

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 7.30pm  
in The Queen's Hall, Burley in Wharfedale**



**Chair:** Cllr Mike Wild

**Council Officers:** Clare Smith (Clerk) & Cate Perman (Administrator)

**Parish Councillors Present:**

Cllr Duncan Ault  
Cllr Vicky Evans  
Cllr Jan Lepley  
Cllr Chris Turner  
Cllr Jackie Whitley  
Cllr Bernard Poulter

**Also Present:** 16 members of the public

**1. Chair's Remarks and Introduction**

Cllr Wild opened the meeting thanking those present for attending. Cllr Wild gave an overview of the highlights of the work of the Council over the last year which included:

- Agreeing to spend a substantial amount of money on the refurbishment of the Queens Hall and Library. Since the Parish Council took over the management of the Queens Hall activities and bookings have increased which will hopefully be improved further once the refurbishment is complete. The Round House is also undergoing refurbishment thanks to Lottery funding.
- The Neighbourhood Development Plan was successfully adopted in May last year following a referendum where 80% of voters supported the implementation of the Plan. The Neighbourhood Development Plan gives the Parish Council an increased say in planning matters and also means the Parish Council receives 25% of the Community Infrastructure Levy generated by larger developments.
- The Parish Council now runs the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme after taking it over from Bradford MDC last year. There are currently 230 young people enrolled on the scheme and it continues to be very successful.
- A monthly e-newsletter is published by the Council which receives good feedback from its subscribers. We also have a new website which has a more modern user-friendly feel.
- A new footpath has been installed around Burley House Field and several small pockets of land have been acquired to allow the Council to create the Wharfedale Greenway to Otley.
- Continuing to be represented at the Leeds Bradford Airport Consultative Committee to ensure that we are kept informed over flight paths and noise.
- The installation of a Speed Indicator Device (SID) which was initially located near to the train station. It has now been re-located to Main Street towards the Generous Pioneer. Data can be downloaded from the device which will help inform the Parish Council and other relevant authorities of road safety concerns in the area.

- A successful Remembrance Day event took place in the Queens Hall with thanks to the Burley Archives and Burley Theatre Group.
- Finally, a new Clerk, Clare Smith, joined the Council in March following the retirement of Ian Orton.

**2. To receive any apologies for absence**

Cllr Bottomley sent apologies as he had conflicting commitments.

**3. To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

Resolved that the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

**4. Budget Reports 2018/19 and 2019/20**

The budget reports for 2018/19 and 2019/20 were circulated. No questions were raised by those present.

**5. Future Plans for the forthcoming year 2018/19 including:**

**a) Wharfedale Greenway:**

Cllr Wild provided an update on the Greenway in the absence of Cllr Bottomley. An application of funding has been submitted to the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) which is currently dependent upon planning permission being granted for the Greenway. Applications have been submitted to Leeds City Council and Bradford MDC with a slightly different response being received from each Planning Authority. Leeds City Council have accepted an outline application and agreed to expedite the application by placing several mandatory conditions on the permission. Bradford MDC have insisted on a full application being submitted and have not agreed to take the same approach as Leeds City Council. This has meant that additional environmental impact assessments have been required. These have now been submitted and it has been confirmed that the planning application will now be validated. We should be informed on the decision of the funding bid by late summer.

**b) Queens Hall and Library Refurbishment:**

**Queens Hall:**

Main hall – the decoration is now complete and almost ready for sign off by the contractor. The old kitchen has been removed and the new partition wall and hatch have been built. The kitchen units and appliances will be arriving this week and installed by the end of w/c 13/05/19. All of the toilets are almost complete with the new cubicles, tiling and flooring all being done this week.

The bulk of the remaining work is now the roof work which is in progress, the public toilet which is starting this week, knocking through to the caretaker's office and the windows. The windows have caused some delays because of problems which have been experienced with the supplier. All windows are being delivered to site on 28/5/19 with the windows to Jolly Tots being completed first (as this is Half Term week and the nursery is slightly quieter than usual). The rest of the windows will be completed w/c 3/6/19 and 10/6/19.

**Library:**

All work in the library is progressing well. The ceiling has been taken down, the new partitions have been built to create the accessible toilet, the radiators are being done this week and the new kitchen is well underway.

**Roundhouse:**

Also, the Roundhouse is progressing well. The repairs to the roof and stonework have now been completed. The joinery and glazing works will be complete today and the redecoration later this week. The contractor is awaiting delivery of the aluminium rainwater goods, but hopefully these will be delivered later this week. They are aiming to have all the works complete by the end of next week at the latest.

**6. Open Forum****Resident – Richard Scargill**

Mr Scargill put forward a request for the Parish Council to publish a record of Members' votes on the Council website.

**Resident – Mary MacPherson**

Mrs MacPherson spoke about the climate emergency situation that we are all now facing.

Recently, there have been 2 reports from the UN which have brought this subject into sharp focus. Firstly, the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) report in 2018 which gave us just 12 years to ensure global warming is kept to a maximum of 1.5 degrees. And secondly the UN Global Assessment Report of 2019 which states that 'we are in trouble if we don't act' and that there are up to 1 million species (plants and animals) at risk of annihilation.

In view of this, Mrs MacPherson strongly recommended that when the Parish Council is making decisions, they ask how will this affect the natural environment and what will the impact be with regards to climate change. Examples could be: when they are discussing projects that may have an impact on the natural environment, they should consider if it will have a negative impact or a positive one. When considering energy use and sources ask if electricity can be used, for example, instead of gas. And if so, is it coming from a renewable source?

Also, the Council needs to give close protection to the green spaces it is responsible for – it must make every effort to protect our wildlife and vegetation – insects and fungi included. The natural environment needs to underpin every policy the Parish Council has. Here are a few examples of other things the Council could do:

- Make climate a Parish Priority & share progress via the council website. Provide supporting information to residents that enables individual and group Carbon Reduction action (via the website)
- Set up a Parish Climate Action Group/ task force (e.g. promote community energy schemes, work with National Energy Reduction initiatives)
- Support 'Plastic Free Burley'
- Act as a voice for the community to lobby, raise the profile & share lessons with higher levels of government.
- Support or develop local clean energy projects, particularly community led with funding or council backing

- Measure, manage & reduce the carbon footprint of the Council & its management of local infrastructure.

**Resident - Shirley Lawrie**

Mrs Lawrie spoke about a new group that has been set up in Burley, "Plastic Free Burley".

Plastic Free Burley will campaign to free where we live from single use plastics. These are things such as throw away coffee cups and lids, straws and food packaging. The group is supported by "Surfers Against Sewage", a national conservation charity and is a nationwide campaign.

They aim to obtain plastic free community status for Burley. This will mean asking the Parish Council, local businesses, schools, community groups and individuals to commit to using plastic free alternatives instead of single use plastics.

The group will be asking the Parish Council, in due course, to pass a resolution supporting the journey to Plastic Free Community Status for Burley.

**7. Any other business**

No items were raised.

The meeting ended at 7:10pm