



Horsforth Town Council
Community and Environment Committee Minutes
4 March 2021 at 7pm

Present:

In the Chair: Cllr R Jacques

Cllrs B Batchelor, C Calvert, R Capitano, SL Dowling, R Hardcastle, E Hyndes, P Mallott, D Prater, R Shaw, T Stones

In attendance: J Sou - Clerk.

CE/20.44 – 20.50 These minute numbers have been left blank intentionally.

- CE/20.51 To accept apologies and the reason for absence.**
RESOLVED: To accept the apologies and reasons for absence from Cllrs SM Dowling, R Harris, R Jones and R Shaw.
- CE/20.52 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and other Interests.**
None declared.
- CE/20.53 To consider questions and comments from members of the public at the Chairman's discretion.**
No members of the public present.
- CE/20.54 To approve minutes of the previous meetings**
RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10 December 2020 are a true record.
- CE/20.55 Grant/Sponsorship feedback**
None.
- CE/20.56 Sponsorship Applications**
None received.
- CE/20.57 Grant Applications**
None received.
- CE/20.58 Awards – Good Citizen and Young Achiever Awards 2021**
- 20.58.1. RESOLVED: Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude members of the press and public from the meeting during Item 8.2 of the agenda by reason that the item will disclose the identity of individuals and information relating to them.**
- 20.58.2.** No nominations received to date.
Discussion regarding whether Committee would consider making an award of Good Citizens to a group. It was noted that Committee had in the past made the award of Young Achievers to multiple members of a group.

Signed Dated

RESOLVED: That nominations for a group to receive an award should be made using the nomination form with the nominations to be considered by Council at its next meeting.

ACTION: Office to invite nominations.

CE/20.59 Newlay Weir incident – motion by Cllr D Prater

Motion in the name of Cllr D Prater stated as follows:

“The Community and Environment Committee is saddened by the partial collapse of Newlay Weir in late January/early February. In addition to the conservation and environmental implications for the river and surrounding habitat, this represents significant damage to a grade II, much-loved local historical landmark which has endured extreme weather conditions for centuries.

The damage to the weir has caused significant concern for Horsforth residents living in the vicinity of the river, including damage to garden perimeters and uncertainty around future flood risks.

The Committee notes that in response to the incident the Environment Agency (EA) has: launched an investigation into the collapse of the weir; released three update briefings (11 Feb/16 Feb/23 Feb); and commenced some initial remedial works to secure the banks of the river.

Committee resolves that Council writes to the EA to assert the following points:

- The investigation into the damage of Newlay Weir should not be predicated on a prior assumption that heavy rainfall and high river levels during Storm Christophe were the primary cause of said damage
- The investigation into the damage of Newlay Weir must ensure thorough assessment of the construction of a new salmon pass adjacent to the weir, in terms of the methods used (eg pile driving) and also the timing of the works (ie left in an unfinished state as flood season arrived)
- The investigation must be transparent and independent. For example, any assessment of the salmon pass construction should not be completed by those responsible for building the salmon pass but by an impartial appointed expert.”

Motion moved by Cllr D Prater, seconded by Cllr R Hardcastle.

The motion was put to the vote.

RESOLVED as follows:

1. **To note that in response to the incident the Environment Agency (EA) has launched an investigation into the collapse of the weir, released three update briefings (11 Feb/16 Feb/23 Feb), and commenced some initial remedial works to secure the banks of the river.**
2. **That Council writes to the EA to assert the following points:-**
 - **The investigation into the damage of Newlay Weir should not be predicated on a prior assumption that heavy rainfall and high river levels during Storm Christophe were the primary cause of said damage**
 - **The investigation into the damage of Newlay Weir must ensure thorough assessment of the construction of a new salmon pass adjacent to the weir, in terms of the methods used (eg pile driving) and also the timing of the works (ie left in an unfinished state as flood season arrived)**
 - **The investigation must be transparent and independent. For example, any assessment of the salmon pass construction should not be completed by those responsible for building the salmon pass but by an impartial appointed expert.**

ACTION: Office to write to EA as above.

Signed Dated

CE/20.60

Band Concerts

Noted: the confirmed dates and bookings for summer band concerts 2021 (subject to any Covid-19 restrictions):

- Sunday 13 June 2021 – Stroke of Genius Big Band
- Sunday 4 July 2021- Haworth Band
- Sunday 1 August 2021 – Guiseley Brass Band (changed from West Yorkshire Brass)

CE/20.61

Jubilee Garden

Noted: Horsforth in Bloom had not carried out any maintenance during the latest period of lockdown but would be looking to resume this.

The maintenance contract was due for renewal.

ACTION: Office to liaise with Horsforth in Bloom regarding future maintenance and bring back before Committee.

CE/20.62

Floral displays

Quotes received for supply and installation of the Council’s summer floral displays and watering, and watering of Horsforth in Bloom and Fairtrade planters.

RESOLVED: To accept the quotes from Leeds City Council and place the orders.

ACTION: Office to place the orders.

CE/20.63

Events

- Events Sub-Committee would be meeting on 10 March 2021.
- Christmas Switch-On 2020 – this was considered to have been a great success and very well received. Thanks were given to Cllr D Prater and all those involved in putting on the virtual Christmas Switch-On 2020.
- Annual Town Meeting (ATM). Discussion regarding whether it was feasible to hold the ATM within the legal time limits given the continuing uncertainties on the holding of physical meetings and whether there was any merit to hold one virtually. Noted that there is no legal requirement for the Council to call an ATM.

RESOLVED: To recommend that Council does not call an ATM.

CE/20.64

New Christmas motifs – New Road Side

Cllr P Mallott reported on suitable locations for the three new motifs on New Road Side, to extend the display to incorporate the businesses at this end of New Road Side.

RESOLVED: To approve installation of new connections for Christmas motifs at the following locations on New Road Side:

Lamp Post Number	Description of location on New Road Side
40/N370	South side Outside numbers 211/213, near the Agora restaurant
41/N370	North side Outside main parade of shops on junction with Park Side
42/N370	South side Outside Domino’s Pizza

ACTION: Office to place order with Leeds Lights.

CE/20.65

Horsforth Matters

No report. The Editorial Working Group had not met.

Signed Dated

ACTION: Cllr R Jacques to request Cllr C Sellers to convene a meeting of the Editorial Working Group. Request to be made through Cllr C Calvert due to difficulties Cllr C Sellers has been having with Council email.

- CE/20.66 Street furniture inspection**
Noted: Fink Hill barrier trough inspection report – no action required.
- CE/20.67 Horsforth Fairtrade**
No report received.
- CE/20.68 Young People’s Champion**
The following report from Cllr R Shaw was **noted**:
- During the past nine months there was a 61% increase in Family support requested from Horsforth Children’s Services (HCS) and referrals to Children’s Centres increased by 50%.
 - HCS has offered 9 parenting courses since May via Zoom and agreed planned very small face-to-face courses.
 - Horsforth Children’s Centres were awarded Outstanding during the annual conversation.
 - Expecting results from Cluster review.
- CE/20.69 Dementia Friendly Horsforth**
The following report from Cllr C Calvert on behalf of Cllr J Arbuckle was **noted**:
- Currently planning for Dementia Action Week – 17-26 May 2021
 - Considering appropriate online events
 - Cllr Calvert is now community lead for Dementia Horsforth
- CE/20.70 Litter**
No report received.
- CE/20.71 Matters for Information**
Cllr R Shaw to step down as Young People’s Champion. New appointment to be made at next full Council meeting.
- CE/20.72 Items for future agenda**
None
- CE/20.73 Date of the next Meeting**
To be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 7:54pm.

Distribution: Cllrs B Batchelor, C Calvert, R Capitano, D Collins, SL Dowling, SM Dowling, R Hardcastle, R Harris, E Hyndes, R Jacques, R Jones, P Mallott, D Prater, C Sellers, R Shaw, T Stones

Signed Dated