



Blackshaw Parish Council

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Parish Council Meeting

MINUTES

of the meeting held on

Monday 27th April 2026 at Blackshaw Head Chapel

Chair: Cllr Tiler-Ansell

Present: Cllr Dyter, Cllr Higginson, Cllr King, Cllr Bull, Cllr Bowen

In attendance: S Hughes (Clerk) and one member of the public

1. The Chair opened the meeting at 7:34pm. All present were reminded of meeting procedure and behaviour expectations.

2. Apologies were received from Cllr Tasker. These were accepted.

3. **Declarations of interest:**

Cllr Bull declared an interest in agenda item 9.2

4. **Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd March 2025 are a true and correct record.

An agenda order variation was agreed so that the member of the public present could raise his item first.

13.1 Gate at the top of Shaw Lane opposite the chapel – the member of the public in attendance, who volunteers with CROWS, noted that the group had looked at the gate across the bridleway where it crosses Old Shaw Lane. There needs to be a proper field gate there, but replacing a field gate exceeds their remit. The arrangement provided by the farmer is an obstruction, not a gate. It is not convenient for anyone on horseback (for instance) and allows sheep to escape from their appropriate fields and enter the road. A request was made for the parish council to raise this with Calderdale's Highways department.

Councillors discussed the merits of proceeding by first inviting the farmer to give his point of view versus going straight to Calderdale Council, which they felt was an aggressive approach. **Resolved** to contact the farmer first by letter inviting him to the May or June council meeting. If a satisfactory reply is not received, the council will then approach Calderdale.

Councillors decided to continue with agenda item 13, Correspondence received.

13.2 Reliability of the 596 bus – it was noted by some residents that the bus service is unreliable and that the drivers sometimes do not charge passengers to compensate for the poor service. Residents are concerned that while this is well-intentioned, it may have the effect of not recording the true number of people using the service as they are not recorded as users if a ticket isn't purchased. **Resolved** that the clerk will write to the bus company outlining parishioners' concerns about this.

5. To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary:

1. Allotments issues – no update
2. Community defibrillator – Clerk to give paper file to BHCA
3. Joint working on fly tipping – no update
4. Cyle lockers – no update
5. Community Garden outside church – this project is underway and work has been taking place on the ground
6. Whole-council training – defer to May or June
7. Emergency plan (carried over from November) – defer to May or June
8. Damage to the council’s red tent following the 2025 Fete, missing banner – no update
9. Calderdale Energy Park
 - a. Availability of updated public domain information on the windfarm and how to access it.
Other parish councils were not aware that there was a link to the website in the minutes. Cllr Dyter will send this link to the Clerk to put in our minutes and also send it to the Google Groups. <https://www.calderdaleenergypark.co.uk/project-evolution/>
 - b. Update on 20th May meeting 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project' – defer to May, but Cllrs Dyter and Higginson will attend meeting on 12th of May as Cllr Tiler-Ansell will be on annual leave at that time.

6. To consider and decide upon the following planning applications:

Ref. No: 26/00206/FUL [Installation of solar panels to the roof of an existing agricultural building.](#)

Resolved no objection

Ref. No: 26/00184/FUL [Detached Dwelling - Opposite 5 To 7 Oakville Road Hebden Bridge Calderdale](#)

Resolved No objection, however concerns were raised about the loss of green space and the effect on habitats and wildlife

7. To receive and note the following planning decisions and information

None

8. To receive and note the following issues reported on Highways, bridleways and footpaths:

1. Non-compliance with enforcement notice on High House Farm
2. Enforcement of illegal campsite issue on Burnt Edge Lane

9. To receive and consider matters requested by the councillors

1. Discussion of agenda and minute procedures – defer to June meeting
2. Grant to Blackshaw head Community Association to cover remaining ½ of rent
Resolved to approve this payment – £120.00 pay directly to BHCA
3. Grant to CROWS £350
Resolved to pay £200 now and ask them to apply for remainder later
4. JP&TC working group - A646 Emergency Plan update

Resolved that Clerk could attend the working group in a clerking capacity, but that Blackshaw Council would not bear the whole cost. Cllr Tiler-Ansell will investigate how Clerk is to invoice other PCs for her time.

10. Financial matters:

To confirm the draft budget for 2026-27 and agree the annual precept (carried over from February)

It was agreed not to include potential fundraising in the budget; therefore, spending on defibrillators is limited to what can be spared from the precept. There was discussion around the chair's allowance and although it was proposed that this be raised to £500, it was eventually agreed to keep it at £450. There was also discussion around the expenses for Christmas hampers properly falling under S137 spending, but councillors agreed to keep it within the chair's allowance. A councillor reminded the council that the precept is public money and that spending needs to be transparent.

There was dissent around the amount proposed by the clerk for spending on IT. The clerk made the case for a website firm creating a new and compliant website for the council and the community. After lengthy debate, it was **resolved** that Cllr Bowen will give a quote 'in principle' for a new website and two independent quotes will also be sought. **Resolved** that a new website/email provider will be decided on by the end of June. Cllr Bowen abstained and 5 were in favour. Clerk will send requirements to Cllr Bowen so that he can prepare his quote.

This leaves the approved budget as mainly "Budget 2".

To note the following payments

1. Clerk's salary
2. Business Stream water for allotments £49.35
3. SLCC subscription £116.00
4. YLCA subscription £383.00

To approve the following invoices for payment:

5. Blackshaw Head Community Association rent £120 – confirmed

To consider the following payments:

6. Grant to CROWS £350.00 – £200 approved. Confirm at May meeting.
7. Zurich Municipal insurance £423.59 – approved. Confirm at May meeting.

11. To consider the NALC model IT Policy for adoption

12. To discuss preparation of the annual newsletter, including writing content and delivery logistics

Resolved that this year's newsletter will go out in June.

13. To receive correspondence

1. Gate at the top of Shaw Lane opposite the chapel – discussed earlier
2. Reliability of the 596 bus – discussed earlier

14. To notify the clerk of matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting

Cllr Bowen may not make the May annual meeting. His potential apology was noted and accepted by the council.

15. Employment matters – defer to end of May

16. To receive and consider representative reports and invitations:

Meeting	Last Date	Next Date	Delegates
Safer Cleaner Greener	16/06/2026	18/05/2026	Cllr Dyter
Calder Ward Forum	10/03/2026	TBA	any/all cllrs
Joint Parish Meeting	02/03/2026	18/05/2026 TBC	any/all cllrs
JPM Working Group		18/05/2026	Cllrs Tiler-Ansell, King & Bull
T&PC Liaison Group	27/01/2026	TBA after 7/5/26	Cllrs Tiler-Ansell & Bull
Allotments Committee	09/03/2026	12/10/2026	Cllrs Dyter, Higginson and King
Windfarm meeting CEP	20/04/2026	12/05/2026	Cllrs Higginson & Dyter
YLCA Branch meeting		30/06/2026	any/all cllrs

26/17 To confirm the date of the next three parish council meetings as 19 May, 22 June and 27 July.

Signed *Sally Hughes*

Clerk to Blackshaw Parish Council