

Hebden Parish Council Minutes

Meeting held Wednesday 16th February 2022 in the Institute at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs, Joy, Coney, Ferguson & Wilson

Apologies: Cllr Sykes

Ms Hannah Kay of the YDNPA Dark Skies Project cancelled her talk to the Cllrs because of the bad forecast. She will be invited to the next Council meeting.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held 5th January 2022, which had been previously circulated, were taken as read and approved.

Matters Arising

Tree quotes: Further to the visit and total quote from Paul Park of English Trees of £1600, Ben Dugdale had met the Clerk finally on Sunday early evening but he hadn't produced a quote by today as requested. Webbers had been to look and phoned to quote 2.5 or 3 days work. He would reduce his daily charge from £550 to £450 as its HPC work. He would also give us some free replacement trees, guards and poles. He said he would be able to do it sooner as he'd do it Friday and Saturday as it's so local. At 3 days this is £1350 so the Cllrs accepted this quote. He is to be contacted and told it must be done before the end of March when birds begin to nest.

A lady sent from from BHI, our insurers, had called to see the Clerk about the insurance claim for the fallen tree in the beck opposite Scala Glen Cottage. She said she didn't know if our policy covered it which confused the Clerk as she had been asking for this information repeatedly since November. She went to look at the knocked down shed and in an email later in the day said that Mr Ogilvie had no claim on his shed as it was a result of the storm. Since this had never been an insurance issue the Cllrs might look to putting the shed upright themselves once the tree has been removed. The Clerk said she assumed the Council won't be able to claim for the tree to be removed as BHIB will say it's a result of the storm.

Update on the kissing gate: Cllr Sykes, Cllr Coney and the Clerk had met Paul Walker from Grassington who said he could make good the gate in situ. He could match the metal but not the exact iron as it is no longer available to him. He will quote for the new rods, secure the loose existing ones and lift the hinge so the gate swings better. As yet he hasn't given his quote. The quote from Hartlington Fencing of £1296.00 was considered but for the moment is on hold.

The Allotment and HLS: The latest long email from Ms Latham pointed out that the heather regrowth on the bare peat was not an indication of improvement. She dismissed the argument from the Clerk that all the HLS objectives from the original agreement had been met and so again refused the extension of the grant for another year. She suggested HPC conduct a PA2 Feasibility study and the Clerk had downloaded the forms from the Natural England site. As with her contact with the Peat Partnership the requirement seems to be to employ contractors to make bunds to block drainage. The Cllrs agreed that having vehicles cross the raised bog would do considerable damage. Even then there is a scoring threshold to meet and "the lower score may reduce the likelihood of your application being processed to gain Higher Tier agreement" As Caroline at David Hill had said to the Clerk the expense of producing a PA2 was probably not worthwhile when the grant application is unlikely to succeed. The Clerk will ask Tony Sarjeant if there is a YDNPA advisor who might help with this transfer to ELMs and the new grant system. BPS is also being phased out.

The strip of land: There is still uncertainty about where the strip of land possibly being offered to HPC by Robert Stockdale is located. Cllr Sykes is going to speak to Mr Stockdale to find out.

Planting the Jubilee tree: Since there is to be a street party on the 3rd June it was thought to be a good time to plant this tree. Cllr Ferguson pointed out on a map a suitable site towards the bottom of Low Bank Side and within sight of the main street. He will get the "what3words" site reference of the proposed site. (rectangular.pigtails.prompt) He also has a tree to plant and suggests in Low

Bank Side about opposite Orchard Lane(frail.vegetable.takes)

Whygill Gap poles: The Clerk had not been informed 2 weeks before the poles were to be erected, as promised, but given one day's notice that she passed on to Mrs Pope. Fortunately her horses are not in the field. She was then phoned with a request as to where the 3 poles were to be placed. She explained she didn't know. Wayleave had been granted for 2 poles so she will go to check this.

Newsletter After many suggestions and changes and disagreement the Clerk had made a final copy that she sent to the Cllrs and had at the meeting. It was passed for circulation as agreed by the Chairman.

Correspondence:

Email from Ms Julie Swift about cutting back the bush opposite Mr K Longthorne's bungalow. The Cllrs agreed that to prune the hawthorn was not necessary and it would set a precedent for every resident to request tree reduction. The Clerk will email Ms Swift with this decision.

Accounts

Bank statement c/a@ 10/02/22	£ 3107.84
Bank statement s/a@ 10/02/22	£14,871.50

Money received

Ms Kirton rent Allen Garth	£270.00
Mr Hare for Backstone Edge shoot £455+VAT £91	£546.00
Mr &Mrs Crampton rent The Stripe	£151.00
Longthornes rent Low Bank Side	£370.00
Mr G Herd rent for Low Green & High Bank Side	£580.00
Mr M de Montfort toilet rent	£10.00

Payments for approval

Hebden Ibbotson Institute 6 meetings + Xmas tree	£63.00
Hartlington Fencing as per quote £675 + VAT £135	£810.00
Hedgerow for trees -free delivery	£60.40

Any other matters

Trees had been planted with support of some residents and using the Beck Project grant. It was decided to plant some more trees below the bank where the 100 trees were planted at sometime in the future. The Clerk will try to locate suitable stones to put into the beck under the supervision of Prof Grey in April.

Turning vehicles on High Green has become a problem with the wet and soft ground. The Clerk will ask her contact at Colvend to make 2 signs "Soft Ground. Please keep off" Cllr Coney will use the No parking sign posts he has already to erect them later on the Green.

Beck side erosion was a problem raised by Cllr Ferguson who has noted how the land has been undercut along the gardens of Brook Street and lower down the beck. He wondered about any HPC liability and HPC land boundaries. The Clerk will ask Mr T Sarjeant if he has any contacts who might help with stream erosion as it might relate to the Beck Project and water quality improvement.

Cllr Coney had reported that the 30mph sign is down at the end of Brayshaw Lane and the Clerk had contacted Highways. She will also ask about the broken culvert at the bottom of the gill road

that still remains to be repaired.

Cllr Coney announced that he is not going to stand in the coming May election. He explained that he has too much work on at present.

Date of next meeting
Wednesday 30th March 2022
at 7.30pm in the Ibbotson Institute

Signed.....

Date.....