



Blackshaw Parish Council

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Draft Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Monday 23rd October 2023 at Blackshawhead Methodist Church.

Present: Cllr Lomax (Chair), Cllrs Dyter, Tiler-Ansell, Churchill, Bowen, Greaves and King, plus five members of the public and the Clerk.

1. Apologies previously notified to the Clerk.
2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda. None.
3. Confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 25th September 2023.
4. To receive information on matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 25th September. None
5. Plans for Remembrance Day. Cllr Bowen has requested a bugler from the band. Wreath ordered but not yet arrived. Cllr Greaves to step in if Cllr Lomax unavailable.
6. Noted the minutes of the recent Allotment Committee meeting and discussed the proposal to increase the annual rent for ploholders. Agreed in principle to a rent increase to £15 per year, but will reconsider at a future meeting giving the plot holders chance to come back to us with any comments.
7. To consider the position of Chair – moved to after item 11
8. **To consider planning related matters:-**
 - 8.1. **Information on previous planning applications:** None
 - 8.2. **Planning Enforcement Issues:**
 - 8.2.1. Update on High House Farm dumping – 14/60285/ENF – Update from Roy Rizvi: *In May, this year I was contacted by son of landowner to inform that because of his father's health problems he was in process of setting up power of attorney to administer his father's affairs. Once completed, he was hopeful that site would be cleared by the end of this year. Should this prove not to be the case I will recommend to senior officers that matter be brought back before Bradford Magistrates.* Agreed to thank Roy for communicating.
 - 8.2.2. Update on the land at Whiteley Arches. 18/60037/ENF – Update from Roy Rizvi: *You will recall that the legal officer advised that compliance with enforcement notice cannot be progressed until the new landowner has registered his interest with HM Land Registry. This advice also applied in respect of taking direct action to secure removal of said items. I have not been aware that new landowner has registered his interest with HM Land Registry. Clerk frustrating that nothing has moved, but noted that Building Control have been informed that the fence is dangerous and have begun process of contacting landowner.*
 - 8.3. **New planning applications**
 - 8.3.1. 23/06010/EIA | Scoping opinion | Walshaw Moor Estate Widdop Road Heptonstall Hebden Bridge Calderdale.
Chair introduced the item by commenting that this is unusual in that this is not an application, but a scoping opinion. Feels it is problematic – there is an assumption that putting up onshore wind turbines is justified due to lower carbon, but this is flawed. Depends on what carbon is used to produce, decommission, no assessment of biodiversity net gain. No assessment as to whether tree planting is appropriate or justifiable or carbon negative or positive. Why go into depth re concerns around particular birds when no justification under a climate mitigation imperative is explored. Would suggest objecting on these grounds.
Other points raised:
turbines too high – and lights required would impact dark sky area.
Enormous impact on environment
No contractors should access road to Blake Dean. Suggest a listing be put on the bridge, some

stoops that should be listed also. Further over there is a pill box that should be listed so that it doesn't get damaged in any construction.

Should not use Widdop Road for access.

Concern about the depth of footing required, and need a network of roads.

Would want to see very serious environmental impact assessment of works they are proposing.

Bogs are equivalent of rainforest in terms of carbon sequestration – is this factored in to any carbon targets?

The foundations would be left in after decommissioning (after 25 years).

Hills above summit – the turbines are very large, and very solid walkways. And that is much smaller.

Doubts about cost of making and transporting these huge turbines – how long is it to get the carbon benefit? Off shore are more efficient than onshore. Could be argued that there is a necessity for onshore, but has not been demonstrated in the scoping opinion.

One way in which it affects parishioners here would be visually. Suggestion to ask for a visual impact viewpoint from Blackshaw Parish.

Bradford response points out the lack of viewpoints from places like Stoodley Pike.

It is recognised to impact on our parish, as places are impacted, eg listed buildings. And also would be impacted by construction activity. However climate change mitigation would be a positive impact on this parish.

Discussed suggestion that we could join with other parishes in discussing this. Potentially would like to have a pre-presentation meeting – perhaps getting a professional secondary opinion to be able to better understand. This is a wide ranging matter, and useful to have widespread views and expertise so benefit in joining with other PCs. Agreed to send two councillors. Cllr Dyter agreed to attend and we'd endeavour to get one more person depending on availability.

Also agreed to invite the WWRE to come and speak at a future parish council meeting.

Agreed to respond to Scoping Opinion to say that it doesn't address material consideration whether justified under climate change imperative and must do so as an initial requirement.

Also agreed to mention lack of visual impact or road traffic assessments from Blackshaw perspective.

8.3.2. 23/20157/TPO | Fell Four Trees (Tree Preservation Order) | Gudger Glen View Road Hebden Bridge Calderdale HX7 6DA. Supporting detailed report. Agreed unanimous no objection.

8.3.3. 23/00949/FUL | Proposed campsite with caravan for Manager (retrospective), two tree huts (retrospective), wc/wash block and associated facilities including septic tank | Land South East Of Willow Cottage Burnt Edge Lane Hebden Bridge Calderdale.

Member of public – has numerous objections, mainly involving openness and character of land, and negative impact the development has already had on that land. Access issues on single track road, maintained by residents assoc. Only one passing place. Would cause undue issues for agricultural access and emergency. Impact on curlews. Issue of water and electricity not on site. Rubbish left on site at present – way that it has been handled throughout the year does not inspire confidence that land will be respected. Many parishioners object – on council's website and on googlegroups. People trust PC and would hope they would represent people's views on this matter.

Planning agent attended meeting – he has put in the application on behalf of Ms Brownbill. He commented that applicant could open a campsite for 60 days each year with no permission under permitted development rights, so has put in this application without necessarily needing to – shows goodwill and desire to have consultation / open discussion on the matter.

There are some things raised by the planners that do need addressing, eg water, electric and the environmental impact. Access issues will come down to a highways decision. All these are being addressed by relevant departments in council. Policy-wise, CMBC have put a clause in their planning policy for this area regarding contributions to local economy, particularly mentioning tourism.

Responses to this included that the highways department wouldn't be able to make a judgement, as this is a privately owned road, fully paid for by residents. No attempt to talk to residents about this.

Councillor comments included that there are 20 objections on planning portal from our parishioners and we need to reflect this. Proposal to ask CMBC to disallow permitted development. Anything that would require Environmental Impact Assessment can be excluded from permitted development rights.

Buildings on semi-permanent basis have been put up there. Permitted would have to remove the structures after 60 days.

Water pressure at that end of the village is very low – don't know how a water supply could be got up there. Perhaps a bore hole – but this would impact people further down.

Not enough information about services, water, electricity. However agent noted that applicants have over-specified for their foul water treatment plans.

Intend to supply supplementary information to current application.

But if no information PC can't make an informed decision. Have a set time to provide this information – planning applications are an ongoing process.

60 days is a covid measure – will the applicants consider that it might go back to 28 days and is this factored into business plan.

Noise travels and already can be heard from neighbouring properties. Would applicant consider time limits – would need to specify if this is raised as an issue and return to it.

Have notion of having a manager on site without any viability assessment at all. Weather can be very destructive in that location. Absurd notion that it would be viable as a campsite with only 7 tents. Too much infrastructure, not a viable business idea. No parking arrangements, at the moment. Bin lorries don't come up there. Private company for waste removal as with any commercial business.

Lane can't take this type of traffic. Very presumptuous to assume they will have access.

No landscaping works proposed – does that mean no gravel or mud mat on the ground? Apart from turn head on way in which will be hardcore and gravel mesh (noted this was already in place).

Does site have right of access up the lane. Agent cannot answer as this is a legal question but others believe not. Residents could institute a locked gate which only allowed horses and carts. That land did previously have agricultural access – but believe there is no easement by necessity. And inappropriate track for more vehicles – no local amenities or public transport to the site – it is not sustainable in public transport terms.

Agreed to object to this application with one abstention. Agreed to note that permitted development rights should be disallowed.

Asked to be notified of any amendments – agent agreed to send any further information directly to the clerk.

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

9.1. Update from the Blackshawhead Community Association

Cllr Greaves hasn't yet produced a map of proposed speed review, but will do.

Have got some traction with white lines on Badger Lane. Will burn off the white lines down the middle and put in new edging line. One bigger walkway on one side and provide some space for pedestrians.

Did ask for stencilled pedestrian symbol – but not got back. Two diagrams have been sent – think white lines are going as far as the 40 mph. Clerk believes that the plan is to keep the white line at the junction and just beyond the Chapel. Ideally would like there to be a walkway outside the Chapel.

Interested in embracing Neighbourhood Watch and as part of that, curious to know what became of the idea to have CCTV on the chapel. Clerk will forward name of previous resident who was interested in doing this.

Idea of HGV signage – one towards Colden, left turn, and one further back.

Had some success getting vegetation cut back either by landowners or doing it themselves.

Noticeboard by bus stop – Clerk advised to speak to the two residents who were previously involved in Neighbourhood Watch.

9.2. Any update from Highways regarding the outstanding issues. Still waiting for agreement to location – however the proposed speed review may change the location.

Ask not to push the ‘welcome to BH’ – would like council to consider an actual gateway sign (that looks like a gate). Clerk to forward details of what was previously decided.

10. To consider the following Financial matters:

10.1. To note the 2023/2024 budget and balances and bank reconciliation. Bank statements haven't turned up, so this is postponed to next meeting.

10.2. Noted that the payment to YLCA of £25 for training course for Cllr Greaves had to be made. Proportionately not worth pressing this. Agreed on the payment with one abstention.

10.3. Confirmed payment of the allotments water bill – Agreed.

10.4. Confirmed payment of the Clerk's monthly salary (1 month) and no expenses

11. To consider representative reports and invitations:

Neighbourhood Plan - 16th October. Cllr Dyter attended, and explained situation. NP had to take out quite a lot of policies as these were duplicated in Local Plan. Other bits of it were written out for other reasons, so ended up with so few policies that it was felt that there wasn't much point taking this forward vis a vis time and money. Definitely agreed that group wanted to keep communication between the different parishes open.

Q - Did they talk about the consequences of not having a NP? A - Felt they didn't have a choice. If there is development in our parish and we don't have a NP, it stops us putting a community charge on it. There may be consequences of Labour's proposals re housebuilding that would have to be compliant with the NP in each area – if we don't have one are we open to excess development? A - They are mainly talking about new towns. The Community Charge replaces Section 106. Perhaps we can still use S106. Need to know what the consequences are? Are we being advised to make a decision on this? This probably does need to be on the agenda so that people are aware of this discussion – for next meeting.

Town & Parish Council Liaison Group - 7th October. Clerk gave a report – guest speakers were WWRE the company wishing to build windfarm – further discussion of this above. But also noted that there was good attendance from all other parishes and BPC should make effort to get representation at next one.

Ward Forum - 18th October. No-one attended.

YLCA Branch meeting 11th October – Cllr King struggled to hear this – need to make the hybrid meeting work better.

Calder Search & Rescue – Chair has apologised as unable to attend.

The church invitation - Clerk will send apologies..

12. Item no 7 – Moved to exclude the public as this relates to items of a personal nature. Agreed.

Discussion not minuted. Agreed Cllr Lomax to remain as chair.

Dates of future meetings:

Parish Council Meetings: - 27th November at Blackshawhead Chapel

Allotment Committee: - March 2023

Signed Catherine Bann - Clerk to Blackshaw Parish Council