

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF HEPTONSTALL PARISH COUNCIL

HELD REMOTELY via ZOOM, 1 FEBRUARY 2021

Present : Councillors S Slater (Chairman) A Baldwin J Crowther B Cutts
Dr J R Dunford M V Edwards M Hughes N James & B Stott

104/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No Declarations were made.

105/20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

With one parishioner in attendance, there was a request not to speak at this stage but simply listen to the debate relating to Heptonstall Museum

106/20 Minutes of previous meetings of Heptonstall Parish Council were approved as a correct record in respect of the following :

- Monthly meeting held 4 January 2021
- Staffing Committee meeting held 18 January 2021
- Finance Committee meeting held 18 January 2021

107/20 HEPTONSTALL MUSEUM

Standing Orders were suspended.

The Chair of Heptonstall Historical Society was welcomed to the meeting and was invited to speak when appropriate..

Councillor Edwards (Chairman of the Council's Finance and Staffing Committees) reported on the meetings both of which were held on 18 January.

He provided a most detailed report of the financial and staffing resource implications to the Council if it were decided to take up the opportunity of an Asset Transfer in relation to the museum.

Councillor Edwards was thanked for the thoroughness of his detailed research and report.

The Chair of HSSS also thanked Councillor Edwards for his information, and gave a summary of a recent survey she had undertaken in respect of local interest in the retention of the museum.

It was proposed and resolved unanimously (following a request for a recorded vote) that Heptonstall Parish Council should not proceed with the possibility of taking over the museum, but would be willing to provide a representative from the Council to any formed community group desirous of taking the matter forward, and would be willing to offer affordable and permissible Grant application(s) to assist such a group.

It was agreed a named representative be considered at the next meeting of the Council.

The Chair of HSSS thanked members for their thoroughness and decisions, and left the meeting.

Standing Orders were resumed

108/20 TRAINING/WEBINAR/CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES

The Clerk provides regular details of the availability of training etc and invites members to request bookings via himself as already authorised.

109/20 RISK ASSESSMENT

Councillor Edwards, in his role as Risk Assessor, had provided a written report of his latest review and this had been copied to all members.

His report covered the visible condition of walls and trees at the Pinfold (no hazards), a small amount of fly-tipping (now removed), the picnic tables and the ground in the centre of the Pinfold which was reported to be very waterlogged.

It was resolved to report the amount of water running from Northgate to Yorkshire Water together with suggested causes for this problem.

Councillor Edwards was thanked for his detailed report.

110/20 2021/22 BUDGET & PRECEPT : 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2022

Following the recommendations of the Finance Committee, as reported by Councillor Edwards, it was resolved the following budgetary issues be implemented for 2021/22 :

- **Clerk's Salary** : for the number of paid hours to remain at 10.5 per week, the salary to be included in the budget to be in the sum of **£7,088 for 2021/22** following the anticipated implementation of a NIL NJC National award from 1 April 2021. (Pay Point 17) but with the progression of one permissible increment to reward for his duties as the Responsible Financial Officer
- **Chairman's Allowance** : It was resolved that this item be re-evaluated with effect from 1 April 2024, unless there are exceptional intervening circumstances. The Allowance for 2020/21 be **£742**.
- **Grants** recommended for allocation :
- **Royal British Legion** : Wreath + donation : **£100**
- **Heptonstall Social & Bowling Club** : Public Parking Provision **£350**
- **Hebden Bridge Bowling Club** (via Midgehole Working Men's Club) – to be spent on either the bowling green or the bowling club premises **£250**
- **Heptonstall Lights & Planting Group** for Xmas Tree insurance **£265**
- **Heptonstall Lights & Planting Group** – to make provision for a Christmas Tree on a draw down basis - **£195**
- **Hebden Bridge & District Old Peoples Welfare Committee** – **£250** to assist with '8-80 Conversations'
- **Heptonstall Exhibitions and Richard Naylor Charities** - **£500 for each**
- **White Rose Archers** : **£1,260** for the creation of an all-weather safety access path

- **CROWS : £250** on a draw down basis for footpath etc repair works. (Any unspent Grant for 2020/21 at 31 March 2021 to be rolled forward)
- **Contingency provision £1500**
- **Subscriptions** were approved in accordance with the list provided by The Clerk : **£700.**
- **Insurance** : Approval for the re-negotiation of a 3 year lock-in following resolution of the adequacy of cover . **£300.**
- **Neighbourhood Planning** : estimated contribution **£410**
- **Environmental issues** : **£1,000**
- **Defibrillator cabinet electricity costs** : **£50** to the occupant of the Post Office premises.
- **It was resolved to explore the possibility of providing headsets for remote meetings where this would aid efficiency.** (The Clerk to conduct a review).
- Allocation to **Computer Reserve of £200** (making **£1364** at 1 April 2021) and continuation of **Elections Reserve = £3,500**, and continuation of **Contingency Reserve £11,800** at 1 April 2021.
- **Investment Strategy** : to continue with investment policy as at present (invest surplus funds in renewable 6 month Term Deposit – April and October each year).

111/20 PRECEPT 2021/22

It was resolved to recommend a Precept and request the sum of **£17,500** (in addition to the two grants allocated to the Council of £952 + £1,162 making a total of £19,614). This would represent an increase on Band D property of 19 pence per annum following the continued freezing of one grant and reduction of the second from Calderdale MB Council.

112/20 APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

The following account was approved for payment :

Hebden Royd Town Council: Neighbourhood Plan expenses share	£ 298.74
<i>Received Yorkshire Electricity (wayleave)</i>	<i>£ 2.30</i>

113/20 PLANNING

(a) Planning Decisions : Details of decisions made by the Planning Authority in the past month notified to members

(b) Planning Applications : The following recommendations were approved in respect of recent Planning Applications :

- **PA 20/01220/HSE :** Conversion of detached garage to annex ancillary to dwelling including raising of the roof and hip to gable roof modification
 - Royds House, Heptonstall Road, Heptonstall.

It was resolved to make no comment in respect of this individual application, but resolved to object to the second document below relating to the construction of a separate garage and construction of a second access to the property.

The proposal is in direct relation to application 20/01220/HSE and should be considered as a composite.

The detail provided is lacking. The diagrams do not show the important and busy junction of Valley View Road with lower Towngate, which is a bus route and provides direct access to West Laithe Estate.

The opening of a second vehicular access to the lower part of Royds House reduces the existing use of the highway to park vehicles in a village with a lack of such facilities - particularly in winter conditions. The approach to the bend at Lily Hall is very restrictive and will be exacerbated by the second access point. It is expected Highways to share these safety concerns.

There would be the removal of trees in this Wildlife Corridor despite a statement to the contrary.

- **PA 20/01218/HSE :** New gated access to new parking area and garage
 - Royds House, Heptonstall Road, Heptonstall

It was resolved to object to this application.

The proposal is in direct relation to application 20/01220/HSE and should be considered as a composite.

The detail provided is lacking. The diagrams do not show the important and busy junction of Valley View Road with lower Towngate, which is a bus route and provides direct access to West Laithe Estate.

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114/20 Arising from correspondence received :

- Joint meeting with National Trust & Wadsworth Parish Council : It was resolved to ask Wadsworth PC to arrange.
- Possible restriction of Household Waste Recycling Centres : It was agreed this issue be requested as an agenda item for the upcoming joint Liaison meeting with Calderdale Council.
- Street lamps : receipt of an update from Calderdale Council.
- Speed of traffic on Widdop Road : a comprehensive explanation from Calderdale MBC's Ian Turner.
- Winter maintenance : following several items of correspondence to the Chairman and The Clerk (including residents outside this parish), details of the gritting policy

were provided by the Highway Authority – to be copied to the correspondents as well as The Clerk of Wadsworth Parish Council

- Views on the power to hold remote meetings : it was agreed The Clerk should respond to this YLCA survey
- Safer Cleaner Greener meeting information : members agreed to receive resultant minutes and information from The Clerk

115/20 OFF ROAD CYCLING

Councillor Bruce reported on the joint meeting recently held to consider this topic. Many Councils and interested organisations had taken part. He provided a summary of the discussions and the possible ways forward.

He was thanked for his report.

116/20 SAFER CLEANER GREENER COMMITTEE

Councillor Slater and The Clerk gave a verbal report of the recent bi-monthly meeting, which included addressing the following current issues :

- Mountain bikes on public footpaths
- Trial bikes on public rights of way
- Winter gritting – particularly Widdop Road
- Speed of traffic – Heptonstall Slack, Colden & Widdop Road.

Thanks were given for the report. The Clerk had copied all emerging minutes and reports. It was agreed this was useful and should continue.

117/20 JOINT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Councillor Slater reported that the meeting of the Joint Committee was being held this very evening preventing attendance by herself and The Clerk. Information emerging would be copied when it becomes available.

118/20 DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS

The Clerk confirmed that the next monthly meeting would be held remotely via Zoom at 7.30 pm on Monday 1 March 2021 and would be preceded by the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting at 7.00 pm.

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(Chairman)

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(Date)