

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF HEPTONSTALL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD AT HEPTONSTALL SOCIAL & BOWLING CLUB, 01 OCTOBER 2024**

**Present:** Councillors: B Cutts (Chairman) M V Edwards J Holt  
N Dempsey M Hughes A Baldwin

(Also in attendance: Clerk Hannah Sherriff-Jackson and 5 members of the public)

## **101/24 APOLOGIES (AND REASONS) FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Crowther, Jackson and Slater.

No requests were made for the reasons for absence to be considered as Approved Reasons.

## 102/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

**103/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Five members of the public attended.

The members of the public wished to speak on agenda items 15 (50 years of May's Shop) and 17 (St. Thomas New Churchyard). Details of these discussions can be found at Minutes 114/24 and 116/24 respectively.

**104/24 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes of the previous meeting of Heptonstall Parish Council were approved as a correct record of the following:

- Monthly Meeting held 3 September 2024

## 105/24 OUTSTANDING ITEMS

The Clerk circulated the Outstanding Items List to members prior to the meeting.

Cllr Hughes provided an update on the Unsafe Public Footpath item from August. The hole causing the safety concerns has been filled and a new larger hole has been dug nearby. Due to the size of this hole, CMBC will fill it in.

#### **106/24 TRAINING/WEBINAR/CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES**

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

The Clerk will contact YLCA to request more evening/weekend training to allow working members to attend.

#### **107/24 APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS TO PAY**

RESOLVED: That the Council approved the following accounts to pay:

H Sherriff-Jackson	Salary (net) to 31/10	£507.36
	Home Working Allce	£26.00
	Domain & Mail Basic 25	£12.00
	Email Archiving	£3.00
	Microsoft 365	£5.88
HMRC	PAYE	£118.80
Lambert Print & Design Ltd	Newsletter Printing - Autumn	£220.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£893.04</b>

#### **108/24 BUSINESS TERM DEPOSIT**

The Clerk reported that the Business Term Deposit has earned £584.69 with the balance now standing at £35,396.16.

RESOLVED: That the Council confirmed the investment in another Business Term Deposit for 6 months from October 2024.

RESOLVED: That the Council will invest a further £4,000 in the new Business Term Deposit.

#### **109/24 NEWSLETTER**

Cllr Baldwin reported that the newsletter compiler would like to include an item on May's Shop in the next newsletter. The Clerk will liaise with Cllrs Crowther and Slater to create this item.

#### **110/24 CALDERDALE WIND FARM**

No update was provided.

The Clerk will contact Wadsworth Parish Council to request further information on the next Joint Parish Council Forum meeting.

#### **111/24 PLANNING**

All Planning matters are discussed by Full Council, including all members of the Planning Committee.

(a) **Planning Decisions:** Details of Planning decisions made by Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council were provided to members.

(b) **New Applications:** None

#### **112/24 DOG FOULING**

The Clerk reported that the Guides are still interested in the poster competition. The Clerk will contact the Guides to ask for all entries to be with her for judging at the March meeting.

Cllr Baldwin reported that he has approached the school and is waiting to hear back.

#### **113/24 WATER ON SLACK**

The Clerk provided a brief update of the response received from the Ward Councillor and Highways.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk will liaise with Cllr Slater to write a response.

*The Parish Council suspended Standing Orders to allow members of the public to speak during the following discussion.*

#### **114/24 50 YEARS OF MAY'S SHOP**

One member of the public spoke on the history of May's shop and May's contribution to the community. The member of the public informed the Parish Council that he wishes to make a personal contribution toward the cost of the tree and stone.

Another member of the public informed the Parish Council that she is a local filmmaker and photographer and has been making a film with May documenting her life and the work she does for the community. She would like to include the unveiling of the memorial as the final scene. RESOLVED: That the Parish Council supports this project.

The Parish Council noted an email from Cllr Crowther regarding the purchase of the tree.

*The Parish Council resumed Standing Orders.*

#### **115/24 BENCH ON SLACK**

Cllr Hughes reported that CMBC is unsure of the ownership of the land where the bench is located. CMBC has no objections to a plaque being placed on the bench. CMBC is happy to arrange the fitting of a new bench if the member of the public wishes to renew the bench.

*The Parish Council suspended Standing Orders to allow members of the public to speak during the following discussion.*

#### **116/24 ST THOMAS NEW CHURCHYARD**

Cllr Dempsey informed the Parish Council that the recent community tidy up event was a success with 25 volunteers attending during the course of the day. He informed the meeting that another tidy up event has been arranged for 05 October.

Cllr Dempsey reported that he and Cllr Jackson have attended a Church Council meeting. A joint working party has been formed to create a 'Friends' group. The new group are looking at grant funding options for long term maintenance.

Cllr Edwards raised concerns that there are other churchyards in the parish that may require some maintenance. A member of the public informed the meeting that, as a Church of England graveyard, anyone in the parish has the right to be buried at the St Thomas Churchyard.

A member of the public thanked the Parish Council for its response to this issue and thanked all involved in the tidy up day. They also informed the meeting that there are

lots of funding options for the new Friends group to look at on the Church of England website.

The Clerk reported that she had received an email thanking the Parish Council for its involvement in organising the tidy up event.

A member of the public thanked the Parish Council for taking the lead on the tidy up initiative. They informed the meeting of a national project called 'EcoChurch' and suggested that the new Friends group contact the Guides to collaborate on future plans for the churchyard.

*The Parish Council resumed Standing Orders.*

### **117/24 ACRES LANE ACCESS ISSUES**

Cllr Holt reported that CMBC have stated that they are not responsible for the maintenance of Acres Lane. CMBC have recently issued enforcement notices to some residents on Acres Lane and have requested information if refuse vehicles use Acres Lane.

The Clerk will write to CMBC to report the overgrown sycamore trees on Acres Lane that belong to CMBC. She will stress that these trees pose a safety issue for both livestock and residents due to the size of these trees. The Clerk will request that these trees and the overgrown hedges/vegetation are maintained by CMBC as they are on CMBC land.

### **118/24 ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

**Council Tax Reduction Scheme Consultation Email:** The Parish Council noted an email regarding the Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

**Filming in Village Email:** The Parish Council noted concerns about local filming that has taken place in the village. The Clerk will contact CMBC to request a meeting to discuss future filming events. The Clerk will contact the filmmaker's regarding the donation to the community.

Cllr Baldwin reported that the Bowling Club is having ongoing issues with the Film Company regarding the disposal of waste from the catering truck.

**Anonymous Safety Concerns Email:** This can be found at Minute 122/24.

**Mytholm Mill Chimney Email:** The Parish Council noted concerns about the demolition of Mytholm Mill Chimney.

**Parking in Hebden Bridge Letter:** The Parish Council noted the draft letter to be sent to CMBC regarding the parking issues in Hebden Bridge.

**Drains & Gulleys Email:** The Parish Council noted the concerns raised by the member of the public regarding the lack of drain clearing in the village. The Parish Council also noted CMBC's response to these concerns and thanked the member of the public for their hard work on this issue. The Parish Council will keep an eye on CMBC's cleaning routine.

### **119/24 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

Cllr Edwards reported that he had attended the recent Ward Forum. The item regarding the parking issues in Hebden Bridge was deferred to the future meeting. The Deputy Director of Calderdale's Strategic Infrastructure attended to answer questions about highways issues. Cllr Edwards raised concerns about the management of roadworks including;

- a. Utility providers and contractors adopting an over-liberal interpretation of the permit scheme by taking their time to complete works and creating unnecessary obstructions and delays.
- b. Some of the road networks in the Upper Calder Valley are critical to more than one community, however, there appears to be little, or no consideration given to the potential adverse impact that road closures on those roads can have on hilltop communities. Cllr Edwards reiterated the Parish Councils request that these network links are identified as critical links and that is reflected in the condition imposed on utilities and contractors.

The member of Highways advised that if there was a perception or concern that contractors were being 'tardy', residents should contact Highways via the Streetworks email scheme. He also acknowledged the concerns about the critical road networks and said he would look into it.

Cllr Edwards also reported that several shopkeepers attended the meeting and raised concerns about the disruption and loss of trade caused by the recent round of filming in Hebden Bridge. The Ward Councillor mentioned the benefits from tourism that filming brings to Hebden Bridge however the attendees raised concerns that if the removal of the parking at Fallingroyd is allowed to proceed, there will be nowhere for the visitors to park.

### **120/24 DATES & TIMES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

The Clerk advised that matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting should be with her by 28 October 2024.

The Clerk advised the next meeting would be held:

- Monthly Council Meeting at Heptonstall Social & Bowling Club at **7.30pm on Tuesday 05 November 2024**

#### **121/24 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

In view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the press and public would need to be temporarily excluded from the meeting in accordance with Standing Order no.3(d).

#### **122/24 ANONYMOUS SAFETY CONCERNS**

The Parish Council noted anonymous safeguarding concerns raised by a member of the public. Cllr Holt will refer this issue to Safeguarding at CMBC. The Clerk will contact YLCA regarding a draft Safeguarding Policy.

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**(Chair)**

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**(Date)**