

**Horton in Ribblesdale Parish Council  
Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 14 January 2013**

**Present:** Cllrs Hilary Bowman, Wilf Fenten (Chairman), Sheila Fleming, Sheila Millman, Richard Pattinson

**Clerk:** Mr I Fleming

**In attendance:** 3 members of the public.

**Item 1. To receive apologies for absence**

County Cllr Richard Welch, Cllr Avril Palmer

**Item 2. To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest in agenda items and their nature and to receive, consider, decide and record members' requests for dispensations**

Councillors were reminded to declare items as/if they arise during the meeting. The Chairman outlined the rules and statute governing the declarations of interest and reminded Councillors that they should have regard to whether any person or persons acting reasonably and in full possession of the facts would consider that a disclosable pecuniary interest existed for a Councillor on a particular matter.

A request for dispensation to discuss and vote on matters relating to quarries had been received from Cllr Bowman. **Resolved that:** the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the Council area because the applicant has personal knowledge and understanding that may be of relevance and their participation will ensure that the Council remains quorate when discussing such matters.

**Item 3. Public participation**

Members of the public indicated that they wished to speak at Item 7 in respect of planning application C/44/257A.

**Item 4. To approve the minutes of the meeting of 10 December 2012**

The minutes of the meeting of 10 December had been tabled in due time before the meeting. **Resolved that:** they be approved as a fair and accurate record and be signed as such by the Chairman.

**Item 5. To receive reports for information only**

The Clerk reported that he had written to the footpaths officer who was arranging a site visit to inspect the flooding on Harber Scar lane and consider what remedial action might be taken.

A formal offer of grant had been received from YDMT in respect of the Visitor and Traffic Management plan and Councillors had met informally with Colin Speakman to discuss how the work should be taken forward. A questionnaire to be distributed to every parish household had been prepared and the wording agreed. Distribution would take place over the next few days and completed forms collected for analysis during the week commencing 28 January. A drop-in event would be held on 27 February to enable residents to meet Mr Speakman and express their views about visitor, traffic and parking issues. The objective was to have a draft report ready for consideration by Councillors on 8 April and to make a formal presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

A noticeboard for the use of residents had been placed at the junction of Horton Scar lane and Main Street and individuals and groups were welcome to place here items of general interest.

**Item 6. Finance and administration**

**6.1. To approve the Financial Statement and authorise bills payable**

The Clerk drew attention to a bill from Horton PCC in respect of two years' charge for lighting the Church tower and asked if it was their wish that both years' charges be paid. Cllr Fleming expressed concern that,

despite reminders, the charge for 2010 – 2011 had not been received in due time and suggested that the Council should write to the PCC requesting that future bills be submitted in timely fashion. It was understood that a new PCC treasurer had been appointed and the problem was unlikely to re-occur. Following discussion it was **Resolved that:** the Financial Statement for January 2013 as appended to these minutes was a true and accurate record of the Council's financial position and that all due payments be authorised.

**6.2. To consider any other financial matters**

The budget and cash book entries for December 2012 were duly noted.

**6.3. To consider a donation under S137 in respect of Marie Curie Cancer Care**

**Resolved that:** the application for donation be politely refused on the grounds that it was contrary to the Council's standard policy on making donations.

**6.4. To consider a donation under S137 in respect of Craven Citizens' Advice Bureau**

**Resolved that:** the sum of £100.00 be sent to Craven CAB.

**6.5. To sign the precept form for financial year 2013 – 2014**

The Clerk informed Councillors that a letter had been received from Craven District Council about the localisation of Council Tax Support Scheme for 2013 – 2014 and the impact on parish councils. The Clerk outlined the changes which resulted in the income raised through the precept being lower in 2013 – 2014, but subject to the decision of Craven DC later in the month some or all of this would be offset by a grant from the District Council. However, should the District Council decide to offset only some of the shortfall Council Tax payers may see a very small increase in the precept element of their tax bill. This was likely to on average be less than £1 for the year.

Following discussion it was concluded that the precept for 2013 – 2014 be kept at £8,800 and that Craven DC be informed accordingly. The precept form was duly signed.

**Item 7. Planning Matters**

**7.1. Applications**

**C/44/116R – full permission for temporary importation and storage of Ingleton quarry silt within Horton quarry**

The Chairman invited members of the public to address the Council and the Chairman of Friends of Upper Ribblesdale explained that the purpose of the group was to ensure the ongoing health and beauty of the area and that they were working with local quarry operators to prioritise work for local drivers and encourage a more acceptable volume of transport onto the rail network. The group would oppose the application because of its potential impact on both the sensitive environment of the valley and the lives of residents, it would set a dangerous precedent and was contrary to the saved National Park policies on the disposal of inert waste generated outside the Park. The group was concerned about the application in principal because of a lack of information and there was no certainty that this would remain a temporary arrangement.

During discussion councillors made the following points:

- This activity had been carried out in the past and had created a mess with high levels of dust in dry weather and slurry covering the roads and surrounding properties when wet.
- There was no indication as to how the material would be contained whilst in transit.
- The number of daily movements would have a significant detrimental impact on residents, especially those in Hawes Road and Cragghill Road.
- Considerable doubts were expressed as to how the given number of movements could be achieved within current working hours.
- The material to be imported was of different nature to that at Horton so would impact heavily on the landscape.

- The National Park has a policy stipulation that quarry waste produced outside the park should not be imported into the park.
- The application does not indicated anywhere that the storage itself will be temporary and that the silt will definitely be removed at some stage.

**Resolved that:** the application be recommended for refusal on the grounds expressed during discussion.

#### **C/44/257A – full permission for new track, construction of bridge over Gayle beck and repair of Cam High road to facilitate access to Cam forest**

Opinion on this application was divided and during discussion points both for and against the application were made.

Those inclined to recommend that the application be granted commented that:

- the environmental impact assessment had found there to be minimal impact from the proposed development;
- the archaeological report supported the development because of the protection that it would afford to the underlying archaeology;
- the visual impact would be limited;
- the track pre-dated the creation of both the Pennine way and Dales Way;
- the forest owners had a legal right to use Cam High road, so without the permissions applied for the use would be unregulated potentially leading to serious damage to the track;
- the proposal for crossing of Gayle Beck is much improved on previous applications.

Those inclined to recommend refusal of the application commented:

- A long fight had resulted in a TRO being placed on Cam High road and the Roman Road to minimise traffic noise and visual impact. The proposal would place this TRO in jeopardy when it came for review and renewal.
- The proposal would not alleviate the impact of forest wagons on Newhouses and Horton.
- The existing footbridge carries a public right of way so the bridge could not be removed without a stopping-up order which would be opposed by users. There was therefore a significant risk that the Gale Beck crossing would be left with two bridges for some time.
- The material to be used in making up the track and its construction are unsuitable for the weight and frequency of vehicle movements.
- Other routes with less visual and amenity impact are available.
- The impact on three major recreational routes would be unacceptable in terms of the physical impact of timber wagons on the walking/cycling surface; the noise generated by the traffic; and the physical intimidation of recreational users of the route.

It was **resolved by majority that** the application be recommended for refusal on the grounds that the development would have an unacceptable impact on other users of the route, jeopardise the existing TRO, there was no guarantee that the footbridge could be replaced, the material and construction of the track would have adverse visual impact and be unsuitable for the weight and frequency of vehicle movements.

#### **Item 8. Village Environment, Burials, Rights of Way and Highways**

##### **8.1. To receive and consider draft rules – Sunnybank quarry picnic site**

Concern was expressed as to how the proposed rules would be enforced, but following discussion it was concluded that, through a combination of involvement by local residents and formal supervision by the council, users would be encouraged to respect the site and the rules governing its use. The draft with minor amendment was agreed and would be brought back to the next meeting for approval.

#### **Item 9. to respond to correspondence received**

##### **9.1. Email from Mr Colin Speakman about surrender by Little Red Bus of services 10 and 11 Horton and Clitheroe**

Cllr Pattinson explained that LRB are withdrawing from the contract so Lancashire and Yorkshire County

Councils are to re-tender the service. Agreed that the Clerk should write to both Councils asking that the Parish Council be kept fully informed about developments and remind them that the service is a vital lifeline for many residents.

**Item 10. To report matters of information not included elsewhere on this agenda and to raise items for future agendas**

The Clerk was asked to write again to NYCC Highways about the condition of the B6479 at Studfold and flooding at Fourways.

**Item 11. To confirm the date of the next meeting scheduled for Monday 11 February 2013**

Duly confirmed. To be held in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 21.15.

Signed.....  
Chairman

Date.....