

---

# **BLACKSHAW PARISH COUNCIL**

---

**6 Adelaide St, Todmorden, OL14 5HT 01706 815155**  
[blackshawclerk@gmail.com](mailto:blackshawclerk@gmail.com) [www.blackshaw.net](http://www.blackshaw.net)



## **Minutes of Blackshaw Parish Council Meeting on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at Blackshaw Head Methodist Church, HX7 7JY.**

**Present: Cllr Butterworth in the chair, and Cllrs Davies, Bowen, Goodman, King, Sutcliffe and Neil and seven members of the public**

1. Apologies for absences previously notified to the Clerk. None.
2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda. Cllr Goodman declared an interest in 12.3.2 (immediate neighbour) and 14.1 - yellow lines at Mytholm Steeps crosses her driveway.
3. Confirmed the minutes of Parish Council meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2016
4. Report on matters arising from the meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> October for information only. Clerk has written to Anne Markwell regarding enforcement issues. Also visited Archive Service, and will proceed with necessary work.
5. Invited speaker: Vanessa Conway from Network Rail's commercial sponsor on Calder Valley line upgrade, and Salim Patel, one of the project managers. VC made clear that Network Rail are responsible for rail infrastructure - tracks, stations, bridges, tunnels, commercial property and do not operate trains. Large investment in the north at the moment with Northern Hub funding. She outlined the various improvements that will be happening over the next two years with a December 2018 completion date. These improvements include a new station at Low Moor, improved infrastructure to speed up journey times, and of particular interest to our parishioners, lift access at Hebden Bridge station. RB raised issue of lack of parking at HB Station, and VC suggested that Rail North may be worth approaching regards to upgrades eg car parking. No plans under accessibility funding to make Todmorden station disabled access. Work will be carried out over several weekends and during October half terms. RB also raised issue of recent 'clear cutting' of trees alongside line, and requested future planning applications be more honest about what tree work will be done. SP commented that very little defoliation will happen as a result of the planned upgrade.
6. Progress with the defibrillators – Clerk reported that we have been awarded matched funding for two defibrillators from Yorkshire Ambulance Service. This can progress once we have paid our section of the cost, which is £1998. We can also get training for unlimited number of people in using these at a cost of £199. Agreed to buy defibrillators and the training. Once bought, Clerk will add these to PC insurance, and PC agreed to be responsible for any ongoing maintenance. YAS will provide advice on siting and installation. Clerk reported that had applied and got a free CPR Kit from British Heart Foundation, and Edith will be organising training workshops in parish. Roger has agreed CPR kit can be housed in Chapel.
7. Christmas Hampers for vulnerable parishioners. DS proposed to go ahead as normal this year and to talk about it again in the New Year. She commented that play group wants to make something for elderly to be delivered with parcels. RB commented that old age poverty not an issue in this parish. No comprehensive list exists, and can't legally exist due to data protection issues, so only way is word of mouth. And bound to miss people out. Edith suggested social maybe better idea, and another member of public agreed. DG proposed again that too close to Christmas now, so go with what we had, but start discussing it in the new year. Voted on this, 6 for, with one abstention.
8. Update on Neighbourhood Plan Bad turn out due to illness at last NP meeting. Chief planner will attend 8<sup>th</sup> December meeting which MD will attend, and take up issue of green belt/land around Todmorden. Agreed to defer any further discussion until New Year.
9. Flood resilience update including recent workshop on natural flood management. Recent near-flooding was very close run thing. Flooding on road at Callis and Woodland View but no damage to property, and river didn't top. Lot of work on night clearing drains, leaves etc done by residents. No damage on Market St. Reservoirs low around the area anyway due to low rainfall. MD attended the Natural Flood management with CMBC and various partners and said was interesting and useful. It considered the broader aspects of using natural flood management. Interested in hydro schemes, using heritage assets. This group will come back with a report at some point in the future. Member of public at meeting reported that main road into village was flooded, due to drain at Wellside and at top of Davy Lane blocked by leaves. She suggested possibility of 'drainwatch' informal group of residents or something similar? MD agrees maybe loose organisation of volunteers may make a big difference, but this shouldn't absolve CMBC from clearing gulleys. CMBC have advertised for people to report blocked gulleys to them. DS reported terrible job done on Steeps, clearing leaves but not unblocking the gulleys. Future agenda item – get a speaker to come and talk about gully. We should try identify how many drains in our area are blocked and report this and have information to hand.

10. Draft update to the Emergency Handbook. Clerk circulated a basic update, but more needs to be done, in particular MD commented, about when it is activated. Sub group to work on this. DG, MD and Clerk.
11. Discussed a formal way of recognising the contribution made by certain parishioners to our community. MD has circulated some examples of how other PCs grant citizenship awards. Agreed this was something we would want to do, but will discuss in greater depth at January meeting, as Annual meeting to distribute any awards still some time away.
12. **To consider planning related matters: -**
  - 12.1. To receive information on previous planning applications and enforcement notices:
    - 12.1.1. 16/01135/FUL | The installation of an external staircase to the Counterpoise and associated development | Pole Hill Smallholdings Kebs Road Todmorden Calderdale - Permitted.
    - 12.1.2. 16/00255/FUL | Proposed new build dwelling of sustainable design on site adjacent to a ruined farmstead. Copley Holme Cow Side Road Calderdale HX7 7LD - Appeal in progress. Main body of appeal is that CMCB didn't engage with architects. Didn't respond to pre-planning requests and only submitted report on refusal on October 24<sup>th</sup> having refused it back in May. Appeal deals with each piece of legislation and how the planning application satisfies these. DS commented that while she opposed the application itself, the lack of engagement and way applicants treated by CMCB was disgusting, and we could voice our concerns about this. Unanimously agreed to stand by the original 'no objection' to the application, but to also write to Appeal to express concern about process followed and apparent lack of engagement.
  - 12.2. Update from Enforcement Team - letter from Christine Sheasby regarding demolition at Green Barn, Dark Lane. No response to letter from Clerk from Anne Markwell on all other enforcement issues.
  - 12.3. To consider new planning applications: (these can be viewed via Calderdale Council website using the reference number shown)
    - 12.3.1. 16/01295/FUL | Demolition of existing public house and construction of ten dwellings | Land Adjacent To Woodman Inn Halifax Road Todmorden Calderdale. Most supported this application, but Cllr Goodman expressed disappointment that the original building was to be demolished, rather than renovated and included in the proposal. She was also concerned that there was no inclusion of any social housing in the plan, and had a concern for access off the main road into the garages. The Council voted by majority to support the application.
    - 12.3.2. 16/20195/TPO | Management and safety works of trees | Gudger Glen View Road Hebden Bridge Calderdale HX7 6DA. Unanimously agreed to support the application and commend the applicant for undertaking the survey and taking responsibility for proper land management.
    - 12.3.3. 16/00808/FUL | Proposed data centre (B1) and associated ground works and landscaping. | Land South Of Whiteley Arches Halifax Road Charlestown Hebden Bridge Calderdale. The site has been flooded on several occasions (contrary to the information presented in the application) and the loss of trees and water capture offered by the site, as well as the water run-off from tarmaced surface will increase flood risk along the valley. Inappropriate development – should be built on the brownfield sites in the area. Loss of trees and habitat – ecological impact. Unanimously agreed to object.
    - 12.3.4. 16/01171/CON | Conversion of part of barn to form living annex including single storey extension to north elevation | Knowl End Farm Staups Lane Todmorden Calderdale OL14 8RR. Cllr Butterworth outlined the history of this site. This piece of land, mainly occupied by a dam, was bought in the 1990s. As there was a presumption against development in the 'Land Around Todmorden' area, some feel that the occupants found a 'work around' by setting up a fish farm business, as a way of gaining permission for a barn. The barn was built and the occupants quickly put in an application for a cottage in one end of the barn. Permission was granted with a condition that it could only be occupied by a worker in this fish farm. The business failed shortly afterwards, and the occupants simply continued to live there. Councillors acknowledge that the planning history does not constitute material grounds for objection but expressed the view that this was an abuse of the planning system. Agreed to write to the planning officer to outline this view and the history of the site.
13. Misuse of land and property in the parish
  - 13.1. Converted horse box at 3 Long Causeway (address actually 3 Lane Bottom). Cllr Neil felt that it was an obstruction, in line of sight coming round the bend coming into the village. Slows traffic down, but perhaps using a caravan not best way to calm traffic. Owner was present and informed PC that the police have been out and felt it was causing no more obstruction than a vehicle. Some support from villagers on googlegroup with regard to the caravan calming traffic. But it could also cause an accident, and Cllr Neil almost had collision there recently. Owner said it was used as an office, and parking it there was completely legal. She proposed self-funding the purchase and installation of a curved mirror to improve visibility from the only nearby junction, or painting it a different colour. Councillors were unsure as to the

legal situation with regards to both parking a caravan permanently on the public highway, and to using it as a home office. Agreed by majority vote to take advice on the issue from Alison Stout at CMBC of New Roads and Street Acts.

#### **14. To consider matters relating to highways, bridleways and footpaths**

- 14.1.** Proposals from John Leach regarding signage on Badger Lane, Church Lane, new line markings and parking restrictions. Lots of comments from parishioners on these proposals on googlegroups. All agreed that the gradient should not be 8%, but the maximum to discourage heavier or underpowered vehicles. Also agreed with comments that Marsh Lane needs official signage to ignore satnav as route to A646 – this is something PC has previously mentioned to Peter Stubbs. Agreed with comments that 10m 'no waiting' at bottom of Church Lane/A646 is not sufficient distance, and will pass this on, though actually this is Hebden Royd's jurisdiction. Discussed comments regarding dashed white lines, but felt this was probably a standard to enable parking, and this would have to be left to CMBC. Noted the comments about directional sign alongside both 'unsuitable for HGV' signs, but again, felt that possibly this had been designed like this for a specific highways reason, and that while we could send in a comment, accept that we are not highways experts. On the issue of parking restrictions on lower half of steeps, discussed google comments that this appeared to have been designed with commuters rather than residents in mind to allow better flow of traffic. However, reiterated that it did come from resident perspective, who has witnessed several dangerous incidents of large vehicles having to reverse uphill round a bend, including one where a minibus of children had to take off all its passengers and have them walk up the side of the road, before it could reverse. Frequent bumps into wall and accidents on this section witnessed by residents. This area not in our parish either, but agreed to stick by our original comments that parking should be restricted here. Agreed to offer to John Leach/Peter Stubbs to go down to them and chat in person about the proposals. Agreed to send a letter to Hebden Royd informing them of our decision with regard to the sections within their parish, and also invite them to come along with us to visit CMBC.
- 14.2.** Issue on Steeps bank – first major right hand hairpin, looks like potential that land could slip due to dead trees. Banking is Calderdale's responsibility and agreed to write asking them to investigate.

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

- 15.1.** The budget remaining for 16/17 is £4126 (excluding defibrillators), bank balances are £11 041 (including defibrillator fund) and this reconciles with the cashbook.
- 15.2.** Agreed purchase of stationery including envelopes, paper and printer ink.
- 15.3.** Confirmed the purchase of 2 defibrillators from YAS and the training at a total of £2197
- 15.4.** Confirmed payment of the SLCC membership renewal notice of £77 (This is made up now of £67 to SLCC, and £10 to ALCC)
- 15.5.** Confirmed payment of the monthly allotment water bill (£5.82)
- 15.6.** Confirmed payment of £60 to Dan's Garden Services for work on allotments.
- 15.7.** Confirmed payment of the Clerk's monthly salary and expenses.

#### **16. To consider representative reports and invitations:**

##### **16.1. Reports from previous events**

Remembrance Day events – well attended. DS reported that collection in Chapel goes to British Legion.

NP Meeting – as reported above

Ward Forum, 9<sup>th</sup> November – mainly considered parking issues in Hebden Bridge

Allotment Committee Meeting (31<sup>st</sup> October) – minutes posted on website and circulated. The Allotment group have had a meeting, appointed temporary secretary who will contact people on waiting list.

TPC Liaison Group – 1 November (cancelled due to weather)

##### **16.2. Upcoming Events and invitations**

Invitation to the State of Calderdale Assembly - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> of February DS and MD wish to attend

Ward Forum - **Tuesday 7 February 2017 - Hebden Bridge Methodist Church, Market Street**

#### **17. Items for future meeting**

Archiving

**Parish Council Meetings:** - December meeting to be held before carol service if needed for planning applications - January 23<sup>rd</sup>, February 27<sup>th</sup>

**Wayahead Meeting** – tbc

**Signed Catherine Bann**

**Clerk to the Parish Council**