

## BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL

### DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT BUCKDEN VILLAGE INSTITUTE ON MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup> August 2022 at 7.00PM

Those present:

Chairman: Councillor P Vetch

Councillors: Councillor P Ramsden and Councillor J Way

Also Present: Two members of the public

#### 2223/36

##### Chairman's remarks

Councillor Vetch explained that in the absence of Councillor Breen he would chair the meeting, and that pending the appointment of a new clerk, he would also take the minutes

#### 2223/37

##### Apologies and reasons for Absence

Apologies and reasons for absence had been received from Councillor Breen and Councillor Jarrett – these were noted and accepted.

#### 2223/38

##### Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Ramsden noted that as his property was adjacent to the lane where the knotweed had been found, he had a personal interest in this item

#### 2223/39

##### Minutes of the Previous Meetings

**Resolved** that the minutes of the Meeting of the Council on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022 be signed as a true and accurate record.

#### 2223/40

##### Public Participation

A member of the public raised the planning application (item 2223/43 (b) on the agenda). It was agreed that this input should be taken as part of the discussion of this item.

#### 2223/41

##### Reports from District / County Councillors

No councillors were present at the meeting. It was noted that Councillor Foster had provided an email update (see Item 2223/45)

#### 2223/42

##### Highways Matters

##### **a) To receive an update on footpaths in the parish and consider any action required**

A specification and request for quotes from contractors to trim three paths to a width of 1.5m has been issued. (The three footpaths are the Lane to the sheep-dip, the lane to the car park and from Firth Demesne to Lane Ends Barn.). Councillor Vetch advised that the two of the contractors contacted had declined to quote, and the third had been to look at the job some weeks ago, but had not submitted a proposal to do the work and now seemed unlikely to do so. He therefore proposed that we should use the Knotweed contractor as previously suggested by Councillor Ramsden. However in the light of latest developments on this subject (see item 2223/42 (b) ) this now seems unlikely

to be an option. A member of the public then suggested that the NT should be approached to ask if they would be prepared to take on this task. It was **resolved** that Councillor Vetch should write to Peter Katic.

Councillor Ramsden updated the meeting regarding the Japanese Knotweed in the area between Hartrigg House and The Croft. He has been in discussion with a number of contractors one of whom would be prepared to do the work (and also see to the footpaths. (See previous item). However, as the knotweed has spread onto Heber Farm land, he has been in discussion with Mr Schofield who advised that when there was a previous outbreak it was dealt with by the NT. Mr Schofield has agreed to talk to the NT and request that they undertake the clearance.

**b) To consider any highways issues in the parish and any action required**

The Council noted the road closure in Starbotton at the end of June had caused little inconvenience. Councillor Vetch advised the meeting that Boundless have indicated that a similar closure may be necessary in Buckden in the autumn.

It was reported that Seal Bank has not been cleared in accordance with the commitments made by Area 5. It was **resolved** that Councillor Vetch should raise this with Sharon Fox.

**c) To receive an update from the Road Safety Working Group**

No update was available. This item was deferred until the next meeting.

**2223/43**

**Planning**

a) **An application for full planning permission** for the erection of an agricultural building at Manor House Farm, Cray, Skipton, BD23 5JB - C/13/205 was discussed. In the light of the environmental and sustainability benefits delivered by the proposal, it was resolved that the Council offers its full and positive support to the application's proposals, and accordingly urges that planning permission for the development should be granted.

b) **The document Yorkshire Dales National Park Local Plan - Consultation No.5 'Preferred options'**, was discussed at some length. A number of concerns were expressed in particular:

- Whilst the need to respond to the climate crisis was acknowledged, rewilding and other initiatives need to be undertaken in such a way as to avoid fundamentally changing the inherent characteristics of the landscape and the way it is farmed.
- The potential unintended consequences of changes in the landscape – for example increasing risk of fires as summers become hotter and drier – should be guarded against
- Proposals need to take into account the knowledge and expertise of the farming community and not be imposed by external agencies
- Whilst the intent of proposals to limit the number of holiday properties is understood, care must be taken not to destabilise the already fragile economy of the dales. Holiday makers bring much needed income into

the area, supporting businesses which also cater for locals. In evaluating applications, the potential impact of any development on the local economy should be evaluated and considered – in particular where holiday accommodation is providing rental income to directly support the viability of farms and other local businesses (as opposed to the rental income going to individuals and businesses outside the Park area).

It was **resolved** that the Council should respond to the consultation raising these points and Councillor Vetch agreed to draft an email and circulate to councillors. The response will need to be submitted by 19<sup>th</sup> August.

**2223/44**      **Emergency Planning**

Councillor Vetch reported that he had discussed the generator proposal with Mr Rangely and requested his help in identifying an appropriate generator. Mr Rangely will work with Mr Davidson to come up with an appropriate specification.

**2223/45**      **Correspondence**

The update from Councillor Richard Foster was received and noted

**2223/46**      **Finance**

- a) **The bank statement was received and noted.** The bank balance at the 31<sup>st</sup> t July was as follows: Unity Trust T1 account: £8816.51
- b) **Resolved to approve the following payments:**
  - Keep Britain Tidy: Litter Pickers - £226.00

**2223/47**      **Resolved that members of the press and public be excluded from item 2223/34 under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960 s1(2)) during consideration of items of a confidential nature. (staffing matters)**

**2223/48**      **Staffing Matters**

The Council discussed the recruitment a new clerk. Councillor Vetch to advise Councillor Breen of key points of the discussion.

**2223/49**      **Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting of Buckden Parish Council will be held at 7pm on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022. Councillor Ramsden advised that he might not be able to attend that meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

The Clerk should be given seven clear days' notice of items for the agenda of the next meeting.