

Minutes of the Meeting of Wadsworth Parish Council 7.30pm Hebden Bridge Town Hall
23 January 2024

149 MEMBERS PRESENT AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

Apologies for Absence: None

150 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

a) **Members interests:** None

151 RESOLUTION TO RE-ORDER THE REMAINING PART OF THE AGENDA:

None

152 PUBLIC DISCUSSION TIME:

A representative from Hebden Royd Swimming Pool Association attended the meeting to give a brief update on plans for an outdoor natural pool in the Hebden Royd area.

It was reported that a number of sites were being considered and that the site would need to be disability accessible and near to public transport links. It was agreed that the Association would keep the Council updated.

153 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON:

a) 12 December 2023 Full Council Meeting

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

b) 9 January 2024 Finance Meeting

Resolved: to discuss under agenda item 9d) - Min 157d)

154 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MINUTES: None

155 LOCAL PLANS:

a) **Neighbourhood Plan:** Nothing to report.

b) **Calderdale Climate Action Plan update:**

Resolved: to receive the newsletter update.

156 CLERK'S REPORT: All covered under existing agenda items.

157 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

a) **Items for payment:**

i)	Salaries/PAYE including additional hours and NALC 2023-24 pay Award	£1072.47
	- Additional 7hrs (Combined Parishes meeting/mins)	£110.25
ii)	Allowance and reimbursements:	
	- computer allowance	£20.83
	- home working allowance	£18.58
	- Travel	£2.70
	Total:	<u>£42.11</u>
iii)	MH Harfords Security Ltd – Garage replacement lock	£120.00
iv)	J Peterkin – tree works PW Mem. Gdn	£80.00

b) **Financial reporting**

i) Bank reconciliations (monthly)

ii) Budget monitoring (quarterly)

iii) VAT Return (quarterly)

iv) To note NALC 2023-24 pay award

Resolved to:

i) approve the payments and receive the reports.

ii) include the figures for all accounts on the monthly bank reconciliation.

c) **Local Community Grants:** None received.

d) **To agree budget and precept for 2024-25 financial year and inform Calderdale Council re Precept figure**

A further discussion took place in relation to the post 9th January Finance Meeting updated figures regarding the council's continuing liabilities, reduced income and declining reserves.

Resolved that:

- i) further income would come from interest from the new savings account and annual index linked rent increases to allotments, garages and parking spaces.
- ii) savings would be made from the reduction in the Chairman's allowance, the return to council of any unspent Chairman's allowance, the reduction in annual subscriptions, the proposed non-repair and future use of Midgehole noticeboard, the non-repair and removal of the play equipment requiring maintenance at Pecket Well, the replacement of the Christmas parcels with a card and £10 per household local food shop voucher.
- iii) it was noted that even with the above savings the Parish Council's reserves were still falling year on year and therefore the council had no alternative than to once again increase the precept due to inflation and the on-going effect of Calderdale Council's removal of the annual borough supplement and council tax reduction grant.
- iv) the precept for 2024-25 per household be increased by 10%. This would mean that, based on the Calderdale Council tax base figure of 570.84, for a band D household the figure would increase from £32.35 to £35.59 per year. For a Band A household, the figure would increase from £21.57 to £23.73 per year. Making the overall precept figure £20,315.
- v) a total budget of £25,642 be allocated for 2024-25
- iv) taking into account income, the budget shortfall of £1721 be accounted for from council reserves.

e) **To agree additional funding total to transfer to 35-day notice savings account**

Resolved: as per 9.01.24 Finance Meeting, to transfer the agreed £10,000 initial payment and a further amount leaving a minimum of £8000 in the instant access account.

158 CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Hebden Royd Town Council: Proposed second screen at cinema email 13.12.23

Resolved: to note the correspondence and express agreement in principle in relation to the scheme.

b) Hebden Royd Town Council: Mayor's Fundraiser.

Resolved: that the Chairman decline the invitation and the invite be circulated to Cllrs.

c) Thank you emails from residents for Christmas hampers.

Resolved: to receive the correspondence.

159 PLANNING:

a) **New Applications:**

- i) **23/00960/FUL** Re-instatement and renovation of existing 3 cottages (former farmhouse) to form one dwelling with a self-contained annex and associated new access - Far Nook Height Road Hebden Bridge Calderdale HX7 8FG

Resolved: to support the application but to note that the property was originally three dwellings and would now become one, once again reducing the number of smaller local houses in the area.

- ii) **24/00020/HSE** Single storey side extension. Valley View Farm Keighley Road Hebden Bridge Calderdale HX7 8RS

Resolved: that the council did not object to the application but wished to note that the residence was originally built as a farm worker's cottage and is now far from that.

- b) **Applications received after agenda issue:** None
- c) **Decisions made by Calderdale Council:**

Resolved: to note the decisions.

d) **Other:**

- i) **23/06010/EIA** Scoping opinion. Wind farm proposal. Walshaw Moor Estate Widdop Road Heptonstall Hebden Bridge Calderdale

It was reported that the consultants were planning to carry out a consultation road show in February.

Resolved that:

- i) the council hold back arranging a public meeting for Wadsworth residents until after the consultant's roadshow had taken place.
- ii) Cllr Dyson create an on-line survey for residents.
- iii) the results of the survey be discussed at the public meeting.

- ii) **2000321FUL** Multi-purpose equestrian and agricultural building and extension of agricultural track. Faugh Farm, Height Rd, Hebden Bridge, HX7 8PH

Resolved: to note the contradictory information provided by Calderdale in relation to this application.

160 ROAD, FOOTPATH AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT MATTERS:

- a) Damage to milestone at Pecket Well

Resolved: that Cllr Dyson take a picture, close-up and with context so that this could be reported to Calderdale.

161 ALLOTMENTS, PARKING SPACES AND GARAGES:

- a) Pecket Bar allotments access improvements quote 18.12.23

Resolved that:

- i) the Cllr talk to the allotment holder.
- ii) to hold back on the proposed works.
- iii) that moving forward the Pecket Bar allotments not be re-let.
- iv) that instead the area become naturalised.

- b) Pecket Bar retaining wall update

Resolved: that the update be received, that the deeds be located.

162 PLAYGROUNDS:

- a) **Bi-weekly inspections**

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

- b) **Access to Old Town Green**

Resolved that:

- i) the gap between the access barriers at Walker Lane be sufficient re wheelchair access but that a drop kerb needed to be put in place.
- ii) potentially there may be grant funding for this work.
- iii) the Cllr update the resident.

163 COUNCIL ASSETS AND LAND MATTERS

- a) **Wadsworth Community Centre lease renewal update**

Resolved that: the solicitor be chased.

b) **Chairman's chain update**

Resolved that: the chain be returned to the insurers.

c) **Tree works at Pecket Well Memorial Gdns**

Resolved to note that the emergency tree works had been carried out at a cost of £80

d) **Carr Head woodland proposed licence agreement**

Resolved that: the annual agreement, whereby the contractor manage the woodland in return for the cut wood, be signed at a peppercorn rent of £1

164 REPRESENTATIVES AT OUTSIDE MEETINGS:

a) **Old Town School Governors**

Cllr Fowler reported that the school had received an outstanding in their Ofsted report. It was further reported that the school had made the decision to become part of the local academy linked to Calder High.

Resolved that: the school be congratulated on the Ofsted result.

b) **Greening Wadsworth Initiative**

Cllr Walsh reported on the Greening Wadsworth Group and Initiative.

Next meeting to take place on 28 February at Wadsworth Community Centre.

165 DATE OF NEXT MEETING & APOLOGIES IN ADVANCE

Full Council: 27.02.24

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm

Your Councillors

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Cllr Stuart Bradshaw	-	-
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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**

Have you considered becoming more involved in your local community? If so, maybe you would like to become a Parish Councillor. Email **wparish@hotmail.com** for more details. www.wadsworthcommunity.co.uk