

BOLTON BY BOWLAND, GISBURN FOREST AND SAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 17 SEPTEMBER 2024

HELD AT TOSSIDE COMMUNITY HALL AT 7.30 PM

Present: Cllrs A Yates (Chair), D Brady, H Fortune, L Marsden, S Mitchell, A Murphy, S Whittaker, R Veitch, Clerk and three members of the public

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Bunyan and Wilson

2. To receive declarations of pecuniary or personal interest

Councillors Veitch and Murphy declared an interest in item 10, B4RN. Councillor Yates declared an interest in item 7, planning applications, in respect of 3/2024/0723.

3. Adjournment for public session

None

4. To resolve to confirm the Minutes of the parish council meeting of 22 July 2024

The Minutes of the meeting of 22 July 2024 were approved and duly signed by the Chair.

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

An update on the reinstalment of the gates at the Tosside village car park was requested and it was reported that the gates had been purchased and would be installed in due course, with a target date of the end of November 2024.

6. To receive the resignation letter of Cllr Paul Jenkins and consider the procedure for filling the vacancy

The Chair advised that Cllr Paul Jenkins had tendered his resignation from the parish council for personal reasons and that a vacancy therefore existed for the Sawley ward of the parish. The Clerk explained the procedure that needed to be followed, which would include the publication of a notice of vacancy on the parish council website and the Sawley notice board. Prescribed timescales needed to be followed at the end of which the parish council would know if an election would be necessary or whether the co-option procedure could be followed.

7. To consider any response to be made to planning applications

3/2024/0674 Meregill Farm, Holden Lane, Bolton by Bowland

No objections but a recommendation that a restriction be imposed that the development must remain within the curtilage of the property.

3/2024/0723 Corgill Lodge, Holden Lane, Bolton by Bowland

No objections

3/2024/0672 Woodpecker Cottage, Sawley

It was noted that there were concerns regarding this application and that a request for an extension to the comment deadline be requested to enable councillors to consider whether or not to file an objection.

8. Accounts

- a. To consider and approve any invoice payments due:
- | | |
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| • Mrs C A Holmes (July and August 2024 salaries) | £382.04 |
| • Bolton by Bowland Village Hall (room hire x 1) | £15.00 |
| • Bennett Kirkhope Smith (internal audit fee) | £200.00 |
| • James Waddington (lengthsman Oct 23 to Jul 24) | £2,952.66 |
- b. To approve the bank account balance as of 19 August 2024
- £57,692

9. To consider the adoption of a vexatious complaints policy

A template of a vexatious complaints policy, as used by Whalley Parish Council and many others, had been previously circulated to councillors. The main points of the document were summarised by the Chair. It was agreed that the vexatious complaints policy, as tabled, be adopted and a text of the policy would be made available on the website as soon as practicable.

10. To consider the latest information available regarding the B4RN project

Cllr Veitch advised that a loan application had been made in respect of Grindleton and Sawley to RVBC. It was noted that Bolton by Bowland had been successful in its application for the same loan so it was hoped Grindleton and Sawley's application would also succeed. It was noted that, if use of the parish council bank account was required to deposit the money, an arm's length agreement would need to be sent to the appropriate parties at B4RN.

11. Matters brought forward by members – For Information Only

Cllr Yates summarised the latest developments regarding the implementation of road safety measures in the villages who were members of the RV Road Safety Group. It was further reported that the Road Safety Group as a body had been invited to officially comment on the LCC Road Safety Strategy which was being drafted for approval in May 2025.

Cllr Brady advised that the new owner of the Coach & Horses was willing to install a CCTV camera on the property subject to certain assurances regarding the privacy of guests. It was reported that initial contact had been made with the police to discuss the matter further and the Clerk was asked to liaise as appropriate with RVBC regarding obtaining suitable funding.

Cllr Brady also reported that there was a serious issue with Himalayan balsam spreading along the stream and elsewhere off the Hellifield Road and that action needed to be taken to try to prevent its spread. It was suggested that the best time to take action on the plant was between April and June and the matter should be revisited at that time.

Date of next meeting

Monday 28 October 2024 at Bolton by Bowland Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

The meeting concluded at 8.35 pm.