

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 26 MARCH 2018

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr J G Cropper

Vice Chairman: Cllr D M Firth

Councillors: Cllrs S Baggott, D K Bellamy, K Bellamy, T Bellamy, J Brook, G Christofi, P Davies, R P Dixon, T W Dixon, S N East, C R Greaves, D Hall, R Hogley, M Pogson, J Roberts, R Rogers and T Walshaw

Officer: Mrs S S Barber

2018 01 To accept apologies for absence

Nine members of the public were present.

Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs E Bunbury and C M Kaye.

2018 02 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 27 March 2017 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

Cllr R Hogley entered the meeting at this point.

2018 03 Annual Report of Parish Council

The Chairman of the Council submitted the Annual Report on the activities of the Parish Council in the Civic Year 2017-18:

- Sadly, the Council had lost one of its Members, as Cllr Peter Searby had died in December 2017; thanks were given to him for his service and commitment to his community.
- The Chairman was pleased to report that Cllr Rachel Hogley had been awarded runner-up in the 'Councillor of the Year' category of the NALC Star Awards.
- The precept had been increased for 2017-18 by approx. £10 per household (for a Band D property) to support community assets in the Valley, particularly Holmfirth Civic Hall. A new charity had been set up and was now running the Hall, with financial support from the Parish Council towards running, maintenance, repair and refurbishment costs, with the aim of turning the building into a more sustainable asset in the near future.
- Refurbishment works were now in progress at Holmfirth public conveniences to provide rentable office space, so that the building will become self-funding in the future.
- The Council is now working on an asset transfer of Honley Library, working with the Friends of that establishment on negotiations with Kirklees Council to ensure a library service is maintained in Honley and that the asset is saved from closure.

RESOLVED: (1) That the report be received and the Chairman thanked for his report.
(2) That the Clerk and Admin Support Officer be thanked for doing a magnificent job this year, despite the office move (to Holmfirth Civic Hall) and a very heavy workload.

Holme Valley Parish Council

2018 04 Parish Council's Accounts

Members noted the Parish Council's Statement of Receipts and Payments to 31 March 2017.

RESOLVED: That the Statement of Receipts and Payments to 31 March 2017 be approved.

2018 05 Parish Council's Estimates

The estimates of the Parish Council for the financial year 2018-19 were submitted by the Chairman of the Finance & Management Committee.

RESOLVED: That the Estimates for 2018-19 be approved.

2018 06 Public Question Time

1. A member of the public raised their concern about alleged anomalies relating to grant payments recently made to a local community group. Other members of the public, who were members of the group, responded to clarify matters relating to their grant applications. The member of the public then asked whether three Members of the Council and the Clerk were members of the community group at the time the grant funding was awarded to it, and a Member of the Council responded verbally to that question.

RESOLVED: That an investigation be held (by the Chairman and involving other Members of the Council as necessary) into the allegation of anomalies, for a written response to be provided to the member of the public as soon as possible.

2. Another member of the public then asked what Councillors do, as some appeared to be very active in the community, whereas others did not. Members and the Clerk provided some information and the requester was directed to the Council's website, but it was agreed that if the Council does something positive, it should shout about it more.

3. Two representatives of Kirklees Council address those present at the meeting, to promote a consultation event to be held at Sands.

RESOLVED: That the above be noted.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

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Chairman