



## **WILSDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

The Village Hall,  
Wilsden,  
Bradford,  
BD15 0HT.  
West Yorkshire.

[www.wilsdenparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.wilsdenparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WILSDEN POST OFFICE WORKING GROUP HELD ON TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2016 IN ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH, MAIN STREET, WILSDEN AT 7 .00 P.M.**

**START: 7.00 pm**

**FINISH: 9.00 pm**

**Present:** Cllr. Allison, Cllr Dufton, Cllr. Overend, Cllr. Webster, Jenny Lightowler, Malcolm Gray, Linda Storton, Jean Ackroyd, Stanley Ackroyd and Glynn Jones (observing).

**In Attendance:** Ruth Batterley, Clerk and Maria Sutcliffe, Assistant Clerk.

**Public:** Nil

**Bradford MDC:** Nil

**Press:** Nil

Introductions were made around the table before the meeting commenced.

### **2015/12 Declarations of Interest**

To receive declarations of interest for items on the agenda.

To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interest.

There were none to declare.

### **2015/13 To receive and consider approving apologies for absence.**

**Resolved** to approve apologies from Councillor Caunt, McNamara and Callaghan. Apologies were also received from Debbie Ellison and Ashley Howse.

### **2015/14 To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Post Office Working Group meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016.**

**Resolved** to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Post Office Working Group meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016. Cllr. Allison (Chair) signed and dated the minutes.

## **2015/15 Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

## **2015/16 To receive Tony Dylak, Chief Executive of Royds Community Enterprise to discuss running successful community businesses.**

Tony Dylak was unable to attend the meeting as another urgent meeting had come up. However, he will attend our next meeting.

## **2015/17 To review the different options for a community interest company.**

The Community Interest Companies (CIC) document was tabled and discussed. Ruth Batterley to contact YLCA and request they put out an e-mail to local parish councils in order to see if any have formed a community business.

The working group agreed that the post office should be named Wilsden Community Post Office.

Cllr. Allison asked the question as to whether the post office should be limited by guarantee or shares. Cllr. Webster advised that limited by guarantee would be the best option.

Cllr Allison that we would benefit from advise and support from Locality at a cost of £75. per year.

There was also a discussion about renting the flat above the post office.

At this point Glynn Jones who had resigned from the Post Office Working Group stated that he had lost enthusiasm as he felt the whole process was going along too slowly and a discussion took place about the public meeting which had been held in October last year.

Linda Storton gave her views as to what the post office premises could be used for along with post office services. She stated that a Community Café where residents i.e. mums from school, the elderly, etc. could call in and meet other residents. There have been other community cafes set up in the local area which have been a huge success. Linda also advised that there are grants available to set up these type of cafes.

## **2015/18 To receive an update on contact with local businesses to obtain details of the services they would like the local post office to offer.**

Malcolm Gray and Jenny Lightowler gave the group the feedback they had received from the local businesses they had contacted.

- Businesses would welcome a return of a post office in Wilsden.
- Advise and postage from the post office counter.
- A cash machine.
- Car Tax.
- Passports.
- Payment of Council invoices.
- Drop off and collect service.

Other Retail Outlets to include:

- Newspapers/greeting cards/stationery.
- Dry cleaning outlet.

- Tuck shop.
- Green Grocery.
- Photocopying facilities.
- Florist.
- Food Takeaway.

Jenny also mentioned that a number of businesses in Wilsden are run from home and suggested that she and Malcolm would telephone them for their views.

**2015/09 To establish a programme of discussions with local businesses to identify the types of business they would like to receive from a Community Post Office.**

**Resolved:** Malcolm Gray and Jenny Lightowler would undertake a programme of visits and contacts with local businesses based on a common format.

**2015/10 To make arrangements to identify gaps in the retail offer in Wilsden that could be filled by a Community Post Office.**

Whilst there were wide ranging discussions about this over and above, newspapers, cards etc., no firm conclusions were reached. Councillor Overend suggested that there would be merit in advertising the potential retail opportunities.

**2015/11 To set future dates for Post Office Working Group meetings.**

Conscious that the time table determined by the ACV Listing was short, it was agreed that regular meetings would need to be held.

The next meeting of the Post Office Working Group to be held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016 in the Contact Point at 7 p.m.