

HOLME PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Holme Parish Council on Monday 27th June 2016

Present: Cllr Medwin Sherriff (Chairman), Cllr's; Vic Brown, Sue Wragg, Joan Hodgkinson, Andrew Hancock, Edwin Duckett, Brian Cooper and Roger Bingham.

29.0 Apologies: None.

30.0 Requests for Dispensations/Declarations of Interest:

31.0 Co-Option for 2 vacancies on the council: Two applications have been received from Mr Andrew Hancock and Mrs Ruth Taylor. After reviewing the application forms both candidates were accepted onto the council by majority vote.

32.0 Declarations of Office: These were duly signed by Cllr Hancock and Cllr Duckett (Cllr Duckett had been unable to attend the Annual Meeting).

33.0 The minutes of the annual meeting held on Monday 16th May 2016 having been circulated to all Cllr's; these were accepted as a true record and signed as such by the Chairman.

34.0 Chairman's remarks: Over the past meetings there has been a lot of conversation making meetings longer than they should be. Two hours should be ample time for a meeting therefore statements and speeches need to be to the point.

The clerk has done a lot of work on how meetings should be run; can no longer have items discussed that are not on the agenda.

CLP (Community Led Plan) – First meeting is with the school, parents and teachers.

There is concern about the situation with the local shop. Cllr Sherriff has contacted the owner and offered assistance, also has information regarding help available, this will be passed to the owner.

35.0 District/County Councillor Remarks: Cllr Bingham – New warding arrangement meaning annual elections, increased ward size and change of geographical boundaries. The arrangement is not popular. Cllr Bingham has visited Holme to view all the highway issues. Hoping to re-surface the ginnell on Mayfield. Cllr Sherriff requested that any future meetings he is invited to. Cllr Sherriff has asked for Highway meetings a number of times. Cllr Bingham agreed. Cllr Brown requested Cllr Bingham asks SLDC to put the gullies on North Road on their programme as they are full.

Cllr Cooper – Attended a training session on planning. There will be a lot more responsibility for local councils. Community Infrastructure levy will be 15% but with a CLP it will rise to 25%.

Cllr Brown asked Cllr Bingham if he had any information whether Cumbria County Council are cutting back on countryside services as he believes that is the case in Lancashire. Cllr Bingham to enquire.

36.0 Matters Arising:

Matters Raised at the Open Session

- **36.1 Planning:** If the council is to be given money from building new homes will this not give the council the incentive to build more? Cllr Bingham – Developers would still have to go through the planning route. Cllr Cooper – SLDC has earmarked 6000 homes for South Lakeland so additional amounts wouldn't just be passed. Cllr Sherriff – Holme has 2 sites earmarked for development of 140 homes. None can be built until a village meeting has been called, brief discussed and agreed with all parties (Council, village, SLDC and developers). Land has to be viable for developers to build.

37.0 Finance

It was agreed to pay the following:

E&DE Duckett - £571.89 (remainder of invoice)
Clerk's expenses - £5.70 (mileage & paper)
Chairman's expenses - £17.28 (wood for fence area)
Cllr Wragg's expenses - £6.93 (Compost for war memorial)
Parish Hall - £17.50
DH Forrestry - £403.00 (£500 of invoice already paid)
Playground – Additional £16.00 for delivery charges
SLDC - £231.50 (previously not paid as invoice incorrect)
Jean Airey - £270.20 (Internal Auditor)

37.1 Bank reconciliation and statements were viewed by the council and signed by the Chairman.

37.2 The budget was presented to the council and accepted. Cllr Duckett queried what the amount for environmental purposes was for. Cllr Brown explained this is for the school to hopefully use for the good of the village.

37.3 The Clerk confirmed the internal audit was complete, the report having been circulated to councillors.

Cllr Sherriff read the following extract from the report; *In undertaking the Internal Audit I can report that the Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) has maintained a high standard of recordkeeping, which has simplified the audit process. The Council's control systems are efficient and effective and give the appropriate level of confidence, that the financial statements and reports reflect a true and accurate account of the Council's finance and governance records.*

I report as follows and confirm that the Council, as a result of extensive work undertaken by the current Clerk/RFO to complete audit requirements within a very tight time slot, is almost fully compliant with the Account and Audit Regulations with the exception of undertaking a full Risk Assessment which is being addressed.

37.4 The clerk confirmed that the date of Exercise of Public Rights to view documents will commence on the 1st July. The documents will be the annual governance and accounting statements. Viewing will be strictly by appointment only.

37.5 Cllr Hodkinson confirmed that she has viewed the first quarter accounts and statements and found all record keeping to be in order.

38.0 Other Items

38.1 Police Report – None

38.2 Bins – The clerk put forward a suggestion from the playground inspector from SLDC regarding the bins at the playground. The inspector had noted the bins have no covers so emailed the clerk with 2 types which do. It was agreed to put this on the agenda in September.

38.3 Fireworks – Due to the insurers requirements meaning the present location is unsuitable an article has been placed in the newsletter asking if anyone has and available. Cllr Hancock suggested approaching the insurers and asking them to come out and look at the location to properly risk assess. Clerk to contact insurers.

38.4 Boundary Commission – Cllr Brown asked the clerk to re-send to councillors the web link for the site. Council felt annual elections could divert attention from more important matters plus electors may be less likely to vote so frequently. Cllrs to send their responses to the Clerk who in collaboration with the Chair will send a response to the Boundary Commission on behalf of the council due to the closing date being the 18th July 2016.

39.0 Community Issues

39.1 HGAS – requested a change to their contract to allow allotment owners who move to another area to retain their allotment subject to certain conditions. Cllr Wragg proposed this was accepted, Cllr Hancock seconded this. All council was in favour.

39.2 Community Engagement – Number of people living on their own and have little contact with others. Can we help? Been a number of TV programmes recently about loneliness. In Holme we have a weekly coffee morning – anyway we could extend this? Also a drop in on a Friday afternoon at the Church. Agenda item for next meeting.

39.3 Representative to Burton in Kendal Foundation – agenda item for next meeting.

39.4 Clerk has received a letter back from the solicitors regarding the Unilateral Notice. Cllr Sherriff asked for a copy to be circulated.

34.5 Speed Indicator Device (SID) – Cllr Brown suggested this is firstly placed on Station Road, followed by Milnthorpe Rd and North Rd. Cllr Brown will install SID in the first location and Cllr Hancock the subsequent locations. Portable speed gun to be an agenda item for next meeting.

34.6 Reduced sight lines – Cllr Bingham will deal with

34.7 Junction of North Road with Milnthorpe Rd – the parking issues here are on the list for highways. Cllr Bingham will bring this to Highways attention.

40.0 Reports in Meetings

Website - The work carried out on the new website to date was viewed by the council, it was agreed to continue with developing the site. The clerk also confirmed that the transparency grant for the website which the council applied for has been awarded by NALC.

LAP Meeting – Cllr Brown briefly told the meeting what was discussed; Identifying gullies and drains, what to discuss at future meetings, village shops, voluntary car schemes, boundary commission and mental health at Westmorland General Hospital.

41.0 Items of Correspondence Received (cc Councillors)

Letter from resident on Queen's Terrace regarding plant damage – Cllr Sherriff to inform resident that it is a neighbour dispute therefore not a council matter.

Date of next meeting: Monday 25th July 2016 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed 21:40