

Bilsdale Midcable Parish Council
Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 5th March 2025
Chop Gate Village Hall

Present: Cllrs M Bowes (Chairman), J Smith, S Sanderson, K Verity, B Heley
In attendance: D Sporton, P Johnson, S Reynolds, L Coote, J Coote and Clerk J Gamble

1. **Introduction and welcome:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting
2. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Heather Moorhouse
3. **Declarations:** None
4. **Minutes of the meeting on 8th January 2025:** The minutes were agreed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman
5. **Matters arising:** Information about non-slip treads on wooden bridge near notice board in Fangdale Beck. Cllr Bowes has informed the NYMNP ranger who will report back after inspecting the site. Damage to fence near Fangdale Beck bridge. Action Clerk to inform Highways
6. **Fibre Broadband (Quickline):** No update received from Quickline but useful discussions with engineers. Action: Cllr Bowes to continue to seek more information.
7. **Mobile phone network (Cellnex):** Some of the mobile companies confirmed completion in Q3 2025 but still having difficulty in getting further information from Cellnex. Action: Cllr Bowes to contact Cellnex Recent article from BBC about telecommunications near Helmsley may be worth pursuing. Action: Clerk.
8. **Speeding Traffic:** Cllr Heather Moorhouse was thanked for her donation of £3000 as a major contribution to purchasing a battery operated vehicle activated sign (VAS) for near the school in Chop Gate. Cllr Smith was thanked for progressing the research and obtaining the 30mph/40mph zone sign which can also be moved to different locations. Action Cllr Smith to organise erecting the sign
9. **Website:** The new website for Bilsdale Midcable Parish Council is ready to go live. Resolution: It was agreed the website and Clerk's new email would go live on 6th March. Action: Cllr Smith to contact web provider.
10. **Finance:**
 - (a) The expenditure was reviewed and is on track with the forecast. It was noted that to date the income is £5526 plus forecast of £1059; the current expenditure is £2044 plus a forecast expenditure of £5341. The expected year-end balance is £3541.
 - (b) It is necessary to change the HSBC mandate so the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk are all signatories with a view to change the Primary User to the Clerk/RFO. This requires a review and amendment of the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Risk Assessment. Resolution: agreed. Action: Clerk to prepare revised documents for consideration
11. **Highways:** Reports of positive feedback had been received by residents regarding the prompt repair of a manhole cover and swept sand and gravel on a road from a storm by Highways. There were reports of flooding at the joint entrance to Whingroves and Broadfields and complaints of excessive amounts of mud and muck on road opposite Orterley. Action: Clerk to inform Highways

12. **Remembrance Service:** The option of training a few 'role-specific volunteers' for road closures by Community TM was discussed. Resolution: It was agreed the preference was to continue using the company under the existing contract. Action: Clerk to inform Community TM
13. **Police:** The January and February 2025 reports were noted.
14. **Fangdale Beck Village Hall Charity:** A public meeting took place on 18th February. There were 17 attendees. It was agreed to convert the charity to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), to reduce the number of trustees to 7 and to endorse the area to benefit. R Chapman, the trustee, will be sending the draft constitution to the Charity Commission for comment. Action: Cllr Bowes to keep Parish Council informed of progress
15. **Correspondence:**
- (a) Safety of lithium-ion batteries campaign – nil response required
 - (b) Options for celebrating VE Day in May were discussed. It was agreed to support anyone willing to organise activities but it is short notice for 6th-8th May. Resolution: to invite the school children to decorate the war memorial. Action: Cllr Smith
 - (c) The next meeting of the Western Area Parish Forum is on 15th April. One topic for discussion will be future arrangements for the four Area Fora. Resolution: It was agreed that Cllrs Smith and Verity should attend this meeting
16. **Next meeting:** The next meeting was confirmed as 7.30 pm on 7th May 2025 in Chop Gate Village Hall

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