
BLACKSHAW PARISH COUNCIL

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



Draft Minutes of Blackshaw Parish Council on Monday 23rd October 2017 at Blackshaw Head Methodist Church

Present: Councillors Butterworth, Bowen, Davies, Goodman, King, Moss and Sutcliffe, two guest speakers from Slow the Flow and 6 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 Parish Council meeting on 25th September.
4. To receive information on matters arising from the meeting on 25th September Clerk reported on progress with issues in Charlestown. The Pen is registered as Village Green with Calderdale, enquiries about ownership of Oakville Rd are in train, and Clerk waiting for a response from the Environment Agency and CMBC Land & Drainage regarding the hole in Charlestown Rec. MD to ask contact at EA regarding the latter.
5. Invited speaker, Adrian Horton and Bede from Slow the Flow. Presentation of current work of Slow the Flow, focusing in particular on Hardcastle Craggs. This can be accessed via www.slowtheflow.net. He drew attention to the next volunteering opportunity on 12th November at 9.30am. Also invited people to get in touch via secretary@slowtheflow.net, or twitter @slowtheflow_uk or facebook SlowtheFlowCalderdale. Adrian suggested that one thing that could be done to help specifically in this parish, is a group of people walking up the cloughs identifying potential places for interventions. Others suggested involvement of children to pass knowledge onto future generations. Colden School happy to be involved. A landowner present asked about how to get an intervention on his land, from which water flows down to cause problems at Woodland View. This will be followed up by Adrian and Cllr Davies with Helen Batt of EA.
6. Update on the Neighbourhood Plan - MD and RB attended. Central government has downgraded number of houses that Calderdale needed to build from 13,200 to about 9000. Timing on Neighbourhood Plan has been shifted back. CMBC can't review the plan in time for the referendum in May. So referendum will now be just before summer break / June/July. Draft Plan available around 15th December. Then extended period of consultation on draft. MD circulated his draft summary of our Parish. Generally felt this was good statement. Next bit of work is local parish policies into the draft. RB proposed a working party. MD will look at the policies and then divide the work up.
7. Update on Colden School. Previously had been lot of concern about school, children leaving etc. Ofsted visited 2 weeks into term. Very good report, which is just what was needed at this point. Now they need children numbers to go up again. Three open events coming up for children who are starting next year. Could the PC help publicise those dates, as crucial to get numbers up? Had 2 banners made to publicise Ofsted report, but one gone already from turning circle. GB said that the Council might have taken it down. MD advised to contact Jae Campbell. RB suggested putting details on the googlegroups. DS spoke in high regard of her recent visit there. RB congratulated the school on the Ofsted, and promised as much participation from PC as possible. DS mentioned a project next March at Chapel to involve school. Also want to be involved with the village clean-up. FOCS raising funds for new play equipment or play markings. Clerk explained rules around S137 funding, but Head clarified that the play area would be open to all, except during school hours. Agreed to add to next agenda, and secretary of FOCS will send an application.
8. Remembrance Day events – DS on behalf of PC will arrange for the bugler. Agreed to pay for a wreath as usual, RB to represent. DS also mentioned that there will be a gathering on the Saturday on 11/11/ Only a minute's silence and short event. Sarah questioned whether children could be involved. Agreed very welcome.
9. Fly-tipping in the parish – successful clear up day on Saturday. Large pile of rubbish at the top of Davy Lane, including a patch of dumped tyres. Up Eastwood Rd – in the ditch, full of tractor tyres. Todmorden side of the drain is bad. This needs reporting to the authorities. Fly-tipping on Dukes Cut needs to be reported as a constant problem. Van was seen up there, but fear of retaliation has meant that the person dare not report it.

- 10.** Welcome pack for new arrivals in the parish. The leaflet is distributed by Phil on behalf of PC. Need one for Charlestown but would need someone to fulfil the role that Phil plays up here. Clerk would write it if someone came forward to be the distributor. Agreed to try contact parishioners who have shown an interest in Charlestown.
- 11. To consider planning related matters: -**
- 11.1.** To receive information on previous planning applications and enforcement notices: **None**
- 11.2.** Update from Enforcement Team. Letter from Richard Seaman regarding possibility of regular meeting to update on enforcement issues. Heptonstall already do this, and both parties find it very useful. Agreed it was a good idea, and said yes. Perhaps once a quarter in the first instance, and going down to 6 months if things get resolved. Proposed Clerk to attend along with the Chair. Agreed.
- 11.3.** To consider new planning applications: **17/01179/REM** | Removal of conditions 3, 10 and 11 and vary condition 5 on planning application 15/00353/FUL | Stables West Of Blackshaw Royd Farm Marsh Lane Blackshaw Head Hebden Bridge Calderdale. The applicant doesn't own the land (as shown from certificate of ownership). Access to equestrian centre is through several other properties right now. Lots more traffic movements than simply farming use. When planning was applied for, need to safeguard the rights of the neighbours meant that these various conditions were imposed. Condition 3 – access and amended car park scheme – was meant to be fulfilled before development brought into use. RB pointed out that it's taken over 2 years to realise they don't own land where new access ought to be, so going back to planners, saying this condition is unreasonable. Member of public explained that it seems they never had intention to move the access, as they knew they didn't own land, and built large expensive gates in current access. Also the only reason they have permission for a caravan was to overlook business and make a living from this, and now they want this condition varied. This has possibly come up because of a complaint to enforcement from another member of public. Parish Council originally wrote in comments on this application describing this application as an abuse of the countryside. RB feels that they shouldn't have been allowed to start before conditions were met. Other members of public pointed out that there is an existing old access down Marsh Lane, which if brought into use would provide direct access onto their fields. This would alleviate problems of traffic, and resolve many of the issues. Two other things are times of access – want to remove this condition. And not just for equestrian centre. Sense is the original conditions were well designed to protect countryside and local neighbours, and they should stand. The main concern is the access, and they should move this down onto their own land. Enforcement team should have checked this, and this will be brought up at the meeting with the the Planning Enforcement team. Drainage important too – flooded in recent storms. Unanimously voted to object with comments above, and agreed to resend the point about abuse of the countryside.
- 12. To consider matters relating to highways, bridleways and footpaths - None**
- 13. To consider the following financial matters:**
- 13.1.** The budget remaining for 2017/8 is £4780 and the balance of accounts is £10,084 which reconciles with the cashbook.
- 13.2.** Agreed to pay for an upgrade to wordpress to include back-ups on the Go-Daddy website – up to an additional £60 a month. 6 in favour, 1 abstention.
- 13.3.** Confirmed payment of the Clerk's monthly salary and expenses
- 14. To consider representative reports and invitations:**
- 14.1. Previous events**
- Heptonstall Exhibitions meeting* – GB explained £3000 given out to 10 applicants, none to anyone in Blackshaw area, but he has now put a notice on website to advertise the fund.
- T & PC Liaison Conference* 13th October – well attended. Four Blackshaw Councillors attended. RB reported that no progress made dealing with Yorkshire water or EA, all reservoirs full. 20Mph zone going okay. Networking section was useful. Interesting to hear about Heptonstall car park.
- Ward Forum* 11 Oct – RB attended - seems less and less interesting each time.
- Allotment Committee meeting* - 9th October – Draft Minutes circulated. Clerk explained issue with additional site visit made after last PC meeting – procedure in relation to the committee and the PC unclear – which body decides on allotments issues. Members of PC could be thought of as undermining decisions made by committee. We don't have clear procedures or policies on this. Clerk will investigate further, regarding how other councils relate to their sub-committees and present some ways forward at a pre-meeting before the next PC meeting in November.
- Neighbourhood Plan meeting* - 9th October (see above)
- YLCA Training course in how to be a councillor.* – Councillor Moss attended, felt it was useful.

14.2. Upcoming Events

Remembrance Day (see above)

YLCA – Keighley 13th November

TPC Liaison - 7th Nov

15. Items for next meeting

Oakville Rd, Orange fenced Rec, Drains, Flooding on tops and possible flood store. Welcome pack.

Parish Council Meetings: - 27th November, no December meeting unless issues arise

Allotment Committee Meeting – March 2018 HB Town Hall

Signed *Catherine Bann* Clerk to the Parish Council