

## Pool in Wharfedale Parish Council

### Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Pool in Wharfedale Parish Council held at Old Pool Bank Village Hall, Quarry Farm Road, Old Pool Bank, Pool-in-Wharfedale on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> MAY 2019 at 7.00pm.

**Present** Councillor Lee in the Chair  
Councillors Barlow, Cooke, Davey, Parker, Wheeler.

Also, in attendance, Parish Clerk John Ryan and Ward Councillors Barry and Caroline Anderson, Councillor Billy Flynn and PCSO Joel Hebden.

1. The Chairman Councillor Lee welcomed all present to the annual meeting.
2. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mifsud and Councillor Rowling.
3. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018 were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Councillor Davey and seconded by Councillor Barlow.
4. **The Chairman gave the following report to the meeting.**

“Over the year Councillors have continued to seek improvements to the roads around the village, many works have been carried out including repairing the culvert above Tree World, this work went on for several months causing tail backs, but how interesting to see photographs of the culvert and works. I had not realised how big it was. The potholes have been filled in on the upper and lower reaches of Old Pool Bank. The road markings on the A660 have been repainted, the permanent Speed Indicator Device at the junction of the A660 and Old Pool Bank is proving effective. The police car stand has been built near the junction of Quarry Road and the A660. Speeds have been monitored but not to the satisfaction of the Parish Council and we are still waiting for the ‘Welcome to Old Pool Bank’ signs to be placed”.

“Concerns regarding the crossing on Main Street by the Post Office were raised after two accidents and safety measures are now in operation. The weight and size of vehicles using Main Street and the pollution they cause is still on our agenda. The memorial gardens were enhanced by the silhouette of a soldier placed on the lamp post, a reminder to all, of the sacrifices made for all of us. The Remembrance Day service was well attended as we stood in the pouring rain, we are so grateful to the members of the Police who stopped the traffic. A new bench was placed in the gardens and dedicated and blessed by the vicar Reverend David Wheeler”.

“We have achieved the Parish Council Foundation Award thanks to the hard work of our councillors and John Ryan our clerk. There have been changes of members this year with the resignation of Ailsa Bearpark an extremely hard worker. We had two applicants for the vacancies but unfortunately due to ill health and work commitments they both resigned. But two more stepped forward, one from the village and one from the hamlet of Old Pool Bank, they have both really proved

their worth in the months they have been with us. We welcome Belinda Cooke and Barbara Wheeler. Due to the resignation of Steve Morris who was a great asset to the Parish Council, we still have one vacancy which we hope to fill soon”.

“Joanna Rowling and her team have worked tirelessly on the Neighbourhood Plan and it is nearly ready for public consultation. The Greenway is now in the hands of Sustrans as they consult with local landowners. Emma Mifsud has worked hard on the inspection and map of footpaths and we have sent requests to Leeds City Council for some maintenance work on the paths to be carried out”.

“We support the Recreation Ground Management Committee. The members have achieved some excellent work on the grounds and riverside. The Parish Council playgrounds are well used and after the last inspection work was needed to be done. Judy, Emma and Richard are vigilant in keeping an eye on the playgrounds and reporting maintenance works when needed. We have held many meetings regarding planning but have been overruled by higher authorities. It is very disturbing when decisions are made by people who have no knowledge of the area involved, but in my thirty-six years serving on this Parish Council I have seen it all before”.

“The village Post Office has been extended and we congratulate the owners on the foresight. The defibrillator is to be relocated so the old telephone box will be empty and needs a new position. The Parish Council purchased the box for £1.00 some years ago so we need to find a new use for this. The Tour De Yorkshire has once again passed through the village showcasing it to the world. The Pool Feast Committee is gearing up for this year’s event. We still give grant aid to local organisations. I thank my fellow councillors for all the hours they spend on various committees representing Pool. Also, our Leeds Councillors Barry and Caroline Anderson and Billy Flynn for the great support they give us”.

“We are looking for nominations this year for the Honorary Citizen Award”.

“Thanks go to Kieran for keeping the Parish in good order and to our clerk John for his support over the year. We are going through troubled times as a country but the grass roots in Pool-in-Wharfedale are strong”.

5. **Reports from Organisations in receipt of funds from the Parish Council.**

Councillor Parker addressed the meeting on behalf of the Recreation Ground Management Committee. He thanked the Parish Council for funds received which have helped support the addition of two new footpaths and a new bridge. A good deal of maintenance work has been carried on trees within the site especially by the riverside and the old corn mill site has been tidied up. Himalayan balsam has been dealt with and a path from the green bridge to the stone bridge has been opened.

John Porter, Pool Village Memorial Hall sent a note to the Council thanking them for their continued support in providing grants to various projects undertaken by the Hall Committee.

6. **Parish Council Accounts**

The clerk provided information on the financial year 2018-19 which began with an increase in the Precept of 5% which will go towards supporting the Council's priorities, the Neighbourhood Plan, the Wharfedale Greenway and the parish playgrounds. The Precept has not risen in the previous five years. The clerk outlined income and expenditure details which showed that the council budget came in at a surplus instead of the deficit forecast. This was largely due to an underspending on the neighbourhood plan, though this will be rectified in 2019-20. At the end of the year the Parish Council remains in a good financial position with funds of £55,470.00.

The budget for 2019-20 was touched on and with significant expenditure for the neighbourhood plan now due in 2019-20 a further rise in the Precept was agreed. This will have marginal impact on council taxpayers but will help the Council cover its expenditure and still maintain good balances at the bank.

7. **Parish Council Action Plan**

The Parish Council Action Plan sets out the priorities and major projects for the Council over the year. Councillors reviewed the document and approved the Action Plan for the coming year 2019-20.

8. **Residents Questions**

No questions were received.

The meeting closed at 7.25 pm.