

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF HARDEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 11 JUNE 2015 AT 7.15PM IN HARDEN MEMORIAL HALL**

Present

Councillors Julia Gregson, Kay Kirkham, Pam Laking (Chair), Alan Sykes
Clerk Eve Haskins
In attendance One member of the public was present

1/0615 Election of Chair

RESOLVED that Cllr Pam Laking be elected as Chairman of the Parish Council; Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office duly signed by the Chair.

2/0615 Election of Vice-Chair

RESOLVED that Cllr Alan Sykes be elected as Vice-Chairman for the Parish Council.

3/0615 Co-option of Parish Councillor

RESOLVED that Julia Gregson be co-opted onto the Parish Council; Declaration of Acceptance of Office duly signed by Cllr Gregson.

4/06/15 Apologies

It was noted that Ward Cllr Eaton had sent an apology for her non-attendance.

5/0615 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Kirkham and Sykes declared an interest in 7/0615b): they did not take part in the discussion of, nor vote on, this matter.

6/0615 To confirm minutes of meetings held on 14 May 2015

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2015 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

7/0615 Planning issues

- a) Applications: None received.
- b) Planning Panel:

RESOLVED that Chair to attend the Regulatory and Appeals Committee meeting on 17 June to represent the view of the Parish Council regarding application 15/01039/MAO – Land at Harden Road and Keighley Road, Harden: outline application (access only) for residential development.

8/0615 Notification of planning decisions from Bradford Council - None received.

9/0615 Public Representation

- 1. Weeds in roads and gutters:

A member of the public expressed concern regarding the growth of weeds at the side of roads and gutters, and claimed that BMDC spray the area too late in the year. To suggestions of employing someone to tackle these weeds, the Parish Council expressed concerns regarding both health and safety regulations and double taxation, as BMDC are responsible for this work.

- 2. Bins:

A member of the public expressed concern regarding the bins situated on Spring Row, which do not have lids and are therefore unhygienic and attracting foxes/badgers, as well as causing an obstruction. Agreed that Clerk to contact BMDC Highways and Waste Depts to report this issue.

- 3. Speeding in the village:

A member of the public noted that any future speed watch carried out in the village should take into account the problems with parking on Ferrands Park Way.

10/0615 Exchange of Information

- 1. Planning issues re Golden Fleece pub:

A parish councillor reported that concern has been expressed regarding the structure behind the Golden Fleece pub, which is still in situ despite being in breach of planning control. Clerk to include this issue on the agenda for the next meeting.

2. Dogs at St Ives:

Chair reported that the unsubstantiated rumours concerning the poisoning of dogs at St Ives Estate as mentioned at the previous meeting concerned the death of a dog at the estate which had in fact been by a car.

11/0615 Recording of Parish Council meetings

RESOLVED that the Parish Council adopt the revised rules for the recording of meetings.

12/0615 Further development/cleaning in Harden Memorial Park playground

RESOLVED that:

1. Parish Council to allocate £100 per year from the budget for cleaning the playground by BMDC's Graffiti Team (at a estimated cost of £50 per clean);
2. Clerk to liaise with BMDC's Graffiti Team for advice re cleaning timings.

13/0615 Horticulture

RESOLVED that Clerk to contact Bradford Works to determine whether they removed the winter bedding plants from outside the post office, and to ensure that the agreed planting will be carried out in the village before Harden Children's Gala on 20 June 2015.

14/0615 Traffic on Wilsden Road

Clerk updated all that the Police Commissioner has been sent a letter outlining the Parish Council's concerns re traffic in the village and is awaiting a response.

RESOLVED that:

1. Clerk to circulate the above letter to the parish councillors for their information;
2. Clerk to contact the local police to invite them to the next Parish Council meeting, to encourage greater liaison between the Parish Council and the local police.

Cllr Kirkham left the meeting at 8.05pm.

15/0615 Parish Plan

RESOLVED that this item be deferred until a future meeting.

16/0615 War memorial

Clerk reported that the pre-application form for the renovation of the war memorial has been submitted and BMDC contacted for further information re listing as agreed – awaiting responses.

17/0615 Youth Services

Clerk reported that response and the three month plan from Youth Services is still being awaited.

18/0615 SCAPAG update

Chair reported that the next SCAPAG meeting is on 24 June 2015 therefore an update will be provided at the next Parish Council meeting in July.

19/0615 New Deal meeting update

Chair reported that the recently attended New Deal meeting confirmed that there will be further cuts in BMDC services in the coming year, including the reduction or loss of services that have previously been taken for granted (e.g. the mowing of grass verges). She stated that BMDC are hoping that the public and community groups will do more locally, and emphasised the need for community engagement.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council will distribute leaflet/posters, compiled by the Chair and Vice-Chair, which will highlight the current financial situation and promote community engagement locally.

20/0615 Update on Parish Council vacancies

Clerk updated all that the Parish Council now has one ordinary vacancy and two casual vacancies, which are displayed on the notice-boards for the public to call for an election if required. Agreed to wait until the next meeting to review the situation further.

21/0615 Pension arrangements for Clerk

RESOLVED that the Parish Council will not pursue pension arrangements for the Clerk at present, agreed by the Parish Council and Clerk; to address this issue in the future as required.

22/0615 Financial issues

RESOLVED that the following payments were approved and cheques duly signed:

- **£332.94** Clerk's wages
- **£39.30** Clerk's travel expenses
- **£29.99** Clerk's reimbursement for flowers for internal auditor

23/0615 Correspondence

- Email from BMDC re Register of Interest forms: acknowledged, agreed that Clerk to re-send these forms to the parish councillors;
- Email from Clerk re resignation from Parish Council: acknowledged, see item 25/0615;
- Emails from Chair and Vice-Chair re resignation from Parish Council: acknowledged; former Chair, Julia Gregson, co-opted back onto the Parish Council (see item 3/0615);
- Email re Landfill Communities Fund review consultation: acknowledged, Clerk sent a consultation response on behalf of the Parish Council;
- Email from representative of Youth Services: acknowledged, see item 17/0615;
- Email from BMDC Parks Dept re playground cleaning: acknowledged, see item 12/0615;
- Email from BMDC re request for help for footpaths in the village: acknowledged, Clerk updated all that BMDC are now liaising directly with the landowner re these footpaths;
- Email from BMDC re New Deal Workshop invitation for 24 June 2015: acknowledged, agreed that Chair to attend the Workshop;
- Email from YLCA re advice re resignations etc and recording of meetings: acknowledged, see item 11/0615;
- Email from Parks and Landscapes Manager, BMDC, re provision of bedding plants for area: acknowledged.

24/0615 Exclusion of press and public

RESOLVED that the press and public are excluded from the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s1, in order to discuss the next confidential item.

25/0615 Clerk's resignation

RESOLVED that:

1. The Clerk's resignation was accepted by the Parish Council after much discussion;
2. Chair to contact YLCA to obtain advice on the recruitment of a new Clerk;
3. Clerk to continue in the role until September to enable a replacement to be found.

Chair extended the gratitude of the Parish Council to the Clerk for all their hard work.

26/0515 Next meeting

Agreed that the next Parish Council meeting to take place on Thursday 9 July 2015 at 7.15pm.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25pm.

**The next monthly meeting of Harden Parish Council will be held on
9 July 2015 at 7.15pm in Harden Memorial Hall**