



Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting

Monday 21st May 2018 at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillor Butterworth (in the Chair), Cllrs Davies, Moss, Sutcliffe, Bowen, King, Goodman and ten members of the public.

1. Brief welcome from the Chair.
2. Agreed the minutes of last year's Annual Parish Meeting held on 22nd May 2017.
3. **Annual Report from the Chairman of the Parish Council.**

Chair outlined work done in past year. On the issue of Highways, he explained that we're still awaiting the white lines repainted on Badger Lane, and for the 20mph zone to be introduced. There were problems this winter with the gritting policy which was changed without notice or consultation. Many of routes in Parish deemed secondary routes. Representations were made to CMBC, local councillors and the MP for this to be upgraded to a primary route. This is under discussion at present and the Chair is hopeful for a change. Neighbourhood plan to be discussed under item 5. Floods – parish council began to engage with flood prevention on the tops. Slow the Flow were invited to speak. Also Granville Davies from Yorkshire Water was invited to visit the parish to investigate the possibility of water retention in old dams in the area. Hydroelectric power also discussed during this visit. Broadband was a major part of this year's work (see item 6). Planning has caused some concerns recently. To Chair's mind, CMBC appear worried about people going to appeal and so applications are being fudged. Houses planned for the top of Davy Lane – increased from 5 to 7, and PC objected. Another ongoing application is for variance to conditions at Blackshawroyd equestrian centre, which will go to committee. Also application for bungalows on old chicken sheds at top of Davy Lane. PC meets with planners twice a year to discuss ongoing concerns and policies. PC has been helping establish ownership of Oakville Rd. Charlestown allotments well established and going well. Wreath laid at Remembrance Day. Christmas carol singing and service. Question from member of the public regarding cat's eyes removed from Long Causeway – query about whether they will put these back. Particularly dangerous over the tops towards Burnley. Again, not consulted. Clerk will investigate. CMBC rep (Andrew Pitts) came to PC meeting to encourage people to get involved with helping to cover impact of the cuts on services.

4. Presentation of the Blackshaw Parish Community Award. Chair presented the award to Steve Hoyle of Blackshawhead. He was chosen because of the phenomenal amount of work he does within the parish, and because he does this work without fanfare and it goes largely unnoticed.
5. Cllr Davies gave an update on the Neighbourhood Plan and went through the Parish Specific Policies in some depth. He also explained the reasons why having a Village Design Statement was important, but primarily for Blackshawhead. In Charlestown,

settlement is more dispersed and a hotchpotch of designs already – less meaningful in that area. Consultation due this summer. It was agreed that a brainstorming session to be held in village as part of consultation process.

6. Update on progress on broadband in the parish. 3 months ago Chair and others organised a meeting at CMBC on the issue. Fiona Thurlbeck (CMBC) suggested looking at other providers than Openreach and also said that grants were available. These grants are available for business users and residential. On the basis of this, Chair organised a very well attended meeting for interested parties, and a steering committee was formed. A survey put out on google with more than 100 replies. When all the grants were totalled that could be gained, the budget was approaching £150,000. Now investigating and contacting different suppliers. One of these is Boundless networks, but need to assess others too. Firms will need to have capacity to take on a project of this size. Now also have direct contact with someone at Openreach to deal with. Openreach van spotted by Chair today, doing survey on cables, ducts etc to install fibre. Question raised about possible access by 3rd parties to BT's ducts. Group working to get basic costings and proof that the company can do the work. Question by member of public about whether there is a limit on amount of money they'll grant per scheme, but apparently not. This project pretty large now, covering around 7 postcodes. Can they build it to be able to compete with BT in terms of speed and cost. Parish Council congratulated members of the community who have taken this on.
7. Chairman's donations – paid for the 'over 80s' xmas parcels – which are delivered in person (Cllr Sutcliffe pointed out that we need members of public to let us know when parishioners get to 80). Fund topped up by carol singing, £127 and Carol Service at Chapel. This year, Chairman's charity and the Carol Service charity were the same – Cancer Research. £500 altogether was donated.
8. Open forum to discuss other matters of public concern. Member of public concerned about fields that are used for Fete, continuing to be used kind of as a village green, for dog walking etc. Notices to keep dogs on leads are being ignored, is there something that can be done? Could we provide a bin? This issue – coming up in next agenda. Chair pointed out that number of dwellings has doubled with no additional facilities provided. People need place of recreation, need to consider this.
9. Date of next Annual Parish Meeting - 20th May 2019

This meeting will be followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting at approximately 8.00pm.

Signed *R Butterworth*

14th May 2018

**Councillor Roger Butterworth
(Chairman of Blackshaw Parish Council)**