

WHALEY BRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Mechanics Institute, Market Street, Whaley Bridge, High Peak, SK23 7AA
Tel: 01663 733068 e-mail: townclerk@whaleybridgetowncouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th November 2024 The Meeting Room, Mechanics Institute, Market Street, Whaley Bridge

Present: Councillors: Thomas (Chair), Bowden, Gilmour, Glover, Magowan, Lomax, Ridgway, Smith, Taylor and Webb.

In Attendance: No members of the public, DCC Cllr Ruth George and Andrew Fox, Town Clerk.

C24/171 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Hall and McCarthy.

C24/172 Declarations of Members' Interests and Dispensation Applications

None.

C24/173 Community Police

A report was received from the police, it was noted that there is an issue with Evri parcels being dumped rather than delivered in Whaley Bridge.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will write to Evri to inform them about the issue of parcels being dumped by Evri drivers and not delivered.

It was noted that the police report didn't include the locations of the crimes which made the information far less useful.

C24/174 Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

C24/175 Updates from County and Borough Councillors on matters of concern to the Town Council

Cllr George provided a written report which is attached to the minutes. In addition she commented that DCC are thankfully not closing Whitestones and that unfortunately the special education service in Derbyshire was under special measures.

C24/176 Minutes of previous meeting

RESOLVED: The Minutes of the last meeting of Whaley Bridge Town Council held on Thursday 10th October 2024 are a true and correct record of the meeting, the Chair was authorised to sign them.

C24/177 Clerk's Report

RESOLVED: To note the Clerk's report and to approved the Clerk's holiday on the 22nd of November.

C24/178 Finance etc

RESOLVED: That the Accounts for Payment listed below are paid.

| | Nov -24 | Payments | 14/11/2024 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| Cheque Number | Payee | Description | Amount £ |
| Whaley Bridge Town Council | | | |
| | Salaries | Net salaries | £5,019.69 |
| | HMRC | PAYE | £1,465.57 |
| | DCC | Pension Contribution | £1,616.49 |
| DD | TalkTalk Business | Telephone/Broadband | £54.44 |
| DD | Trusted IT | Backup/365 Lic/Website | £126.44 |
| DD | PEAC UK | Photocopier Lease | £245.74 |
| | Mechanics Institute | Office Rent | £476.66 |
| | Mechanics Institute | Concessionary use | £216.00 |
| | Mechanics Institute | Meeting Room hire | £92.50 |
| | Royal Mail | Missing postage on item (paid by card) | £2.20 |
| | S Drinkwater & Son | Christmas Tree Brackets, Stone for FV large tree holder and bolts to secure brackets | £637.09 |
| | Hockerley Hall Garden Services | Shallcross Incline Maintenance | £100.00 |
| | S'N'S Trees | Removal of Log on the Incline | £180.00 |
| | Royal British Legion | Three poppy wreathes | £75.00 |
| | Nemesis Pyrotechnics LTD | Glow Sticks for Firework display | £545.76 |
| | Nemesis Pyrotechnics LTD | Firework display | £3,820.00 |
| | Goyt Valley Produce | Supply of 2 large Christmas Trees and 2 small trees | £880.00 |
| | Leathley & Co | Work Preparing payroll | £63.00 |
| | TSL-Engraving | Commemorative plaque (paid by card) | £49.74 |
| | Churches Together | Remembrance Day booklets | £40.00 |
| | WB Sports Association | Walking Football Grant | £35.00 |
| | Swizzels | Sweets for Santa's Grotto (Paid by Card) | £21.18 |
| | AK Products | Copier paper and 2 A3 posters | £30.60 |
| | Mechanics Institute | Reimburse Room Hire used for PC | £70.00 |
| | Abacus Lighting | Commision of floodlights and erection misc for SA | £4,213.69 |
| | Abacus Lighting | New flood lightheds for SA | £8,246.40 |
| | Mark Harrod LTD | New Goal brackets for SA | £206.76 |
| | Total Energies | Final Electricity invoice for SA | £251.19 |
| | Whaley Bridge Town Council | Total | £28,781.14 |
| Mechanics Institute | | | |
| | Whaley Bridge Town Council | Wages offcharge | £2,084.11 |
| | Rebecca Ford | Refund for Cancelled booking and deposit | £290.00 |
| | Black Box Group | CCTV annual maintenance | £84.14 |
| DD | Yu Energy | Gas | £568.12 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| DD | British Gas | Electricity | £163.50 |
| DD | United Utilities | Water | £62.76 |
| | Mechanics Institute | Total | £3,252.63 |
| Sports Association | | | |
| DD | SAGE | Sage One Accounts | £39.60 |
| 759 | Whaley Bridge Town Council | Wages offcharge | £987.50 |
| 760 | Whaley Bridge Town Council | Reimburse Expenditure | £12,918.04 |
| DD | Water Plus | Water | £18.79 |
| DD | Yu Energy | Electricity | £187.06 |
| DD | High Peak Borough Council | Non-Domestic Rates | £55.00 |
| | Sports Association | Total | £14,205.99 |
| | | | |
| | Total Expenditure | Total | £46,239.76 |

RESOLVED: To note the Financial Reports for October 2024 which had been circulated to all members, and the bank balances at 31st October stood at:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Whaley Bridge Town Council | £ |
| CCLA Deposit Fund | 183,000.00 |
| Unity Trust - Current Account | 72,437.14 |
| Unity Trust - Deposit Account | 36,837.36 |
| Petty Cash | 47.02 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 292,321.52 |
| Mechanics Institute | £ |
| Unity Trust - Current Account | 8,166.44 |
| Unity Trust - Deposit Account | 14,367.55 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 22,533.99 |
| Sports Association | £ |
| Current Account | 24,906.25 |
| Deposit Account | 68,666.37 |
| Petty Cash | 0.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 93,572.62 |

The Clerk noted that he had not placed more money in the deposit scheme yet as there were some large invoices to pay such as the floodlights for the 3G pitch.

C24/179 Mechanics Institute Refurbishment Project

Received a report from Cllr Thomas noting we were hoping to adjudicate a bid at this meeting however we had only received one tender which has been deemed unaffordable. The Clerk noted that we have now fulfilled the advertising requirements for the tender.

C24/180 Budget

The Budget was noted and it was agreed that there would be a separate £800.00 grants budget for sports while keeping the current £3,000.00 grants budget.

C24/181 Internal Audit

RESOLVED: The cost of £171.00 plus milage from the East Midlands Audit Service to provide the internal audit.

C24/182 Flood Plan in Whaley Bridge

RESOLVED: To allow the meeting room in the Mechanics Institute to be used as a organising point in the Whaley Bridge Flood plan if required. The Sports Pavilion would also be offered as a back up if the meeting room was unavailable.

C24/183 Grants and Donations

A number of grant applications were received and considered at the meeting.

RESOLVED: To provide a grant of £500.00 to Synergy Fitness Performance for the acquisition of a defibrillator at Bridgemont Village Hall. The Clerk will highlight relevant grant schemes and ask the applicant to let them know if there is a funding shortfall.

RESOLVED: To provide a grant of £688.00 to 1st Taxal Scouts for the centenary neckerchiefs.

RESOLVED: To provide a grant of £200.00 to Whaley Bridge Cricket Club for their All Stars program.

RESOLVED: To provide a grant of £200.00 to Good News Church for their youth activities.

RESOLVED: To provide a grant of £200.00 to Furness Vale Football Club.

RESOLVED: To provide a grant of £300.00 to Chapel Mobile Physio.

RESOLVED: To provide a grant of £800.00 to the Carnival for the marquees from the Carnival budget.

C24/184 Sexual and General Harassment Policy

The draft Sexual and General Harassment Policy was received from the Clerk.

RESOLVED: To approve the draft Sexual and General Harassment Policy.

C24/185 Horwich End Traffic Lights

The issues with the Horwich End Traffic Lights were discussed as they were causing significant traffic issues in Whaley Bridge.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will write to DCC highlighting that the traffic is very bad between 8am-10am, from 3pm-4pm and from 5pm-6pm. The Clerk will request that an officer from the relevant team attend at these times to have a look at the timing of the lights.

C24/186 Town and Villages Regeneration Fund

It was noted that the timescales for the fund are too tight for the Council to make an application.

C24/187 Photocopier Provision

A report was received from the Clerk.

RESOLVED: To accept the quote from Zero of £180.00 per quarter for the lease of a new photocopier at a printing cost of £0.021 for colour and mono with a cost of £0.018 for part colour printing for a period of 60 months.

C24/188 Sunnybank Allotments

It was noted that a site inspection for the allotment site took place with a significant number of plots noted for further work. The Clerk will send out the chasers for these plots by next week.

C24/189 Shallcross Incline Tree Work and Leaf Blowing

It was noted that the leaf blowing on the incline and the cutting of vegetation should be two separate issues and the Clerk will discuss this with the contractor.
RESOLVED: To accept the quote of £5,355.00 plus VAT for the removal of five trees on the Shallcross Incline.

C24/190 Overgrown Hedge by the Scout Hut

The Clerk will discuss this with the Scouts.

C24/191 Christmas Tree Brackets

The creation of the seven additional brackets was noted and the cost of £494.60 plus VAT from Drinkwaters for making them, with an additional £160.00 to Steve Gregory for putting up the brackets.

C24/192 Christmas Light Switch On

A report was received regarding the costs for the Christmas Light Switch On.
RESOLVED: To provide a grant of £250.00 to the Friends of the Park for the Lantern Parade.

RESOLVED: To provide a grant of £140.00 for Whaley Bridge Band to play at the Light Switch Ons.

RESOLVED: To purchase Christmas Tree Lights from Stanway and Hallows Electrical for £280.00 including VAT and to add this to the accounts for payment.

C24/193 SLCC Membership

RESOLVED: The cost of £253.00 for the Clerk's SLCC Membership.

C24/194 Recommendations From Whaley 4 Wards

The Minutes of the Regeneration Committee had been circulated and were noted by the Council.

C24/195 Reports from Committees and representatives on outside bodies

a) Regeneration Committee

Already covered.

b) Personnel Committee

No meeting is scheduled.

c) High Peak & Hope Valley Community Rail Partnership

A report had been received and circulated.

d) Whaley Bridge Allotments Working Group

Nothing further to report.

e) Whaley Bridge Sports Association

There had not been a meeting.

f) High Peak and Cheshire for Ukraine

Nothing to report.

C24/196 Correspondence

RESOLVED: To note correspondence received from 10th October:

1. DCC – Community News 14 October 2024.
2. Fernilee Methodist Church – Newsletter October 2024.
3. DCC – Community News 21 October 2024.
4. DCC – Community News 28 October 2024.
5. DALC – Newsletter November 2024.
6. Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government – Consultation on Remote Attendance at meetings.
7. Derbyshire Pension Fund – Employer Newsletter October 2024.
8. Citizen’s Advice – 6-month report for Citizen’s Advice Derbyshire Districts.
9. Derbyshire Pension Fund – Consultation on Pension Administration Strategy.
10. DCC – Community News 11 November 2024.
11. Peak Park Parishes Forum – Notification of Peak Park planning training.
12. DCC – Information on School Travel Planning.
13. DCC – Holiday Activity & Food Programme Winter 2024.

C24/197 Planning

RESOLVED: To note the following decisions of High Peak Borough Council:

Decisions Made by Committee – None

Delegated Decisions

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| DOC/2023/0088 Application for Approval of Details Reserved by Conditions 4 and 13 in relation to application HPK/2018/0164. 141 WHITE HORSE INN, Buxton Road, Whaley Bridge, Derbyshire, SK23 7HX. | Approved |
| HPK/2024/0316 Demolition of outbuildings to the rear yard of an existing public house to facilitate the formation of an external drinking area to include raised decked area, fixed seating, smoking shelter and festoon lighting. 8, Bridge Street, Whaley Bridge, Derbyshire, SK23 7LR. | Approved |

RESOLVED: That the Council has the following comments on the new applications

| New Applications Received since 10th October 2024 | |
|---|-------------------|
| Applications | Comments |
| New Applications Received since 7th November 2024 | |
| HPK/2024/0457 Install PVCu conservatory to the rear of the property. 12, Overton Lane, Whaley Bridge, Derbyshire, SK23 7GU. | No Comment |

C24/198 Exclusion of the Press and the Public

Not required.

C24/199 Mechanics Institute Tenders

There were no tenders to consider.

The meeting closed at 9.14pm

Signed as a true and correct record of the meeting

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Chairman

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Date