

Hebden Parish Council Minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 21st February 2024 at 7.30pm at Ibbotson Institute

Present: Cllr Joy, Cllr Sykes, Cllr Wilson

Apologies: , Cllr Ferguson, Cllr Davey

The Minutes of the meeting held 10th January 2024, which had been previously circulated, were taken as read and approved.

Matters Arising:

Tree survey: The Clerk and Mr J Webber had walked round the village on the 5th February looking at the trees on HPC land. The project was to identify any trees that might be a danger to the public from falling branches or indeed the tree itself. Certain trees suffering from ash die back had previously been felled or pruned. At the end of the survey the only tree he recommended needing attention was the ash tree in the Gill that had been part of a survey of an established ash that till recently had escaped the disease. The Clerk wrote a short report of the visit to keep on file.

The protection around the holly trees has been kindly removed by Gary Birtley.

Highway matters: The Clerk read out sections of the letter from Mr D Jones from Area 5 Skipton quoting the Dept of Transport guidance regarding the review of speed limits. Extending this from the present position to along the Scuff was beyond the built up area so they do not propose to do it.

The letter from NYC about new charges for "Urban grass cutting payments" was discussed. The plan showed only cutting a short section along the main road was to be done by NYC at the cost of £178.51. To encourage biodiversity within the verge it was decided to reject this Highway grass cutting. The only visibility splay is at the cross roads and this could be managed by the village. The Clerk will write to tell NYC this decision.

Trustee for Burnsall School: This is a joint position with Hartlington. The Clerk will put up a notice asking for any volunteers and also send an email via Pat. She will contact Mr M. Daggett of Hartlington Parish Meeting. A notice will be put on the village Facebook.

Standard Garth and trees planted: The new tree planting was not done by Mr J Henfrey as previously thought. Apparently Mr T Hudson who owns Copper Ghyll has planted some trees nearby and might have planted some spare trees in the wood. Since concern was shown about ownership by HPC and exercising these rights, the Clerk will try to contact Mr Hudson to see if he did plant the trees. She will phone Mr Henfrey for his contact details. Cllr Sykes said that the gate has disappeared. Access is not a problem as the copse is surrounded by Mr Henfrey's fields and Cllr Wilson said he has no objection to Cllrs walking over.

Barclays: After several phone calls the Clerk had received a Debit card that could be used to pay in cash at the PO. Cheques still need the paying in slip. The main problem of getting a balance and making transfers requires another set of forms. The Cllrs agreed that the Clerk could act for HPC in making these transactions and the Cllr Joy, as Chairman signed the form. It will be posted

back to Barclays. The bank is to open a Hub n the Swadford Centre the week after the Skipton branch closes but it will not have staff undertaking these matters.

Correspondence

A letter from Steve Barclay, Secretary of State, Defra stating "We're starting by making more money available to farmers" Amongst other promises there are to be premium payments for "biggest environmental impact", for example £765 per hectare for creating nesting plots for lapwing. Cllr Sykes will look into this for our Upland bog and the Clerk will contact Mr Tony Serjeant of YDNPA for advice. The Eye on the Bog will have its spring visit, probably next month.

Accounts

Bank statement c/a@ 01/02/24	£ 3353.73
Bank statement s/a@ 01/02/24	£ 13,024.22

Money received

Mid Tier grant	£ 1079.13
Barclays Bank inconvenience money	£ 150.00
Crampton rent the Stripe	£ 151.00
Herd rent Low Green £160 High Bank Side £420 Whygill	
Gap £80 Low Bank Side £150	£810.00

Mrs Pope has been reminded she still owes her rent for Allen Garth.

Payments for approval

Nigel Fairbank wall repairs	£493.75
Wassailing the orchard expenses	£10.28
Wassailing the orchard Clarendon £43.53+VAT £8.72	£52.25
Paid by Cllr Sykes to reimburse	
Stuart Naylor missing invoice Sept & Oct grasscutting £165.00+ VAT £33.00	£198.00
Room hire HPC 5 meetings & Xmas tree	£55.00
Room hire HEAT 4 meetings	£24.00

Finally received VAT invoice from York UK Hosting

All these payments were approved.

The estimate from Webbers for the removal of limbs to ash tree in High Green for £350 +VAT was agreed

Any other matters

Cllr Joy is hoping to attend the meeting in Settle on the 27th for a Farm Grant update but if not will ask Mr D White for feedback. The Clerk is still to study the Mid-Tier grants to see if there is anything further to be gained.

Cllr Sykes has assisted Mr M de Montfort in applying for a sustainability grant for the Toilet repairs where dates are listed and have to be kept.

Parking opposite the Clarendon was followed up after the last Residents AGM

but no reply had been received from Mr Longthorne.

Cllr Sykes wanted to see if there could be a "leaky dam" built below the bridge to reduce the rate of flow and risk of flood. He will contact Prof J Grey for his advice and report back. The Beck River fly survey has been hampered by high water levels in the beck but hopes are to restart in the spring.

Cllr Ferguson had reported a sewage leak across the gill road and this had been stopped by the Environment Agency within a day. The Ranger of YDNPA had been informed about the stream running towards the gate at the end of Brook Street and will look into the drains off the fields above.

Placing a seat inside the kissing gate was discussed with Cllr Wilson offering the metal ends.

Cllr Joy is yet to drive around Dales villages to look at different notice boards but hopes to do this shortly. A long lasting quality board will be expensive and can be put on the Agenda for the Annual Residents meeting.

This will be held **Wednesday 10th April 7.30 in the Institute.**

Date of next meeting and Council AGM

Wednesday 10th April after the AGM of Electorate.

In the Institute.