

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF HARDEN VILLAGE COUNCIL
HELD ONLINE ON 8th APRIL 2021 AT 7.15PM**

Present: Cllr Gerwyn Bryan (Chair)
Cllr Ann Taylor
Cllr Jools Townsend
Cllr Paul Sullivan
Cllr Rob Hawthorne
Ken Eastwood (Clerk)
2 Members of the public

1/04/21 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Kirkham. The reasons for absence were approved.

2/04/21 Disclosures of Interest

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

3/04/21 Minutes of Meetings

- a) The minutes of the Village Council meeting held on 11th March, 2021 were proposed as a correct record by Cllr Taylor.
- b) The Outstanding Issues report was duly noted. The Clerk confirmed that an application to register village green space off Keighley Road as an asset of community value had been submitted and acknowledged by Bradford Council.

4/04/21 Public Representation

Two residents of Long Lane reported that noise and vibration problems caused by the speed bumps continued to be a concern. Heavy goods vehicles and quarry wagons caused particular problems. The residents queried whether the speed bump immediately adjacent to their property could be removed in the future, if other traffic calming schemes were developed in the village.

Cllr Townsend gave an overview of the traffic and transport actions taken and being explored by the Village Council with Bradford Council and other Local Councils in the Bingley Rural Ward.

Members agreed to refer the issues, including cracking appearing within the residents' property, to Bradford Council.

5/04/21 Planning Matters

The following planning application was considered: -

21/01457/HOU - Single storey rear extension at 24 Effingham Road, Harden.

Resolved:

That the Village Council has no objection to the application.

Signed:

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

6/04/21 Horticulture

Members considered expressions of interest received with regard to the supply of gardening services to the Village Council.

Resolved:

That the Village Council accepts the quote received from Carlton Nurseries and authorises expenditure on planting and maintenance as per the quotation. The Clerk to discuss the Council's commitment to carbon reduction and sustainability with the nursery.

7/04/21 Climate Action Fund

Cllr Townsend outlined a draft grant application prepared following a joint meeting with other Bingley Rural Local Councils. The grant scheme could provide opportunity to undertake local engagement, awareness raising, gathering local views, insights and observations on traffic and transport issues across the ward.

The proposed work would feed into the ongoing discussions with Bradford Council and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority about active travel and hopefully enable people to start to think about these issues.

Initial positive responses had been received from all Councils. Comments from Wilsden and Bingley had been incorporated and when quotations are received Cllr Townsend will circulate an updated version of the bid document for other Councils to consider at their next round of meetings.

In terms of project governance, Cllr Townsend had suggested Harden take the lead and that a steering group be established with representatives from each Council and third sector partners.

Resolved:

To support the draft proposal and progress as outlined in the discussion. The Clerk to assist Cllr Townsend with obtaining quotes for printing.

8/04/21 Signage

Resolved:

To defer for consideration at a future meeting.

9/04/21 Active Travel

Cllr Townsend provided an update, noting that the climate action funding bid had taken priority and prevented much progress. Further contact has been made with the Bradford Active Travel Team who are aware of the bid being prepared and the Village Council is keen to keep in touch and to progress this project.

Resolved:

To note the position as described and welcome further updates in due course.

10/04/21 Future Meeting Arrangements

Members noted that The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 will not apply to meetings on or after 7th May 2021. Future meeting arrangements were discussed and various options considered.

Resolved:

To revise the date of the next Village Council meeting, being the annual meeting of the Village Council, to 4th May.

11/04/21 Exchange of Information

Clr Sullivan mentioned the recent tragic drowning of a young man at Goit Stock. There was a discussion about warning signage and it was noted that the waterfall is not within the parish of Harden. Any signage would require landowner consent. There was further discussion about signage generally and it was agreed to include as an agenda item for further consideration at the next meeting of the Village Council.

12/04/21 Correspondence

- a) Email from resident re. speeding and signage. Noted. To be discussed with Bradford Council.
- b) Email from Bradford Council re. invoice for Lengthsman. Noted. The Clerk to research options for the provision of a secure tool store.
- c) Email from Keep Britain Tidy re. Great British Spring Clean. Noted.
- d) Email from resident re. grass verges and wildflower planting. Members noted that wildflower planting can require significant maintenance and upkeep. Agreed the Clerk will write to Bradford Council and explore further with the resident.
- e) Email from YLCA re. the future of remote meetings and annual meetings in May 2021. Noted.

13/04/21 Financial Matters**Resolved:**

- a) To authorise the following payments: -

Payee	Payment No.	Amount	Description
Ken Eastwood	2021-22-01	£9	Mileage
Bradford MDC	2021-22-02	£1,651.20	Lengthsman SLA
Bradford MDC	2021-22-03	£1,198.87	Salary payment
Starboard Systems Limited	2021-22-04	£582	Scribe accounts
SLCC	2021-22-05	£166	Membership renewal
YLCA	2021-22-06	£572	Membership renewal

- b) To note the following trial balances: -

Signed:

Harden Village Council			
1st April 2021			
Item	Budget 2020/21	Expenditure to date	Outturn Shortfall (-) Surplus (+)
Staff Costs	9,000	13,923	-4,923
Travel	300	65	235
Subscriptions	1,500	1,740	-240
Insurance	500	438	62
Audits	400	380	20
Newsletter	850	390	460
Website	825	643	182
Parish Plan	1,000	0	1,000
Neighbourhood Planning	5,000	2,827	2,173
Training	400	83	317
Repairs	100	0	100
Stationery	250	137	113
PC equipment	250	0	250
Small grants	1,000	500	500
Horticulture	1,000	999	1
Projects & Assets	17,075	1,044	16,031
S 137	200	25	175
Other	125	183	-58
	39,775	23,377	16,398

c) 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	(24,202.23) (incl. VAT)	
Total:		£50,213.77

Bank account balances 1st April 2021

Community Account	23,830.24	
Business Account	26,383.53	
Total:		£50,213.77

14/04/21 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Resolved

That members of the press and public be excluded from item 15 under the provisions of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960 s1(2)) during consideration of an item of a confidential nature.

Signed:

15/04/21 Staffing

Resolved

To authorise an increase in hours worked by the Clerk to 16 hours per week, as recommended by Cllr Bryan.

16/04/21 Minor Items and Items for Next Agenda

None.

17/04/21 Next Meeting

To confirm the date of the Annual Meeting of the Village Council as 4th May 2021, at 7.15pm. The Chair closed the meeting at 8.38pm.