

WHALEY BRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Mechanics Institute, Market Street, Whaley Bridge, High Peak, SK23 7AA

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Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th February 2019 in The Meeting Room, Mechanics Institute, Market Street, Whaley Bridge

Present: Councillors: Swift (Chair), Bowden, Gilmour, Lomax, McCarthy, Pritchard, Taylor, Thomas and Winter

In Attendance: Three members of the public, DCC Cllr Fox and Andrew Fox, Town Clerk.

C18/198 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Clarke and Hall.

C18/199 Declarations of Members' Interests and Dispensation Applications

Cllr Winter declared an interest regarding Whaley Bridge After School Club as she is the Chair of the Governors at Whaley Bridge School who rents facilities to the club.

C18/200 Community Police

A report was received from PCSO Steve Rodgers; there has been 12 reported Crimes in the previous month with the main reports being the theft from Bingswood Industrial estate. There were also a number of assaults and thefts such as fuel from Tesco and scrap metal being stolen.

PSCO Karen Green also attended the meeting and provided another report on the Crime statistics the Council thanked her for attending the meeting.

C18/201 Public Participation

A member of the public spoke about the increased traffic issues along the A6 in Furness Vale. They stated that when there is no traffic on the road cars try to make up time by speeding along the road. He stated that if you are hard of walking and you are trying to cross the A6 by the time you are half way across the road traffic is coming past you in both directions. They stated that they do not know if DCC are monitoring the increased traffic due to the new airport relief road. They wanted to know what DCC is doing about the Stockport and Cheshire East development and he was worried that Furness Vale was being left isolated.

Another member of the public spoke about the Furness Vale Action Group and their progress trying to get the fence around the car park next to the community centre removed. Throughout December the resident had attempted to get a response from Jane Colley and with the help of HPBC Cllrs Fox and Pritchard they finally got a reply in the form of Mr Rushford in January commenting they are trying to find a solution.

The resident contacted Mr Rushford again in February and was told that Mr Smith disputes HPBC's barrister's opinion on the matter, now legal action is required which will be arranged in March. The resident continued to state that the Goyt Bridge refurbishment works would start on the 4th March for 15 weeks at a cost of £74,000 they commented they had never seen a tender for this on HPBC's website. Finally the resident mentioned bridge 42 in Whaley Bridge which is a network rail bridge. Two years ago a professor was instructed to carry out an independent assessment of the bridge and now the report is complete and available. The report states that the bridge has reached the end of its life and Network Rail will be looking to demolish and acquire funding to rebuild this bridge starting in April. It was mentioned that the report could be acquired from Network Rail.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will contact Network Rail for a copy for this report.

C18/202 Updates from County and Borough Councillors on matters of concern to the Town Council

High Peak Borough Councillor Pritchard stated that the litter bin outside May's Parlour at Horwich End has been replaced. He also commented that the controversial planning application on New Horwich Road had been refused. He also commented that HPBC are on track to make their efficiency savings and that they do not receive any rate support. He finished by stating he was unable to attend the Furness Vale Action Group meeting as the Council's email system was down due to a power cut at Buxton Town Hall and the notice and agenda were sent during this power cut. Derbyshire County Councillor Alison Fox commented that DCC are aware of the issues facing the A6 in Furness Vale and that they are monitoring regularly with the School and other local groups to assess the speed on the road and parking near the School. She added that DCC are monitoring the A6 in terms of the amount of traffic and the gradients of the grids on the road. She also commented about Alabama Foot Rot which has been confirmed in two cases in the local area. The dogs which are infected are walked all over the High Peak so the disease could have been contacted in any number of places. The owners live in Combs and are claiming that the disease was contracted from the footpath from Combs to Chapel. She finished by stating DCC do not think this footpath was the cause but are looking at temporarily closing the footpath if necessary. High Peak Borough Councillors Fox and Lomax had nothing to report.

C18/203 Minutes of previous meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the last meeting of Whaley Bridge Town Council held on Thursday 10 January 2019 are a true and correct record of the meeting subject to the amendment of minute C18/188 adding in the Precept has increased by 3.70% on last year with a Council Tax band D increase of 3.96%, the Chair was authorised to sign them.

C18/204 Clerk's Report

RESOLVED: To note the Clerk's report.

C18/205

Finance etc

RESOLVED: That the Accounts for Payment listed below are paid.

	Feb-19	Payments	14/02/2019
Cheque Number	Payee	Description	Amount £
Whaley Bridge Town Council			
	Salaries	Net salaries	£2,826.15
	HMRC	PAYE	£326.05
	AK Products	Newsletter printing	£200.40
	Petty cash	Postage, office supplies	£24.10
DD	TalkTalk Business	Telephone/Broadband	£33.35
DD	Trusted IT	Backup/365 Lic/Website	£96.72
	AK Products	Office stationary	£39.42
	PFK Littlejohn LLP	Review of AGAR 2018	£480.00
	S'N'S Trees	Removal of Tree Brookfield Pond	£390.00
	Whaley Bridge Community Trust	Rent of Footsteps for NP meets	£60.00
	Martin L Thomas	Reimbursement for Survey Monkey	£70.00
	Shelter Maintenance	Bus Shelter cleaning	£63.00
	Stanway & Hallows	Connection/disconnection of Christmas Tree lights	£126.00
DD	PEAK UK LTD	Photocopier lease	£240.40
	Derbyshire County Council	Bus shelter works Furness Vale	£1,283.10
DD	Altodigital	Photocopier usage	£34.03
	Mechanics Institute	Room hire	£598.17
	Mechanics Institute	New Mills U3A wrongly received	£48.00
	Whaley Bridge Town Council	Total	£6,938.89
Mechanics Institute			
	Whaley Bridge Town Council	Wages offcharge - Sweetmore/Lugg	£713.27
	Paintmaster 2000	Materials to paint the office	£103.85
	Wet Cleaning LTD	Cleaning Main Hall Curtains	£420.00
DD	High Peak BC	Non-domestic rates	£54.00
DD	Opus Energy	Electricity	£106.93
DD	Gazprom	Gas	£278.86
DD	United Utilities	Water	£51.60
300035	McColl's	Newspapers	£64.30
	Mechanics Institute	Total	£1,792.81
Sports Association			
DD	SAGE	Sage One Accounts	£18.00
595	Whaley Bridge Town Council	Wages offcharge - Sweetmore/Lugg	£499.03
596	Total Gas & Power LTD	Electricity Dec + Jan	£259.06
597	Total Gas & Power LTD	Electricity Feb	£208.85
DD	HPBC	Non-domestic rates	£156.00
DD	Water Plus	Water	£11.91
	Sports Association	Total	£1,152.85
	Total Expenditure	Total	£9,884.55

RESOLVED: to note the Financial Reports for January 2019 which had been circulated to all members, and the bank balances at 31st January stood at:

Whaley Bridge Town Council	£
CCLA Deposit Fund	88,000.00
Unity Trust - Current Account	7,427.87
Unity Trust - Deposit Account	20,409.60
Petty Cash	50.90
	115,888.37
Mechanics Institute	£
Unity Trust - Current Account	9,961.88
Unity Trust - Deposit Account	28,082.62
	38,044.50
Sports Association	£
Current Account	4,482.45
Deposit Account	66,997.47
Petty Cash	0.00
	71,479.92

C18/206 Budget for the Financial Year 2019/2020

RESOLVED: Comments were received by the Clerk, the budget would be given further consideration at the next meeting.

C18/207 Whaley Bridge After School club request for funding

RESOLVED: That a grant application process be re-established in the next financial year and that application then be invited for the funding.

C18/208 Tree at Brookfield Pond

Noted that the work had been done to the tree at a cost of £390.00 including VAT.

C18/209 Fireworks 2019 to agree a way forward

RESOLVED: To publicise the situation with the fireworks event as much as possible stating we are looking for a community group to take on this project. Any interested party would be invited to the Annual Town meeting to discuss.

C18/210 Bus shelter on Market Street, Canal Street side

Noted a report from the Clerk.

RESOLVED: To discuss this again in the next financial year.

C18/211 Mechanics Institute Clock

RESOLVED: The Clerk would write to Smiths of Derby to see what discount is available for the previous work done or any future work done. To accept the quote from Smiths of Derby for £1,827.00 plus VAT to change the movements subject to any offered discounts.

C18/212 Grit Bins Whaley Bridge

Noted a report from the Clerk.

RESOLVED: To discuss the potential of a second grit filling at a later meeting.

C18/213 Whaley Bridge Neighbourhood Plan Expenses

A report was received and noted from Cllrs Pritchard and Thomas.

RESOLVED: To acquire a yearly subscription to Survey Monkey at a cost of £384 including VAT which will be set up after the next Steering Committee meeting.

C18/214 Reports from Committees and representatives on outside bodies

a) Regeneration Committee

The minutes of the Committee's meeting of 23 January were noted.

RESOLVED: To approve the following proposals by the Regeneration Committee.

- 1) To purchase a storage shed for location at Footsteps rather than allocate a space in the Mechanics Institute Garage.
- 2) The Town Council will request permission from DCC for volunteers to paint the road and footbridges on Bridge Street.
- 3) To support the anti-litter campaign and to promote it in the local community.
- 4) That volunteers would conduct a litter pick around the garages on Long Hill on Saturday 23rd February 2019, commencing 10.00am.
- 5) The Clerk would chase progress on requested repairs to footpath 49.

b) Personnel Committee

There was nothing to report.

c) Whaley Bridge Canal Group

There was nothing to report.

d) High Peak & Hope Valley Community Rail Partnership

Cllr Winter commented that there had been no meeting since the last Town Council meeting, there should have been one in March. The next meeting is the 11th April.

e) Whaley Bridge Allotments Working Group

A meeting had been requested.

f) Whaley Bridge Sports Association

RESOLVED: To agree a £2500.00 budget for a new container at the Sports Pavilion.

C18/215 Correspondence

RESOLVED: To note correspondence received from 11 January:

1. Peak District National Park – Planning Service Parishes Bulletin 23.
2. Campaign to Protect Rural England - notification of imminent lapse of Town Council Membership.
3. Cllr Martin Thomas – copy of e-mail from Furness Vale resident regarding request for councillors to exert influence on Stockport MBC to investigate the timing of lights at the Horseshoe, High Lane to improve A6 traffic flow.
4. HPBC – Notice of sessions for invaluable guidance to prospective candidates for the Borough, Town and Parish Council Elections on 2nd May 2019.

5. **DALC/NALC**

Derbyshire Association of Local Councils Circular 02/2019

- Updated Legal Topic Notes
- Section 137 update
- Parkrun consultation response
- Clerk Essential Training
- NALC Loneliness Project
- May Council Elections and
- Training

Derbyshire Association of Local Councils Circular 03/2019

- Spring Seminar
- Prep no deal Brexit
- Ethical Standards Enq published
- HR Advice Short Service contracts & dismissals
- Letter from NALC Chair
- Great British Spring Clean
- Arnold-Baker 11th Ed
- Clerk Tips
- Training

6. Post Office – information about changes to Whaley Bridge Post Office.
RESOLVED: The Clerk would write to the Post Office stating the Town Council's disappointment that no one was found to run it. Also to write to Ruth George MP asking for assistance with saving the post office
7. Open Spaces Society – notification of lapse of Town Council Membership at the end of February 2019 if payment not received.
 The renewal date was 1st November 2018.

C18/216 Planning

RESOLVED: To note the following decisions of High Peak Borough Council:

Committee Decisions

Application	Decision
HPK/2018/0492 New changing rooms and associated facilities Community Field, Park Avenue, Furness Vale. Mr Phillip Lomas FULL HPK/2018/0095	Approved
HPK/2018/0558 Addition of 2 four bed detached houses. Demolition and relocation of existing garage on site. Craigside, Reservoir Road, Whaley Bridge. Mr Gerard & Mrs Jane Lennox FULL	Application withdrawn

Delegated Decisions

Application	Decision
<p>HPK/2018/0536 Proposed installation of gabion baskets and backfilling of gardens to raise the site levels Shire Croft, Reservoir Road, Whaley Bridge. Mr Matt Sharp - Mellor Homes FULL</p>	Approved
<p>HPK/2018/0588 Loft Conversion with rear dormer window. 67, Bings Road, Whaley Bridge. Stokes CERTIFICATE OF LAWFULNESS</p>	Approved
<p>HPK/2018/0576 Two storey rear extension to a dwellinghouse. 37, Reddish Avenue, Whaley Bridge. Mr Amison HOUSEHOLDERS/FULL</p>	Approved
<p>HPK/2018/0164 Change of use of Public House to form 3 dwellings, replacement of former toilet block to form dwelling, and erection of 3 new dwellings in car park. White Horse Inn, 141 Buxton Road. FULL</p>	Approved

Peak Park Planning Decisions – None

RESOLVED: That the Council had the following comments on the new applications:

New Applications Received since 10th January 2019	
Application	Comments
<p>HPK/2019/0033 Proposed two storey extension to the side and above the existing single storey side extension. 31 Theogil House, Elnor Lane, Whaley Bridge. Mr & Mrs J Thompson HOUSEHOLDERS/FULL</p>	<p>Whaley Bridge Town Council is concerned about the unadopted access road and that there is nothing to stop a vehicle potentially falling off the edge. These concerns were discovered in a recent site visit.</p>
<p>HPK/2019/0035 Demolition of existing pre-fabricated garage and construction of replacement garage. Lochaber, Start Lane, Whaley Bridge. Mr J M Marchington HOUSEHOLDERS/FULL</p>	No Comment
<p>HPK/2019/0053 Two storey rear extension to a dwelling house 37, Reddish Avenue, Whaley Bridge. Mr Jackson HOUSEHOLDERS/FULL</p>	No Comment

- C18/217 Exclusion of the Press and public**
RESOLVED: That the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of the following matters on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972
- C18/218 Quotes for Grounds Maintenance**
RESOLVED: To accept the quote from Piranha Country Gardens of £7,300.00 it was noted the Clerk had attempted to get 5 quotes.
- C18/219 Discussion of staff salaries and hours**
RESOLVED: To call a Personnel Committee meeting to deal with this in more detail.

The meeting closed at 9:47 pm

Signed as a true and correct record of the meeting

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Chairman

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Date