

Minutes of the annual meeting of the Hebden Local electors
held Thursday 5th April at 7.30pm in the Ibbotson Institute

Thirteen local electors present: Mr D Joy (Chairman) Cllr G Coney Cllr P Hodge, Cllr M Longthorne, Cllr L Wilson Ms S Ely (Clerk)
Mrs M Hargraves, Mrs P Hodgkins, Mrs G Swallow, Mrs L Morgan, Mr J Richardson, Mr C Goodwin, Mr K Horn

Apologies: None

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and Cllr Wilson proposed acceptance and Cllr Coney seconded.

Cllr Joy introduced the Councillors.

Matters Arising:

Town Hill and the Green: The wall at the corner had been built and a line of hawthorns and a holly had been planted along the edge of the Green to protect it. Cllr Joy explained the track was a bridleway and it wasn't HPC's responsibility.

Tree planting: No ash trees were planted as ash die back is already in the village, with one mature tree being monitored. It was a successful village community project with YDMT giving the money they had received from a donation for the trees to be planted in memory of the donor's wife. A plaque had been attached to the seat on High Green. A hundred mixed broad leaved trees have been planted. The grant will also pay for grass clearing and a general clear up round the trees.

It was pointed out that there is no longer a village bonfire on the site above the footpath.

Toilet block: Mr M de Montfort had hoped to attend but on a telephone message said that there was a delay as asbestos was in the plaster and roof so he was having to pay for specialist contractor to come and remove it.

Chairman's Report:

He said that the main work of the Council in the last year was to be found in the Parish Newsletter and on the website. He thanked Cllrs Coney and Longthorne for their work in setting up the new website. Copies of the Newsletter had been placed in the phone box.

Matters of Public Interest:

The Clerk explained that the new Govt Transparency Code meant that all the transactions of the Council would be on the website under Agendas and Minutes. The Year End Report and External Audit were also available for last year and would be available for this year end in due time.. The Clerk will put up a notice for when local residents without computer access may view the accounts.

Pot holes: These had to measure 40mmx150mm before Highways will repair them. Cllr Hodge had photographed many in the main street using his own mm guide and these had been sent to Highways. Many but not all have been marked ready for repair. Mrs Hargraves asked about Back Lane beyond the Church but this doesn't belong to NYCC and so isn't a Highways matter. It was noted that not all the holes by Seven Sisters had been marked nor some up the bank. Mr Goodwin was concerned about the verge edge on the road to Grassington as it dropped off dangerously but it was thought to be beyond the Parish boundary. Cllr Joy said the Council would do its best to get the holes repaired.

Mr Richards asked about the planning permission of Dyke Barn conversion on the roadside towards Grassington and he thought possible road entrance access would be a problem and Highways would have objected. The Clerk will check her emails but didn't think HPC had been consulted although it was within the Parish. She will follow this up.

He also asked about the books that villagers put for exchange in the telephone box as they

had been getting wet. Mrs Hodkins had put in a plastic bag to keep them dry but it was thought a metal stand against the side wall would be a solution if one the right size could be found.

Street cleaning: Mr Richards asked about Community workers clearing the leaves as CDC no longer appeared to do it and cars made it difficult if they actually came. Cllr Joy explained that for various reasons these Community workers were no longer available. The Cllrs clear the far side of main street in the village and Mrs Hodkins asked they clear the Institute side. Cllr Hodge said it was going to be done when the weather improves. Mrs Hargraves said the path opposite the Clarendon is muddy and slippery. In the past it was cleared by the Longthornes.

Mr K Horn asked about speed reduction through the village and it was explained that for many years the council had been working with Active 95 Road Safety who had on many occasions monitored the speed of vehicles down B6265 but there had never been sufficient speeding cars detected. It was also a requirement to have more houses by the road side. However he was encouraged to raise the issue himself.

Mr Richards asked about the tipping of tree branches over the wall opposite Green House. It happened about 2 weeks ago and the person responsible will be asked to remove them.

Mrs Hargraves asked about clearing again the "jungle" by the beck side above the bridge. The Cllrs will consider this at a later date. Mr Horn was told he may cut back on his side once nesting birds have fledged.

Mrs Hargraves thought it would look nice to have a square stone surround to a rubbish bin placed by the seats by the bridge. It was thought that it would be difficult to empty so was deferred.

Mrs Hodkins brought up the problem of dog fouling in the village and she had contacted CDC but hadn't received a reply. She wanted a bin at the end of Brayshaw Lane. The Cllrs had in the past tried to get another special bin for dog waste but had failed. Someone was now allowing their dog to foul near the phone box. It is an ongoing problem and difficult to catch the anti-social dog owners.

Mr Richards thanked the Cllrs for their work in the village.

Cllr Joy thanked the residents for attending.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.10pm.