

Minutes of Blackshaw Parish Council Meeting held at Blackshaw Head Methodist Chapel, Blackshaw Head, on Monday 25 July 2011.

Present: Cllrs Dorothy Sutcliffe (Chairman), Pat Beechill, Tim Cole, Steve Hoyle, Chris Lund, Carol King, Mick Davies and 2 members of the public.

In attendance: Lars Hansen, the Clerk.

- 1. Accepted apologies** – none were accepted.
- 2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda** – none were declared.
- 3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27 June** – The venue should have been shown as the Blackshaw Head Methodist Church and not the Hebden Bridge Town Hall. With that amendment the minutes were agreed.
- 4. Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting held on 27 June** –
Dog poo poster competition – Members admired the winners and runners up from the Hebden Royd School Dog Poo poster competition. It was agreed that the winners would be copied as A4 and laminated for display around the Parish. An A3 copy of the winner would be produced for display at the Fete.
- 5. Criteria for considering proposals for the Charlestown Community garden** - The Clerk presented the proposed criteria. After a lengthy discussion the criteria were agreed. It was further agreed that Cllr Davies and the Clerk would enter into discussions with local residents about the Charleston Community Garden and allotments.
- 6. Progress report on developing the Charlestown allotments** – Cllr Davies, the Clerk and prospective allotment holders reported back on progress in developing the allotments. Prospective allotment holders had held a meeting, established a website and Google group to promote the allotments. Currently 8 local residents had expressed a desire for an allotment. Cllr Davies had also held discussions with Calderdale Local Orchard Group, CLOG, and Treesponsible about replacing some of the existing trees with fruit trees and bushes. Members were enthusiastic and voiced strong support.
- 7. Planning related matters:** -
 - 7.1. Bias, predetermination and predisposition** – The Clerk reminded Councillors to avoid predetermination and although Members may have a predisposition they should approach every issue with an open mind. If they felt unable to do so they should declare an interest and take no further part in the decision making process.
 - 7.2. Feedback on previous planning applications:** –
 - 11/00278/FUL for a two storey extension to existing holiday cottage at the Barn, Staups Lane, Todmorden** – refused;
 - 11/00465/FUL for Higher Murgatshaw Farm, New Shaw Lane, Blackshaw Head** – refused;
 - 11/00505/FUL for a proposed ménage area on land adjacent to White Windows barn, off lane Head, Blackshaw Head** – approved;

11/00593/FUL for relocation of an existing Evoco 10kW wind turbine on a 12m monopole mast for Badgerfields Farm Badger Lane, Blackshaw Head – refused.

7.3. New planning applications: -

11/00445/FUL for 2 No 5kW Wind turbines on 18m hydraulic raise and lower unit on land opposite West Gable, the Long Causeway, Blackshaw Head – withdrawn.

8. Matters relating to highways, bridleways and footpaths:-

Higher Back Lane – The Clerk was asked to write to Calderdale Council to thank them for the quality of the latest work carried out on the lane.

Ingle Dene exit road and a Safe Route to School in Charlestown – Cllr Davies and the Clerk had a meeting with Kevin Moran, from the Highways Section, which had highlighted the poor quality of the signage and the highly dangerous pedestrian route to Hebden Royd School from Charlestown. There is no easy or cheap solution and it should be viewed as a long term objective to get substantive improvements. If there is no response from the Highways Department within 2 to 3 months the Parish Council should involve local Ward Councillors in lobbying for improvements.

Lower Moss Hall/Higher Back Lane junction – The Clerk was asked to contact the Highways section about the constant flow of surface water onto the road which would become a traffic hazard when it freezes in winter.

9. The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee celebrations – It was proposed to consult at the Fete over the form of celebrations in the Parish. Celebrations could include a Parish Beacon and party.

10. Representative reports and invitations:

- **28 June “Pulling together”:** - Cllr Cole attended and found it very interesting. The main theme was developing partnerships and working together to be effective.
- **5 July SLCC training event on Allotments etc:** - Cllrs Cole and Davies and the Clerk attended a very useful training course organised by the Society for Local Council Clerks, SLCC. As a result of attending Cllr Davies suggested that the names and contact details of Councillors should be made publicly available. It was agreed that there should be a group photo of the Council at the next meeting and that this should be displayed at the Fete, on the website www.blackshaw.net and on Notice Boards together with a limited address details. The Parish email address of info@blackshaw.net should be used for contacting individual Councillors.
- **13 July BEAT Meeting** – Unfortunately not many residents attended. It was therefore agreed to invite BEAT to do a presentation at the September Parish Council Meeting.
- **21 July Calder Ward Forum** – Cllr Davies and Cole were unable to attend. In future there should be more of an attempt to send substitutes
- **23 July YLCA Joint Annual Meeting at Upper Poppleton** – noted.

- **10 September retirement of Ian Strong as Secretary of YLCA at The Tithe Barn, Poppleton** – it was agreed to send a letter of thanks and a gratuity.
- **13 September Town and Parish Council Liaison Group at Hebden Bridge Town Hall** – Cllr Lund to attend.
- **10am to 1pm 1 October Annual Town and Parish Council Liaison Group** – All Councillors and the Clerk are expected to attend.
- **27 November Rural Action Yorkshire AGM** – noted.

11. Financial matters:

11.1. 2011/2012 budget and balances – The remaining budget for 2011/2012 was reported as £6,148.26 and the Council balances as £8,402.08. It was agreed to transfer £100 from the Reserve Account to the Current Account.

11.2. New authorised banking signatures – Councillors were reminded to take their identity forms to the bank.

11.3. Section 137 grant application from BEAT – There being no BEAT representatives present it was postponed to the next meeting.

11.4. The Clerk's monthly salary and computer allowance – The Clerk's salary minus tax and the £10 monthly computer allowance were confirmed for payment.

11.5. Councillor's expenses – The Clerk was asked to refer the question of co-optees expenses to the YLCA.

12. Dates of future meetings:

Parish Council Meeting: - 22 August, 26 September; 24 October, 28 November, 12 December, 23 January 2012, 27 February, 26 March, 23 April.

WayAhead Meetings: - 17 October at the Sportsman, 20 February 2012 at Stubbings Wharf.

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting - 7 or 28 May 2012 at Hebden Bridge Town Hall.

Signed