

## **Hebden Parish Council Minutes**

### **Meeting held Wednesday June 22nd 2022**

Present: Cllrs, Joy, Davey, Sykes & Wilson

Apologies: Cllr Ferguson

The Minutes of the meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022, which had been previously circulated, were taken as read and approved.

#### Matters Arising:

New grants as per emails from Hettie at David Hill: All the Cllrs had been sent the links to the Countryside Stewardship sites so they could see what Hettie was recommending which will be Mid-Tier level. There will be no grants available for Whygill Gap nor Allen Garth as they are grazed by horses. The Cllrs agreed to apply for GS5, Permanent Grassland with very low inputs in SDAs and the Clerk suggested an add on of GS17, Lenient grazing supplement, for High Bank Side. They also agreed to GS2, Permanent grassland with low inputs outside SDAs, for Low Bank Side (with perhaps further grants for tree planting), and Low Green. While High Green is classed as 2 areas HPC would suggest to Hettie both apply for WD7 and WD9, Management of successful areas of scrub with Livestock exclusion supplement, as there is no grazing at all and there are trees and scrub.

The Clerk had worked out the amount of grant money that HPC might receive as £830 so a lot less than with the present agreement. She will go to see Hettie and discuss with her these ideas.

The new tenancy agreements for next year will have to contain instructions that will comply with these grant aims.

There was no advice yet given for the Upland Bog on the Allotment as it has lost its HLS status but the Clerk is hoping that with certain new management controls HPC could apply for High Tier level.

Cllr Sykes has been investigating the removal of the Rights of Turbary as discussed at the Annual Meeting of Residents. Cllr Davey was concerned that the removal of this right might open the possibility for the Govt to assume the freeholders would give up other rights for money which might result in loss of mineral ownership underground and fracking so the wording will have to be clear. The Charity Commission require a Scheme and the 1857 Enclosure Act with the later Charity list for the Parish of Linton 1897 states the freeholders of Hebden have a right to cut turf. Cllr Sykes said he wants to amend this decree, and the Cllrs agreed to the following "On June 22nd 2022, in light of this decree, the duly elected representatives of the Parish of Hebden did agree to amend this decree, in that this aforementioned land is held not for the purpose of getting turfs, but for the enjoyment and upkeep of the natural environment."

Once there is an outcome from the further discussion with the Charity Commission it might be possible to move forward.

After walking the perimeter the Clerk showed the Cllrs photographs of the 2

areas where water is seeping off the upland moor. It might be possible to put a bund across to reduce this. There are a few small trees now appearing and the Clerk thinks the evergreen ones should be removed and will ask Hettie about the rowans but thinks they will probably also have to be removed for a WT10, Management of lowland raised bog grant. If this application be successful for the upland bog it would bring in £3738.

Unfortunately BN12 Stone Wall Restoration is not possible as "can only be used when the applicant has management control of both sides of the boundary".

Beck project update and suggested tools for the meadow: Thanks to the efforts of the Cllrs and HEAT (Hebden Environmental Action Team) the cut grass was partly removed and taken to Laura Kirton's shed. It was decided that hay rakes aren't needed but removing the raked up hay is a problem and it would be better to get it baled and the recipient pay for this in the future. It was agreed Ben White be asked to make a second cut later in the year. Cllr Sykes suggested there was a community compost bin by the bridleway opposite Saxelby House. Cllr Davey explained that there were difficulties with "Controlled waste" for which the Environment Agency would need to give a licence. Cllr Sykes will take this information back to HEAT.

Location of the orchard: Lee Johnson from the YDNPA had come for a site visit on Low Bank Side and sent a digitised map to the Cllrs. He suggested clumps of trees rather than a single larger area. He thought it would take up less grazing area so the rent to the tenant shouldn't be reduced too much. Where the clumps go is yet to be decided. Further grants might be available and Tony Serjeant is being asked plus the Clerk will contact Mike Appleton from the YDMT who is a community grants officer. The trees are to be apples, pears, plums, and maybe crab apples. All are to be native varieties preferably from Yorkshire. It is hoped the grant would include the cost of fencing.

Planning application: Saxelby Farm: Further to the site visit the Clerk had added more to the Council's approval on the YDNPA Planning portal.

Metal cupboard for archived material: Since a metal box will not be large enough for the important archived files, the Clerk had located a metal cupboard that will cost about £150. She will liaise with Pat where it might be placed in the Institute. The Mining map, now digitised and on the Hebden History website, is to go to NYCC Archives. Cllr Joy has material to go there too so they will arrange to go together.

Street cleaning: The plan is to remove the weeds as most of the leaf litter from last year has gone. HEAT might assist in this task. A date is yet to be arranged.

Path across Low Bank Side: Mrs C MacGowan had spoken with Mrs K Longthorne and agreed between them that the family could walk across the field. There is no public access so it cannot become a Public Right of Way.

Standard Garth wood: It was decided on a site visit on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 4pm as some of the Cllrs didn't know the Parish owned this wood. In the past there had been a problem with the gate being opened to allow sheep into the enclosure. Apparently there are fallen larch trees.

Nettles in fields – tenancy agreement wording: Only the use of herbicides to spot treat injurious weeds is permitted. However this is to be reviewed in the

new agreement for the next 3 years from January.

Correspondence: Notification of exempt status had been received so there is no need for an external auditor to check the accounts.

### Accounts

Bank statement c/a@ 01/06/22	£4189.54
Bank statement s/a@ 01/06/22	£10,878.72
<u>Money received</u>	
Old Tip rent	£25.00
<u>Payments for approval</u>	
Approved by email by all the Cllrs and paid	
Webber for felling the ash trees £450 +VAT £90	£540.00
GDPR annual registration ICO	£ 40.00
S Naylor 5x verge @ £24 & 5x playground @ £15 £195.00 + VAT £39.00	£234.00
P Walker for Kissing gate repair	£200.00

The Cllrs agreed these payments.

The painting of the kissing gate is almost complete and the plaque is ready to fix to the wall. The Clerk will tell Mr Nettleton as he may wish to come to see it.

Report from Mrs Isaac, Internal auditor. The Clerk handed out copies of the Report and it was noted that Cash Book accounting is used for the accounts. The points raised have all been addressed for the following year as suggested by Mrs Isaac. Cllr Davey proposed accepting the Report and Cllr seconded.(See attached) The Clerk will write her a letter of thanks and will ask her for her invoice.

The Clerk will also write to Mr & Mrs Hargreaves to thank them for repairing the seat by the bridge that Mr P Henfrey had installed a few years back and had been damaged.

### Any other matters

Cllr Sykes reported on the Forum YDNPA meeting he'd attended. There is to be no increase in Govt funds so money will have to be raised in other ways. In the Local Plan the main issue is with allocating land for housing as shortage of affordable dwellings is a major problem. With new builds there can be restricted use. The Cllrs stated that in Hebden the problem is with second and holiday homes and some counties and towns have been looking at increasing taxes for these properties. As yet YDNPA has not put such a suggestion in the Plan. Hebden has previously looked at open land for new build but has not found anywhere suitable. There is a letter to be sent from the Park to all the Parishes about this housing issue so we will await its arrival.

Date of next meeting

Tuesday August 9<sup>th</sup> 2022 at 7.30pm in the Ibotson Institute

**INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT**  
**FOR**  
**HEBDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

The accounts for Hebden Parish Council for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 were, as always accurate, neat and efficiently presented by the Parish Clerk.

The invoice to NYCC has not yet been received relating to last year's accounts but as mentioned last year has not been shown as a creditor due to this ongoing situation. A note has been made to ensure receipt of the invoice.

There are now two amounts to be ringfenced. One as mentioned last year from Swinden NEF Grant and the other of £1000 received from A. Nettleton to be used for specific items and these are recorded in separate accounting pages.

Points to consider:-

1. For clarification it might be better to separate the Rents received from the Wayleaves to be collected account pages. Looks like duplication when in fact it is the same receipt.
2. A statement is made in the accounts that the toilets are leased to M. de Montford for 60 years. The start date of the lease should be included.
3. It appears that there are a number of items shown in the Asset Register i.e. seats and street lamps which are no longer there. These should be removed.

All other aspects of the accounts are clearly explained.

Geraldine Isaac  
31 May 2022