

BOLTON BY BOWLAND, GISBURN FOREST AND SAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 02 DECEMBER 2024

HELD AT TOSSIDE COMMUNITY HALL AT 7.30 PM

Present: Cllrs A Yates (Chair), H Fortune, L Marsden, S Mitchell, A Murphy, R Veitch, S Whitaker, P Wilson, Clerk

To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs D Brady and N Bunyan

To receive declarations of pecuniary or personal interest

Cllrs Veitch and Wilson declared an interest in item 10 B4RN

Adjournment for public session

None

To resolve to confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28 October 2024

The Minutes of the meeting held on 28 October 2024 were approved and duly signed by the Chair.

Matters Arising not covered elsewhere on the Agenda – For Information Only

The Clerk advised that she had taken possession of the dog fouling signs which now needed to be put up where appropriate. It was noted that Don Brady and Sheila Mitchell had previously offered to take some signs for Bolton by Bowland and that James Waddington had previously offered to deal with signs for Tosside and it was agreed these options should be pursued.

It was noted that there remained a vacancy for the Sawley ward on the parish council. Rob Veitch advised he had spoken to some potential candidates for the vacancy but that no one had confirmed their interest.

To consider any response to be made to planning applications

It was resolved that there were no objections to the following planning applications:

3//2024/0850 Closes Hall Farm, Stump Cross Lane Bolton by Bowland
3/2024/0889 Lower Monubent Farm, Hellifield Road Bolton by Bowland
3/2024/0923 3 Main Street, Bolton by Bowland

Accounts

To approve the bank balance as of 26 November 2024 of £52,247 Approved by all

To consider and approve any invoice payments due:

1. Tosside Community Hall	Hall hire	£20	Approved
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2. Mrs C A Holmes

Salary £214.96 Approved

To consider the budget for 2025/26 and the precept request to RVBC

The Chair explained income and expenditure to date for 2024/25 and projected income and expenditure for 2025/26.

It was agreed that an application could be made retrospectively by Tosside Community Hall for a village hall grant for 2023/24 but that this must be the last time an application was made beyond the year to which the grant would relate.

It was also agreed that the villages could receive £200 for winter planting and £300 for summer planting although it was noted that not each of the villages took advantage of this grant. The Clerk advised that small grant for planting were available from RVBC but that they would no longer pay out any grants without production of receipts.

The budget was approved in principle and it was agreed that a precept of £20,000 would be requested from RVBC for 2025/26.

Review of governance policies

It was noted that no amendments were required to the Standing Orders, Code of Conduct or grievance procedures but that minor amendments regarding addresses were required to the complaints procedure. The data protection, privacy and retention policy also required amendments and needed to be checked against the latest available version used by RVBC or promoted by LALC.

To consider the latest information available regarding the B4RN project

It was reported that all the targets for roll out in Grindleton and Sawley had been met so the project would now be proceeding in those villages.

Matters brought forward by members – For Information Only

The Chair provided an update on the situation regarding the deteriorating condition of the walls on Holden Lane. It was noted that it had been difficult to make contact with a representative of the estate but that a meeting had eventually been held. Various suggestions had been made regarding the lane but it was explained that any additional signage would require permission from LCC who had, to date, been unco-operative about the whole situation. It was noted that the former Copy Nook was now occupied so an approach to the owners should be made to discuss any suggestions which could impact their property.

The Chair updated the meeting regarding road safety measure which LCC were prepared to implement for the villages, noting that Lancashire Highways had been willing to allow gateways for Bolton by Bowland but not for Tosside as it did not satisfy the criteria for being a village. It was also explained that buying or hiring a SpID for Tosside would not be effective as the national speed limit was applicable and SpIDs could only be set for the appropriate speed limit for a settlement. It was, however, agreed that a SpID could be purchased for use in Sawley, especially as the post was already in place.

Cllr Marsden explained that she had reported, via Love Clean Streets, the lifting of a grate during the heavy rain on 23 November 2024 which had resulted in flooding on the road through Holden. It was further explained that this had also happened on previous occasions in heavy rain. It was suggested that the Clerk also report the issue to LCC via the app to try and get LCC to take action.

The meeting concluded at 8.25 pm.