Agreed Cllr Bowen to write to parishioner mentioning 20mph zone and village welcome signs.

11.4. Overhanging vegetation – Clerk has written to owners of property mentioned last meeting about overhanging vegetation at bus shelter. Also overgrown opposite Davy Lane. Grayde to pass on details. Agreed to write a polite letter regarding a yellow van that a parishioner has said is often parked in an inappropriate way.

12. To consider the following financial matters:

12.1. To consider the bank balances and budget for 2019/20.

12.2. Agreed purchase of a wreath for Remembrance Day.

12.3. Considered a grant to the Allotment group for water butt improvements. The allotment group have put in an application for funding for the supports for the water butts. Councillors discussed the relative merits of wooden versus plastic supports. Agreed to donate £200 to the allotment group for the purposes constructing bases for their water butts.

12.4. Confirmed payment of £500 for the roof appeal for the Chapel

12.5. Confirmed payment of the Clerk's monthly salary and expenses.

13. To consider representative reports and invitations

13.1. Previous Events

Annual Town and Parish Conference - Saturday, 5th October 2019 - Need to forward details of 2 Dry soil and 3 Cally hall cottages to person at CMBC. Publicised Climate meeting. Feedback on enforcement. Safer Cleaner Greener meetings is a forum that many of the current issues can raise. Jae Campbell. Agreed to ask for an invitation to this meeting.

Board meeting of Heptonstall Exhibitions – 11 applicants for grant, but only one new one. 3 were in Blackshawhead. Cllr Bowen is a director of the charity.

Blackshawhead Fete debrief meeting - few minor issues. Produce tent people are stepping down, so need new people to step up.

13.2. Upcoming Events

Christmas events in Blackshaw – carol service on 20th December.

1st December – climate summit.

Sad news that Vicky Norman, long time parishioner, has died, and funeral will be at , Blackshaw Head Chapel November 8th, at 12pm.

Items for next meeting - budget for climate meeting, christmas hampers & lights,

Parish Council Meetings: - 25th November. 23rd December, 27th January. Annual Meeting: 13th May

Allotment Committee Meeting - 11 March 2020

Signed *Catherine Bann* Clerk to the Parish Council