

Hebden Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 27th November 2013

Present: Cllrs, Joy, Stockdale, Coney, Hodge

Apologies: Cllr Hargreaves

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held 16th October, which had been previously circulated, were taken as read and approved.

Matters Arising:

Highway matters and Brook St Bridge: The Clerk had met 2 employees from Highways inspecting the road down through the village. They implied it would be resurfaced this financial year. It was thought that perhaps pressure from Sustrans and the YDNP following letters from the Council may have brought forward the date of repair. Cllr Hargreaves had told the Clerk that some pointing had been done on Brook St Bridge but no tarmac repair had happened. The Clerk is to write yet again to Dr Green of English Heritage expressing concern about the state of the bridge fabric. There had been no reply to the last letter.

Safety posts up the ghyll: The Clerk had received no reply to the letter sent after the last meeting and no replacement had occurred. The bollards that were down the bank have been placed by the wall.

Tree report from Mrs Childs YDNP: This was a comprehensive and clear report (see attached notes) and the Clerk had used it to fill in the TPO forms and the Conservation area forms. These will be delivered to YDNP Colvend with a map locating the trees and a letter of thanks.

ROSPA inspection of the playground: Cllrs Hodge and Coney had inspected the playground and found all to be in order. The rubber matting is beginning to degrade and will need replacing some time in the future. The ROSPA report gave an overall risk as low so no further action is needed.

Woodland Trust saplings: Cllr Stockdale and Hargreaves had planted these in Standard Garth. They were very small saplings and were well protected by the guards that reached above the trees. Cllr Stockdale said that the gate was open and sheep had been into the wood. They closed it.

Local Plan: Cllr Hargreaves had attended the meeting. From conversation with the Clerk much time had been spent in discussing the Govt plan of approving the conversion of all barns to residential use. He may be able to report back more at the next meeting.

Posts by road side above Rowan Cottage: Stuart Naylor had finished this work and they will protect the green and they also look "good" according to a resident.

Correspondence:

Letter from Mr Lee: He had written to say that when the hemlock is felled at the beck side he doesn't want anyone trespassing on to his garden at No1 Brook St and for there to be no timber left there.

Parish Grant from CDC: The Cllrs were unable to reply as requested as it was unclear what grant was being referred to. The letter said the Parish was a previous recipient of grant but none had been received. The Clerk is to send a quick note requesting clarification.

Post Office closure: The PO had sent a letter to inform the Parish that the Post Office is closing at 12.30 on 28th December. Since it is known that the post box will have to be moved there was some discussion about the relocation. It was thought it might go in the wall outside the Institute but no decision can be made till there is further communication from the PO.

AON snow clearance: The insurance company gave its policy guidelines saying salting, gritting etc can only be carried out if it is safe to do so. It states you must not clear, salt or grit local highways. Cllr Hodge made a comment about the salt pile put by the hill down towards the river by NYCC presumably for local use.

CDC comments on the reduced bus subsidies: The Clerk felt that CDC had made many comments similar to those sent in their letter to NYCC after the last meeting. It was put in with Correspondence so Cllrs may read it later.

YDNP Le Tour: This was a brief guide to the roles and responsibilities of various local bodies involved with the organisation of the Tour.

YDNP Planning: The application for the Barn had been approved.

Accounts:

Bank statement @25/11/13 current	£381.67
Bank statement @ 25/11/13 saver	£3306.14
SBS investment	£5000.00
Monies received	nil
Payments for approval	
Playsafety Ltd Annual playground inspection ROSPA	£78.00
Stuart Naylor- grass cutting 10/09	£32.40

Precept discussion with careful consideration to costs in the coming year.

The Clerk had previously circulated the notes and figures regarding the 2014 Precept. These were discussed with consideration given to the unusual extra costs of the tree felling. Cllr Hodge said that he felt the 2 chestnut trees could be felled by him. It was decided to delay the cost of some tree work and carry this forward to 2015. Cllr Hargreaves had emailed the Clerk and his conclusion was that the Council need not request a Precept for the coming year but might need to in the following year. It was finally decided not to ask CDC for a precept and if needed the balance of the SBS bond, after paying for the Institute door hanging track, could be used. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for the work done in preparing the figures. The Chairman and 2 councillors signed the form and the Clerk so it is ready to post to CDC.

Any other business:

Drains: Mr Herd had complained that there was a problem with a loose drain. When she met the men from Highways the Clerk pointed out to them the faulty drain opposite the entrance to Hebden Hall where a cow had got its leg stuck and asked them to add it to the repair list.

Hedge height in garden at the end of the croft behind School House: The Clerk had been asked if there was a limit to the height of hedges within conservation areas. The Council said that they had no jurisdiction over such matters and the complainant would have to investigate directly themselves.

Xmas tree lights: It was decided that the councillors will arrange a date and time and put them up together.

Date of next meeting:

It was agreed to hold this meeting on **Wednesday 8th January 2014** in the Ibbotson Institute at 7.30pm.

