

Hebden Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting held 3rd April 2013

Present: Thirteen local government electors, being Cllrs Coney, Hodge, Joy, Hargreaves, Stockdale (Chairman) Ms S Ely (Clerk)
Mrs M Hargraves, Mrs C Smith, Mr I Simpson, Mr J Richards, Mr C Goodwin, Mr & Mrs White

Apologies: None
The Chairman apologised for being late.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 28th March 2012 were read and approved.

Matters Arising:

The speeding on the road through the village had proved not to be excessive when testing had taken place so there was no further action possible.
A joiner in Skipton has been given the work in the Institute to hang the doors from above on rollers so it would be possible to close off the room and have a cosy space by the fire. A structural engineer had checked the strength of the beam to ensure it could carry the load.
The Council regularly contacted Highways about the potholes in the road through the village.

Chairman's Report:

There was little further the Council could do about the state of the roads and often letters were ignored and no action taken. However The Council continued to report on the state of the potholes and any other hazard. Comments had been sent to the YDNP about the views of the council regarding the extension of the National Park towards the Lake District.

Matters of Public Interest:

Mrs Hargraves wanted the Public Toilets reopened as there are even more walkers coming to the village. She felt they should be re-instated at a cost to the Parish with a donation box inside. She proposed this and Mr Simpson seconded but when it was put to the vote it was defeated by 11 to 2.
It was noted that the School Cafe no longer allowed walkers to use their toilets and no longer received money from CDC. If re-opened Mr Goodwin felt that it might lead to yet more parking in the village, which is already a problem.
Mr Richards wanted to know about an item in the Newsletter about legal costs as a result of Parish action to have the land by the beck registered as Village Green. It was explained that we couldn't claim costs against Mr Lee without it involving yet more legal fees. However the matter is now settled and the land is registered as belonging to the Parish.
Mr Richards complained that leaves were not removed from the road side and while this is not a Parish matter it will be looked into. He pointed out that the becksides between the bridges had become overgrown and wondered if Community workers could be used again to clear the undergrowth. Cllr Hargreaves explained that after some thefts in Burnsall they could no longer be used to do work in villages. It might have to be paid work.
The flags placed on the road outside School House had been queried and the Clerk said she'd written and sent photographs to Highways who'd replied that they weren't concerned.

There is an increasing problem with parking outside Rowan Cottage and higher up the lane. Mr White said it was difficult parking there and cars were encroaching on to the Green. There was also a problem of obstructing the right of way. The Councillors will consider putting up posts or even a low wall. Mrs Hargraves asked how much this year's Land Letting had raised so the Clerk gave the figures as compared to 2012 and explained this was now for the next 3 years.(£1954 cf £1230)

The Chairman explained that Backstone Edge allotment has been given a Higher Level Environmental grant and the expert who visited the site had been asked to come and visit the site and talk to any interested villagers about the special flora but unfortunately he'd not replied. There is a new resident at Crag Cottage who it's believed has a botanical background so she might be able to identify the special plants there.

The Clerk is to ask Mr Ferguson if he will re- start the verge project in the autumn.

Mrs Hargraves thanked the Councillors and the Clerk for their work on behalf of the village.

There being no further business the Meeting was closed at 8pm.