**Minutes, Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council 28th April 2025 at the Civic Hall.**

**There were present:** Cllrs B Beeley – Chairman, H Bishop – Vice Chairman

S Al-Hamdani K Barton

R Blackmore K Dawson

P Gaul A Marland

K Phillips M Powell

L Thompson D Wall

P Walsh B Witt

A Wrigley

The Chairman Cllr Barbara Beeley welcomed Councillors to the meeting and prayers were led by the Rev Pat Gillan.

**3722. To receive Public Questions:** None received

**3723. Chairman’s Urgent Business:** None to discuss

**3724. To receive apologies for Absence:** Cllrs E Adamson, M Birchall, L Dawson, J Garner,

G Sheldon.

**3725. To receive Declarations of Interest:** None declared

**3726. Correspondence**

The letter received from Nationwide Bank in response to Saddleworth Parish Council’s request for them to set up a banking hub in Saddleworth had been previously shared with Councillors and it was discussed. They have no current plans to extend their current banking facilities and extended an invitation to visit for the Council Chairman. The Clerk confirmed there had been no response to date from the other banks she had written to.

Cllr Beeley shared an email received from Gillian Sorioglu, NHS, advising that the request for Community clinics in Saddleworth had been forwarded on to the Northern Care Alliance. Cllr Beeley will continue to monitor this.

Cllr Beeley also advised that Debbie Abrahams. MP, had written to the Senior Communications Manager at Network Rail with her concerns over the proposed closure of Moorgate crossing and will advise us of the response.

**3727. Presentation by Mr Louie Wild (Member of Youth Parliament for Oldham**

**& Oldham Youth Councillor for Saddleworth).**

Mr Wild firstly introduced himself and gave a very interesting presentation on the work he has done and his achievements in his position of Member of Youth Parliament and Youth Councillor since being elected in 2021.

He asked whether he could be involved in Yorkshire Day and the Remembrance Service this year; the Parish Council will facilitate this for him.

Councillors were then invited to ask questions, these were mainly around his observations regarding provision for young people in Saddleworth and the issues they face.

Cllr Beeley thanked him for an excellent talk and presented him with a Saddleworth Parish Council badge.

**3728. Notice of Motion To preserve the Moorgate Crossing Route.**

This motion proposes that Saddleworth Parish Council supports local people and walking groups in their efforts to persuade Network Rail to provide a footbridge over the railway line at Moorgate crossing, Uppermill.

The Parish Council is convinced that an alternative method of crossing the railway line for the public at Moorgate Halt has to be found to replace the current level crossing. The Parish Council will support the local campaign for a footbridge as this is not currently included in the plans for the TransPennine Route Upgrade.

Network Rail have already obtained planning permission to provide a footbridge at this site but officials have switched from supporting the footbridge solution to opposing it on the grounds of cost.

The alternative footpath proposed (No.244) has dangerous exits onto Oldham Road near Wade Lock and onto Ladcastle Road. The much longer road route (1.3miles) via Greenfield railway bridge presents its own dangers to pedestrians.

The Parish Council notes that the people of Saddleworth are being denied a suitable replacement crossing at Moorgate when the substantial need has been highlighted by Network Rail itself in a report it has written about the proposed closure of the level crossing.

"*The crossing receives a very high volume of usage. The most recent 9-day census recorded 434 movements over the crossing in 11 days, and a high proportion of this use was by vulnerable users."* (Application for Rail Crossing Extinguishment, 13 June 2024)

The Parish Council resolves to write to Network Rail to insist that they preserve the Moorgate crossing route for visitors and walking groups but especially for access to and from the centre of Uppermill by local people.

Cllr Blackmore introduced the Motion and it was discussed. An amendment was agreed to add to the final paragraph:

“The Parish Council resolves to write to Network Rail to insist that they preserve the Moorgate crossing route *by installing a footbridge* for visitors and walking groups but especially for access to and from the centre of Uppermill by local people.”

The amended Motion was proposed by Cllr Blackmore and seconded by Cllr Bishop, unanimous, Motion carried. The Clerk will now write to Network Rail.

**3729. To approve and confirm as a correct record the Draft Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 24 March 2025**

The minutes were accepted as a true record and signed at the meeting by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr Al-Hamdani, seconded Cllr Dawson.

**3730. To note the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 7 April 2025**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr Bishop, seconded Cllr Blackmore and accepted.

**3731. To note the Minutes of the Assets Management Committee Meeting held on 14 April 2025**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr Thompson, seconded Cllr Beeley and accepted.

**3732. To note the Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held 14 April 2025 (to follow)**

Cllr Wall advised of a mistype under point 637. With this amendment made the minutes were proposed by Cllr Phillips, seconded Cllr Witt and accepted.

**3733. Accounts for Payment March 2025** Income £16,324.80 Expenditure £ 29,338.19

The accounts were proposed by Cllr Al-Hamdani, seconded Cllr Blackmore and accepted

Payments List, see appendix 1

**3734. Dates of the next meetings:-**

Monday 12 May 2025 at 19.30hrs (Association of Councillors)

Monday 19 May 2025 at 18.30hrs (Annual Parish Meeting)

Monday 19 May 2025 at 19.30hrs (Annual Council Meeting)

As this is Cllr Beeley’s last full meeting as Chairman, she expressed her thanks to everyone for all their help and support over the year. There was then a vote of thanks to Cllr Beeley for all her hard work and commitment.

**Appendix 1**

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| **March 25 Payments** |  |  |  |  |
| **Bank Date** | **Supplier** | **Details** | **Code** | **Amount** |
| 03-Mar-25 | PUBLIC WORKS LOAN | Capital Repayment | **319** | 5,463.46 |
| 03-Mar-25 | PUBLIC WORKS LOAN | Interest | **320** | 137.87 |
| 03-Mar-25 | AMAZON | Wine/Spirit Measurers - Civic Ball | **111** | 18.95 |
| 05-Mar-25 | SEFTONS | Payroll - 1/25 | **161** | 48.00 |
| 05-Mar-25 | EASY WEB SITES | Website Management Fee - 2/25 | **440** | 30.36 |
| 10-Mar-25 | TV LICENCE | TV Licence | **324** | 15.00 |
| 12-Mar-25 | BRITISH GAS | Electricity 24/1 - 22/2/25 | **302** | 1,393.06 |
| 12-Mar-25 | WATER PLUS | Water - 2/25 | **321** | 458.50 |
| 13-Mar-25 | ADR | Kitchen Boiler Repair | **307** | 258.68 |
| 13-Mar-25 | COOP | Office Coffee | **169** | 10.95 |
| 14-Mar-25 | SALARIES | Admin -3/25 | **103** | 5,102.43 |
| 14-Mar-25 | SALARIES | Civic - 3/25 | **301** | 4,820.64 |
| 17-Mar-25 | OMBC | Pest Control | **308** | 30.00 |
| 18-Mar-25 | EDF ENERGY | Gas - 2/25 | **303** | 955.60 |
| 18-Mar-25 | CAPRICORN SECURITY | Martin Kemp 7/2/25 | **318** | 475.20 |
| 18-Mar-25 | GREENFIELD PUBLISHING | Monthly Advert - 2/25 | **441** | 98.40 |
| 18-Mar-25 | MBHARRINGTON | Ashes Interment - 7/3/25 | **206** | 65.00 |
| 18-Mar-25 | UPPERMILL DIY | Misc Repair Consumables | **307** | 57.89 |
| 18-Mar-25 | STAFF EXPENSES | Office Milk | **169** | 1.50 |
| 20-Mar-25 | COMMERCE BUSINESS | Copier/Printer Usage | **105** | 116.42 |
| 21-Mar-25 | HMRC | Tax & NI - Admin - 1/25 | **103** | 1,342.80 |
| 21-Mar-25 | HMRC | Tax & NI - Civic - 1/25 | **301** | 1,224.24 |
| 21-Mar-25 | GET LICENSED | Site Staff training- APLH Level 2 | **124** | 99.99 |
| 24-Mar-25 | BNP PARIBAS LEASING | Copier Lease (Quarterly) | **105** | 182.46 |
| 26-Mar-25 | SHORROCK TRICHEM | Hygiene | **316** | 149.26 |
| 31-Mar-25 | NAT WEST | Bank Charges -30/11/24 - 28/2/25 | **168** | 34.00 |
| 31-Mar-25 | GMPF | Pensions - Admin - 2/25 | **103** | 1,301.73 |
| 31-Mar-25 | GMPF | Pensions - Civic - 2/25 | **301** | 1,077.26 |
| 31-Mar-25 | MBHARRINGTON | Cemetery - Clear vegetation behind Ashes Row | **201** | 1,320.00 |
| 31-Mar-25 | CUMBRIA CLOCK COMPANY | Clock Service (£222) / Repair (£528) | **307** | 750.00 |
| 31-Mar-25 | CONCEPT LIFTS | Lift Repair (final agreed amount) | **307** | 732.00 |
| 31-Mar-25 | CIA FIRE/SECURITY | Alarm Monitoring 1/1 - 31/12/25 | **307** | 384.00 |
| 31-Mar-25 | KEYSTAFF AGENCY | Casual Staff (Sick Leave cover) | **301** | 339.41 |
| 31-Mar-25 | PROTEC SECURITY | ACDC Livewire 21/2/25 | **318** | 326.70 |
| 31-Mar-25 | CENTRE GLASS | Cleaning Consumables | **306** | 225.06 |
| 31-Mar-25 | ELCONS HR/LAW | HR/Legal Consultancy (29) - 3/25 | **120** | 121.20 |
| 31-Mar-25 | ASCENDANT LIFTS | Maintenance Contract 1/3/25 - 28/2/26 | **307** | 96.00 |
| 31-Mar-25 | VIKING STATIONERY | Stationery | **105** | 50.82 |
| 31-Mar-25 | STAFF EXPENSES | Office Coffee | **169** | 13.60 |
| 31-Mar-25 | STAFF EXPENSES | Estate Mileage | **102** | 8.10 |
| 31-Mar-25 | STAFF EXPENSES | Office Coffee | **169** | 1.65 |
|  |  |  |  | **29,338.19** |

Cllr Thompson and accepted

Payments List, see appendix 1

**Date of the next meeting:- Monday 28 April 2025 at 19.30hrs**

**Appendix 1**