



Blackshaw Parish Council

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Draft Minutes of Blackshaw Parish Council on **Monday 25th October 2021 at Blackshawhead Methodists Church.**

Present: Cllr Lacey (Chair), Cllrs Lomax, Bowen, Tiler-Ansell and King and five members of public

1. Apologies previously notified to the Clerk. Cllr Churchill and Cllr Patterson
2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda. None
3. Confirmed the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27th September
4. Information on matters arising from the minutes of Parish Council Meeting on 27th September. Church council had no issue with CCTV in principle provided that it didn't overlook any private property, or if it did, that there was permission from the property owner.
5. Update from Pennine Community Power. Finn Jensen from PCP reported that engineers have serviced wind turbine, and this will now happen every summer. They've also installed an extra safety measure so PCP can actively shut down the turbine. If there is a storm it can be taken out of the wind manually (furling). Hoping that this will be sufficient to allay any concerns, but will only know for sure when has gone through the winter. AGM elected 2 new directors of PCP. They are continuing with PCP as a community enterprise and in next couple of years they will have paid off outstanding debts and there will be about £93,000 to the community fund. This will be channelled through the Community Foundation for Calderdale.
6. Update regarding Covid rates in Calderdale. Clerk explained current extremely high rates of Covid in area. Discussed possibility of returning to Zoom meetings. Cllr Lomax has looked carefully into the regulations around this and determined that anything in which we are carrying out a statutory function, it would not be lawful to do on zoom, for example the financial aspects and confirming the previous minutes. Chair has written a letter to Kemi Badenoch who is the minister responsible, querying this matter. Clerk has raised with YLCA. Agreed to meet on zoom for the next meeting and wouldn't be discussing any financial issues until January.
7. Further developments with the waste spreading on land at Hippines Clough – Land-owner attended the meeting and noted that he was very upset that inaccurate information was being spread. Explained that there was an issue with the plastic last year, but it was working to a specification – this has now been improved. The current spreading did not involve any abattoir waste – it is manure and green waste compost. Explained that he was acting within the law, and the land was legally owned by them. Muck being spread is only once a year.
Clerk explained that it was described as “suspected” or “potential” in the minutes, and that investigation had to happen to establish this. Also noted that Andrew Thornes via DEFRA had visited site, took samples and established that it wasn't abattoir waste or an animal welfare issue, so any further issues had to go to the EA. Landowner noted that he was happy to be contacted directly in the future, and was thanked for his attendance and input.
8. Update from the Councillors' meeting with Colden School Eco-Council – Councillors Bowen, Lomax and Patterson visited some of the school's eco-council. Very well organised and have an ecological programme, but are also looking at wider environmental stuff including dealing with litter, outdoor activities etc. Requested if council could help with funding items such as compost, tiger worms, bird feeders etc. Amount requested totalled £137. Enjoyed tree-planting last year, and wanted to do more this winter. Asked about village clean-up, and usual resident has agreed to organise this. Chair has agreed to spend some of the allowance on this as budget for S137 almost spent this year. Any tree-planting expenditure would have to be agreed in January.
9. Agreed the letter to CMBC regarding the post of Rights of Way officer

10. Arrangements for Remembrance Day – Chapel will have a Remembrance Service on Remembrance Sunday – Junior band has been contacted to request a Bugler, but Chair agreed to play saxophone if needed, and will read the list of the fallen. Christmas fair is highly unlikely, and carol service will depend on the covid situation at the time. Also agreed to organise Christmas parcels for vulnerable / elderly, Cllr Bowen has the list, member of public to assist. Clerk to confirm that we have ordered the wreath.
11. Update from the Slow Ways initiative – Member of public explained the initiative briefly, and noted the motion in support from Parish Council. Had printed some flyers and posters for distribution at the Fete. Grant of £3 million from Lottery to promote the network, and this has been a real boost. Now about 8000 routes across the country. Routes are connected by triangulation between communities – 3 nearest nodes are HB, Tod and Packhorse Inn – so Blackshawhead sits in the middle but isn't directly connected. Now packhorse inn has closed, doesn't make sense to use as a node. And route very difficult to follow at High Gate and Noah Dale as not much waymarking. Suggested instead a route via Blackshawhead, and it has been agreed to include this as a node point which is good for New Delight and May's shop. Two people have come forward to review the routes, and at Fete, renewed contact with CROWS and got them involved through HB Walkers' Action Group. Would be good to have more participation in reviewing walks on website. Cllr Bowen noted that it was hard to add a new route on the website. Member of public suggested reviewing a route and then option to suggest a new one crops up.
12. Discussed the government consultation regarding extending the measures that allow outdoor seating areas and certain markets that were put in place due to Covid. Cllr Lomax noted that extending this would help our local pub, the New Delight as their outdoor area is well-used even now into Autumn. Chair noted that there were some issues with some huge marquees outside pubs, and Cllr Lomax noted that these sorts of questions were included in the consultation. Agreed to delegate Cllr Lomax to complete the consultation on behalf of PC.
13. Update on progress with road issues on Oakville Rd. Clerk updated that there has been a crowd-funder and residents have raised the required amount to get the potholes filled. They've had quotes from contractors, and work to be done soon. Member of public noted that the answer to the ownership query could be found in the Wakefield archives.
14. Noted the minutes of the recent Allotment Committee meeting. Agreed the changes that were made to the Terms of Reference of the committee, namely reducing the membership of ploholders to two from three, and enabling councillors to refer business to the Council rather than whole committee.
15. **To consider planning related matters:-**
 - 15.1. **Information on previous planning applications:** None
 - 15.2. **Planning Enforcement Issues:** Update from Roy Rizvi. The potential planning breach at New Rd was being dealt with by planning officer who was expecting an application soon, and would investigate further if this was not forthcoming. Also gave an update on High House Farm saying that he had visited, noted lack of progress and senior officers will be asked to endorse that legal officer be instructed to institute a further prosecution.
 - 15.3. **New planning applications**
 - 15.3.1. Discussed a proposal that planning approval should require all new properties in the parish to have a minimum of 35% south facing roof. Member of public spoke to this issue explaining need for solar panels to mitigate climate change. Cllr Lomax noted that we also needed solar panels that didn't face South. He felt that the clause should be linked to solar panels, rather than the percentage of south facing roof. Chair commented that solar power should be part of the build in a new build property. Agreed a motion that the parish council will not support planning applications for new build properties that does not contain solar panels on the roof as part of the design.
 - 15.3.2. 21/01330/HSE | Construction of single storey side extension | Burnt Edge Barn Higher Back Lane Blackshaw Head Hebden Bridge Calderdale HX7 7JA. Agreed unanimously not to object.
16. **To consider matters relating to highways, bridleways and footpaths:**
 - 16.1. Any update from Highways regarding the outstanding issues. Chair has heard nothing from Highways – they do not respond to emails.

16.2. Discussed plans around clearing the verges / drains in Blackshawhead. Representative from CMBC visited Chapel Lane and road edge around Four Winds. They have agreed that they didn't want volunteers to be undertaking this type of work, so they have agreed to do this by machine – no date set as yet.

17. To consider the following Financial matters:

17.1. 2021/2022 budget remaining is £5082 and bank balances stand at £8951, which reconciles with cash book. Chair had noted inaccurate entry where an amount was entered in wrong column and this was corrected.

17.2. Agreed payment for a wreath for Remembrance Day

17.3. Confirmed payment to YLCA for course attended by Councillor Churchill and webinar by Cllr Lacey

17.4. Confirmed payment of the Clerk's monthly salary and expenses. Agreed to pay three months upfront of the basic salary.

18. To consider representative reports and invitations:

Ward Forum - 4th October. Cllrs Lacey and King attended. Noted that Highways budget cut from £14million to 3 million – which explains why nothing is happening. Still trying to recruit engineers. Church Lane prevention of U-turns will not be a priority. Number of complaints does influence priority level, so this would help. Highlighted that gulleys need cleaning. Waste and recycling is problem with HGV council drivers as they keep leaving – Cllr Lacey asked if this meant they would anticipate problems with gritting – agreed so, but didn't appear to have any concrete plans for this. Apparently charges for grit & rubble at tip doesn't increase fly-tipping. Blackshaw Fete got one of the Ward Forum grants.

Town & PC Liaison Meeting – no news from Andrew Pitts.

Heptonstall exhibitions Cllr Bowen reported on annual meeting £3500 was distributed between 20 applicants including 3 from Blackshaw and 1 from Colden.

Parish Council Meetings: - 22nd November on zoom, December tbc but likely on zoom, and 24th January at the Chapel.

Allotment Committee: - 14th March 2022

Signed **Catherine Bann**, Clerk to Blackshaw Parish Council