

BADSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting of Badsworth Parish Council held on
Wednesday the 22nd May 2024 at 7:30 pm, in the Lawson Hut, Main Street,
Badsworth. WF9 1AF**

Present: Cllrs Mrs M Cummings, A Garbutt, J Graves

Members of the public: Nine present.

In Attendance: A Woodhead, Interim Clerk

1/0524 Appointment of Chairman.

RESOLVED Cllr Graves duly appointed as Chair of Badsworth Parish Council for 2024-25, acceptance of office signed and countersigned by the Clerk.

2/0524 Co-option to Council

RESOLVED to co-opt Mr Keith Flanagan.

a)-Declaration of Acceptance of Office completed, signed and countersigned by the Clerk.

b)-Register of interest completed and returned to the Clerk.

3/0524 To receive and consider apologies for absence.

RESOLVED to accept apologies from Cllr Broadhurst

4/0524 To receive any declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interests appertaining to the agenda under section 33 of the Localism Act 2011.

None.

5/0524 Appointment of Vice Chair

Item deferred to June.

6/0524 To receive the Chairs Report 2023-24

The Chair presented a report on work undertaken by Badsworth Parish Council for 2023-24, the Council approved the report, the report is attached (Appendix 1)

7/0524 To resolve to authorise the Council to use electronic banking

RESOLVED that the Council is authorised to use electronic banking as required under section 6.9 of our financial regulations).

8/0524 Appointment of two members to the Wakefield Branch of the Yorkshire Local Councils Association (Nominate a reserve member).

Item deferred to June.

9/0524 To receive reviewed documents and consider necessary changes

RESOLVED that the following documents have been reviewed and approved as current to the Councils needs:

a)-Standing Orders

b)-Financial Regulations

c)-Code of Conduct

d)-**RESOLVED** to adopt the new Badsworth Parish Council Reserves Policy.

e)-Badsworth Parish Council Asset list and valuation- Item to be reviewed in 2024-25
Noted.

10/0524 To receive comments or questions from members of the public attending

No questions.

Meeting closed at 7:50 pm

Appendix 1 (Item 6/0524)

**Badsworth Parish Council
Chairmans Report**

2023-24 has been a year of change for Badsworth Council, having appointed a new clerk the Council seemed to be progressing in the right direction, only for things to take a turn for the worst, resulting in all Councillors and the Clerk resigning from the Council. Given that work was being progressed and positive things were being delivered for the Parish it is a shame that all this came to a very sudden stop.

In such cases the District Council steps in to re-establish the Parish Council, appointing a quoracy of Parish Councillors and an interim Clerk to get the Council back into operation. This situation is far from ideal, it does however ensure that the Council continues to operate.

As with all changes in administration, especially where there have been radical changes, there are and will be teething problems, these will be worked through; It would be nice for people of the Parish to put themselves forward so that we do have a Council fully representative of the community and the interim measures can be removed, including the appointment of permanent Clerk.

We are thankful for those who have come forward and we are happy to support in the medium term, it is your community that the Council serves, and this is best done by you.

We have set the precept for this year, we have appointed an internal auditor and many questions are being asked and answers found, we are expecting a rather critical report, but we have opted to use a new auditor as we felt a fresh look at the way we operate is needed, so that when we have our auditors report we are all clear on what we need to do to get everything back on track.

Lastly; It has been pointed out to us that Badsworth Parish Council Records available online, state that following investigation an apology was issued to a resident for the issues caused by the actions of the Parish Council. We have looked into the records we hold and we concur with the complainant that despite the records stating that an apology has been made, no such apology was issued. We accept that the Parishioner is correct and that this record is erroneous. We do now apologise for this and hereby offer a full apology for the whole sorry episode.

We hope that in the future we can all work together to make Badsworth a nicer place to live, work and play.

Cllr Graves
Chairman
Badsworth Parish Council

BADSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Badsworth Parish Council held on Wednesday the 22nd May 2024 at 8:00 pm, in the Lawson Hut, Main Street, Badsworth. WF9 1AF

Present: Cllrs Graves (Chair,) A Garbutt, K Flanagan, Mrs M Cummings.

Members of the public: Ten present.

In Attendance: A Woodhead, Interim Clerk

11/0524 To receive comments or questions from members of the public.

Q. It was asked if Councillors contact details could be added to the website.

A. The website would be updated in due course.

Other questions covered as part of this meeting.

12/0524 To consider apologies for absence.

RESOLVED to accept apologies from Cllr Broadhurst.

13/0524 To receive any declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interests appertaining to the agenda under section 33 of the Localism Act 2011.

None.

14/0524 To receive parish information from District Councillors/inform the District Councillors of Parish issues.

Newly elected Ward Councillor Martin Roberts introduced himself to the meeting. No reports were given at this meeting; The Chair thanked District Cllr Roberts for his interest and his attendance.

15/0524 To confirm the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting.

RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the meeting of Badsworth Parish Council held on the 24th April 2024 with minor amendments as a true and accurate record.

16/0524 Highway Matters

a) Speed Bump on New Road- Item deferred to June.

b) Roundabout at Beaconfield Road

Noted that there were plans by Wakefield Council- the Highways Authority, to change the layout in order to slow traffic, this had been planned some time, but the work has yet to be scheduled.

c) Badsworth Way

Discussion outlining past Parish Council involvement took place. The Clerk was instructed to investigate the matter further and report back.

d) Retaining wall Nineveh Lane/Grove Lane (settlement/movement issue) It was noted that the retaining wall showed signs of movement, it was asked if our Ward Councillor could take this issue to Wakefield Highway for an opinion on safety and stability, this being next to the road.

17/0524 Planning Matters

a)-To consider planning validated applications

24/00688/FUL Whitegables, Back Lane, single storey extensions and other alterations; Noted.

24/00597/FUL Holly Cottage, 3 Meadow Walk, single storey extension; Noted.

b)-To receive information on planning decisions- None.

c)-To receive information on any appeals- None.

18/0524 Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2023-24

To consider the AGAR Certificate of Exemption to have a limited assurance review for 2023-24.

RESOLVED to complete and submit the AGAR Certificate of Exemption.

19/0524 Financial Matters

a)-Phil Parkin Limited internal audit for 2023-24 appointed at a cost of £800

RESOLVED to approve and appoint Phil Parkin Limited to undertake the internal audit.

b)-Bank Mandate

The Bank Mandate would now be progressed as we have three community Councillors; Noted.

c)-Financial update

RESOLVED The following items were authorised for payment:

Zurich Insurance Company Limited £323.23

Integra (Payroll Services) £30.00

YLCA Subscription £327.00

A Woodhead, Clerks Wages for 3 months (15th February 2024 to 14th May 2024)

C Cooper, former Clerks Wages for 1 month (January)

RESOLVED further information requested on overtime for Council to consider in June.

20/0524 To consider correspondence and take action where necessary.

No Correspondence for consideration.

21/0524 To consider Parish Matters and take action where necessary.

a)-Bulb planting in the village

RESOLVED that bulb planting to the value of up to £200 be authorised on the presentation of valid receipts.

b)-Wildflower planting (Grove Lane)

RESOLVED that wild flower planting to the value of up to £150 be authorised on the presentation of valid receipts. Cllr Graves will discuss with farmer regarding possible timing issue.

c)-State of the Church Yard

It has been reported that Badsworth Closed Church Yard required cutting, Ward Councillor Roberts was asked to enquire about the issue please.

d)-To consider the purchase of a Smiley SID unit

RESOLVED that an application to Wakefield Council's Capital Grants programme will be submitted in order to purchase a smiley SID traffic unit, the Clerk was instructed to undertake all necessary works.

e)-Village Communication- Item deferred to June meeting

f)-Hanging Basket update- It was stated the delivery dates that were now being given for the delivery of the Baskets made it uneconomical, this situation had occurred last year in a nearby named Parish and the outcome was very disappointing. Further enquiries where requested.

g)-Parish Website, it was noted that updates were required.

Meeting ended at 9:00 pm