

HARDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Notes of an informal meeting held on 23rd November 2007

Post office closures. Consultation process starts next year but need to do something now. At joint meeting with the other parish councils it was agreed that each council would run its own campaign, but not at the expense of the others. Mike had prepared a questionnaire to be delivered to all residents and this was examined and amended. Perhaps we could repeat it on the reverse to give two opportunities for completion per household. Not thought a good idea, but we ought to use the available space. Newsletter? Hannah said that she would prepare a specimen for the next council meeting and she could get the pamphlet printed but that we ought to get at least two other quotes. Agreed. Suggested and agreed that we get it out before Christmas if possible. No difficulty in analysing data. Mike and Alan will attend public meetings re closures in Keighley and Ilkley respectively.

Airport money. £100,000 per ward for distribution. Joint meeting with other parishes showed a common need for traffic calming measures. There is a joint meeting on Wednesday, November 28, 2007 with other parish reps. and ward councillors to decide how it might be spent. Colin will represent us. Mike had obtained information from Bradford Highways and Traffic Dept. re costs of vehicle activated signs and this would be raised at this meeting.

Issues re clerk. Date of interviews agreed, Wednesday, 5th December, at John's house, 3 councillors on panel. We have 2 applicants from Baildon and a third from the village who wouldn't want her private telephone no. to be made public. It was agreed that it would be almost impossible to avoid this. Agreed that an appointment will be made by the interviewing panel if anyone suitable and to re-advertise if not. The reverse of the Post Office questionnaire could be used for this! We will contribute towards a gratuity for the clerk, payable on retirement, and it may be necessary to pay traveling expenses if appointee lives outside the village.

Forum feedback. Useful and has given us a lead re initial actions by the council. CO2 detectors, light timers and door alarms available through Ali Mantle but apparently fire brigade not happy with model on offer. We are to get some and anyone can apply for one through us. Advert on rear of Post Office circular?

Parish plan. Alan has a copy of a questionnaire used in another village and we can probably get Cullingworth's. We should be able to draw up our own based on this as a basis for Harden's own. Money is available and we will follow this up.

Budget 2008/9. John introduced a suggested draft for discussion. Broad agreement with the principle and agreed we might have to amend in light of experience. One or two amendments made to detail. (Amended copy subsequently circulated.)

Agreed this informal meeting most useful and might be repeated in future as necessary.