

Hebden Parish Council Minutes

Meeting held Wednesday 25th November 2020 at noon by zoom

Present: Cllrs, Joy, Coney, Longthorne & Wilson

Apologies:

The Cllrs were all saddened at the news that Cllr Peter Hodge died yesterday in Manorlands. He had been a very active and practical member who will be greatly missed.

The Minutes of the meeting held 14th October 2020 by zoom in the Institute, which had been previously circulated, were taken as read and approved.

Matters Arising:

Update on the Beck grant: The £6260 has been paid into the bank. The Clerk has set up a spreadsheet to “ring fence” the money. None of the 3 tree surgeons contacted have so far sent a quote. Mick Williams was the one most concerned about the effect on the habitat. He had contacted Nicola Childs of YDNPA as HPC will need to get permission to fell them. Further decisions will have to be taken by email or wait till the next meeting. The bat and bird boxes had been collected. Tony Sarjeant YDNPA had been emailed twice for advice on positioning and orientation but had not replied and was apparently having internet problems. The Clerk will contact the Owl Trust web site to see if there is guidance there. The wood is untreated but preservative smell puts off the animals. It was suggested that maybe the Longthornes might help in putting up the owl boxes which are large and heavy. In all cases there will need to be some means of attachment.

Parking on High Green- The Clerk collected the signs and Cllr Coney said he would varnish them to preserve them. Later it will be decided where to put them.

Ash die back and walk round village by Cllr Joy and Clerk: This walk was to identify any ash trees that might pose a danger to the public or buildings. While there were a number of trees identified with the disease most were small and young and posed no hazard. Priority is to be given to the trees in Brook Street. Possibly branches of the labelled ash that overhang the road up the ghyll might be removed in the future.

Land by Thors Ghyll bridge : This had been brought up at the last meeting. The Clerk had found a map that clearly showed that the dug up land does lie within Low Green. While there had been a drainage problem and it may well be re-seeded the Cllrs felt that permission should have been sought. The Clerk and Chairman will write a carefully worded letter to Mr & Mrs Birtley. Cllr Wilson wanted to know if the wall by the footbridge had been repaired. The Clerk had written to Mr Herd after the last meeting but as yet it had not been repaired. She will follow this up.

Correspondence:

None.

Accounts

Bank statement c/a@01/11/20	£1,814.93
Bank statement s/a@ 01/11/20	£12,969.96

Money received

Swinden NEF grant	£6,260.00
Powergem wayleaves	£105.82

Payments for approval

Stuart Naylor Playground £30	Verge £40	Town Hill £22	
	£92.00 + VAT £18.40		£110.40
YDNPA for bat boxes etc	£340.00+VAT £68		£408.00
Remburse G Coney for materials for repairing the bridge signs			
	£24.46 + VAT £4.90		£29.36

The Clerk noted that there had been a reduction from the original quote for the bird boxes as only 2 owl boxes had been ordered.

Precept

The precept figures had been previously circulated so there was only a short discussion. The main concern was the cost of tree felling. There is one tree that definitely needs felling but two others could be done later in the following year. £1000 has been allocated but there was another £1000 for other expenses which could be used. Cllr Joy proposed that the figures be accepted and CDC is not asked for a precept next year. This was accepted by all. The Clerk will get the required signatures.

Any further matters to discuss

The Clerk will look into getting a new bank mandate set up.

Cllr Longthorne said he planned to return next year but as yet is not sure when. He is happy to continue as a Cllr. With zoom meetings this is not a problem. It is assumed there will be elections held next May.

Cllr Joy and the Clerk will meet in a week or so to discuss the need to co-opt another Cllr.

Clr Wilson said the James Furguson who lives in Brook Street is an authority on setting up wild flower meadows . He has already spoken to the Clerk and wishes to be involved in the Beck Project. When it is possible there will be a Public meeting about the grant. Meanwhile the Clerk will use the village Facebook, Pat's email list and notices in the phone box to keep residents informed.

Date of next meeting

provisionally

Wednesday 6th January 2021 at noon by zoom