

Bilsdale Midcable Parish Council
Draft Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 6th March 2024
Chop Gate Village Hall

Present: Cllrs M Bowes (Chairman), J Smith, B Heley, K Verity, S Sanderson
In attendance: Mrs P Johnson, Ms D Sporton, Mrs S Reynolds, Mr R Chapman and Clerk J Gamble

1. **Introduction and welcome:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting
2. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr H Moorhouse
3. **Declarations:** Cllr Sanderson declared a non-prejudicial interest in agenda item 15b
4. **Minutes of the meeting on 9th January 2024:** The minutes were agreed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman
5. **Matters arising:** The proposed discussion on Biodiversity has been postponed to a future meeting that can offer more time to do justice to this topic

6. **Fangdale Beck Village Hall Charity:** Cllr Bowes explained recent informal discussions with Hawby Parish Council and outlined a general way forward. Resolved:
 - a. agreed to nominate Cllr Bowes to become a trustee of the Charity, to take effect as soon as appropriate personal insurance is available
 - b. to receive progress reports
 - c. to contribute towards the insurance costs for one year if required
 - d. to inform Fangdale Beck residents about these decisions. Action: Cllr Bowes/Clerk

7. **Highways:**
 - a. Highways Parish Workshop: Cllr Smith reported on the discussions at this useful workshop. Flooding, pot holes and gully-cleaning were 3 key issues. Extracts from Highways Safety Manual will soon be available on the Bilsdale website. Action: Cllr Smith
 - b. Street Lighting in Fangdale Beck: The request from Fangdale Beck residents to turn the street lights off at midnight was supported. Action: Clerk to email Highways
 - c. Traffic survey: A 24-hour survey for 7 days at each end of Chop Gate on vehicle speeds has been commissioned with Highways for May 2024
 - d. An offer regarding traffic signs in Chop Gate. Details were reviewed. Resolved. These signs would not be appropriate in Chop Gate. Action: Clerk to inform S. Devey
 - e. Residents complaint regarding the unsafe gatepost at the cattle grid on Raisdale Road. No response has been received to the email sent to Highways Authority. Action: Clerk to send reminder

8. **Finance:**
 - a. Current status and outlook: It was noted that on 28th February 2024 the amount in the accounts totalled £4,559.37. Projected income and expenditure for 2024-2025 was discussed and it was noted that the expected balance at 31st March 2025 would be £3,606.59
 - b. A new simplified 3-page layout for the accounts was approved for 2024-2025 finances. Cllr Smith was thanked for her work
 - c. Update on primary user access for the bank account: Action: Cllr Smith is in the process of arranging a meeting at HSBC Bank

9. **Police:** The January and February reports were noted

10. **Fibre broadband:** Cllr Bowes explained that Quickline had no news on progress. Various mixed messages seem to be circulating regarding potential timescales. Action: Cllr Bowes to email Quickline for clarification
11. **Bilsdale Mast:** Cllr Bowes gave an update: Arqiva confirmed the TV work was completed 2 months ago, the Radio work is now completed, further external work related to platforms is underway
12. **Mobile Phone network:** Cllr Bowes gave an update: the planning is completed, the mobile company will have access to the mast and aim to complete the build in Oct-Nov. Action: Cllr Bowes to email Cellnex and Arqiva re: reducing the timescale
13. **Communication with Bilsdale residents:** Members recognised the need to improve direct communications with residents. Resolved: to prepare a list of emails and discuss with residents. Action: Cllr Smith and Cllr Verity
14. **The Audit documents:** The Risk Assessment was approved and signed by the Clerk. The Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were approved and signed by the Chair. The Council Policies for Discipline, Grievance and Code of Conduct were approved without any modifications. The Asset Register was approved and signed by the Chair. It was noted that repairs were needed to a bench seat and 2 noticeboards
15. **Planning:**
 - a. NYM/2024/0052, Coniser Farm, Bilsdale Transmitter Track, Chop Gate Planning application for construction of a timber replacement boarded lean-to store. Members had no objections and had informed NYM Planning. Resolved: This decision was formally endorsed
 - b. NYM/2024/0100, Temporary bridge over River Seph, Bilsdale on the track to Bilsdale Mast, retention of concrete bridge piers. Resolved: There were no objections. Action: Clerk to email NYM Planning
 - c. NYM/2024/0136, Application of certificate of lawfulness for permitted development at the Forge, Fangdale Beck. Resolved: There were no further comments. Action: Clerk to inform NYM Planning
16. **Correspondence:**
 - a. Graffiti spray near Garfitt's Quarry, Clay Bank: The Police email was noted
 - b. Various surveys from North Yorkshire Council: Concern was expressed at the large number of surveys being received and the lack of clarity on conclusions
 - c. Undergrounding Electricity Cables: Cllr Bowes gave an update. Action: Cllr Bowes to email NYM National Park for more information on options for Chop Gate
17. **Next meeting:** The next meeting is 7.30 pm on 1st May 2024 in Chop Gate Village Hall

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