

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF OXENHOPE VILLAGE COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12TH JULY 2023 AT THE METHODIST CHURCH, WEST
DRIVE, OXENHOPE, COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**

Present: Cllr Ken Eastwood (Chair)
Cllr Robert Goulding (Vice Chair)
Cllr Kevin Allmond
Cllr Neal Cameron
Cllr Joe Drury
Cllr Debbie Harvie
Cllr Rachel Woodington

Worth Valley Ward Councillor Russell Brown
Worth Valley Ward Councillor Chris Herd
1 member of the public

109/23 To receive apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting

Apologies for absence have been received from Cllr Nick Pearce and also from Worth Valley Ward Cllr Rebecca Poulsen, Village Warden Mark Whitaker, Rev. Cat Thatcher, Ward Officer Alice Bentley and Deputy Ward Officer Sally Teasdale.

110/23 To consider the approval of reasons given for absence

The reason for absence was approved.

111/23 Disclosures of Interest

None.

112/23 Applications for a Dispensation

None received.

113/23 Minutes of Meetings (previously circulated to Members)

- a) The minutes of the monthly Village Council's meeting held on 14th June 2023 were confirmed as true and correct records.
- b) There were no matters arising from the minutes.
- c) The July Outstanding Issues Report was noted. The Clerk reported that the request to consider reduction in the speed limit on West Shaw Lane should be discussed at the Keighley Area Panel meeting on 20th July. Cllr Goulding reported he is due to attend a meeting of Haworth Village Council to discuss the idea of a natural burial ground.

114/23 Public Question Time

A member of the public reported that Bradford Council had done a good job on the tennis court, with the fencing matching the fencing installed by the school. They reported that the path needed clearing. The Warden may be able to do this.

Signed.....

2243

Page Numbering checked..... 9th August 2023

115/23 Guest Speakers

a) Worth Valley Ward Councillors

Cllr Chris Herd said that, following complaints, he has asked Chris Hird, Bradford Council Highways to look into the possibility of reducing the speed on Moorside Road.

In relation to various concerns at Nab Water Lane, a meeting is being set up in September for all concerned organisations. The aim is to find ideas to address the various issues on the Lane, including fly tipping. Cllr Herd is also concerned that the sides of the road are washing away.

Cllr Eastwood said signs could be useful and they could state how many fly tipping prosecutions there had been.

Cllr Herd reported that that grass verges on Marsh Lane have been cut and look much better. There was a query about other verges not being cut or sprayed and whether this was a conscious decision to benefit wildlife. Cllr Herd agreed to find out information about the spraying schedule from Bradford Council.

After four years, funding has been secured for Haworth Community Centre.

Cllr Brown commented that he felt Bradford Council funding was weighted in favour of the city centre rather than outer areas. However, he reported that David Shepherd, the new Strategic Director of Place, was keen to see that Keighley and Ilkley get a fairer share of funding.

As both Worth Valley Ward Councillors are on the Planning Committee at Bradford Council, they decided to leave the meeting before the discussion of planning matters.

b) Other guest speakers

None.

116/23 Planning Applications

Resolved:

a) **23/01822/FUL** Agricultural building to cover existing yard between two buildings at Upper Naylor Hill Farm, Black Moor Road, BD22 9SU.

Cllr Goulding stated that this is a working farm and the work has to be undertaken to provide sustainable drainage.

Oxenhope Village Council supports this planning application.

b) **23/02186/LBC** Two arched fixed light windows to ground floor front elevation at 2 Hawksbridge House, Hawksbridge Lane, Oxenhope BD22 9QU.

Oxenhope Village Council supports this planning application.

Signed.....

2244

Page Numbering checked..... 9th August 2023

117/23 Safety Inspection Reports

The Safety Inspection Report for the Marsh Common was noted.

Cllr Cameron queried about stones missing from the top of the wall on the right hand side. Cllr Goulding said he would check this and replace them if possible.

118/23 Village Warden's Report

The Warden's Report was noted. Councillors commented very favourably on the amount of work undertaken by the Warden each month. They were particularly pleased with the work undertaken to keep paths clear.

119/23 Correspondence

Resolved:

- a) Email from YLCA about D Day 2024 80th Anniversary. Noted. Cllr Goulding stated he has been contacted about using the beacon on his land.
- b) Email from GBC Services about upgrade to Arqive Transmitting Station, Hill House Edge Lane, Oxenhope. Noted.

Following a discussion on the transmitter, the increasing frequency and duration of power cuts in the village was mentioned. The Clerk was asked to raise Councillors' concerns with Robbie Moore MP.

- c) Email from Local Government Boundary Commission for England about consultation on ward boundaries for Bradford. Noted.
- d) Email from Fruit Works about Apple Day proposal. Noted.
- e) Email from Local Plan Team, Bradford Council about Local Housing Need Assessment Stakeholder Event – 17th July 2023. Cllr Pierce said he would look at attending.

120/23 Climate Change (Standing agenda item)

No issues were raised.

121/23 Financial Matters

Resolved:

- a) To authorise expenditure estimated at up to £400 to fell the tree at the bottom on Mallard View (on Village Council land) and the dead cherry tree in the Rose Garden.
- b) To authorise expenditure estimated at £2,500 for the publication of the Preparedness Booklet.
- c) To note that Cllr Allmond is not a signatory on the bank account and to agree a fourth signatory along with the three existing signatories. Cllr Eastwood explained bank account procedures. Cllr Drury agreed to be the fourth signatory.

Signed.....

2245

d) To authorise the following accounts for payment: -

Payee	Cheque No. / Online	Amount	Description
City of Bradford MDC	Online	£80.00	Advert Clerk vacancy
YLCA	Online	£15.00	Advert Clerk vacancy
Town Parish Audit	Online	£200.00	Internal Audit 2022/23 Accounts
HMRC	Online	£1,205.47	Q1 2023/24 PAYE and Employer NI
Mark Whitaker	Online	£24.99	Dutch hoe
Janet Foster	Online	£20.97	Expenses Q1 2023/24
		£34.20	Mileage Q1 2023/24
		£55.17	Total

122/23 Trial Balance

Heading	Budget	Spend to date	Budget remaining currently	Projected Year End Shortfall (-) / Surplus (+)	Notes
Expenditure	£	£		£	
Salaries	26,100	6,003	20,097	0	
Village Warden (Equipment)	1,000	7	993	0	
Clerk's home working allowance	300	75	225	0	
Stationery and Printing	300	192	108	0	
Mobile Phone	250	55	195	0	
Postages	450	5	445	0	
Travel and Subsistence (Staff)	150	80	70	0	
Internal and external audits	400	0	400	0	
Subscriptions	1,000	746	254	0	
Room Hire	350	93	258	0	
Insurance	700	460	240	0	
Training	300	0	300	0	
Marketing	500	0	500	0	
Outreach	375	0	375	0	
Christmas Lights	2,100	0	2,100	0	
Maintenance of Marsh Common	500	110	390	0	
Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)	0	200	-200	-200	
Youth Club	5,200	4,420	780	0	
Website	900	464	436	0	
Contingency Fund	500	0	500	0	

Signed.....

2246

Page Numbering checked..... 9th August 2023

Community Initiative Fund	1,500	500	1,000	0	
Maintenance of Village Council Assets	5,000	914	4,086	0	
Toilets - Community Asset Transfer	2,000	0	2,000	0	
Sculpture Trail	500	0	500	0	
Allotments	500	100	400	0	
Book costs	100	0	100	0	
Bank Charges	72	27	45	0	
Defibrillators	500	0	500	0	
Summer Play Scheme	1,400	0	1,400	0	
Millennium Green	2,000	2,000	0	0	
Total Expenditure	54,947	16,451	38,496	-200	
				Year end Shortfall (-) / Surplus (+)	
Income	Budget	Income to date			
Reduction In reserves	9,507	0	-9,507	0	
Precept	41,960	41,960	0	0	
Rose Garden		0	0	0	
Allotment Grant	300	313	13	13	
Allotment rents	450	20	-430	0	
Book Sales	130	0	-130	0	
VAT refund	2,600	3,538	938	938	
CIL Income	0	0	0	0	
Miscellaneous	0	302	302	302	1.
Total Income	54,947	46,133	-8,814	1,253	
Surplus (+) / Deficit (-)				1,053	

Notes:

- £288 of miscellaneous relates to payment from Haworth Parish Council relating to unused funds of redundant Worth Valley Joint Transport Committee.

Cllr Cameron agreed to circulate the report from Arap (produced in 2010) about whether the Worth Valley line could be open for commuters.

Cllr Eastwood mentioned that the Village Council has been asked to support KWVR's bid for £1 million of funds to repair a vital bridge in Haworth. A letter of support has been sent.

Signed.....

2247

Page Numbering checked..... 9th August 2023

123/22 Bank Reconciliation

Balance per bank statements as at:	30/06/23	
Unity Trust - Current Account		£52,225.64
Unity Trust - Instant Access Account		£0.00
		£52,225.64
		<hr/>
Net balances:		£52,225.64
		<hr/> <hr/>

CASH BOOK

Opening Balance 1 April 2023	£23,767.16	
Add: Receipts in the year	£46,133.39	
Less: Payments in the year (incl. VAT)	-£17,674.91	<hr/>
Closing balance per cash book:		£52,225.64
		<hr/> <hr/>

124/23 Minor items and items for next agenda

Interviews for the Clerk position will take place on 21st July. The current clerk is due to finish at end of August.

It was reported that Yorkshire Swimworks have been unsuccessful in their bid for the Yorkshire Water site they had hoped to obtain.

Cllr Cameron reported he had attended the Liaison meeting between Bradford Council and local parish / village councils. There was information on the Dales bus service. Information was also provided on King's Award for Industry and the King's Award for voluntary service. Cllr Cameron is now on the Standards' Committee as a Parish Council representative.

Cllr Cameron emphasised the importance of the Village Council having a direct relationship with Bradford Council. Cllr Eastwood suggested it might be useful to invite the Director of Place to visit Oxenhope.

Cllr Harvie reported that a drain by the school is blocked. She will provide details to the Village Warden so he can follow it up. Cllr Cameron stated several drains on Hebden Bridge Road are blocked and wondered if the drain clearing wagon, which visited about a year ago, could come out again.

125/23 Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held in the Methodist Church on West Drive on Wednesday 9th August 2023 starting at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

Signed.....

2248

Page Numbering checked..... 9th August 2023