

**Hebden Parish Council Minutes of the AGM meeting held
Wednesday 11th March 2026
at 7.30pm at the Ibbotson Institute**

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

Apologies: None

Election of Chairman: Cllr Joy proposed Cllr Sykes to continue as Chairman and Cllr Davey seconded. There were no objections and Cllr Sykes accepted

The Minutes of the meeting held 28th January 2026 which had been previously circulated, were taken as read and approved.

Matters Arising:

Toilet update : Mr Joe Dawson has started on the work. YDNPA sustainable fund have offered £11,025 for 75% costs and the updated quote is for just under £17,000

There is enough in the bank to be paying any interim payments as Mr Dawson has requested in April and May and when completed. There is also the £4000 precept money in April. HPC will have to advertise for a cleaner and this will be put out formally via Pat's email list and a notice outside the Institute. Initially the toilet will be cleaned once a week but there will a daily check at the start to assess the state of the cleanliness. Mr Dawson has arranged for a plumber and electrician and Cllr Sykes offered to be "Project Manager". He has requested it be well insulated, maybe with polyurethane foam behind the panels. The stone taken down will be used in making the new entrance and any spare given to the builder who might give us a rebate.

The cost of an electric hand drier will be investigated. There will be a card payment for entry and a notice explaining its a community effort and the need to cover the cost of council tax, insurance, electricity and cleaning.

At the Residents AGM in May they will be asked what use can be made of the spare space to the right of the toilet.

All the Cllrs thanked Cllr Sykes for all the time and work he has put into this project.

The signed form for the Sustainable grant was filled in with the Clerk adding the bank and VAT details and to be posted the next day.

Now that he has removed all the furniture etc Mr M Montfort will be told to cancel his £10 yearly DD payment.

Highways and speed down through village: The email from Mr David Cairns at NY Highways was not helpful as he was only considering speeds above the 30mph limit. He will be asked about putting SLOW signs on the road near Manor House and again by Hebden Hall Park and also with Pedestrian Warning signs. He will be told the Cllrs are concerned for the safety of walkers on the road particularly where it narrows and it isn't possible to see round the bend. It is also on the school bus route. Cyclists frequently descend the hill at speed.

The Clerk will contact Mr Phil Richards to ask if its possible to have an extra sign by the exit gate from the Suspension Bridge to point to the traffic free FP into Hebden.

Telephone banking resolved: After considerable effort with letters and phone calls it is now possible to get bank balances and make transfers by phone

New printer and laptop problems: The laptop did not accept the new printer and got itself into a "Loop" that needed clearing by taking it to an expert in Skipton. It now works but there is problem with making copies and using the scan. Cllr Davey hopes to resolve this.

Painting the telephone box: No resident has answered the call for a painter but Rosemary told the Clerk that if no one offered Clive would do the job. The Clerk will speak to him and buy the necessary paint from M & F. Mrs H Dye has offered to pay for the paint.

Correspondence

RPA delinked letter- This explains the payment for the Mid-tier Countryside Stewardship grant which appears to be the same, contrary to the understanding it was to be reduced by a % every year. The BPS has finished.

Sir Julian Smith has contacted the Parish about the Mayor's Active Travel Fund to put power into the hands of local people to create safer routes, to build healthier, greener and better connected places. There is more than £2m available. Communities can apply before 10th April with an application form at; yorknorthyorks-ca.gov.uk/project/mayors-active-travel-fund/

Accounts

Bank statement c/a@ 02/02/26	£ 4781.54
s/a	£ 13, 918.00

Beck balance £1755 Orchard balance £3132 VAS balance £1330

Money received

Montfort toilet to be cancelled	£10.00
G Herd 3 field rents	£740.00
Crampton The Stripe rent	£153.00

To check Farrer's have paid £425.00 by BACS.

Attached the field rent chart.

Payments for approval

Cllr Sykes for Wassailing expenses	£65.00
Benson Fencing – playground as per ROSPA	£690.00pd
Ibbotson Institute-room hire 2025 +tree for Xmas	£91.00
Ibbotson Institute room hire HEAT	£10.00
S Ely -sal Sept to 31/03/26	£500.00
S Ely Expenses for above incl Laptop rep	£46.15
S Ely reimburse Printer	£66.27

Cllrs agreed to these payments.

Any other matters

The molehills in the playground- it was agreed not to trap the moles. The Clerk has been removing the soil and will continue to do so. Later she will rake the ground mainly to ensure there is no trip hazard.

Cllr Sykes wants there to be an official written permission for the Longthornes to be using the Old Tip. The residents made it clear they wanted it to stay the same and not be used for parking. Cllr Sykes will have a word with Mark and Gordon Longthorne about a new agreement and also with the intention of putting up the rent from the annual figure of £25 as is at present.

The Agenda for the Resident's AGM-The Cllrs will explain that for all the work undertaken on the meadow the soil is too rich in potassium so grasses will always out-compete wild flowers. The advice given is to take off the top layer and start again. There will be expense with this and a muddy expanse of bare soil before any wild flowers show. The residents will be asked for their thoughts. Perhaps they would prefer a different recreational use of the land. Or it might be possible to take up sections of the field and/or scarify the rest. The concern about traffic going at speed down through the village can be discussed with the Parish plans to help mitigate this.

There is to be filming for All Creatures Great and Small in the coming week. Cllr Sykes thinks HPC should have been informed. He wondered about some payment for the inconvenience to visitors and locals. The Clerk will check to see what Grassington Council does.

The Suspension Bridge will be closed 19th to 23rd March. Notices have been put up.

On Tuesday 24th March at 6pm there will be a meeting at St Peter's Church to see what local support there is for further use of the building and any suggestions to raise more money to repair the roof.

Date of next meeting

After the residents AGM on May 6th

Further meetings are booked for MONDAYS 15th June, 27th July and
Wednesday 2nd September