

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF HARDEN VILLAGE COUNCIL
HELD ONLINE ON 10th December 2020 AT 7.15PM**

Present: Cllr Gerwyn Bryan (Chair)
Cllr Kay Kirkham
Cllr Ann Taylor
Cllr Jools Townsend
Cllr Paul Sullivan
Ken Eastwood (Clerk)
1 Member of the public

1/12/20 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Falak Ahmed. The reasons for absence were approved.

2/12/20 Disclosures of Interest

None.

3/12/20 Minutes of Meetings

- a) The minutes of the Village Council meeting held on 12th November, 2020 were proposed as a correct record by Cllr Taylor.
- b) The minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Project Team meeting held on 16th November, 2020 were proposed as a correct record by Cllr Kirkham.
- c) The Outstanding Issues report was duly noted.

4/12/20 Councillor Vacancy

Members welcomed Rob Hawthorne to the meeting and discussed his expression of interest in joining the Village Council. Mr Hawthorne was subsequently welcomed to the Council and accepted the office of Councillor.

5/12/20 Public Representation

None.

6/12/20 Planning Matters

The following planning application was considered: -

20/05289/FUL - New purpose-built agricultural store at Cliff Farm, Keighley Road, Harden.

Resolved:

That the Village Council has no objection to the application.

Cllr Kirkham informed Members that a previous application for glamping pods at Heather Lodge, Back Shaw Lane, Keighley was to be considered by Bradford Council's Combined Planning Panel, with a recommendation to refuse.

Signed:

Cllr Kirkham stated the Village Council had previously opposed the application and the Council's comments were fully represented in the report being considered by the Panel.

(Planning applications can be viewed via Bradford Council's online system <http://www.planning4bradford.com/online-applications>).

7/12/20 Traffic & Transport Update

Cllrs Townsend and Bryan summarised a recent meeting with an officer from Bradford Council's highways department. The meeting had been very positive and a number of actions were agreed to take forward discussion and exploration of some of the ideas and proposals put forward in the traffic and transport study and explored during discussion with other Bingley Rural Local Councils.

Resolved:

Cllr Townsend to circulate summary notes from the meeting and the Clerk to follow up actions with Bradford Council.

8/12/20 Newsletter

Cllr Kirkham advised that a single newsletter was going to be prepared and issued in January. This would include details of the Neighbourhood Plan consultation taking place in the New Year.

Resolved:

That Cllrs Kirkham and Townsend collaborate on preparation of a draft newsletter.

9/12/20 Exchange of Information

Cllr Sullivan stated that the roadworks on Wilsden Road were expected to be closed on the 18th December and work would re-start in the New Year. At this point, it remains unclear whether the barriers and lights will be removed.

Cllr Kirkham raised concern about the trench dug on the grass verge, which was very close to the cherry trees. She queried whether tree roots had been protected. It was agreed that Cllr Sullivan would forward concerns to an appropriate contact.

Cllr Townsend stated that her neighbours had commented about Narrow Lane being used as a rat run, with an increase in the volume and speed of traffic. It was noted that concerns about traffic volumes and speeds are still prevalent in the village and this underpins the work being taken forward by the Village Council and other Local Councils in Bingley Rural.

Cllr Bryan reported back following a meeting with Cllr Sullivan and a resident of Narrow Lane, with regard to drainage issues. Cllr Sullivan stated that works were planned for 15th December, when the road would be closed between 19:00 and 23:59.

Cllr Kirkham stated that a number of streetlights were out in the village centre. She had attempted to report to Bradford Council, but the online platform indicated the faults had already been reported. It was felt there was a need to escalate this matter. It was agreed Cllr Kirkham would provide the lamp post numbers to Cllr Sullivan who would direct the concern to an appropriate officer within Bradford Council.

10/12/20 War Memorial

A quotation received of £2,500 for the repair of the war memorial, including replacement stone and flags, was considered.

Resolved:

To authorise the proposed works and expenditure, subject to the contractor having appropriate insurance in place and being able to undertake the work after Easter.

11/12/20 Small Grant Application

A grant application received for the purchase of replacement lights for the village Christmas tree was discussed. It was noted that the Village Council ordinarily award small grants up to £250 but on this occasion, it was agreed to increase the limit.

Resolved:

To authorise the award of £500 to the Harden Children's Gala Society as a contribution towards the purchase of new village Christmas tree lights.

12/12/20 Schedule of Meetings

The proposed Village Council meeting dates for 2021 were noted and agreed.

13/12/20 Correspondence

- a) Email from TheUrbanGlow re. Harden Neighbourhood Plan buildings survey. Noted that the non-designated heritage assets assessment had now been completed and was available on the Village Council website. Cllr Kirkham is shortly to deliver explanatory letters to the householders mentioned in the assessment.
- b) Message from a resident re. Village Council vacancy. Noted.
- c) Email from contractor re. works quotations. Construction of a wall to mount a boundary sign at the entrance to the village from Cullingworth, to match the signs at the other three entrances, was agreed in principle. The Clerk to liaise with Bradford Council Highways re. necessary consents.
- d) Email from a resident re. overgrown and neglected land on Wilsden Road and behind Chelston Park. Noted. Cllr Townsend commented on the potential opportunity for tree planting or creation of a community orchard on this neglected site. The Village Council is to continue to try and identify the owner of the land in question.

Resolved:

- a) Members discussed a draft budget and agreed to keep the precept unchanged, at £45 for a band D property, in 2021/22.
- b) To reflect in the annual action plan, that projects planned for 2020/21 and delayed due to COVID-19, could still be progressed, funded from reserves.
- c) To authorise the following payments: -

Payee	Payment No.	Amount	Description
SLCC	2020-21-35	£123.80	Book purchase
Bradford MDC	2020-21-36	£1,198.87	Salary payment
Maddison Gardens	2020-21-37	£119	Horticulture
E Petch Printers Ltd	2020-21-38	£114	Poster design & print
BHIB Ltd	2020-21-39	£438.38	Insurance

- d) To note the following trial balances: -

Harden Village Council				
1st December 2020				
Item	Budget 2020/21	Expenditure to date	Budget Remaining	Forecast Shortfall (-) Surplus (+)
Staff Costs	9,000	9,127	-127	-6,121
Travel	300	28	272	200
Subscriptions	1,500	1,705	-205	-205
Insurance	500	0	500	62
Audits	400	380	20	20
Newsletter	850	0	850	275
Website	825	520	305	75
Parish Plan	1,000	0	1,000	1,000
Neighbourhood Planning	5,000	1,732	3,268	1,828
Training	400	15	385	385
Repairs	100	0	100	100
Stationery	250	11	239	175
PC equipment	250	0	250	250
Small grants	1,000	0	1,000	500
Horticulture	1,000	880	120	0
Projects & Assets	17,075	166	16,910	16,910
S 137	200	25	175	0
Other	125	60	66	0
	39,775	14,649	25,126	15,454

e) To note the following bank reconciliation: -

Cashbook balances	
Balance 1 st April 2020	14,696.64
Add: income to date	59,518.41
Less: expenditure to date	(15,016.78) (incl. VAT)
Total:	£59,198.27

Bank account balances 1 st December 2020	
Community Account	32,815.69
Business Account	26,382.58
Less: unpresented cheques	0
Add: unbanked cash	0
Total:	£59,198.27

15/12/20 Minor Items and Items for Next Agenda

None.

16/12/20 Next Meeting

To confirm the date of the next virtual Village Council meeting as 14th January 2021, at 7.15pm. The Chair closed the meeting at 9.01pm.