

## **Hebden Parish Council Minutes of AGM Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.30pm in the Bank View Cottage as Ibbotson Institute ceiling had come down**

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

Apologies: Cllr Sykes

The Clerk arranged this meeting at Bank View Cottage at short notice. If the Institute is still not available for the next meeting it will be held in the Church or Tea Rooms.

The Minutes of the meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023, which had been previously circulated, were taken as read and approved.

### Matters Arising:

Update on the Community orchard: The invoice for the fencing and gates had been received and was slightly less than in the grant application leaving more money for buying trees and tools. It is planned that Cllr Sykes and/or Cllr Ferguson will visit a nursery near Pickering that specialises in fruit trees grown for a northern climate. Cllr Sykes has worked out the area of space for trees and advice will be taken about how many trees to fill it. The cost of planting a few separate trees in the field will be worked out and Cllr Ferguson suggested the adjacent farmers be told of this cost to see if they would like to plant any fruit trees on their land. As previously noted, the village will also be invited to buy fruit trees. The Access across Low Bank Side has been resolved with the bee hives to be relocated within the lower orchard.

Allen Garth - tenancy change and comments. Mrs Pope has signed the new tenancy agreement and has taken over the field from Laura Kirton. She was concerned at the amount of nettles and weeds and the state of the wall. The Clerk had taken photographs of the weeds. She will go and look at the walls and report back to the Cllrs and if necessary ask Nigel Fairbanks to make necessary repairs. While they would prefer the weeds to be cut the Cllrs agreed with the agreement wording that the limited use of herbicide is permitted.

Problems with access on Town Head: Mr & Mrs White were concerned that holiday visitors to Whisper Cottage were driving over the Green to park outside the cottage. The owners had been contacted and they had spoken with the agent to reinforce the ruling about parking in the road. There was the added safety problem with children playing on the Green and vehicles crossing over. It was decided that 2 posts with a chain between placed at 1m height be erected. This will have a padlock with the number only known to the residents of Mount Pleasant and the Cllrs. The Handy Lad (Fliss) will be asked to undertake this work and also put a No Vehicular Access notice on the chain.

Follow up for 30mph request after accident: The Clerk had received a very negative reply from David Cairns of Highways who stated they did not support installing a 30 mph speed limit and giving various reasons. He stated the Police agreed not to reduce the speed from 40mph as they said there had been no reported injury accidents in the last 5 years with only 3 slight accidents not speed related. This is not backed by the presence of the air ambulance

helicopter for this latest incident. The Clerk is to respond correcting this and other inaccuracies stating that visibility is poor and the road splits the village and is therefore a busy crossing point and a 30mph would increase safety for all concerned.

Feed back from Addingham meeting "Making space for Nature" The Clerk had attended this talk and village walk and was impressed at what they had achieved on small public open spaces. They had the co-operation of Bradford Council for verge cutting at the appropriate time with the removal of the arisings. Bruce McLeod said The Friends of the Dales had for years been trying to get NYC to cut the verges after flowers set seeds but they always say that the contractor does it when it suits them. Who pays the contractor but us so it should be possible to state the dates. Their orchard, which the Clerk had specially gone to see, comprised of about 8 trees so apart from recommending the Pickering Nursery it didn't really add greatly to our knowledge.

NYC review of local buses: Cllr R Foster had suggested perhaps it might be possible for fare paying passengers to use the school buses. Cllr Ferguson said that often there were no spare places. Cllr Davey explained the problems he'd encountered with school bus times and regularity. From this Friday the 09.35 will not go to Skipton as its school holidays and won't start again till 5<sup>th</sup> September. The only return service to Skipton is not reliable. The Venturer, on a request to Peter Vetch, has agreed to wait 10 minutes for the connection but, as passengers have experienced, the bus from Skipton is often more than 10 minutes late and you have to walk back to Hebden. The Clerk will ask Andrew Howick at Hargreaves if there are any return buses that could be used in the morning but this doesn't help in the afternoon. North Yorks Council has asked for a review of the new timetables. The Clerk will state that Hebden no longer has a bus service. Since the service doesn't work it won't be used and this will result in yet more bus cancellations.

Problems with wifi connection in village: Cllr Joy commented that much of the village was without the internet for 6 days and that this was not acceptable. There had been no information with some false reinstatement times given. The reason finally offered was of rats gnawing the wires. It was decided there was little point in the Clerk contacting Open Reach.

Public Toilets: Mr Longthorne had contacted the Chairman about the lack of any progress on their redevelopment. The Clerk will speak to Mr M de Montfort that now he is no longer running the cafe everyday he might find time to get back to working on the Toilet. Cllr Sykes had said there might be a grant to help in removing the asbestos. She will ask Martyn about where and what kind of asbestos there is.

#### Accounts

|                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Bank statement c/a@ 01/07/23 | £ 3215.76   |
| Bank statement s/a@ 01/0//23 | £ 18,924.87 |
| <u>Money received</u>        |             |
| VAT repayment                | £532.06     |
| Old Tip rent                 | £25.00      |

### Payments for approval

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| ICO annual payment  | £40.00   |
| Stuart Naylor May & June grass cutting  |          |
| Verge £100 Playground £80 Town Hill £25   |          |
| £205 + VAT £41.00   | £246.00  |
| SLCC annual subs  | £65.00   |
| Benson Fencing Ltd Orchard £1748.50 fence +£590.00 gate   |          |
| rpa grant flood gate £570 post and rail £148.12   |          |
| £3056.62 + VAT £611.32  | £3667.95 |
| NY Council is to refund in full and send revised invoice for street lighting after the Clerk had phoned to query amount. We are still waiting and the Clerk has chased again this week. |          |

### Any other matters

As agreed before, the Parish will pay for the mowing of the new cemetery as this space is used by any villager. Stuart Naylor will be asked to invoice HPC separately.

The Clerk had written an update about the various grants and village activities and this has gone out via Pat, on the Notice board and on the village website. There was considerable interest in these matters which is pleasing for all involved.

The Clerk will write to Mr Clive Linley to thank him for removing all the road side weeds along the main road through the village.

There is an on going problem of what to do with the arisings from the meadow cuts. At present they are in a heap which it might be possible to spread round the trees later in the year. The Clerk will ask Gavin Herd and Jonnie Metcalfe if they have a small baler as these would be easier to move.

There has been no reply from the Longthornes about using their car park at weekends so they might get a gentle reminder if seen around the village.

Date of the next meeting will be Wednesday  
**30<sup>th</sup> August 2023**  
at 7.30pm in the Ibottson Institute if available.