

Hebden Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 8th May 2013

Present: Cllrs, Stockdale, Joy, Hargreaves, Hodge

Apologies: Cllr Coney

Minutes: The Minutes of the meetings held 3rd April 2013, which had been previously circulated, were taken as read and approved.

Election of Chairman:

Cllr Stockdale said he was standing down and was thanked by the other Cllrs for his Chairmanship for many years. Cllr Hargreaves proposed Cllr Joy and this was seconded by Cllr Hodge. As all were in favour Cllr David Joy took the chair and signed the Declaration of Acceptance.

Matters arising:

Safety barrier up the gill: The Clerk had written again to Highways and received back a letter stating they were having “severe resource issues in the staffing department”. Since Stuart Cracknell is no longer a Highway Inspector and his replacement isn’t due to start till mid May it was decided nothing further could be done till after then. Meanwhile Cllr Hodge had put up reflective barrier tape as a temporary safety marker.

SPS update and visit to D Hill: The Clerk had signed the necessary form and the return had been made. On the copy of the application she had noticed that Allen Garth & The Stripe were listed but no claim was to be made. Previously an application had been received and this had been handed on to Mr Crampton as the tenant of The Stripe. The Clerk is to phone Emma Bancroft of D Hill to check this out. The claim for the “bog” seemed to be correct. It was noted that YDNP were leading walks up to Backstone Edge allotment. The Clerk is to enquire the purpose of these walks.

Mr Lee and his payment: A cheque had at last been received for his outstanding account for wayleave on his strip of the Village Green.

CDC & Public Toilet rent: The Clerk had noted that this hadn’t been paid while preparing year end. CDC usually claim that this payment is automatic and on the computer. The Clerk had sent an Invoice for the present year.

AON Insurance renewal: The amount due was slightly less than last year and there had been an increase in the Public Liability Limit. The Clerk read out the declaration and basic schedule notes and all was agreed. Legal costs are covered so the Clerk will see if this would cover the expense of Fosterlaw and Mr Lee’s claim on the land.

Correspondence:

YDNP Planning: Permission had been granted for the building of a garage at Beckside. Cllr Stockdale raised the concern as had been expressed in the letter sent to the Planners by the Clerk, that there was insufficient turning space to enter the garage from the lane without driving over the Village green. The Cllrs could foresee that this might be a problem and it would need monitoring. Permission had been granted at The Old Lodge regarding the roofing material and windows.

NY Police Press release: This was to tell the Council of a new Country Watch campaign and it was noted but no action was felt necessary at present.

NYCC Vacancies for Co-opted Members: No Cllr wished to be considered.
Tour de France Roadshow: This would be in Grassington Town Hall on 13th May at 10am and in Skipton at the Rendezvous on 9th May at 2.30 with an opportunity to meet the Welcome to Yorkshire Team.
NYCC Community Emergency Plan: It was felt that Hebden at present doesn't need such a plan so no action for now.

Accounts

Bank statement 03/05/13 current	£ 248.94
Bank statement @ 03/05/13 saver	£3605.27
Monies received	
YEDL wayleave	£ 16.02
Mr Lee wayleave	£ 5.00
VAT repayment for 2012/3	£408.19
YWA 5 year's rent for the Pump House	£ 25.00
Payments for approval	
Aon insurance from 01/06/13 for year	£324.22
NYCC street lights for year 2012-2013	£507.40

The Clerk then read out the Internal audit by Mr Gardner and the following points were discussed. The Cllrs were pleased to note what had been properly recorded and acted on from last year's audit. The Clerk had corrected the error of Mazars bill and it was agreed that any payment to a Cllr must be better documented in the future. The street light repair had been paid in April so the invoice was in the file for 2013/14. The Clerk sought advice from SLCC about Mazars comment last year that the Council should not have been depreciating new assets. While this has been done for many years using straight line depreciation over a stated number of years the Clerk was told by SLCC that this was incorrect. She was advised to put the latest assets (street light, lamp, tree lights & cupboard) back to cost and enter them as such until they were replaced. This had been done with a note to Littlejohn the new external auditors. The Cllrs noted that recent exceptional expenditure would mean greater reserves should be held back in the future.

Audit note: The Clerk then read through the Governance Statement and it was agreed that all the points were met. They felt that all financial risks were covered by controls when paying invoices and by the scrutiny of the internal auditor and his comments were acted on. The Clerk displayed the notices in accordance with electors' rights.

The Accounting Statement was then signed as approved by Hebden Parish Council.

Any other business:

Cllrs had met as agreed at the last meeting and looked at the problem of erosion of the Green by cars parking and creating a widening patch of mud. It was decided that posts be put by the roadside to stop this and after discussion these be of oak 3x3 about 18 ins high and about 6 ft apart. Two quotes are to be requested from Stuart Naylor and Hartlington Fencing.

Cllr Hargreaves asked the Clerk to check when his wayleave is next due, its 2014. Cllr Coney had asked Cllr Hodge to bring up the problem of broken glass in the bus shelter where the timetable is displayed. The glass is to be removed by Cllr Hodge. Cllr Coney also said he'd lead a party of volunteers to clean up the mud and leaves by the roadside and the Cllrs agreed to help.

Cllr Hodge was concerned that Highways had made a good repair of the tarmac up the gill which hadn't been requested, but hadn't done more than a poor patching job down the road

past Hebden Lodge, where HPC had been repeatedly asking for new tarmac and been ignored. The Cllrs wanted to know who gave the authority to make these repairs. The Clerk is to contact Shelagh Marshall about this matter and if necessary to arrange a meeting so she can see the poor state of the road and the problem on Brook Street Bridge which has also been ignored compared to the work completed up the gill.

Cllr Hargreaves said that a pipe over the Brook St bridge had lost its roofing cover and insulation. He had contacted YW and will keep it under review. Cllr Hodge will check out the trough at Whygill and if this still hasn't been reconnected the Clerk will contact YW again. Rubbish had been thrown over the wall into the field by High Dene. Cllr Stockdale will speak to Mr Wiggins the head gamekeeper about this.

Cllr Stockdale had spoken to Mr K Ideson and he hopes to start on the hanging doors in the Institute in the next 2 weeks.

Date of next Meeting:

It was agreed to hold this meeting on **Wednesday 12th June 2013** in the Ibbotson Institute at 7.30pm.