

Hebden Parish Council Minutes of the meeting held Monday 20th November 2023 at 7.30pm at Ibbotson Institute

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

Apologies: None

Pat Hodgkins told the Cllrs about the plans for the disabled entrance to the Institute. An agreement with Mr D Buckley, builder of the new house at the corner, and a shared drainage has resulted in the plans being drawn and submitted to the Planners at YDNPA by him. There is no Planning charge for disabled facilities. There will be a lift at the road side up to the Institute and into the building where there will be a disabled toilet and entrance into the hall. The tree will have to be removed and is too large to replant. It is suggested a Xmas tree in a pot be bought and can be decorated. A yellow Disabled Parking area outside will have to be agreed with Highways. Meanwhile grants are being sought to pay for the work. Cllr Wilson thought Ms Julie Swift might know some useful contacts. The Cllrs all agreed to the plans and await to hear from YDNPA. Cllr Joy thanked Mrs Hodgkins for coming to the meeting to show the plans and explain the work to be done.

The Minutes of the meeting held 11th October 2023, which had been previously circulated, were taken as read and approved.

Matters Arising:

Update on the Community orchard and Beck project: The trees are to be delivered Thursday 30th November. After some discussion Cllr Sykes will contact Rogers to get the 2 pallets dropped off in the field where they will be planted. The village will be asked to join in the tree planting on Friday 1st December and Cllr Ferguson will email HEAT. The Clerk has contacted Lee Johnson, the YDNPA tree expert and he has agreed to come to help and advise. He has offered help from his team and the Clerk will thank him and accept. She will photograph the event and send to the Craven Herald. Christina Birtley will map the tree locations. There may have to be more robust labels made. Cllr Sykes was thanked for all the work he has done in planning the orchard.

Professor Grey has cut the ash branch by the ford and it has fallen in the beck and it will help with turbulence. Cllr Ferguson will clear the area between the bridges and guelder roses will be bought from Hedgerow again to replace and add. After the cutting of the meadow, the Clerk has planted the donated wild flower plants and some she had grown from seed. Yellow rattle seeds she'd collected have been scattered on cleared patches. Cllr Wilson asked about plug flowers. The Clerk said she'd transplant some dog daisies and foxgloves from the verge as a start.

Mrs Christina Birtley has offered a compost bin she has spare. The Council will thank her and accept. It will probably best be sited in the field a few yards north from the playground kissing gate to avoid its being used for general waste. It will be good when there is a roadside leaf tidy.

Cllr Sykes and meeting about the toilets with Mr M de Montfort: He has said he

will ask Michael Hargraves to do the work and he will subcontract the removal of the asbestos. Cllr Sykes will see what grants might be available and will report back on the progress.

Gate and fence in Playground: Cllr Ferguson had inspected the posts and didn't think they were rotten. A few horizontal bars might need replacing. The Clerk has spoken to "Fliss" and shown him the gap where the Council wants a gate placing. He said it wouldn't need varnishing. It was agreed to ask him to make it with a self-closing spring. The mats will probably settle into the ground over the winter.

New village notice board: At the last HEAT meeting it was suggested that there be a notice board near the centre of the village to keep everyone informed about the Community Orchard, Beck project, bird surveys etc. Cllr Joy said he'd look to see what other villages in the Dale have put up to display such local information.

Correspondence

YDNPA have agreed to crown lift and thin 5% of the Sycamore at Walton Croft. The Cllrs didn't object. Cllr Ferguson suggested trees could be planted in fields opposite. Mr Kitching, Mr Boothman and Mr Herd will be approached with HPC offering to buy the trees. They would be sited not to obstruct views. Both Cllr Sykes and the Clerk have oak trees and others growing that can be planted out next year, if large enough.

Area 5 Skipton has made a belated reply to making Hebden safer stating that a new slow sign will be put on the road coming down from Pateley Bridge. However, regarding the other lines they "will be prioritised and repainting will be considered for inclusion in a future lining programme" It was also stated that there is no collision history and previous traffic surveys indicated low volume and no excessive speeds. He also says "rumble strips as suggested by your email are not considered appropriate". HPC never did make such a suggestion. As Cllr Wilson pointed out the frequency of Police vans with speed cameras positioned on the B6265 on the hill out of the village would imply quite the opposite. The Clerk is to write back. Cllr K Duncan of NY Council regarding their new approach making "a positive step forward that will help make our roads safer" has apologised as being very busy and said he's get back later, but as yet hasn't. It was noted that "20's Plenty" will not succeed while we have a Conservative Council.

Accounts

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Bank statement c/a@ 01/11/23 | £ 1,070.40 |
| Bank statement s/a@ 01/11/23 | £ 14,971.16 |

Money received

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|------------------------------|---------|
| Northern Powergrid wayleaves | £103.85 |
|------------------------------|---------|

Payments for approval

| | |
|---|---------|
| Yorkukhosting for 2 years for HPC domain gov.uk | £120.00 |
| Ditto for email address and to hold data | £71.40 |

Finally got them to send me invoices and complained to them about "No reply " emails. They do not accept cheques.

Cllr Sykes to pay and was reimbursed

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| RV Roger balance due on fruit trees | £1962.90 |
| To be paid when trees delivered. | |

New Charity Commission rules and need to set up an account - still no further forward as they can't cope with the demand on line nor answer their phone. The Clerk has written to them voicing her concerns as there is a time limit for sending in the Returns. The Clerk will keep emailing them and a record of her attempts.

The Precept figures already sent to the Cllrs to review were briefly discussed but apart from a query about the amount of the Mid Term grant the Cllrs were satisfied that a Nil be returned. On the new NY Council form only the Clerk had to sign.

Cllr Joy and the other Cllrs thanked the Clerk for her work preparing the figures.

Any other matters

Cllr Joy said the diamond shaped wood fencing up the gill is in need of repair. The Clerk will contact Highways as its a narrow section of the road but the Cllrs all agreed they didn't want it replaced with plastic posts as was done in the past.

Cllr Wilson said the drain outside the Tea Rooms is blocked so creating a flood in heavy rain. The Clerk will inform Highways.

Cllr Ferguson said the Church gate hinges were worn. Cllr Davey will speak to his wife as its a church matter but HPC might help.

Cllr Sykes wanted a seating area for the village. After a few sites were discussed, a seat to the right, through the Public Path kissing gate, was identified as a possibility.

There will be another wildlife update for the village in February.

Date of next meeting

2024

Wednesday January 10th

Ibbotson Institute at 7.30pm.