

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF OXENHOPE VILLAGE COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2023 AT THE METHODIST CHURCH, WEST DRIVE,
OXENHOPE, COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**

Present: Cllr Ken Eastwood (Chair)
Cllr Debbie Harvie
Cllr Neal Cameron
Cllr Nick Pearce

6 members of the public

Minutes taken by Village Council Clerk - Laura White

Minutes

197/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies given by Cllrs Drury, Woodington and Goulding, in addition to ward Cllrs Brown and Herd.

198/23 Approval of reasons given for absence

Resolved to approve reasons for absence.

199/23 Disclosures of Interest

None received.

200/23 Applications for a Dispensation

None received.

201/23 Minutes of Meetings (previously circulated to Members)

- a) The minutes of the Village Council's monthly meeting held on 8th November 2023 were approved as true and correct records by all Cllr's present, with an amendment to record that Cllr Cameron was not present.
- b) Community preparedness is to be added to the next agenda and the Clerk to arrange for 2,000 copies of the booklet to be printed in A5.
- c) There were no actions required from the Outstanding Issues Report.

202/23 Public Question Time

A member of the public mentioned blocked highway drains and localised flooding. It was explained that the Warden has worked to clear leaves and some of the blocked gullies. CBMDC have been made aware of the issues.

Christmas lighting spending was questioned and it was explained that expenditure this year includes additional maintenance and testing works.

A resident raised concerns about drug dealing in the village. It was advised that members of the public should report such matters to 101. The Clerk to share a post online around the importance of reporting this.

203/23 Guest Speakers

a) Worth Valley Ward Councillors

Ward Councillor Rebecca Poulson advised that the replacement street lighting works across the district are ongoing. There is no end date in sight at present.

It was advised that the environmental enforcement team is looking at fly-tipping which is becoming an issue at Penistone through Hanging Gate Lane.

Proposed boundary changes were discussed and it was noted that this should be added to the agenda for a decision in January.

The proposed wind turbine development on Walshaw Moor was discussed. The construction and maintenance could be very damaging to the environment. Approximately 16,000 HGV trips could be made to construct this site. The turbines will be twice as high as those at the current site at Ovenden. Cllr Pearce will continue to attend meetings with Parishes in Calderdale and report back.

b) Other guest speakers

Revd Cat Thatcher gave an update on Church services over the Christmas period. Christingle service is now full. The midnight service is at 11.30 on 24th and the Christmas Day service will be at 10.30am.

Revd Cat Thatcher also made Members aware that she has accepted a new role and in May will b

204/23 Planning Applications

a) 23/03764/FUL Land to the North of 12 Bank, Denholme Road, Oxenhope - Construction of a pair of semi-detached houses.

Members of the public made comments on this application, based around the difficult access to the site. It was noted that trees with TPO's had been removed from the site prior to the application, without permission. There are also other trees on site with TPO's remaining at present. There is a bridleway and boundary wall that has been there for over 100 years.

Local residents were concerned that emergency services would struggle to access the properties.

Discussions took place regarding the Neighbourhood Plan and Conservation Area issues.

Resolved to object to the application. Cllr Pearce to compose an objection statement for the Clerk to submit.

The Chair thanked the residents for attending the meeting and making their views known. He also advised that individual residents should also submit their own comments on the application to CBMDC.

- b) 3/04323/HOU Holmfield House, Jew Lane, Oxenhope - Replace conservatory with extended roof canopy.

It was resolved not to object to the application.

- c) 23/04358/HOU Bents Croft, Marsh Lane, Oxenhope - Installation of new windows on the ground and first floor front elevation and new Velux windows located on the rear elevation.

It was resolved not to object to the application.

205/23 Planning Application – Cross Lane (23/00027/OUT)

It was noted that Cllrs Eastwood and Cameron met with CBMDC to discuss this and other applications and to raise issues with regard to consideration of the Neighbourhood Plan policies in decision making.

It was suggested that the Council should include the biodiversity policy which comes into place from 1st January, in planning comments. The Council will look to quote policy in comments to CBMDC.

Enforcement cases were also discussed and CBMDC agreed to look at the issues in the village raised by the Village Council.

It was noted a follow up meeting will be arranged in March.

Resolved that Cllrs Cameron, Woodington and Harvie will meet in the New Year to discuss the NDP and proposals to develop a template for submission of comments and a document to explain in further detail the intention of each of the NDP policies.

206/23 Village Warden's Report

Noted.

Resolved the Clerk will chase CBMDC responses.

207/23 Rose Garden Report

Noted.

208/23 Correspondence

- a) Email from local resident regarding traffic issues. It was advised for the resident to report to 101.

Resolved the Clerk to speak with the local Police team.

Awaiting a response from KWVR. The Clerk to chase ahead of the weekend.

- b) Phone call from local resident regarding planning application at Tansey End. This was covered in item 204/23.
- c) YLCA email regarding new legislation on Biodiversity. Cllr Harvie will attend the webinar which clashes with the next Council meeting. Resolved the Clerk to adapt policy and bring to next meeting for approval.

209/23 Christmas lights switch on event

The Clerk gave an update on the event. It was well attended and all refreshments were well received and donations raised £402.04 for Manorlands Hospice. Cllr Eastwood thanked all involved for their work.

210/23 Climate Change (Standing agenda item)

No updates.

211/23 Meeting Dates

Resolved to accept the meeting dates suggested by the Clerk for 2024.

212/23 Annual Allotment Holder Meeting 2024

Resolved to increase 2025 plot charges to £50 and £25, retired rate to £40 and £20. Cllr Drury to chair the meeting and Cllr Cameron to attend.

213/23 Grant Application

Members discussed the additional information provided by the Climate Action Group.

Resolved not to approve as this information is already available from other providers in the area. The Village Council is also projecting an overspend at year end. Clerk to inform the action group of the reasons for the outcome.

214/23 Financial Matters

- a) Resolved to authorise the following accounts for payment: -

Payee	Cheque No. / Online	Amount	Description
Steve Thorpe	Online	£249.60	Mowing of the rose garden 4 th Sept & 18 th Sept
Oxenhope Methodist Church	Online	£40.00	Room Usage October & November
Christmas Plus	Online	£156.00	Light string repair
Christmas Plus	Online	£1392.60	Installation and dismantle of festive display

Outreach	Online	£250.00	Oxenhope magazine
Cllr Woodington	Online	£29.45	Christmas light event refreshments
Cllr Woodington	Online	£48.04	Christmas light event refreshments

215/23 Budget & Precept

Discussions took place regarding potential projects and the precept for the next financial year. It was noted that budget increases were required as follows: -

Staffing costs	£6,400 (national pay award)
Christmas lights	£2,000 (additional lamp post motifs)
Community asset transfer	£5,000 (Shaw Lane toilets)

Resolved to agree a 2024/25 budget of £67,947 and a precept of £55,360 (being £52.77 at Band D). The Council to prepare a forward plan of projects and investments to be published in March. Item to be discussed in further detail at the next meeting.

216/23 Minor items and items for next agenda

The following items were mentioned: -

- Boundary changes
- Planned projects
- Wind turbines
- Dog fouling
- Bus links
- Reporting forms – top 5 report forms for local issues. Cllr Harvie and Clerk to work together.

Resolved to accept application of interest from Ashwaan Joomun to become a Village Councillor. An acceptance of office form was completed. The Clerk to send induction pack and meeting dates to Cllr Joomun and the Chair to organise email and website updates.

217/23 Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held in the Methodist Church on West Drive on Wednesday 10th January 2024, starting at 7.30 p.m.

Meeting closed 9.11pm