

# Hawes and High Abbotside Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015 held at Gayle Institute at 7.15pm

**Present:** Cllrs J Blackie (Chairman), Mrs S Alderson, Ms D Allen, Ms A Caygill, G DiDuca, A Fawcett, Ms CM Grainger, W Head, I Woolley.

**In Attendance:** I King (Clerk), Mr R Bastow (Youth Development Worker, North Yorkshire Youth), Mrs Di Dinsdale and six members of the public

**Apologies:** Cllrs S Hunter, A Sunter,

1. **The Minutes of the Meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> November 2014 were accepted as a true record, and signed by the Chairman. There were no Matters Arising**

2. **Youth Club.** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Meeting, and wished them a "Happy New Year". He invited Mr Bastow to address the Meeting as the first item of business. He reminded the Council that Hawes Youth Club had closed last year after North Yorkshire County Council had reluctantly had to withdraw its financial support to make £155million of savings as directed by the Government. The nearest Youth Club is now at Leyburn. For the past two months he has been trying to collect a team of volunteers to run the club again in Hawes, with a target to start in February. However, he is seeking funding for a Casual Youth Worker to work with the volunteers in organising the Club.

The Chairman was totally supportive of re-opening the Club, as there is a real need to keep young people in the Dale. He proposed that the Council should make a grant of £936 over the coming year, to be paid in 2 blocks. The second would be dependent of a report from the Youth Worker or North Yorkshire Youth on the progress of Hawes Youth Club. The grant would fund a casual Youth Worker to run clubs on alternate weeks.

Cllr Walter Head suggested that Mr Bastow should approach the Parish Councils for Askrigg and Bainbridge as their young people would also be attending the Youth Club. If more funding was to materialise then the Youth Club might be able to open weekly, rotating where it was held. Cllr.Blackie offered the use of The Little White Bus service to transport youngsters between venues.

**Council resolved unanimously to grant the sum of £936 (in two blocks) to support the Hawes Youth Club.**

3. **War Memorial.** Cllr Head outlined the responses to the consultation held in the Community Office on the proposed new War Memorial. The Chairman said that the Council needed to make provisional decisions on 4 areas:

- a. **Location.** There is a broad consensus that the Memorial should be placed on the small green at the bottom of Gayle Lane, opposite the Primary School. It was felt that the alternative location on the traffic islands at Town Foot

would be prominent and appropriate, but more unsuitable for services or Armistice Day parades for traffic reasons. (Consultation Vote was 21:8 on the Gayle Lane Location.) **Council agreed to support the location at the bottom of Gayle Lane.**

- b. **Design.** Three designs had been displayed at the Community Office – a rounded cairn, a square-shaped cairn and a Memorial surrounded by a wooden seat. A suggestion of a rough stone boulder with suitable wording had also been received, but there was concern about the stability of such a design. The Consultation had voted – Square Cairn 21; Memorial with seat 7; Round Cairn 1. **Council agreed to support the Square-shaped Cairn.**
- c. **Names.** There was much discussion as to whether the Memorial should list the names of those local people who passed away in the First and Second World Wars, or whether to have a more generic dedication to all who have lost their lives in any war. The Consultation Vote was very close – 16 for a generic dedication to 16 for the list of names. **Council voted by 6 votes to 3 in favour of the generic dedication.**
- d. **Cross.** There were two decisions – whether the Memorial should have a Cross symbol at all, and, if so, whether it should be mounted on the top or incorporated into the monument itself. **All but one of the Council voted that the War Memorial should have the symbol of a Cross; and all voted, with one abstention, that the Cross should be incorporated into the Memorial itself.**

**The Chairman re-emphasised that all the above are Provisional Decisions of the Council, subject to revision and final decision at the Council Meeting in February, once any further expression of opinion from the people of Hawes and High Abbotside has been considered.**

4. **Precept.** Council resolved unanimously to request the same Precept as last year, this a stand-still for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year running.

5. **Chairman's Items**

- a. **Marker Posts outside The Shetty, Gayle.** The Chairman announced that he would be attending a site visit on the following day with Steve Barker of NYCC Highways and the householders at The Shetty, Gayle to discuss the removal of the marker posts in the highway verge outside their house. He emphasised that the owners of The Shetty have had several opportunities to put their case to the Council, and that he had specifically invited them to this Meeting, promising them a fair and civil hearing. He had received no response. At least three of the Markers will be removed, and he will be arguing that all five should go.

**The Parish Council were still firmly of the view that they should be removed and Councillors reported they had received additional complaints about them.**

Cllr. Blackie said he would also take Mr. Barker on a tour of the various highways issues in the Parish.

- b. **Defibrillator.** The report at the last Meeting that the First Responders' defibrillator is available for nearly 24 hours a day was challenged. The First Responder Trainer had been asked for his opinion and felt that another one in the town would be a good idea. The Chairman pointed out that the District Council would fund most of the cost, from its Communities Opportunities Fund, with the local area being asked to raise £100 - £150, maybe by putting collection tins in local pubs. It was felt that the defibrillator would be best located at the Market House. **Council agreed to apply for a Defibrillator, and to pay for up to 10% of the costs if necessary.**
- c. **Donation from the Hawes Market Tolls Trustees.** The Chairman announced that the Trustees had made a donation of £4000 towards the costs of replacing the defective safety matting around the roundabout and repairing/replacing the barrel ride in the Play Park.

Cllr Head said that Kevin Nugent had been in touch with him to say that Abacus, the company which had laid the matting for the new toddlers' area had quoted a price of £7215 which would come with a 5 year warranty. Cllr Blackie challenged the sum suggested, and asked that Mr Nugent should arrange a site meeting with Abacus which he could attend.

**Council agreed to send a letter of thanks to the Tolls Trustees for their deep generosity.**

- d. **Donation from JR Hopper & Co.** The Chairman reported a donation of £200 from Hoppers towards the improvements to the area of The Hill which adjoins its office.
- e. **Library Consultation.** The Chairman proposed that a response should be sent into the Consultation arguing that the current £13000 paid annually towards the costs of the Community Office building in Hawes should be maintained as it is under threat from 2017 onwards. **Agreed unanimously – Delegated to the Chairman to submit the response on behalf of the Parish Council to meet the deadline.**
- f. **Bus Services -** The Chairman reported that the local bus services have been up for tender again, with the new contracts effective from April 2015 for four years. The Little White Bus Service had been successful in all its bids, and had extended some of the routes. The Swaledale service will now run all the way from Keld to Richmond, rather than terminating at Reeth. The subsidy for the scheduled route to Garsdale has been reduced, but it is a highly successful service. Services will run down both sides of Wensleydale from Gayle to Leyburn with brand new low floor buses and an early morning and early evening return service to get passengers to / from work,

for students going to Richmond or Darlington, or to attend an outpatients appointment at The Friarage.

Councillors thought the new bus services proposed were a significant step forward on the existing services, in particular in the much improved connectional timings at Leyburn to / from Richmond, Darlington, Bedale, Northallerton, and Ripon. **The Chairman was delegated to make a favourable response to the consultation.**

- g: Personal Announcement.** The Parish Council greeted with applause the announcement made by Cllr John Blackie that he is to stand as an Independent candidate in the General Election in May for the local constituency of Richmond (Yorks).
- h: Highways.** Cllr Blackie was briefed on various issues which he would raise with Mr Steve Barker of the NYCC Highways Department after their site meeting on the following day.

## 6. YDNPA Planning Applications

- a. R/56/326A Shaw Paddock Farm, Lunds.** Full planning permission for erection of general purpose agricultural building. **Strongly Supported.**
- b. R/15/466LB The Villa, Appersett.** Listed Building Consent to retain replacement of uPVC windows on the south elevation with wooden windows. **The Council expressed strong support for the owners of listed buildings to have the right to install uPVC windows, subject to design considerations for the building as a whole, in the interest of greener energy and financial savings.**

## 7. Financial Matters - Council approved the payment of the following Accounts:

- a. **Yorkshire Dales NPA – Room Hire for 10<sup>th</sup> November - £40.00**
- b. **Ian King - Annual Expenses Claim - £124.83**
- c. **Ivica Baranasic – Tidying up work in the Playpark - £45.00**
- d. **FGH Security Ltd – Security for Tour de France events - £1185.00**

## 8. Dates of future meetings

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** – at 7.15 pm in the Dales Countryside Museum

**A date in April to be confirmed** – This will be the final meeting of the Hawes & High Abbotside Parish Council 2011 – 2015.

**There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 9.32pm.**