
BLACKSHAW PARISH COUNCIL

6 Adelaide St, Todmorden, OL14 5HT 01706 815155
blackshawclerk@gmail.com www.blackshaw.net



Draft Minutes of Blackshaw Parish Council meeting on Monday 22nd June 2020 on Zoom online.

Present: Councillors Butterworth (Chair), Lacey, King, Patterson, Tiler-Ansell, Bowen and Lomax, and nine 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 Annual Parish Council meeting on 18th May 2020
4. Information on matters arising from the meetings on 18th May. Received very warm letter from May Stocks regarding the Community Award. Clerk will get back in touch as soon about the actual presentation as soon as we know whether the Fete will go ahead. On issue of sewage at Hebble Hole, Cllr Lacey still pursuing action on this, and now has a new person to contact who will look into it.
5. Dangerous cycling on footpaths in the parish. Cllr Patterson introduced issue; she had been approached by several parishioners about a particular route being used by cyclists, from Wood Farm down the rear of Oakville Rd. It is not only that cyclists are not meant to use public footpaths, but that a minority are doing so in very reckless manner. One of issues is that the route features on Strava, a cycling app, that implicitly encourages people to compete for the fastest times (labelled ST Oakville). Cllr Tiler-Ansell said she had been in touch with Strava, and will be following this up. Cllr Lomax wondered about whether erecting some sort of blockage, be it a stile, gate or chicane, would be effective in stopping this. The landowner of the route in question attended meeting and explained he had been contacted by several members of public who had near accidents with cyclists. Expressed view that people are entitled to enjoy footpaths without fear and he felt a coordinated approach needed. He can put up a barrier, but this might just shunt the problem onto other areas. Had been in touch with Jan Gibson (highways officer at CMBC) who was concerned about problem, which is being experienced across a number of parishes. He explained that landowner can reinstate former stiles with no need for permission, and where they didn't exist, build chicanes. Notices have been put up, urging caution and members of community beginning to come together to tackle problem. Another member of public represented Ride Calderdale. Explained that group exists to try to resolve issues, and that it was a small minority of riders causing a problem. Explained that there are many local riders, and Ride Calderdale promoting 'giving way' to pedestrians in 'Be Kind, Say Hi' campaign. But area has become more popular with outside mountain bikers recently. These routes now feature online, and Strava can be a useful app: in some cases, the trails are less dangerous than at first it may seem. Raised the issue that maps of footpaths and bridleways don't always reflect the actual suitability of these routes for cycling. Some designated footpaths are more appropriate than some bridleways for example. Perhaps need an overhaul and some routes that are suitable for cycling to be so designated. Cllr Butterworth raised possibility of some landowners being paid a subsidy to support a cycle route for example. In meantime, agreed need a coordinated response across Calderdale to this, and support from CMBC. Agreed to write to CMBC, Jan Gibson and Jae Campbell. Agreed to raise issue at next Safer, Cleaner, Greener meeting, and also at the Neighbourhood Plan meeting. Agreed that a separate meeting be set up with representatives from parishes, CMBC and Ride Calderdale invited.
6. Flood prevention at Sandbed, Charlestown. Member of public explained the ongoing flooding problem in area. Some time ago the Environment Agency A built up the wall in the area as a prevention measure, but this stops at Sandbed for some reason. Walls behind the houses there showing signs of deterioration. Believes that if height of wall was raised, this would go some way to solving flooding of property in the area. Cllr Patterson noted the recent EA report, which she said goes into detailed explanations for measures taken (or not taken). This can be accessed here https://eyeoncalderdale.com/Media/Default/General%20News%20images/Calderdale_FAQs.pdf and Clerk to circulate. Agreed that the next step would be for the Council to request an onsite meeting with the EA to discuss flooding issue and possible preventative measures.
7. **To consider planning related matters: -**
 - 7.1. To receive information on previous planning applications:
 - 7.1.1. 20/00242/HSE | Two storey front extension | 2 Pennine View Blackshaw Head Hebden Bridge Calderdale HX7 7JS - **Permitted**
 - 7.1.2. 20/00243/HSE | Two storey side extension | The Stable The Long Causeway Blackshaw Head Hebden Bridge Calderdale HX7 7JB – **Withdrawn**

7.2. Update on Enforcement and other planning issues.

7.2.1. Update on the issue of plastic/ metal waste spread on land around Hippins Clough. Meetings held with Cllr Patient, and also with EA. The latter was teleconference but Clerk made video of the waste being handled which was circulated to EA representatives beforehand. EA agreed the material was of concern. They had already advised Holroyd's to use a smaller screen, but also said that once COVID advice allowed, they would do a site visit, both to fields in question, and also their processing site. They can check the size of screen etc, and also paperwork. They advised parish council to put in a complaint to the compost certification scheme, and Clerk has done this. In terms of CMBC, Cllr Patient was progressing this, had checked with green waste supplied to Holroyds, but didn't find an issue. Will follow up with the relevant people within CMBC with responsibility for issuing contracts. It is clear that this is a wider issue than just this incident, and that changes need to be made to regulations to stop contamination of this sort, though this is something that needs to be progressed at different level. BPC will support local resident who is looking into researching this further within auspices of his university.

7.2.2. Update on dumped car near High St. Clerk has written to owners with no response, and then reported to CMBC. It was pointed out by member of public that the response was to smash the car up further, and photos were provided of this. It was noted that the property is now up for sale, and it was felt that this may prompt the vendors to clear up the car and other fly-tipped rubbish. Also noted that a house sale less likely with ongoing neighbourhood dispute. It was proposed that parish council inform the estate agent about this dispute, and this was agreed. Also agreed to send another letter to the landowners as this can do no harm.

7.3. To consider new planning applications:

7.3.1. 20/00418/FUL | Proposed meeting room, including kitchen and accessible toilet for business retreats | Daisy Bank Farm The Long Causeway Blackshaw Head Calderdale HX7 7JB. Applicant was in attendance at meeting and explained the plans in detail. The meeting room will enable them to promote venue as a corporate retreat or for rural courses etc. The room would only be used by the people using the camping pods, as part of overall package – not hired out separately. Cllr Lomax queried climate change mitigation measures within plans, and was informed that the current heating designed to be able to move to biomass in future, rainwater capture would be installed, electric car charging points, permeable surfaces, biodiverse landscaping, highly insulated with triple glazing and potential to include PV panels in future. Another query was answered regarding why the meeting room wasn't included on original application: using the delay to building caused by COVID to get on with next stage planning. *Unanimously agreed – no objection.*

7.3.2. 20/00589/OUT | Residential dwelling (Outline) | Former Mount Olivet Chapel Underbank Avenue Charlestown Hebden Bridge Calderdale. Cllr Patterson was contacted by several local residents opposed to this, and four local residents were present at the meeting. They were given the opportunity to voice their reasons for objecting. The Council feel that if minded to approve this application, it ought to go to Planning Committee. The Council were also disappointed that the report from Highways officer did not entail a site visit. A map cannot do justice to how narrow and difficult the access is to this site and beyond, and this forms a good part of the reasons for objection. Councillors felt very strongly that this warranted a visit to site before a Highways officer could reasonably decide whether there were any issues. The following issues were raised: 1) Extremely difficult access. Track is very narrow, only 2.7m at the narrowest point, and once building there, may put strain on retaining wall below. There are a number of houses beyond this site, and residents all expressed serious concerns about this. The new development would remove the turning space that is used by delivery vans, or emergency services. Further, another development would increase traffic, which is just not sustainable in this location. 2) The location is of historic interest and is also on the important intersection of the Pennine Way and the Pennine Bridleway, 3) Development may be detrimental to the rootstock of trees alongside, which are protected by a TPO, 4) The building is very high, and the design is not in keeping with the surrounding area. The height of a previous public building that hasn't been in existence for a long time should not be used to justify a 3 story new residential building, 5) The site has reverted back to nature, development would cause a breach in the wildlife habitat network, 6) The site is in Land Around Todmorden, and therefore should benefit from the protections of Green Belt land. It will have a negative impact on the existing environment and character of the area. *Unanimously agreed to object*

7.3.3. 20/20092/TPO | Reduce three trees (Tree Preservation Order) | Gudger Glen View Road Hebden Bridge Calderdale HX7 6DA – *Unanimously agreed – no objection*

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

8.1. Update on problems with the bridge at Hippins Clough. Clerk reported crack on bridge to CMBC, and their surveyor has visited, has said it is not structurally unsound, crack limited to parapet and has reported this for repair. Clerk had contacted SHED re potential to get it listed, but opinion is that it is not particularly noteworthy as many similar structures locally. Agreed that it would be time-consuming and difficult to get bridge listed, so agreed to take no further action at this time.

8.2. Cllr Lacey reported some good progress on other matters: new signage has gone up at the bottom of Mytholm Steeps finally, and also the 20mph zone is still on course to happen in this calendar year.

9. To consider the following financial matters:

9.1. The 2020/2021 budget stands at £8757 and bank balances are £12,790

9.2. Considered a grant to the Neighbourhood Watch group for CCTV. Cllr Butterworth explained that group have got a camera, but now looking at better version, that will be able to recognise numberplates. Agreed that group should come back to council with some quotes.

9.3. Confirmed payment of the Allotments Water Bill to Business Stream

9.4. Confirmed payment of £40 to register with Information Commissioner's Office

9.5. Confirmed payment of the Chairman's Allowance

9.6. Confirmed payment of the Clerk's monthly salary and expenses, including £14.39 to Zoom

10. To consider representative reports and invitations

South Pennine Branch Annual Meeting - 10 June 2020 – Cllr Butterworth didn't attend so cannot report on this.

Cllr Lacey will attend the Safer Cleaner Greener meeting upcoming.

Items for next meeting - Heptonstall Exhibitions grant application.

Parish Council Meetings: - 27th July, 24th August, 28th September

Allotment Committee Meeting - October 2020

Signed *Catherine Bann* Clerk to the Parish Council