



# Blackshaw Parish Council

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## **Draft Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Blackshaw Parish on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022.**

Present: Cllr Lacey (Chair), Cllrs Bowen, Tiler-Ansell, King, Lomax, Churchill and three members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr Patterson

### **1. Welcome**

**2.** Received the Annual Report from the Chair of the Parish Council. Noted that the entire Chair's Report was printed in the Blackshaw News. No questions raised.

**3.** Parish council actions on sustainability and climate change, including steps to be taken to ensure that the climate emergency is adequately considered in the planning system locally.

Cllr Lomax gave background to this issue. It has arisen from the declaration of climate emergency and PC has been taking steps to address this, including pushing CMBC to stick to their own declaration of climate emergency, particularly in the planning system.

The climate mitigations measures in the Davey Lane application were felt to be inadequate, and PC made objections on these grounds. Report presented by planning officer proposed that it be permitted, and referenced the NPF and CMBC's own climate emergency plan, but it made no proposals or recommendations. Committee itself only added that there be electric charging points for vehicles. PC decided to write a pre-action letter for judicial review. In response, CMBC noted that these points had been raised in the committee discussion, but did not put conditions on the approval. Have now been given extracts from the planning committee meeting, and some comments raised: one was around enhanced insulation and designer windows and heating system, and the inclusion of air source heat pumps was part of decision to accept. However air source heat pumps have not been made a condition of permission. Planning committee could have made it clear they expect these provisions in new build planning applications.

We need to focus on the way that the planning committee respond to the applications and look at national planning framework. For example the PC, instead of raising broad comment, need to be more specific and suggest some actual conditions that could be imposed. Having energy systems that are carbon negative for example. Ought to be discussing with CMBC, Cllr Scott Patient, about how we can best approach it and feed that into other parish councils for their response to planning applications.

Was a shot across the bows, but we should follow this up.

Cllr Lomax did email Cllr Patient with the details of the pre-action letter, and Agreed to invite Cllr Patient to the next meeting.

**4.** Arrangements for the Jubilee celebrations in the parish. 3pm on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June at the Chapel. Could move furniture outdoors. Cllr Lacey will communicate with Roger, get the key and be there at 2pm.

Tea, milk sugar, coffee and maybe additional cakes to be bought by the Chair. Catherine will bring dairy free milk. Carie will bring trestle table, Helen to bring two. Cllr Lomax to offer lifts. Catherine to bring anyone in the bottoms. Carie to transfer to Facebook.

Beacon to be lit on Thursday evening.

**5.** Discussed the recipient of the 2022 Blackshaw Parish Community Award. Several nominations received, all for Phil Knowles, and it was agreed that he would be a worthy recipient of the award.

6. Update on progress on roads and traffic issues in the parish. Noted that 20mph zone is now in place, and the Vehicle Activated Signs still to be placed (only two). Will then need to request speed monitoring. A traffic regulation order has been approved for yellow lines at the Davey Lane junction, and so this will actually now happen.  
The other impending traffic issue 7 weeks from mid June the route via Lee Bottom Rd will be closed, diversion through Heptonstall or Mytholm Steeps. Need to be proactive about this and it was agreed to write to Highways regarding the traffic diversion, and say that it is not for HGVs.  
Catherine read email from resident regarding speeds on Badger Lane, and it was agreed to write to Neighbourhood Coordinator.  
Discussed the issue around High St, and agreed to write to Highways to extend the 30mph zone to just outside High St.
7. Update on progress with the cycling on footpaths issue. Clerk gave some background to the issue, and explained the creation of two groups consisting of representatives from town and parish councils in Upper Valley – Safer Footpaths and Encouraging Responsible Cycling. Noted that the group working on Safer Footpaths had been stymied by lack of a Footpaths officer in CMBC, so was in abeyance. The Encouraging Cyclign group has continued to meet monthly. Began by looking at current provision for cyclists of different abilities in Upper Valley. Noted that there was Mary Towneley Loop and Havok bik park in Portsmouth. But other than that, lots of disjointed bridleways some of which are unsuitable for bikes and some of which end abruptly and become footpaths – don't link up and so cyclists use footpaths. CMBC officers mentioned possible bits of land for bike park, but none in Upper Valley. Noted need for education of cyclists regarding safe and responsible cycling. Discussed creation of two hubs at either end of valley, and work is progressing on one in Todmorden as part of Town deal Fund, and will be exploring one at Station in Mytholmroyd soon. CROWS surveyed some of the problematic routes, and Ride Calderdale became constituted and began to get involved with path/trail repair. Invited speakers from other areas where provision is working well. Agreed to look at possibility of re-designation of some appropriate footpaths to permissive bridleways – discovered that an equestrian group has many applications in (at CMBC) for re-designation into bridleways. Desire to create some circular routes to appeal to different levels of rider to encourage riders off inappropriate footpaths. Undertook a survey of riders, with over 400 responses. Ride Calderdale would be lead group in applying for funding.
8. Chair's donations – Colden's School's Eco Project, Christmas gifts, birthday present for Dorothy Sutcliffe, and donation to macular society, and the rest of the money remaining was donated to CROWS.
9. Open forum to discuss other matters of public concern.  
Member of public raised an issue of harassment at Callis Community Garden, and read a full statement regarding this matter. Chair noted that this was not actually within Blackshaw Parish, but that the council would be happy to listen to the issue, and decide if there were any steps that could be taken. Noted that it was not public land, and there was no body, as in a constituted community organisation that the PC could engage with. Councillors expressed sympathy, and suggested a number of routes the member of public could use, including reporting to the police as regards the harassment/door stepping.
10. Date of next Annual Parish Meeting – May 2023 to be confirmed.

Signed

*Helen Lacey*

16<sup>th</sup> May 2022

**Councillor Helen Lacey**

**(Chair of Blackshaw Parish Council)**