

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF HEPTONSTALL PARISH COUNCIL

HELD AT HEPTONSTALL SCHOOL J I & N SCHOOL, 4 JANUARY 2016

Present : Councillors J Scarborough (Chairman) J Crowther M V Edwards
N James K Roberts S Slater & B Stott

150/15 APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors J R Dunford and A Baldwin.
It was resolved to grant approval of absence.

151/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no Declarations of Interests.

152/15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Barrie Marlor of Southfield, Heptonstall, expressed further concern in respect of the (refused) proposal for a touring caravan site at Cross Hill, Smithwell Lane, Heptonstall. Members responded to various questions and made clear the current position whereby the matter was in consideration by the Planning Inspectorate.
Mr Marlor thanked members for the clarification.

153/15 The **minutes of the Monthly Meeting** of Heptonstall Parish Council held 7 December 2015 were approved as a correct record.

154/15 REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY FUNDING : H.E.L.P.

It was resolved to approve an emergency payment to Heptonstall Lights & Planting Group in the sum of £359.46.

155/15 FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR FLOOD RELIEF

Consideration was given to providing financial support following the recent devastating flooding within the immediate community.

The Clerk confirmed to members that :

- An underspend from the Council's Contingency provision existed in the sum of £1140.54
- A payment would be permitted by virtue of Section 137 Local Government Act 1972

It was resolved to approve an immediate payment of £500.00 to the Community Foundation for Calderdale, and to approve a further £500.00 should a further recommended organisation be authorised.

156/15 2015/16 FINANCE : REPORT FOR 9 MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2015

The Financial Report to 31 December 2015 was presented.

The Clerk made himself available for questions.

It was resolved to accept and approve the report.

157/15 APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

The following **accounts** were approved for payment :

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| R M Greenwood | Telephone (net). Ink Cartridges | £ 73.50 £129.01 |
| Heptonstall J I & N School | Meeting Room | £192.00 |
| Heptonstall Lights & Planting Group | Grant – Emergency Funding | £359.46 * |
| Community Foundation for Calderdale | Grant - Flooding | £500.00 * |
| AOL/Talk Talk | Broadband | £ 18.31 |

* Permitted by Section 137 LGA1972

158/15 PLANNING

(a) Planning Decisions : notification of recent decisions were received from the Planning Authority and presented for information.

(b) The following **Planning Application** was considered :

- **PA 15/01558/LBC : Interior works – Stoodley View, 42 Towngate, Heptonstall**

No objections arose.

- **PA 15/20167/TPO : Works to trees – YASZIL, Lee Mill Road, Hebden Bridge**

No objections arose.

159/15 Arising from correspondence received :

- **Re-siting of 'Southfield' sign at junction with Hepton Drive.** The Clerk confirmed no response had been received from Calderdale Council to previous correspondence. It was agreed to again chase up this matter.

- **Government Spending Review** : The Clerk confirmed that Parish & Town Councils will not be subject to referendum rules when a Precept is proposed to levy an increase exceeding 2%. This is contrary to advice offered by Calderdale MBC. Mr Greenwood also confirmed he had supplied corrective advice to the principal authority as well as fellow clerks of neighbouring parish and town councils.
- **The proposed increase in affiliation fees of Yorkshire Local Councils Associations** and the reasons for it were contained in an advisory letter from the Chairman of the Associations – Councillor Dr J R Dunford. The Clerk explained the impact on this Council would be minimal.
- The Chairman advised members of his discussions with the Clerk in relation to Employment Contract, Job Description etc as recommended by YLCA. The Clerk confirmed all was in order and that the requirement be borne in mind as and when an incoming Clerk is appointed.
- The new **external audit regime** was explained by the Clerk, and the opportunity to opt out (by 31 March 2016) of automatic linking with the Sector Led Body. It was resolved not to take the opt out option.

160/15 ROLLING PROGRAMME OF COUNCIL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

It was agreed to arrange a joint meeting in February between Councillor Scarborough, The Clerk and Anne Markwell and Beatrice Haigh of Calderdale MBC Enforcement and Planning.

161/15 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

Councillor Slater provided an update on the progress towards developing a joint Neighbourhood Plan. She confirmed that the next meeting of the joint committee would be held on 11 January when a full analysis of the consultation process would be presented.

The Boxing Day flooding was discussed and it was agreed upland areas have the potential to provide flood plains, slowing the gravitational effect in the valley. It was agreed such thought be fed into the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Councillor Slater was thanked for her report.

162/15 EXCESSIVE WATER ON ROAD : SLACK BOTTOM

As some works have commenced to remedy the problem it was resolved to bring this item back on the agenda for the meeting on 1 February 2016.

163/15 PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON HEBDEN BRIDGE PARTNERSHIP

It was resolved to liaise with neighbouring councils to appoint a joint representative on Hebden Bridge Partnership

164/15 REPORT OF PROGRESS OF ACTIVITY OF THE TRAFFIC GROUP

Councillor Scarborough provided an update on the progress of the current issues being pursued by the Traffic Group and made specific mention of the recent flooding which will slow the process of obtaining the necessary stones for the village signs.

Councillor Scarborough was thanked for his report.

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(Chairman)

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(Date)