

Minutes of the Meeting of Wadsworth Parish Council held at 7.30 pm
on Tuesday 26th January 2021 – meeting held remotely

153 MEMBERS PRESENT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Kimber (Chair), Dyson, Fowler, Heyworth, Bradshaw, Rivero, Sagar and Walsh.

Apologies for Absence Cllr Drury

154 MEMBERS INTERESTS: None

155 RESOLUTION TO RE-ORDER THE AGENDA

156 PUBLIC DISCUSSION TIME:

A representative from the National Trust at Hardcastle Craggs attended the meeting to update the Parish on the Trust's current woodland management plans.

An account of the woodland management plan, consultation carried out and proposed, completed and on-going works was provided. A number of questions were raised by residents of the Parish, particularly expressing concerns about the environmental and ecological impact of felling mature beech trees.

157 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON:

- a) Meeting of the Council held on: 15th December 2020
- b) Parish Playground meeting 12th January 2021
- c) Finance meeting 12th January 2021

Resolved: that the above minutes be approved as a true and accurate record.

158 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MINUTES: None.

159 LOCAL PLANS:

a) **Calderdale Council Local Plan update**

It was reported that there had been very little progress in relation to the Local Plan

b) **Neighbourhood Plan**

It was reported that the issues raised by Wadsworth had been addressed.

That the next Neighbourhood Plan meeting would be taking place on Monday 1.02.20.

That the final draft of the plan would be released post the above meeting

That consultation would take place on-line.

That more information would be provided after the above meeting.

Resolved: to receive the above reports.

160 CLERK'S REPORT

All items covered under existing agenda items.

161 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

1) Items for payment:

i)	Salaries/PAYE Jan	£540.80
ii)	Allowance and reimbursement:	
	- computer allowance	£20.00
	- home working allowance	£17.33
	- Zoom January	£11.99
	- Stamps	£07.80
	- Travel	£02.70
	Total	<u>£59.82</u>
iii)	Hebden Royd TC – Neighbourhood Plan contribution	£305.46
v)	Wadsworth Post Office – Christmas hampers	£675.94
iv)	British Legion - wreaths	£40.00
v)	Resident – purchase of telephone box	£1.00

Resolved that: the payments be approved.

2) TO APPROVE THE 2021/2022 BUDGET – PROPOSED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

A brief discussion took place in relation to the 2021-22 Budget. The budget included for repairs and maintenance of the Parish's two playgrounds, including £11,000 for replacement play equipment, grounds maintenance of the public open spaces including Old Town Green, Pecket Well and Smeekin Hill, a £1200 grants budget line, a scale point increase in the Clerk's salary and a rolling programme of bench repairs.

It was agreed that there was a need to increase the precept in order for the Council to carry out its duties within a balanced budget.

It was proposed that the precept be increased by £2,237. This would mean that, using the Calderdale Council prescribed tax base of 558.34, on a band D household there would be an increase from £25.22 to £29.23 per household per year (an increase of £4.01 per year). The increase for a Band A property would be £2.01 pence per year. Making the overall precept figure £16,319, plus the Calderdale Council borough supplement of £1009 and the council tax reduction grant of £878.

Resolved: to complete the official Calderdale Council documentation requesting a precept of £16,319 plus the borough supplement of £1009 and the council tax reduction grant of £878.

3) Grants: None received.

162 CORRESPONDENCE:

YLCC:	Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill.	(emailed paperwork)
Resident:	Xmas hampers thank you.	
Resident:	Winter gritting and waste collection.	
CMBC:	Waste collections response.	
CMBC	Gritting response.	

Resolved that:

- i) the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill be added to the February meeting agenda.
- ii) Calderdale Council be contacted to ask what consultation took place in relation to the decision to remove Widdop Rd from the gritting route.
- iii) Cllr Heyworth to confirm the detail of the above request to the Clerk.

163 PLANNING:

- 1) **New Applications:** None received at time of agenda issue.
- 2) **Applications received after Agenda Issue:**
None received.
- 3) **Other Planning Issues:** None raised.

164 NATIONAL TRUST TREE FELLING ALONG PECKET WELL CLOUGH

A brief discussion took place in relation to this item.

165 ROAD AND FOOTPATH MATTERS:

- a) Bench survey update and actions.

An update was provided, all 31 parish benches had been checked, nine of which were memorial benches.

Resolved that:

- i) Cllr Kimber provide the survey information to the Clerk.
 - ii) the benches be prioritised in order for repair/replacement.
 - iii) Cllr Walsh contact the WI to discuss moving the WI bench to a more suitable location.
 - iv) Cllr Heywood provide information to the Clerk re potential replacement benches.
 - v) this item be added to the February agenda
- b) Memorial bench request.

Resolved: that the requester be contacted with two or three site options for a memorial bench based on the priority repair/replacement list above.

166 ALLOTMENTS, PARKING SPACES AND GARAGES

Resolved that:

- i) the tenant of Garage site 1 be contacted by letter in relation to the wall works.
- ii) a draft copy be sent to the Chair.

167 PLAYGROUNDS:

- a) Play areas inspection reports update and actions.

Resolved that:

- i) Pennine Play be contacted to request new play equipment guarantees.
- ii) that Cllrs consider the documentation for decision.
- iii) the item be placed nearer the top of the February agenda.
- iv) a contractor be contacted in order to repair the fence at the basketball court.

- b) Bi-weekly inspections.

Resolved that Cllrs Fowler and Kimber carry out the bi-weekly inspections.

168 CARR HEAD AND OTHER COUNCIL SITES TREE MANAGEMENT – Part 1

An update was provided by Cllr Bradshaw and it was reported that:

Concerns had been raised that the woodland was too densely planted and that some of the trees were taller than desired and susceptible in high winds to falling, potentially exposing the tip. The density of trees was also blocking light into the forest floor making it difficult for undergrowth to establish. It was noted that the undergrowth needed to be encouraged for a number of reasons including stabilisation of the forest floor from soil erosion, with a vegetated woodland floor assisting in slowing run of water into the river system.

It was further reported that:

The site was not suitable for management in return for wood.

A contractor had inspected the site and was preparing a quote for a 25% thinning of the site.

Tree pollarding was discussed.

The remaining tree guards could be removed which would create some natural thinning of the woodland.

A second contractor was to visit the site and provide a quote for the woodland management works.

A tree felling license would be required.

The works would need to take place between November and March.

Resolved that:

- i) the Cllr be thanked for his work.
- ii) the report be noted.
- ii) the item be placed on the February agenda.

169 FLOOD STORE EQUIPMENT UPDATE

An update was provided. Furthermore, concerns were raised in relation to the mill dam above Duck Hill

Resolved that:

- i) a revised order be placed for the flood store equipment.
- ii) the additional grant funding may not be required.
- iii) Cllr Dyson provide the site and condition details in relation to the dam.
- iv) the Flood Risk Officer at Calderdale be contacted in relation to the dam.

170 REPRESENTATIVES AT OUTSIDE MEETINGS

It was reported that:

Cllrs Kimber and Fowler attended a meeting of the Governors of Old Town Primary School. It was reported that in Lockdown 3 there was a much larger number of children still in attendance at the school.

Cllr Kimber attended the Blackshaw Head Parish Council arranged Cycling on Footpaths meeting. It was reported that there was currently an impasse between the

landowners, cyclists and walkers and that no conclusion or compromise had been reached.

Cllr Walsh attended the Wadsworth Community Association meeting and reported that the Association had now purchased a grit bin and sand for the parking area at the Community Centre.

Resolved: that the reports be noted.

171 CARR HEAD AND OTHER COUNCIL SITES TREE MANAGEMENT – Part 2

Resolved: to exclude the public from this section of the meeting.

A wider discussion took place in relation to Carr Head and its legacy.

Resolved: that the Council's insurance company be contacted in relation to its liabilities at Carr Head and that Cllrs are kept updated.

172 DATE OF NEXT MEETING & APOLOGIES IN ADVANCE

Parish Council: 23rd February 2021.

The meeting closed at 9.59 pm

Your Councillors

Cllr Jon Kimber, Chairman	jonckimber@gmail.com	01422 844914
Cllr Kate Drury, Vice Chairman	kate@suttonlodge.co.uk	07917 793192
Cllr Stuart Bradshaw	-	-
Cllr Andrew Dyson	andysdyson@gmail.com	07595 944812
Cllr Alan Fowler	alanfowler1944@btinternet.com	01422 842828
Cllr Michael Heyworth	mheyworth@tiscali.co.uk	07802549376
Cllr Cherie Rivero	riverocherie@hotmail.com	07860 858603
Cllr Nigel Sagar	njpsagar@btinternet.com	07773 373 362
Cllr Marcella Walsh	marcellawalsh81@gmail.com	-

If you would like to speak to a Councillor whose contact details are not listed please email the Clerk at **wparish@hotmail.com**