

Hebden Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 29th November 2017

Present: Cllrs, Joy, Coney, Longthorne, Wilson, Hodge

Apologies:

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held 11th October 2017, which had been previously circulated, were taken as read and approved.

Matters Arising

Beckside Wall: The Clerk had searched the Minutes from the 1960s and particularly around 1967 but had found no reference to the Brook Street residents agreeing to the upkeep of the wall. She will contact Mr Stockdale and take the Minute books to see if he can find the relevant passage. If Bernard contacts HPC again he can be told we're checking the responsibility of the wall maintenance.

Tree Planting Event: After considerable difficulties with G Garrett and the trees only collected on the Friday and no planting plan provided, it was a success in the end. However, Mr Garrett proved a great help organising the village helpers on the Saturday 25th November and 80 trees were planted and protected with plastic guards within 2 hours. They were well spaced below the footpath as was the wishes of the villagers at the spring ratepayers meeting. Cllr Joy and G Garrett will plant the specimen trees near the Pickering End turn off later, 1 beech, 1 oak 3 limes and there will be a group of 5 holly in a group. The YDMT grant had specified "robust guards" and G Garrett had suggested netting but the opinion of the Cllrs was that the plastic was robust and the area was now free of livestock. It will be put to the YDMT that the grant money still available be used for dock and thistle spraying by Ben White, who is licensed for this, and a quote will be requested in the spring. Roundup should be put just around the tree guards also in the spring. Cllr Joy is visiting the YDMT and will ask to see the size of the plaque from the donor so that its location can be best decided. Photos have been sent to YDMT with agreement they can be used for their publicity.

Emma Bancroft about the trees and Natural England: She had at last received approval of the changes to the grant points for taking out High Green but had been asked about the tree planting. Cllr Coney had sent Emma photos of the tree planting event as proof to pass on the Natural England.

Tenancy agreements: Notices are to be sent out in January 2019 giving 1 year notice. It was noted the old 1 year agreement didn't allow horses in the fields all year round. It was discussed that the wording might be changed before the next tenancy agreements are drawn up. It was noted that a horse not belonging to the tenant was in one of the fields. There was damage to the wall by the road side at High Dene which may possibly have been there before it was let. A tree guard had been knocked down possibly by the said horse. Cllr Joy said he would talk to Mrs L Bullough about this. Previously there had been a problem with her letting a local farmer put his cows in her field.

Fred Singleton's Seat: Andy had the new lettering and would come and fit it and replace the timber slats.

Garage up Chapel Lane: Further to the letter from the Council an enforcement note was made on Oct 13th and building had stopped. A resident had reported seeing activity on site this week so it will be monitored.

Clerk's costs and complying with the Transparency Code: An estimate had been requested for a new electric point to be able to use the laptop and printer upstairs in the office. She will look at the grant and let the Cllrs know how much money is yet to be spent before the next meeting when it can be discussed. Hopefully the new website will be active by then.

Cllr Hodge had reported potholes: This was a general report to NYCC as he had a concern for liability in case of vehicle damage by a pothole.

Correspondence:

NYCC street lighting improvement: Their plan is to replace all lights with LED. It might be worth thinking about replacing those in Hebden still not LED. Cllr Hodge took the letter and will look into it.

Parish Portal: The Clerk is still emailing direct with Area 5 but Cllr Coney pointed out that possibly in the future all contact will have to be via the portal. The Clerk will attempt again to gain access.

General data protection advisory service: Cllr Longthorne is going to a meeting about this so will report back at the next meeting.

External auditor: Contrary to earlier belief HPC will continue to have an external auditor and as the income is less than £25000 the cost should be nil provided there are no queries raised by them!

YDNP C/41/137 9 Brook Street replacement of existing dormer window with roof lights and addition of rooflight to bathroom. The Cllrs all gave their consent to this application.

Accounts

Bank statement c/a@24/11/17	£ 387.27
Bank statement s/a@ 24/11/17	£7862.69

Monies received

Barclays bank	£25.00
Barclays bank	£50.00
CDC precept ½ yr	£750.00
M de Montfort ½ yr toilet rent and 3 yr wayleave	£8.00
Powergem wayleaves	£86.88

Problem with Barclays Bank transfer and resolution AGAIN ! As above compensations

Payments to approve

Invoice received and to pass to YDMT or to pay Cllr Joy to check with Carol Douglas

Weasdale Nurseries for the 100 trees to be reclaimed by YDMT ?

£292.75 +£53.49 VAT	£346.24
---------------------	---------

Precept figures discussion

The Clerk gave out the figures for the coming year so the Cllrs could discuss the cash flow for 2018 and decide if a precept was needed. After some discussion it was decided that there would be a NIL request to CDC and the Chairman and 2 Cllrs signed the form with the Clerk countersigning.

In the absence of the Clerk the Cllrs agreed to raise the annual pay to £1000. She was rather taken aback but gives her thanks and says that she will apportion some this year to the Transparency Code.

Any Other Business:

The Clerk had been contacted by PC Sam Hutchinson a Harrogate community officer who wished to visit to see if the Council had any local concerns. He said he could call in on his way to Grassington Council meeting Thursday 30th if it was felt worthwhile. The only concern raised was of farm vehicle theft. She would pass this on. (07917580071)

Cllr Longthorne had a letter from the previous owner of the land by the beck stating there was vehicular access. No Cllr could remember this ever having happened and there had not been a gate there in the past. The request was to lay a stone track across the grass to avoid causing mud when vehicles crossed. This would reduce the grazing either way. Cllr Joy will discuss with Mrs L Bullough. Cllr Hodge said that the fence behind the toilet needed finalising as it again didn't exist. It was discussed and an electric fence proposed with Mr de Montfort to look after the battery if the Council install. There were further questions about the Bushcraft that had been gathering behind the Toilet and just who they were as the Council had been told this friend of Martyn's had a contract and was moving to Skipton in Dec/Jan to work with Skipton schools. There seemed to be no Bushcraft on any website. Cllr Hodge will ask Mr M de Montfort.

Cllr Wilson had been asked about vehicles speeding up the ghyll road but it was felt to be a Highways matter.

Date of next meeting
Wednesday 17th January 2018
7.30 in the Ibbotson Institute