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# BLACKSHAW PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of Blackshaw Parish Council meeting 7.30pm on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 at Blackshaw Head Methodist Church

Present: Cllr Butterworth in the Chair, Cllrs Davies, Goodman, King, Moss, Bowen and Sutcliffe 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 Parish Council meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017 and the notes from the informal meeting on January 8<sup>th</sup>.
4. To receive information on matters arising from the meetings on 27<sup>th</sup> November and January 8<sup>th</sup>. MD been in correspondence with Maria Haworth, who wants to know how we can move forward on issue of ownership of Oakville Rd. Suggested meeting at the ATC – Clerk to forward info about renting of hall. Charlestown Rec hole has finally been filled in by creating a manhole. Also the welcome leaflet is in progress. Clerk now needs information regarding Charlestown to create a similar leaflet – there is a volunteer who has offered to deliver there.
5. Discussed and formalised changes to the Allotment Committee. Resolved to make the following the terms of reference:  
The Allotment Committee will be a committee acting for and on behalf of the Council and will meet twice a year as well as carry out an annual inspection. It will consist of three councillors and up to five plot holders who will be appointed at the annual PC meeting in May. The term of office is for one year and they may be reappointed the following May. The Committee will have authority to make any decision pertaining to the management of the allotments, including expenditure of the money allocated in the annual Council budget (around £80). Exceptions to this will be:
  - 1) Any issues pertaining to the revoking of tenancies – the Allotment Committee can advise the council, but the final decision on terminating a tenancy must be agreed by the whole council.
  - 2) Any amount of money to be spent over and above the budget for the allotments as allocated in the annual budget.Also resolved to appoint Sarah Moss to the Allotment Committee as the third councillor member alongside Cllr King and Cllr Goodman.
6. Update on the Neighbourhood Plan – master plan for Mytholmroyd is being developed, but not gone to consultation. Proposal to submit final draft to CMBC in August and have referendum in mid-September, and launch event by end of September. This might be ambitious because CMBC have to review this. Want to avoid clashing events with Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan to avoid confusion. Our NP will hopefully go out same time as Todmorden and Ripponden plans. Govt carries cost of referendum. Our budgets will be called on for printing, postage, design work. The draft hasn't been produced yet however. Clerk suggested consultation meeting on design statements for the villages in our parish. Agreed that should probably do this in the Spring/ Summer. NP group agreed to come up with definitive list of consultation bodies – people that must or should be consulted. Number of dwellings the area needs to provide is coming down nationally and so here also. Big reduction is now in Elland. Proposals for this going to Cabinet on 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb, so NP meeting on Feb 12<sup>th</sup> will review this.
7. Update on Flood Groups - still in progress. Major flood group meeting tomorrow, Community Resilience group. Toilet block on High St still a possibility as flood store.
8. Agreed to pay for Cllr Moss to attend a planning training course on 13<sup>th</sup> April.
9. Agreed to pay for noticeboards to be mended – Cllr Butterworth to ask Steve Hoyle and Phil Knowles
10. **To consider planning related matters: -**
  - 10.1. To receive information on previous planning applications and enforcement notices: None
  - 10.2. Update from Enforcement Team. None
  - 10.3. To consider new planning applications: **17/01452/FUL** | Construction of six semi-detached dwellings and one detached dwelling | Land To West Of Causeway Fold The Long Causeway Blackshaw Head Hebden Bridge Calderdale.  
The style of the houses (3 storey, semi-detached with steep pitched roof) is not in keeping with the village and the other cottage style housing. The village is in Land Around Todmorden, and any

development must not be out of character. In previous outline application, BPC did not object to 5 houses (though agreed that it would depend on the detail), but feel that 7 houses of 4 or 5 bedroom is too high a density on this plot of land. It will increase parking on Long Causeway as there isn't enough room for family and friends of all residents to park within the plot. Also noted that the density of housing will also have a detrimental impact on the infrastructure: water supply and drainage. The forecourt area is flagged, which will encourage greater run-off and impact on flooding risk. Also agreed with the comment made by Highways regarding the entrance way on Davy Lane being problematic. Noted that we have expressed support for some extra development in the village - there is a need for some types of houses, particularly affordable houses for older people wishing to downsize. However this development is aimed at a different market, and the density and style is not in keeping with the village or the needs of the residents. Unanimously agreed to object to application.

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

**11.1.** Traffic issues in the parish including on the Steeps and through Blackshawhead Village. Clerk read draft letter. DG reported gritters go up the Steeps without gritting. This is extremely inefficient. Discussed the letter regarding the Steeps sent from DG – she has had no reply or even acknowledgement. Agreed Clerk should write to CMBC backing up Donna's letter and demand answers. Noted that Clerk had mentioned this to Peter Stubbs in a recent letter. Agreed to send letter as amended to the local councillors, CMBC Highways and Craig Whittaker.

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

**12.1.** Clerk explained how the budget papers work for all councillors to understand the accounts more clearly. The budget remaining for 2017/8 is £4144, the total bank balances are £9418 and this reconciles with the cashbook.

**12.2.** Considered the budget for 2018 / 9. Clerk explained the proposed budget is much greater than income, but this takes into account underspend over previous few years. Also will need to spend on Neighbourhood Plan, money towards additional measures around 20mph zone, and possibility of needing a Data Protection Officer under new regulations. Discussed the precept, and Clerk advised that a 0% increase to parishioners would be a precept of £6300. Chair was in favour of this. However we had a 0% increase last year, and if we continue to do this, eventually we may need a significant hike in a future year to keep up with inflation. This would penalise future residents and better to spread out the cost by having a small percentage rise year on year. A precept of £6400 would be an average of 28p increase per year to each parishioner. Agreed the precept of £6400 by majority vote.

**12.3.** (This item was discussed after item 5 to enable public participation). Discussed a grant application from Colden School for playground equipment, under S 137. Rotary have just donated £3500. Raising money for climbing frame area with all-weather matting, and wooden structure. Cost will be £10,000, now have £3500 in account, so long way to go to raise money. Some new children in new year, which is indicative that the school is picking up. Clerk explained the budget limitations under S137. Agreed to award £600. Cllr Sutcliffe suggested the PC be involved in any fundraising events. Cllr Moss checked that the school had also applied to Heptonstall parish.

**12.4.** Confirmed payment of £72 to Society of Local Councils Clerks and £30 to Association of Local Council Clerks for membership fees

**12.5.** To confirm payment of the Clerk's monthly salary and expenses, including December's salary.

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

### **13.1. Previous events**

Ward Forum - 10<sup>th</sup> January, Hebden Bridge Town Hall (no-one attended as RB missed it.)

### **13.2. Upcoming Events**

Town & Parish Council Liaison Group - Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February - Todmorden Town Hall, Room A. RB to attend.

Broadband provision in the parish at CMBC 24<sup>th</sup> Jan. RB, MD and Richard Hyde to attend.

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February - Fete meeting at New Delight.

## **14. Items for next meeting – Oakville Road meeting – date for working party for design access statement. Invite CROWS to March or Feb meeting. Fete.**

**Parish Council Meetings:** - 26<sup>th</sup> February, 26<sup>th</sup> March, 23<sup>rd</sup> April and Annual Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> May

**Allotment Committee Meeting** – March 12<sup>th</sup> 7.45pm 2018 HB Town Hall

Signed *Catherine Bann* Clerk to the Parish Council