

Hebden Parish Council Minutes

Meeting held Wednesday 1st February 2023

Present: Cllrs, Joy, Cllr Davey, Cllr Ferguson, Cllr Sykes Cllr Wilson

Apologies: None

The Minutes of the meeting held 21st December 2022, which had been previously circulated, were taken as read and approved.

Matters Arising:

The Old Tip: The Clerk had received no replies to her letters. If nothing comes in the next couple of weeks to write again with a reply by a date.

The Community Orchard and fencing and the sheep river gate: Cllr Ferguson and Sykes had met earlier and it was decided to plant 150 trees, mainly different varieties of apple, pear and plum with some under planting of gooseberry, blackcurrant and rhubarb. The cost is more than the £5000 that Lee Johnson had offered so the Clerk will fill in the Swinden Quarry Application form for Cllrs to check. She will confirm with Mr C Benson that the fence needs to be in place over the summer. She will also confirm HPC accepts the quote for the new river gate to be placed across the beck below the toilets and the short stretch of fencing to the wall opposite. That can be installed any time from now and will comply with the new grant requirement.(GS1)

Prof Grey and the Beck Project: He has at last responded to Cllr Sykes and says he will drop the ash branch into the beck and then send us his invoice, probably in April. Cllr Ferguson was concerned about nesting birds but the Clerk understood it was just a branch overhanging the beck to be cut down.

The new tenancy agreements: There had only been bids from 3 of the previous tenants. The Clerks had prepared the new Farm Business Tenancy Agreements and Cllr Joy signed as Land owner on behalf of HPC. The Shoot had not been made available. The total rent is much reduced to £1081 but it is uncertain times for uphill sheep farmers. The Clerk handed out the new schedule. It was noted that the wall in main street still has not been repaired. The Clerk will write again.

Eddy Field and tree planting: Carol Douglas from YDMT had persuaded Natural England that their objection about raptors breeding in the woodland and killing smaller birds was not actually a likely scenario. The planting will be for the benefit of the gill and is supported by HPC. HEAT will be asked to help with YDMT members in planting on 10th March

Problems in Chapel Lane: Cllr Davey explained that bigger and faster delivery vehicles are damaging the roadside kerb stones and flags. One had hit Bank View Cottage. Highways wouldn't put up a width restriction sign as the lane is "unadopted". Cllr Davey is going to draft a letter to all the residents in Chapel Lane to ask if there are any formal objections to putting up a sign and placing 2 stones to protect the narrow section at the bottom of the lane as supported by the HPC.

Rights of Turbary: Cllr Sykes had received a lengthy reply from the Charity Commission. After further discussion suggesting we take this no further but ensure all the residents respect the wish to safe guard this special peat land

environment and so no longer cut peat for burning. This would avoid the regulatory labyrinth continuing. Cllr Sykes said he was willing to make political involvement and progress with another stage of the argument. The Cllrs thanked him for all his time with this matter.

Eyes on the Bog and grants? There had been an article in The Friends Of the Dales about the involvement of the Parish in monitoring the level of peat and the vegetation. The Clerk will contact Hettie of D. Hill's to try to reinstate a grant for this important site. There are grants to improve peat bogs.

Accounts

Bank statement c/a@ 01/02/23	£3146.26
Bank statement s/a@ 01/02/23	£ 10,882.13

Money received

Payments for approval

Ibbotson Institute for 9 meetings+ Xmas tree	£87.00
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Ibbotson Institute HEAT meetings x2	£24.00
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for these meeting to discuss Orchard & Night skies

The Cllrs agreed to pay these 2 Heat meetings but not future ones so as to keep keep them separate and independent of the Council. Cllr Sykes thought there might be money from The Sports Committee to fund the meetings.

Any other matters

Bailing hay on the meadow

Laura Kirton had contacted J Metcalfe in Linton and he could cut the meadow grass into small bales that she could use more easily than the loose grass from last year. She offered to help pay the cost. This will give better opportunity in choosing the date of the cut. The Clerk will contact Laura with the Cllrs agreement.

Potholes and the future of CDC & Highways

Cllr Davey said that Highways will be a separate entity and should not be altered by the change to the new NYC in April. Cllr Wilson pointed out that while the photographed and reported potholes on the B6265 towards Grassington had been repaired within 2 weeks the ones up the bank were still to be filled in.

The maps from Mr K Longthorne are now in the Grassington Museum archive map drawer. A sign in the institute reports this. The Clerk will contact the Archivist at Northallerton Records Office to ask what is best done with the 2 very large and much torn Inclosure maps. It is believed Mr C Foster has one as well and is hoping to digitise it.

NYCC had sent a letter suggesting the Parish was responsible for its own verge grass cutting and making a payment. The Cllrs decided that making sure there was a clear line of vision, as legally required for safety, was best left with the new County Council.

Cllr Ferguson wanted to know about the damage done by a crashed car up the bank. The Clerk had emailed the Police officer involved but had no reply. Cllr Wilson said that Nigel Fairbanks will repair the wall at no cost to the council.

Cllr Wilson had been asked by a resident about the conifers that had been removed in front of the new build on the corner with the B6265. The Clerk had checked this development and been told that in following the original application footings had been laid and passed. There were no tall trees at that time and there was no memory of who had planted them. There were no TPOs on them and it was not parish land.

Cllr Sykes spoke to Gavin Herd about a sign on the board behind the seat as you come up into the village. As a tenant, he felt it best if we didn't put it there so this was agreed.

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 15th March 2023

at 7.30pm in the Ibbotson Institute