

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF HARDEN VILLAGE COUNCIL
HELD ONLINE ON 11th MARCH 2021 AT 7.15PM**

Present: Cllr Gerwyn Bryan (Chair)
Cllr Kay Kirkham
Cllr Ann Taylor
Cllr Jools Townsend
Cllr Paul Sullivan
Cllr Rob Hawthorne
Ken Eastwood (Clerk)

1/03/21 Apologies for Absence

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

2/03/21 Disclosures of Interest

Cllr Sullivan stated he was a member of Bradford Council's Planning Committee.

3/03/21 Minutes of Meetings

- a) The minutes of the Village Council meeting held on 11th February, 2021 were proposed as a correct record by Cllr Townsend.
- b) The Outstanding Issues report was duly noted.

4/03/21 Public Representation

None.

5/03/21 Planning Matters

The following planning application was considered: -

21/00542/HOU - Single storey side extension, alter rear flat roofed extension to pitched roof, new rear patio doors with access decking to new steps at 6 Midgeham Grove, Harden.

Resolved:

That the Village Council has no objection to the application.

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

6/03/21 Draft Local Plan

Members discussed an options report prepared by Cllr Kirkham with regard to Bradford Council's Local Plan consultation.

Resolved:

That the Village Council accepts that in principle some development is necessary. However, development of the greenbelt site on Long Lane is not supported.

Signed:

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Cllr Kirkham to prepare a response to the consultation setting out that position and proposing instead that consideration be given to allocating part or all of the greenbelt sites adjacent to Wilsden Road.

7/03/21 20 MPH Zone

Cllr Townsend summarised a proposed response to a draft feasibility study developed by Bradford Council with regard to a possible 20mph zone in Harden. It was noted that instead of extensive use of speed tables, cushions and humps the evidence points to a different approach, focused on treatments at entrance and exit points and working more closely with the community. The Chair thanked Cllr Townsend for her work on the response.

Resolved:

That the Clerk sends the response to Bradford Council and that a further meeting be subsequently arranged to discuss the proposals in further detail.

8/03/21 Active Travel

Members discussed a document identifying barriers and problems with active travel routes in Harden and opportunities to rectify these. The document had been shared with Bradford Council informally who had confirmed it was along the right lines. Further work is required to develop over ready, costed proposals that Bradford Council could implement when opportunity arises.

Resolved:

That Cllrs Townsend and Kirkham progress further and bring recommendations back to the next Village Council meeting.

9/03/21 Scribe Accounts

The Clerk outlined the reasons supporting subscription to a cloud based financial management system, the research undertaken on available solutions and the reasons for recommending the use of Scribe Accounts.

Resolved:

That the Village Council subscribes to Scribe Accounts and authorises associated expenditure including set up costs and an allocation of overtime for the Clerk to configure the system for use.

10/03/21 Signage

Progress with the design of boundary signs was discussed.

Resolved:

To authorise the Chair and Clerk to progress the design and to bring final proposals back to the next Village Council meeting.

11/03/21 Exchange of Information

Cllr Taylor stated that when she removed the barrier baskets for re-planting a number of passing residents made complementary comments on the flowers in the village.

Cllr Sullivan mentioned that he had been reassured daffodil bulbs would be planted and works undertaken to properly reinstate the grass verge on Wilsden Road, following the gas main works.

Cllr Kirkham commented on daffodils in the village and elsewhere appearing to be diseased this year.

12/03/21 Correspondence

- a) Email from Christmas Plus re. removal and testing of Christmas lights. Noted.
- b) Email from a resident re. pedestrian safety on Keighley Road. Members proposed suggesting that a crossing could be incorporated into the 20mph scheme being discussed with Bradford Council.
- c) Emails from Shipley Area Office and Wilsden Parish Council re. Community Climate Action Fund. Members welcomed the proposal from Wilsden Parish Council. The Clerk to reply and encourage the submission of a combined application from the Bingley Rural Local Councils.
- d) Email from West Yorkshire Combined Authority re. bus timetabling queries. Noted. The Clerk to share the response with other Local Councils and encourage them to also raise issues directly with the Authority.
- e) Email from Bradford Council re. tree planting. Noted for future action.
- f) Email from a resident re. Plastic Free Bingley. Members would be very supportive if the resident wanted to establish a similar scheme in Harden. The Clerk was asked to draw attention to this campaign via Facebook.

13/03/21 Financial Matters

Resolved:

- a) To confirm appointment of Town Parish Audit to undertake the Internal Audit of the accounts for the financial year ending 31st March 2021.
- b) To authorise the following payments: -

Payee	Payment No.	Amount	Description
Ken Eastwood	2020-21-50	£53.16	Stamps & mileage
Roger Smith	2020-21-51	£75	Newsletter delivery
Impress Printers (UK) Ltd	2020-21-52	£175	Printing
E Petch Printers Ltd	2020-21-53	£54	Graphic design
Bradford MDC	2020-21-54	£1,198.87	Salary payment
YLCA	2020-21-55	£15	Training
YLCA	2020-21-56	£15	Training
Vision ICT	2020-21-57	£146.60	Email accounts
Wybone Limited	2020-21-58	£1,054.78	Benches x 2

c) To note the following trial balances: -

Harden Village Council				
1st March 2021				
Item	Budget 2020/21	Expenditure to date	Budget Remaining	Forecast Shortfall (-) Surplus (+)
Staff Costs	9,000	12,724	-3,724	-6,122
Travel	300	47	253	230
Subscriptions	1,500	1,740	-240	-240
Insurance	500	438	62	62
Audits	400	380	20	20
Newsletter	850	95	755	460
Website	825	520	305	182
Parish Plan	1,000	0	1,000	1,000
Neighbourhood Planning	5,000	2,827	2,173	2,173
Training	400	53	348	348
Repairs	100	0	100	100
Stationery	250	103	147	147
PC equipment	250	0	250	250
Small grants	1,000	500	500	500
Horticulture	1,000	999	1	1
Projects & Assets	17,075	166	16,910	16,031
S 137	200	25	175	175
Other	125	183	-58	-58
	39,775	20,798	18,977	15,259

d) To note the following bank reconciliation: -

Cashbook balances

Balance 1 st April 2020	14,696.64	
Add: income to date	59,518.70	
Less: expenditure to date	(21,413.82) (incl. VAT)	
Total:		£52,801.52

Bank account balances 1st March 2021

Community Account	26,418.65	
Business Account	26,382.87	
Total:		£52,801.52

14/03/21 Minor Items and Items for Next Agenda

The continuing lack of contact from the gardener was noted and arrangements for identifying a suitable replacement were discussed. Cllr Taylor requested gardening issues be included on the next agenda.

Signed:

The Chair outlined a recommendation for an increase in the Clerk's contracted hours to reflect additional projects and activities being progressed. A staffing matters item to be included on the next agenda.

It was noted that the Neighbourhood Plan pre-submission consultation is underway, ending on 11th April. An online Q&A is being held at 6.30pm on the 24th March. Representations can be made on the Village Council website or sent by email to clerk@hardenvillagecouncil.gov.uk.

15/03/21 Next Meeting

To confirm the date of the Annual Parish Meeting as 8th April 2021, at 7.00pm. The next Village Council meeting will follow at 7.15pm. The Chair closed the meeting at 8.57pm.