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# BLACKSHAW PARISH COUNCIL

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## Draft Minutes of Blackshaw Parish Council on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at Blackshaw Head Methodist Church

Present: Cllr Bowen (Chair), Cllrs Butterworth, Tiler-Ansell, Lomax, King, Lacey and Patterson and three members of the public.

1. Apologies for absences previously notified to the Clerk. None
2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda. None
3. Confirmed the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2019. Cllr Lomax was present. Minutes to be amended.
4. Information on matters arising from the meetings on 23<sup>rd</sup> December. Clerk to follow up the dog poo bin with CMBC re emptying. Clerk also to follow up with letters to dog walkers. The planning issue 7.1.2, can bring up again at T & PC meeting is next Tuesday.
5. Agreed the new NALC disciplinary and grievance policies.
6. Update on empty properties. 2 Dry Soil and 3 Cally Hall Cottages. No response from CMBC as yet. Discussed Callis Mill – could it be subject to a CPO in order that it could be used for other purposes, eg a marina or car park, gateway site? Is Council tax being paid?
7. Proposals emerging from the informal working group on climate change. Several people met in a working group to progress actions after the Climate Summit. It was recommended that a proposal be put to this meeting to declare a climate emergency and create a working group linking with hubs in community to create an action plan on 4 areas. Proposal is as follows:  
Following a public 'Climate and Biodiversity Summit' meeting on 1/12/2019, Blackshaw Parish Council now joins hundreds of councils in the UK in declaring a climate emergency. The Council commits to taking action for our community to become carbon neutral, or negative, by 2030. A detailed plan will be developed with an update report within 6 months on actions being taken to address this emergency including biodiversity. To do so, we propose an organisational model formed of at least 4 semi-autonomous hubs, rooted in the community, to address action on the 4 issues of energy, environment, transport, and resources. The Parish Council, through a Climate Emergency Committee, will brief, support, and coordinate these hubs (led by interested and appropriate members in community).  
Some discussion around this, noting that some groups may need more ownership/participation by councillors than others. Also noted that there may be more than 4 areas. Amended word 'Committee' to 'working group'.  
This was otherwise unanimously agreed. Cllrs Patterson, Tiler-Ansell, Lomax and Lacey and Butterworth agreed to be on the group. This group to arrange first meeting.
8. Noted new tenant at Allotments. Cllr Lomax to follow up with Allen and Dan regarding wild flower area etc.
9. **To consider planning related matters: -**
  - 9.1. To receive information on previous planning applications: Long Causeway Agreed to write to planning officer again, and either request a written update or a meeting. Issue around the verge – who did it belong to? If it belonged to CMBC, have they given him the land? Was it sold? Possibility of malfeasance in public office. Issue about sightlines now that the wall is further out. Could also write to highways on this issue. Pedestrian right of way? Was used to site skips during village clean up.
  - 9.2. Update on Enforcement and other planning issues.
    - 9.2.1. Update on Long Hey Top. Letter from planning officer saying she will write to owner. Not clear to any of us whether it is domestic curtilage or not, but certainly not within the garden. Was previously a chicken coop, so perhaps farmland/agricultural land. Although it is 'tastefully done', fact remains that land has now been concreted over. Water absorbency of that area has reduced.
  - 9.3. To consider new planning applications: None
10. **To consider matters relating to highways, bridleways and footpaths**
  - 10.1. Streetlights and bus shelter at Callis - update. New bus shelter has been built and streetlights reinstated. Also bus shelter outside Methodists in Hebden has new shelter.
  - 10.2. Update on traffic issues in the parish. Discussed road closure at Turret Hall Rd. Yorkshire Water dug hole, but didn't leave space for traffic. Then left it for Morrisons to reinstate, but it took around 10

days. Very inconvenient for the people who lived beyond this – extremely long diversion raising concerns about access in an emergency. Agreed to start by writing to highways about this. Could also write to Yorkshire Water.

**10.3.** Consultation on A646. Cllr Butterworth attended. He suggested that the bus wait at Steeps, as it is the bus that blocks the road in centre of Hebden. Also mentioned shortcut from Burnley down the Steeps because the A646 has too many delays. However organisers refused to discuss bus services and any other roads. Consultation has been extended to 14<sup>th</sup> February. Councillors encouraged to input into it. No changes proposed to the section running through our parish. Main impact A646 has on our parish is that it fills our side roads. Heavy traffic coming through when there are issues with motorways. Parish and town councils weren't informed about the consultation. Steven Lee will be attending T & PC meeting.

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

**11.1.** Confirmed the draft budget for 2020/21 and agreed by a majority to an annual precept of £6800. Some councillors had concern about this. While it is only a £272 increase, because of a surprising decrease in the Effective Council Tax Base, it represents an increase of just over 8%. However a decrease in the precept was felt to be counter-productive to the desire to fund some proposals relating to climate change discussed in previous meetings.

**11.2.** The bank balances stand at £9257 for 2019/20

**11.3.** Agreed to pay for councillors to attend YLCA Spring conference.

**11.4.** Confirmed payment for the allotment grass cutting invoice.

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

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

### **12.1. Previous Events**

Neighbourhood Plan committee - next two meetings clash with BPC

Safer Cleaner Greener - 16<sup>th</sup> Jan. Cllr Lacey attended. Ian Turner from highways was there, and she discussed this and other issues with him. She was told to contact Peter Stubbs regarding white lines on badger lane, 20mph and signage on Steeps. Investigation into accident at bottom of Mytholm Steeps made clear that the driver was not speeding, and it was an older girl who ran into oncoming car.

Climate change working group - 23<sup>rd</sup> January

### **12.2. Upcoming Events**

Fete AGM Monday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb. - Cllr Bowen to attend

T & PC Liaison next Tuesday. Cllr Butterworth to attend

Ward Forum on 13<sup>th</sup> Feb.

**Items for next meeting** - Tour de Yorkshire, Gypsy & Traveller consultation to go into Home Office. Write to YLCA and ask if individual councillors can feed into their consultation.

**Parish Council Meetings:** - 24<sup>th</sup> February, 23<sup>rd</sup> March Annual Meeting: 13<sup>th</sup> May

**Allotment Committee Meeting** - 11 March 2020

Signed *Catherine Bann* Clerk to the Parish Council