

The 1072<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Ripponden Parish Council held in the Ripponden Parish Council Office on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 7.15pm.

**Councillors Present:** - Cllr McCarley chaired the Meeting  
Cllr B Carter, Cllr G Carter, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Naylor, Cllr Riley, Cllr Russell, Cllr J Smith,  
Cllr Watson

**1. To accept apologies for absence and lateness**

Absence – Cllr Ogden, Cllr Potts, Cllr M Smith

**2. To accept the Minutes of the 1071<sup>st</sup> Meeting held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

Page 5615 Agenda item 11, Resolution 15880, after 58p add 'annual'.

**15884 Resolved in a motion** by Cllr Johnson and seconded by Cllr Naylor that after the above amendment the Minutes be accepted as a true and correct record of the Meeting held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

**3. To receive information on any on-going items identified in these and previous Minutes and decide further action where necessary**

**The Clerk reported that:**

A response had been received from Calderdale Council's Planning Services regarding 14/01149/FUL – demolition of a former domestic annex and construction of a three bedroomed dwelling at Branch Road Barkisland. The officer provided an explanation as to the Planning Committee decision. Cllr Watson still felt that the question as to reason for the differing decisions had not been answered. Cllr G Carter explained that the original application had been refused on window design. In the second application the design had been changed and deemed to be in keeping with the surrounding area. The Meeting accepted that there was no point in pursuing the matter.

Cllr Naylor requested that the condition of Branch Road be an Agenda item at the next meeting to be held on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

The Clerk informed the Meeting that an acknowledgement e-mail had been received from Calderdale Council's Enforcement Team regarding the agricultural building off Soyland Town Road. The officer reported that she had now contacted the owner to discuss the issue and would keep the Parish Council up to date with progress. Cllr Naylor asked that the Clerk contact the officer to request that a site visit is done to ensure that the size of the development is within the permitted limit.

An e-mail had been received from the Upper Valley Neighbourhood Co-ordinator providing an update on the alleyway adjacent 103 Halifax Road, Ripponden. The Meeting noted the comments.

The Clerk advised that a site visit had taken place between a number of Councillors and Yorkshire Water regarding the sewer running within the river at Rishworth on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February. Cllr Potts had also provided an e-mail update for the Parish Council. A de-silting process was now being undertaken and a camera would be put into the sewer on completion to ensure that the pipe is clear. Cllr Naylor advised that Yorkshire Water was adamant that the sewer pipe was adequate for the number of households connected to it and Cllr G Carter raised concerns about the Ripponden sewer that may be causing the problem.

The Meeting agreed that the Clerk should contact the Environment Agency to request that a water test be carried out to check that sewage is not filtering into the river. Cllr Watson suggested that a letter should also be sent to Yorkshire Water to enquire as to whether they

**3. To receive information on any on-going items identified in these and previous Minutes and decide further action where necessary (continued)**

would be prepared to work with an independent engineer. The Meeting agreed that the Parish Council should wait until the outcome of the current de-silting process was known.

**Cllr Johnson** advised the Meeting that in liaison with the Clerk, the letter to West Yorkshire Police concerning the use of speed vans had been drafted and sent.

**Cllr Watson** reported that the remnants of the metal base for the sign at Barkisland Cross were still present. The Clerk advised that she would chase the matter up with Calderdale Council.

**Cllr Naylor** asked if a letter could be sent to Calderdale Council to enquire as to how much road repair within the Parish had been authorised but not as yet undertaken by the contractors. The Meeting felt that without specific evidence a letter would not be appropriate. Cllr Watson suggested the road works on Rishworth Road. It was agreed that Cllr Watson should liaise with the Clerk and provide details in order that a letter can be drafted.

**Cllr McCarley** informed the Meeting that work had started to set up a Parish Council Facebook account, but unfortunately there were a couple of issues that needed to be resolved before completing. The issues were to be discussed at the next Communications Committee meeting to progress.

**4. To receive Parish Councillors declarations of Interest**

None

**5. Public Participation**

None present

The Chairman asked that Agenda item 10 be moved forward to the next item.

**10. To discuss Community Asset Transfer with a representative of Calderdale Council**

The Chairman welcomed Kirsten Fussing, the Upper Valley Neighbourhood Co-ordinator to the meeting.

Ms Fussing clarified with the Meeting that the issue specifically related to the Parish Council's previous failed application for Asset Transfer of the land known as Riverside Meadows and provided a map detailing the land.

Ms Fussing informed the Meeting that because the Parish Council had no plans to improve the land but just wanted to protect the land as an open space, the Asset Transfer had been of no benefit to Calderdale Council and as such refused. She did however advise that the criteria had since been changed and Calderdale Council may look more favourably on a second application.

Councillors raised concerns about the state of disrepair of the riverbank and permissive right of way and felt that transfer of this part of the land would not be financially viable.

Ms Fussing advised that she would look into the options available to the Parish Council for both Asset Transfer and a long term lease of 25 years, which would reduce the legal costs for the Parish Council. She would also look into the rent level and the possibility of a peppercorn rent.

The Chairman thanked Ms Fussing for her attendance and she then left the meeting.

**6. To receive reports from the Clerk, Chairman, Committees, Councillors and Outside Bodies by Council Representatives and to deal with matters arising**

**The Clerk Reported that:**

The Parish Council had not received a reply from British Gas regarding the letter requesting payment of £83.37. The Clerk advised the Meeting that she had sent a reminder letter to British Gas requesting a response.

The Clerk informed the Meeting that she had downloaded the information regarding Local Council's Award Scheme and reported that very little needed to be done by the Parish Council to apply for the Foundation level. The Parish Council had most of the documentation in place on its website. The Meeting agreed that the matter should be referred to the Standards Committee to progress the matter.

The Clerk confirmed that the Annual Assembly had been booked for Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2015 since the 2<sup>nd</sup> June had not been available. The details were noted by the Meeting.

An Invitation had been received for the Chairman to attend the debrief meeting for Ripponden Xmas Fest and to discuss further events. Cllr McCarley advised that he was unavailable to attend on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015. The Meeting agreed that the Parish Council should have a presence at the meeting and Cllr Johnson was asked to attend on its behalf.

The Clerk asked if the Parish Council had any objections to a tombola being organised for the Civic Dinner to be available prior to the commencement of dinner. She reported that the Deputy Clerk had obtained a selection of dress jewellery donated for DEBRA. The Meeting had no objections in principle.

**Cllr Johnson** reported that together with Cllr McCarley he had attended the Ryburn Greenway project meeting. The group was to fund a Sustrans feasibility study into opening up the disused railway track as a cycle route. Cllr Johnson wondered if the Parish Council would be prepared to contribute to the cost of the study. The Meeting agreed that since the project could be a contentious issue, discussion on the funding should be an Agenda item at the next meeting to be held on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

**Cllr Watson** reported that the planning application for land rear of Stonelea, Barkisland was to go appeal with the Secretary of State.

**Cllr Naylor** asked that the Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014 be included in the Minutes of this meeting.

**15885 Resolved in a motion** by Cllr Naylor and seconded by Cllr Johnson that the Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014 be included in the Minutes of this meeting.

**Environment Committee Meeting  
held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.40pm**

**Present:** - Cllr Naylor chaired the meeting  
Cllr G Carter, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Riley, Mr Hart (RIB), Mr Fisher (REG), Mr Winrow (SIB)

**1. To accept apologies for absence and lateness**

Absence – Mr Sofield (BIB), Mr Harrop (CMBC), Mr Lister (PH2K)

**6. To receive reports from the Clerk, Chairman, Committees, Councillors and Outside Bodies by Council Representatives and to deal with matters arising (continued)**

**Environment Committee Meeting  
held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.40pm (continued)**

**2. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2014**

**ENV2014-16 Resolved in a motion** by Cllr Johnson and seconded by Cllr Riley that the minutes are accepted as a true and correct record of the meeting held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2014.

**3. Matters arising from previous meetings**

The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from the Trefoil Guild informing the Committee that the group felt that they were unable to carry on looking after the community centre garden. As such they have returned responsibility back to the Church. A cheque for £50 was also enclosed being the grant awarded by the Parish Council for the purchase of plants which had not been spent.

An e-mail had been received from Calderdale Council regarding planting at the memorial garden for spring 2015. The Safer, Cleaner, Greener team were looking at St Georges Cross theme for planting. The Meeting agreed that this was a good idea for the garden.

An enquiry had been received from Barkisland in Bloom as to whether the Parish Council would be prepared to finance a small plaque to be fitted on the wooden cross at The Cross, Barkisland. The Clerk reported that the stainless steel plaque purchased for the Milestone had cost £90 and it was felt that a plaque similar to this would be appropriate for the cross. The Meeting agreed in principle to the funding but held the matter over to the next meeting to enable Mr Sofield to have input into the style of plaque and wording.

The Clerk advised that she had reported the safety issues at The Cross concerning the remnants of metal posts left in the ground at The Cross by Calderdale Council when removing the Highways sign.

**4. Members Reports**

Mr Winrow on behalf of Soyland in Bloom reported that throughout the summer the group had kept Ebenezer graveyard tidy and the grass had been cut. There were only a couple of green bags of garden rubbish left at the site which needed removing. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Harrop to request their removal. All the tubs on the main road through Soyland had been replanted and the wild flower area had been cleared. The grass had been cut around the Soyland stone on a regular basis throughout the summer by Mr Denton's gardener and the group hoped that this would continue next year. Cllr G Carter advised that she thought there would be no problem with this but would check with Mr Denton.

The Clerk was also asked to report to the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator the estate agent signs erected at Lane Head Road/Hob Lane and Rochdale Road at the bottom of Fountain Street.

Mr Winrow also advised that the nettles and brambles at Lane Head Road were overhanging into the road. The Clerk was asked to report this to Mr Harrop.

Mr Hart on behalf of Ripponden in Bloom reported that the group had watered the planters at the old toilet block on Oldham Road throughout the summer, but concerns had been raised about the neglected state of the planters. Cllr G Carter advised that Calderdale Council's watering team had also been watering the planters but the main problem had been the

**6. To receive reports from the Clerk, Chairman, Committees, Councillors and Outside Bodies by Council Representatives and to deal with matters arising (continued)**

**Environment Committee Meeting  
held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.40pm (continued)**

unusually dry summer that we had experienced this year. Mr Hart referred to the lack of pruning of the Cherry trees at the memorial garden which was preventing the flowers growing. Cllr G Carter advised that the planting was now mainly perennial and the issue over the trees was something that the Parish Council had been actively pursuing with Calderdale Council with little success.

Mr Hart asked if the Parish Council had any objection to the group planting bulbs around the large tree in the Jubilee garden. The Meeting had no objection to this provided the planting was done in the soiled area and did not impact on the grass cutting. Mr Hart also submitted a further grant request from the group for £150 for the replanting of the wall planters at the bus circle. The Chairman advised that this would be discussed under Agenda item 10.

Mr Fisher on behalf of Rishworth Environmental Group reported that the groups work had been mainly concentrated at the Jubilee garden, getting rid of the weed growth and planting daffodils and bluebells for the spring. They had also been working in the garden area in front of St Johns school near the playschool where they are looking at planting Rhubarb and Strawberries.

The group would like to purchase three additional tubs and wondered if the Parish Council would be able to fund them. The Chairman advised Mr Fisher to put an official grant request and the matter would be discussed at the next meeting. The group was continuing to fundraise with a stall at the forthcoming winter market.

Concerns were raised about the state of the grass verge at the Turning circle due to coaches inappropriately parking. Mr Fisher agreed to speak with the school to try and alleviate the problem.

Cllr G Carter reported that Ripponden J & I school had struggled this summer to continue their gardening programme with the children due to the lack of volunteers. Hopefully this will be resolved in the near future with the Sowerby Bridge Rotary and Halifax Calder Rotary Clubs agreeing to work in partnership with the school.

Cllr Naylor updated the Meeting on plans for Riverside Meadows. The grass cutting had been done and it was felt that the Parish Council should fund this exercise. It was agreed that this should be discussed under Agenda item 12.

**5. Review of results for Yorkshire in Bloom**

Cllr G Carter reported that Ripponden had been awarded Silver Gilt for 2014, which she felt was a little disappointing since the village had been awarded a special achievement certificate for its displays for the Tour de France. She raised issues regarding the judge's recommendations especially over fundraising. Cllr G Carter was given authority by the Committee to arrange a meeting with Yorkshire in Bloom to try and resolve the issue.

The Meeting agreed that the Clerk should enter Ripponden into the 2015 competition for which the entry fee this year will be £45.

**6. Review of the Michaelmas Show**

The Clerk reported that some categories had been down on number of entries, although baking and preserves had seemed very popular. The Clerk read out a letter received from a resident reviewing the show and requesting the Parish Council looks into publicity, judging, rules of entry and categories for next year's. Cllr G Carter declared an interest in the content of the letter. It was felt that entry should be limited to residents and people with a strong

**6. To receive reports from the Clerk, Chairman, Committees, Councillors and Outside Bodies by Council Representatives and to deal with matters arising (continued)**

**Environment Committee Meeting  
held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.40pm (continued)**

connection to the Parish, which would be in line with the criteria used by the Parish Council in other matters. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed again at a future meeting nearer to next year's show. In the meantime, the Clerk was asked to book the show with the Conservative Club for 19<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

**7. Woodland Trust Trees**

The Clerk informed the Meeting that the saplings had arrived and were being stored by Cllr Watson who would be liaising with Barkisland in Bloom to plant them.

The Clerk advised that she would e-mail around the in bloom groups if there were any left.

**8. Old Toilet Block & BD Brooks**

The Meeting agreed that since the Parish Council no longer had a planter in front of the office then planting of the BD Brooks planter should be responsibility of the shop owners. Cllr G Carter agreed to speak to BD Brooks regarding the matter.

Cllr G Carter raised her concerns about the number of complaints received from Ripponden in Bloom regarding the planters at the Old Toilet Blocks and felt that perhaps it would be best to have them removed.

**ENV2014-17 Resolved in a motion** by Cllr G Carter and seconded by Cllr Johnson that the Committee recommends to the Parish Council that the planters at the old toilet block on Oldham Road be removed, but give Ripponden in Bloom the option of taking them over if they so wished prior to removal.

It was noted however that if the Parish Council was mindful of continuing to maintain the planters the Mr Hart would be happy to continue watering for 2015.

**9. Hanging Baskets for 2015**

The Meeting agreed that the Parish Council should continue to provide one hanging basket to participating shops. The Clerk was asked to liaise with Jacob Tooby regarding price and organising the hanging of the baskets if a similar price to last year. Letters should also be sent to local shops.

It was also agreed that the topiary balls should be put up around the village and that the Clerk should arrange for new batteries to ensure that they are all working.

**10. Grant application from Ripponden in Bloom**

It was agreed that a grant of £675 should be awarded to Ripponden in Bloom as per the group's original application and a further £150 for the replanting of the bus circle planters.

**11. Refurbishment of Parish Council owned benches**

It was agreed that this should be held over to the next meeting. Cllr Naylor and Cllr Johnson will review the spreadsheet early spring and report back to the Committee.

6. To receive reports from the Clerk, Chairman, Committees, Councillors and Outside Bodies by Council Representatives and to deal with matters arising (continued)

**Environment Committee Meeting  
held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.40pm (continued)**

**12. To approve spending from the Environment Committee**

**ENV2014-18 Resolved in a motion** by Cllr Johnson and seconded by Cllr G Carter that the Committee approves the expenditure for:  
Hanging Baskets for 2015 <£500.00

**ENV2014-19 Resolved in a motion** by Cllr Johnson and seconded by Cllr G Carter that the Committee approves the expenditure for:  
Grant for Ripponden in Bloom <£825.00

Cllr Riley abstained from voting on this item

**ENV2014-20 Resolved in a motion** by Cllr Riley and seconded by Cllr Johnson that the Committee approves the expenditure for:  
Yorkshire in Bloom entry fee 2015 <£45.00

**ENV2014-21 Resolved in a motion** by Cllr G Carter and seconded by Cllr Johnson that the Committee approves the expenditure for:  
Grass cutting at Riverside Meadows <£100.00

**13. To arrange the date of the next meeting**

The next meeting date will be Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 7.00pm

**The meeting closed at 9.15pm**

**Cllr Naylor** reviewed the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015, the main points being the resetting up of the Ripponden School garden, hanging baskets, Parish Council owned planters and the upgrade of Mill Fold recreational ground as a new project for 2015.

**Cllr Russell** informed the Meeting that street lamps 3, 4 and 8 on Scammonden Road were once again not working. The Clerk was asked to report the matter to Calderdale Council. Cllr Russell also advised that the 'for sale' notice for Hill Top Farm was obscuring the public footpath.

**Cllr B Carter** reported that he had attended the recent Ward Forum where various items had been discussed. Cllr B Carter informed the Meeting about his concerns regarding PC Igo's report to the forum on increased crime and illegal parking at Kebroyd. She had advised the Forum that whilst all parking without lights in a 40mph area was illegal and she had contacted relevant owners, no further action was to be taken. Cllr G Carter as Ward Councillor advised that she had a meeting with the new inspector scheduled and would raise the matter with her. Cllr Johnson requested that a letter be sent by the Parish Council to the new inspector to obtain her view on the matter.

**Cllr B Carter** informed the Meeting that following the Emergency Highways Team's work half way on Spring Street, to take down part of the wall due to it being at an angle. The stones had been left but no repair work done. The Clerk was asked to send a letter to Highways Services to enquire when the wall was to be repaired.

**6. To receive reports from the Clerk, Chairman, Committees, Councillors and Outside Bodies by Council Representatives and to deal with matters arising (continued)**

**Cllr Riley** reported on a recent complaint she had received regarding passengers on the Halifax to Rochdale bus being left stranded due to a major accident on the road and having to make alternative arrangements to get home. Cllr G Carter advised that the individual would need to contact West Yorkshire Combined Authority to make a claim.

**Cllr J Smith** reviewed the recent Town & Parish Council Liaison Group meeting and highlighted the main points. She also provided a written report that had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr J Smith advised that the Parish Council's application for designation of a Neighbourhood area had been approved and that grants were available to progress a Neighbourhood plan, details of which had been recently been reported in the Clerks SLCC magazine. Hebden Royd Town Council had raised issues regarding the installation of last year's Christmas Lights and was looking at using outside contractors for this year. Mr Pitts of Calderdale Council had asked for Parish Council's to provide him with a list of required timings for the lights to be installed in order that he could compile a schedule of work to ensure that problems do not occur in the future. The Meeting agreed that there should be an Agenda item at the next meeting to discuss a timing plan for Christmas lights.

**Cllr J Smith** also advised that the Police Crime Commissioner was to attend the next Town and Parish Council Liaison Group meeting in May. The group had been asked to provide a list of questions to the Commissioner prior to the meeting. It was agreed that this should be an Agenda item at a future meeting.

**Cllr McCarley** reported that together with Cllr Johnson and their Consorts he had attended Saddleworth Parish Council Civic Dinner. It had been a very enjoyable evening.

**7. To receive reports from Calderdale Councillors who represent Ryburn Ward**

Cllr G Carter reported that Calderdale Council was to work with the new Combined Authority to improve street lighting. There was significant funding available for low level powered lighting.

Cllr G Carter confirmed that the Parish Council's application for a Neighbourhood area had been approved by Cabinet and would be put to Full Council at its next meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> February. She also informed the Meeting that she had e-mailed Mr Willerton regarding outstanding traffic and parking issues; and reported the Tuel Lane traffic signal fault.

**8. To agree accounts for payment**

**15886 Resolved in a motion** by Cllr Russell and seconded by Cllr Watson that the accounts listed on the schedule with a total value of £2,618.74 be passed for payment.

**9. To receive correspondence**

**Correspondence**

Calderdale Council	20mph speed limit phasing roll out
Ms L Pass	Involvement in the development of a Neighbourhood Plan
Mr P Corrie	Planning Application 14/00475/FUL

**Information**

Baymedia	Council Street Design for Tour de Yorkshire
Calderdale Council	Meeting dates 17/02/15 to 29/04/15
Calderdale Council	Update on winter gritting in Calderdale 2015
Calderdale Council	Upper Valley Neighbourhood News – February issue
Friends of Dixon Scar Wood	Minutes from meeting held 14/01/15

**9. To receive correspondence (continued)**

Historic Towns Forum	Forthcoming events & opportunities
NABMA	Newsletters 02/02/15 & 09/02/15
NABMA	Great British Market Awards
NABMA	Economic Survey of Christmas Markets
North Bank Forum	Sector Support - update 11/02/15
Ryburn Valley Greenway Project	Minutes from meeting held 03/02/15
Cllr J Smith	Notes from T & PC Liaison Group meeting
T & PC Liaison Group	Notes from the meeting held 03/02/15
T & PC Liaison Group	Spreadsheet for Superfast Broadband installation
T & PC Liaison Group	Economic summary sheet for Tour de France
YLCA	Inspiring Yorkshire Event 18/03/15
YLCA	Practical guide of Affordable Rural Housing

**Agendas**

18/02/15 Council Meeting

**Matters arising from Correspondence**

The Meeting agreed that Ms Pass's offer be passed onto the Neighbourhood Planning Committee and that she should be contacted to find out if she had any relevant experience that could be of assistance.

Cllr G Carter requested a copy of Mr Corrie's e-mail in order that she could take his complaint up with Planning Services. The Clerk was also asked to reply to Mr Corrie and provide him with details of the Local Ombudsman.

Information about the NABMA Economic Christmas Survey should be referred to the Markets Committee.

**11. To discuss and approve the use of Electronic Communication for the sending of the Summons for Council meetings**

**15887 Resolved in a motion** by Cllr Johnson and seconded by Cllr Russell that the Parish Council approves the use of electronic communication for the sending of the Summons subject to the individual Councillor agreeing to receive communication by this method. The Clerk was asked to draft a consent form for Councillors to sign if they so wish.

**12. To discuss Planning Applications, to receive Planning Decisions and to discuss Planning and Enforcement Issues****New plans for this meeting****Application No 15/20007/TPO**

Officer: Keith Grady  
 Applicant: Mr R James  
 Site: Land to Rear of 10-12 Godley Row Ripponden  
 Proposal: Prune one Sycamore tree (Tree Preservation Order)  
 History: Application to prune the tree was considered in 2008 and approved.  
 Main Issues: The amenity value of the tree and what impact the works will have on the character and appearance of the area, and in view of the assessment whether or not the works are justified in view of the reason put forward for the works.

**RPC Comments:**

**15888 Resolved in a motion** by Cllr J Smith and seconded by Cllr Naylor that the Parish Council has no objections to this application subject to the Planning Officer being satisfied that it meets good arboricultural practise.

**12. To discuss Planning Applications, to receive Planning Decisions and to discuss Planning and Enforcement Issues (continued)****Planning Decisions:**

<b>14/01461/HSE</b> Glen Avon 72 Halifax Road Ripponden	Bay window to front elevation	<b>Granted</b>
<b>14/01470/HSE</b> Hill Top Farm Scammonden Road Barkisland	Two storey extension to front	<b>Granted</b>
<b>14/01442/FUL</b> Barn At Krumlin Hall Farm Krumlin Hall Barkisland	Conservatory to Unit 3 (Amendment to planning permission 13/00608)	<b>Granted</b>
<b>14/01378/LBC</b> Barkisland CE Primary School Scammonden Road Barkisland	New internal kitchen area with associated ventilation system to boiler house roof (Listed Building Consent)	<b>Granted</b>

**The meeting closed at 9.10pm**