



Draft minutes of Blackshaw Parish Council meeting on **Monday 26th September 2022 at Blackshawhead Methodist Church.**

Present: Cllr Patterson (Chair) Cllrs Lomax, Bowen, Lacey and King and three members of the public

1. Apologies previously notified to the Clerk. Cllr Tiler-Ansell, Cllr Churchill
2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda. Cllr Bowen declared an interest in 13.2
3. Confirmed the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25th July 2022.
4. Information on matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting held on 25th July.
 - 4.1. Further correspondence has been received regarding Plot 1, but will defer discussion until after the 3rd October re-visit.
 - 4.2. Rural exception sites – briefing has been circulated and Cllr Lacey attended zoom just prior to this meeting. Neighbourhood Plan (NP) has been in development for 3 years, alongside Local Plan. Very little development agreed by NP and by CMBC in LP. However the Examination in Public (EIP) proposed some Rural Exception Sites to prevent the LP being too restrictive. These could be in greenbelt, in 'sustainable locations, affordable, and for local people'. The NP consultant (Antony Rae) has been to AECOM, who confirm that this would be small development for such as community land trust or social landlords to develop. Problem is that it is not set in stone, and doesn't define where or how many houses could be built. Concerns about selling on, renting as Air BnBs, or extending to such as 4 bedroom houses. Cllr Lomax said this contrary to idea of having clear enforceable policy. His main concern is about communities being sustainable, and this leaves policy too vague (eg on basis of affordability – this could be argued and avoided) – undermines existing definitions of eg greenbelt, affordability. And it takes into account market moves (eg rise of commuting) and undermines existing policies. Agreed to put Blackshaw PC name to the points raised by Antony Rae and outlining points raised above.
 - 4.3. Issues around Colden Nursery from previous action resolved as CMBC via Colden School have taken on the running of the nursery, but it remains that the charity for the nursery in a state of difficulty. There may be a role for the PC in the future, and those involved were very grateful and it gave them a confidence to proceed.
5. To discuss matters relating to climate change mitigation with Cllr Patient – postponed due to Cllr Patient unavailable with rescheduled meetings from the Queen's funeral.
6. Discussed whether to sign the Civility & Respect Pledge - due to resource issues and feeling that our existing Code of Conduct is sufficient, agreed not to sign.
7. Review of Standing Orders and Policies. Cllr Lomax has reviewed carefully the NALC proposed Standing Orders, and noted that Cllr Lacey has done a good job in amending. He would just propose that we add an element of Chair's choice, and also to change reference to Chairman to Chair. Agreed.
8. Discussed the government scheme for voucher funding for slow broadband areas. Cllr Lacey has put in a consultation into the scheme, and posted to google groups. Now however, her property is in an impending procurement project for fibre to rural areas, starting in April 23, start date could be Nov 23-Jan 24.
9. Discussed the situation with the defibrillator at the Chapel. Both our defibs have issues, but have working models on loan. Unfortunately neither Edith nor Phil available for meeting tonight. As Edith noted, the provider seems to be in a state of chaos and it is simply not clear what the next steps would be. Agreed to see if Edith or Phil can attend a future meeting, and perhaps by that point, further info will have been received regarding the defibs.

10. Accessibility of BPC meetings. Clerk wanted to ensure that we were meeting in a room that was accessible. Cllr Bowen confirmed the lift was working, so we just need to make sure we let people know that this is the case, and no need to climb stairs..

11. To consider planning related matters:-

11.1. Information on previous planning applications: None

11.2. Planning Enforcement Issues: Any update on Staups Mill or other planning issues. Clerk outlined the correspondence with officers at Calderdale. The relevant section of the response reads "The Council has been contacted by various parties in relation to the current situation at Staups Mill. It is of course recognised that the Mill ruins are a locally important historic asset that is reflective of our early industrial heritage. However, the building is not nationally designated, so not listed or scheduled. Nor is Jumble Hole Clough a conservation area. As such, specific measures within legislation to protect designated heritage assets cannot be used in this situation. Planning policy in relation to local non-designated heritage assets can only be used in relation to a planning application, and since the owner is not required to submit a formal planning application there are very few options open for us to intervene. The Council cannot list a building nor schedule an archaeological site, these powers are administered by Historic England. Please be assured that our team are speaking to Historic England, West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service (WYAS) and our own legal team as to any options which may be available. This will inform the next steps."

Cllr Bowen outlined current situation at the Mill and noted the owner was using the stone for an extension.

Cllr Lomax noted that lessons for the future, in that there is an ability to protect heritage sites, but through such as the Neighbourhood Plan, or through other preservation means. Community needs to do something about it much earlier. Cllr Bowen believed the Parish Council tried to get it listed previously.

Agreed to write to CMBC to say understand, but are deeply distressed by what has happened. Agreed should be a complaint asking what was done, why isn't a category 2 site being protected.

Cllr Lacey will reply to the member of the public. Catherine to put a bulletin into the googlegroup.

11.3. Whiteley Arches – Clerk reported from Roy Rizvi that the new owner hasn't registered the land. Understand there is a legal requirement to do so – perhaps go back to Roy and ask about the old owner – ask CMBC advice on this.

Roy Rizvi also said that he had not had time to progress the outstanding case at High House Farm.

11.4. New planning applications - None

12. To consider matters relating to highways, bridleways and footpaths:

12.1. The Vehicle Activated Sign on Badger Lane still not in place – Clerk to chase this and check it is still due actually on Badger Lane. Members of public wanted to know what they can do to increase public pressure to get something done. Discussed what the PC had already done, and was still trying to do (white lines reinstatement, 20mph zone, better signage). Members of public acknowledged all the work the PC has done on the matter, and asked what else they could do to help/put pressure on. Cllr Lomax noted effective direct action in other areas such as Leeds. Perhaps actions at commuting time – and this might get media attention. Clerk noted that in other rural areas, they have made models/scarecrows of officers with hi-vis - speed guns, which work quite well.

Money in budget for additional measures to slow traffic and agreed to look into how much a speed indicator device would cost.

Agreed to write to Jae Campbell and ask him to take issue to the Road Safety Group.

12.2. Any further update from Highways regarding the other outstanding issues. Davey Lane double-yellow consultation but some people believe parked cars help stop excess speeds.

13. To consider the following Financial matters:

13.1. 2022/2023 budget and balances and bank reconciliation.

13.2. To discuss a grant to Heptonstall Exhibitions Richard Naylor Charities. Agreed £250

13.3. To discuss the letter from the CCTV group and possibility of grant / budget re-allocation. Agreed to vire this money into the road signage budget.

- 13.4. To confirm payment of the toilet hire for the Fete. Agreed.
- 13.5. To confirm payment of the Clerk's monthly salary and expenses including £47 on stamps.

14. To consider representative reports and invitations:

Safer Cleaner Greener - 19th September (cancelled due to HM funeral)

YLCA conference 23rd September. No-one attended.

Report from Fete. Went very well, probably took almost £2k in donations. Well attended also, and people enjoyed themselves. Note thanks to the Parish Council to the organisers.

Proclamation Halifax Town Hall – Cllr Patterson attended on behalf of the Town Council.

Town & Parish Liaison Conference, 1st October Agreed to ask Cllrs Churchill and Tiler-Ansell and if not, then Cllr Lacey will attend.

Calder Ward Forum, 4th October.

Next agenda – the wreath. Apologies from Cllr Patterson and Lacey. Cllr Lomax happy to chair if agreed by the meeting.

Dates of future meetings: 24th October, 28th November

Parish Council Meetings: - Allotment Committee: - 10th October 2022

Signed Catherine Bann - Clerk to Blackshaw Parish Council