

## **Hebden Parish Council Minutes**

### **Meeting held Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 in the Institute at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllrs, Joy, Coney, Ferguson, Sykes & Wilson

Apologies: None

#### Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021, which had been previously circulated, were taken as read and approved.

#### Matters Arising

Backstone Edge Lane and the underpass: Mr J Walmsley had looked at the problem and given a quote of £530 which had been accepted by email with the Cllrs. The Clerk had recently checked the hazard markers and agreed with Mr Walmsley that the work would be undertaken before the end of the month. She also noted that Hartlington Fencing had stated the fence at the bottom of Low Bank Side would be erected before the month end.

Memorial gift from Al Nettleton: The kissing gate had been found to have been made by William Bell in 1905, thanks to the research by Mr C Foster & Mr J Gardner. The Clerk had contacted Paul Walker in Grassington who will come and look at the gate with the remit to repair the gate sympathetically in keeping with its heritage history. He will then send a quote if he can undertake the work. Mr Herd will be informed when this is to happen and the gate removed. A temporary gate will be put in place if required whilst the renovation work is being undertaken.

The Allotment and HLS: The Clerk is to reply to the email from Zoe Latham of Natural England who had visited the upland peat bog last November and tell her that there was no active peat cutting and that the Council is seeking advice from the Charity Commission on the possibility of revoking the Rights of Turbary. Cllr Coney had written notes about how this can be achieved not just for the ELM grant but for the climate emergency. When this is better understood the residents will be consulted. The Clerk had taken photographs to prove the increase in heather over bare areas from 2013 till now and that there was no "water leak off" but the only small channel that went into a standing water ditch. The comment about livestock needed correcting as there are only 6 sheep ever on the allotment from May to September. From the final paragraph stating the Higher Tier is a "competitive scheme in which NE have to score the land proposed to be in agreement the smaller the number of parcels proposed reduces the likelihood of gaining a high score and be able to enter the scheme" the Clerk is to ask what this means. It suggests a larger area than our 21 hectares is required to be eligible for the new grant.

Night sky & changes to lighting: The Clerk will invite Hannah Kay the Dark Sky Project Manager YDNPA to come to talk to the Cllrs to advise on dark skies friendly lighting and funding opportunities.

Trees update: There had been a problem getting any tree surgeon to come and give a quote for tree felling. The Clerk had been given the name of a new business, not on the approved list, but Lee Johnson YDNPA had said Mr Ben Dugdale could be used. The Clerk had filled in the relevant form and sent photographs of the overhanging branch in Brook Street and been told that the response will come before mid-February. He will be asked to quote for the 3 ash trees that need felling, removal of the fallen tree on Mr Ogilvie's shed. (BHIB is yet to give an answer about insurance cover after several emails from the Clerk replying to their repeated queries.) Also to ask for advice about ash trees on the Old Tip.

There is a tree fallen on High Green that Cllr Joy said was from his land and farmed by Mr White. The wall will need to be repaired before stock is back in the field. Prof Grey will be asked if it can be used as a tree kicker when he next comes. There was a query about a tree fallen below the road and there will be a site visit to check if its on to a public right of way in which case the YDNPA will

be informed.

Nigel from Hedgerow had phoned to say the trees will at last be delivered in the week beginning 11/01/22. There are sufficient stakes and sleeves that have been collected. When the trees are delivered and the weather conditions known the residents will be asked to help with the planting. Cllr Sykes requests its a Sunday. He had contacted Prof Grey to invite him but he had declined. He will next come when the boulders are to be put in the beck in April when the logistics of their delivery has been sorted.

Empty trough opposite Green House: Cllr Sykes thought the Environment Group when formed might be involved. It was decided it was not a Council matter to fill the troughs with flowers but local residents opposite. There are some branches over the troughs and obscuring street lights that Cllr Sykes said he'd trim back.

Correspondence: None

#### Accounts

Bank statement c/a@ 01/01/22	£4337.66
Bank statement s/a@ 01/01/22	£11871.50

#### Money received

BT wayleave	£3.00
rpa BPS 2021	£1292.00
rpa LHS & HLS	£1667.60

#### Payments for approval

G.Coney to reimburse him for UK Hosting exps	£226.20
and already agreed by email £188.50+ VAT £37.70	

Cash flow for 2022 and the Precept form: This had been previously circulated before the meeting and after discussion it was agreed that no precept was needed for 2022/3. The form was signed.

#### Any other matters

Request to remove branches from tree opposite Mr K Longthorne's bungalow: Since this is to lower the bush to wall height it was not considered necessary and the Council also felt this would set a precedent. It was decided to ask Mr Longthorne to write a letter explaining his reasons for this to be done.

There had been no request for a site visit to look at the proposed track and new gate on High Green so this matter raised by Mrs R Jowett is closed.

Thanks were given to Cllr Coney for the ongoing work with the new website. He is working to simplify the method of putting the Minutes etc on to the site. The problem with a BACS payment had been overcome by Cllr Coney paying the invoice and then being reimbursed.

Thanks were given to Cllrs Coney and Sykes for their work in the playground installing a new tyre on the seesaw as recommended by ROSPA. Cllr Coney will repair the small stile gate.

Thanks were given to Cllr Sykes and Ferguson for putting up the bird and bat boxes. The remaining 2 swift boxes will be put up on the back of the toilet block once MrMontfort has removed the soffit. If this isn't done before the end of February they will have a temporary placement on the back of the bus shelter. Cllr Sykes noted that one of the owl boxes had shifted and he and Cllr Coney would fix this.

Cllr Sykes will contact Mr Rob Stockdale who had said he didn't want the strip of land over the

beck to see if he meant to give it to HPC. It was thought it should be a simple legal matter.

Cllr Coney said that the fallen leaves in Main Street will need to be cleared in the spring and the finger post by the bridge cleaned.

Cllr Wilson thought that the 2 stiles on the footpath on the way up from the beck towards Scar Top are dangerous with a very large step and a loose stone. The Clerk will inform the YDNPA.

Tony Serjeant had been sent an update of the Swinden Grant work and he had visited and the Clerk with Cllr Sykes had shown him all the work achieved so far and the work to be undertaken in the coming months. He was delighted with what had been done. He said he'd arrange for the mulch to be removed from the meadow to the compost bins at Colvend for just this one time.

Cllr Wilson said that a bedstead had been dumped over the wall on to High Green. Since its not known who did this its not possible to request its removal by them.

A bughotel described in the Clerks & Councillors magazine will be considered for putting in the orchard should this be planted in the future.

Cllr Coney completed the YDNPA Impact of Tourist questionnaire and will take part in the zoom meeting 12th January 6.30pm.

**Date of next meeting**

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**at 7.30pm in the Ibbotson Institute**