

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

Present: Cllr Sykes. (Chairman) Cllr Davey, Cllr Joy, Cllr Ferguson, Cllr Wilson
Apologies: None

Cllr Foster attended so that the need to slow down traffic through the village could be discussed. He had contacted Mr D Cairns, Highways Project Manager, and been given the results of a speed survey which showed that there were between 9 – 15 July 268 vehicles travelling above 40mph and 94 above 45 mph Eastbound and 326 and 136 respectively Westbound. These results are not sufficient to have the speed reduced to 30mph. It was agreed that the danger was with the hill and sighting near the crossroads. There needs to be better signage for motorists to be more aware of the village. The use of a VAS was discussed but its cost and location a problem. Putting "gates" is a possibility and Cllr Foster will get costs. He has some money available for council work. After considering legal liability it was decided that if HPC wants gates then Highways will be asked to erect them. Cllr Foster will go back to Mr D Cairns to check suitable signage and white lines, which still haven't been repainted.

Cllr Foster was thanked for his attendance and he left.

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

Matters Arising:

Toilet update : Cllr Sykes had received a letter from Mr M de Montfort giving formal notice of his voluntary cessation of his lease on the toilet block. This was accepted and the Clerk will write to him agreeing to this. He stated he'd give the keys back the end of October when it will be cleared and the electricity account paid and transferred. The Council would like to be able to let Mr M Hargraves, who will be asked to quote for the work, to be able to have access sooner if only for a short time. Cllr Sykes will negotiate for the key.

Benches in place: This has been done considering the presence of cows in the field. It was decided that HPC will pay for the work by Stuart Naylor in fixing the benches, with thanks to Mrs Stockdale and the Sports Committee for buying the benches. The bench in the playground now needs removing before the ROSPA inspection. The Clerk and Cllr Sykes will dig in the new mats. At some stage the fence will need moving back about a metre to conform with ROSPA guidelines.

Notice board: After considerable discussion it was decided that an Information board be placed beside the footpath down towards the beck. The history, ecology of Hebden village community will be displayed. Cllr Joy was asked if he might be able to work with Mr C Foster and Mr J Gardner, if they are willing, to produce the information and also make reference to the work by HEAT. The Clerk will contact the YDNPA to enquire about their Information boards. The small board at the end of Church Lane will continue to be used for village

notices. The Clerk had been checking the different uses of the fruit trees and this information can be placed along with the tree plan beside the orchards.

Alders and trees up the Gill: The Hedgerow will be asked to provide trees to replace some that have died and for extra trees to be planted by the beckside in November. This will include 2 apple trees and 4 mulberries for the orchards, 2 beech specimen by Pickering End track, 6 silver birch, 5 alders and 2 willows by the beckside. The Cllr Syke's oak will be planted below the Tea Rooms using a guard from up the Gill. The Clerk will grow hers on a bit longer.

Correspondence from YDNPA. The Council did not object to tree work being done at 5 Hebden Park to remove a beech and crown lift and remove overhanging branches.

Accounts

Bank statement c/a@ 01/08/24	£ 2081.19
Bank statement s/a@ 01/08/24	£ 13,121.82
Beck balance £2140 Orchard balance £3204	

Money received

Donation from Sports committee	£465.46
RPA delinked payment replacing BPS	£339.91

Payments for approval

Stuart Naylor Grass cut Verge £125 and playground £125 & Town Hill £30 and dock spraying £30 + VAT £62.00	£ 372.00
Stuart Naylor grass cut Churchyard £150 VAT £30	£ 180.00
SLCC annual subs	£76.00
S Ely, Clerk, March to Sept salary	£500.00
S Ely Exps for same	£ 11.90

These payments were approved.

Any other matters

The query raised by a resident about the missing salt/grit bin by Brook Street Bridge had been resolved by the Clerk cutting back the obscuring vegetation.

It was decided that it is now too late to strim the nettles and will be considered for next year. Cllr Ferguson stated he did not wish to be the Village Strimmer. Maybe HEAT members could be asked to use their strimmers and do the work as is done with the meadow and roadside weed clearing. Sheep have been put in the lower orchard and Gavin might be asked to put some in the top orchard in the spring to help keep down the nettles.

It would be useful for toilet storage space be used as a tool shed.

Cllr Ferguson updated the Cllrs on work by HEAT, - the roadside weed removal, clearing the meadow hay, the fruit tree signs on wooden stakes, and the latest from the Bird group with 43 swifts, swallow numbers up, but house martins

down. Next year the attention will be to try to improve nesting sites for house martins.

Cllr Sykes wants greater attention to speeding cyclists. The problem of speeding cyclists down the road to the river was considered with notices to say " Cyclists welcome but pedestrians have priority" " Please use your bell". The Clerk will check with Pendle Borough who apparently have signs to meet this situation.

Date of next meeting

Wednesday October 16th in the Ibbotson Institute 7.30pm