

# Holme Valley Parish Council

## Draft MINUTES OF THE SERVICE PROVISION COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY, 6 January 2020

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr Michael Pogson

Councillors: Cllrs K Bellamy, Cllr Blacka, Cllr T Dixon, Cllr Brook, Cllr S East, Cllr B Feeney

Officers: Ms E Bennett (Clerk)

**1920 47 Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 amended by Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014**

As Council meetings can now be recorded, the Chairman checked if anyone wished to do so, to ensure reasonable facilities could be provided. No one wished to record the meeting.

**1920 48 Public Open Session**

There were no members of the public present.

**1920 49 To accept apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllr Firth. Cllr Sheard did not proffer apologies.

**1920 50 To receive Members' personal and disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda**

None received.

**1920 51 To consider written requests for new DPI dispensations**

None received.

**1920 52 To consider whether items on the agenda should be discussed in private session**

It was agreed that no items required to be taken in private session.

**1920 53 To confirm Minutes of the previous meeting**

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Service Provision Committee meeting held on 21 October 2019, numbered 1920 31 to 1920 46 inclusive, be confirmed and signed.

**1920 54 Grant Application from the Home Valley Transport Scheme.**

Trevor Bellamy spoke as a member of the public to support this scheme which has been in existence many years and is an invaluable addition to the other public transport, helping residents to access GPs and Hospital appointments.

**RESOLVED:** That a grant of £1000 be made to the Holme Valley Transport Scheme.

**1920 55 Report from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority**

An informative report was given verbally regarding the challenges to the provision of the local H1 to H7 bus services, the changes that had been made in the last year and the reasons for them, the awareness of the need to move to more sustainable vehicles where possible. There was a concise and informative map distributed

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showing the bus routes and the number of passengers on each service in the month of October.

It was clear that the H7 form Holmfirth to Hade Edge is the least used service but one that is vital to school children. Two councillors said that there continue to be complaints that this service does not always arrive.

Councillors asked whether the buses could provide information apps to let customers know when the buses were approaching. The representative regretted that the local buses are too outdated and underfunded for some of these changes to be accommodated.

Councillors asked that more be done to advertise the services and the timetable. In general, the Councillors commented about how important these services were and how they provide a vital service to people in hilly, rural areas.

As its the 40<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of these buses this year there are plans in the Publications and Communications Committee to plan celebrations to mark the event and to raise awareness of the service.

1920 56

## Review of the Council Seats

1)The clerk requested that the proposed review of the maintenance contract be delayed due to excessive demands on the clerk's time. The present contractor loves the job and carries it out with pride and reliability and it would seem that this is one area that we can accept the status quo.

RESOLVED; to start the process later in this year to consider a new application for quotes and to carry this out in early 2021. The clerk will issue a repeat contract for this year.

## 2) Update on condition of the benches.

The bench survey is still not complete. Committee members were reminded of this and repeat lists would be sent out. Cllr Feeney could do extra benches if required. RESOLVED; lists of benches requiring assessment will be sent out to those who have not completed the survey. Cllr Feeney will be sent the list for the Upper Holme Valley.

## 3) Requests to adopt benches.

The committee was updated on the advice from the YLCA that recommended a policy was adopted for the allocation of benches for commemorative plaques. The advice was that maintenance was only carried out by the Council Contractor because of health and safety risks. If residents wished to give donations to the council for upkeep that was acceptable, but it was not advisable to charge a fee. RESOLVED The clerk would draw up a policy for allowing commemorative plaques and the management of such. The clerk would reply to the two enquirers and suggest that new plaques are acceptable but that the maintenance contractor affixes them and maintains the benches.

1920 57

## Christmas trees.

The councillors were asked what the feedback had been from their areas to the idea of a "living tree" for next year. The only area that had the appropriate space for this was Scholes. It is possible that the Civic Hall could plant a tree on their lawn.

RESOLVED; the clerk to investigate the cost of a living tree form Kirks and instigate planting at the appropriate time. The clerk will liaise with the Civic Hall Trust about their views.

1920 58

## Correspondence.

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1) The removal of a litter bin in Holmbridge by Kirklees Council was reported to have caused extra litter and dog waste to be dropped in the area. One councillor doubted the accuracy of this report.

**RESOLVED;** the clerk is to check the litter bin provision and if removed , the clerk will contact Kirklees Council and request that it is replaced.

2) The Hepworth Phone box is in the process of being adopted. A Contract has been signed.

3) Most areas had written to thank the Council for the Christmas trees and said how much they appreciated this service.

1920 59

**Scheduling of Meetings in the next Council Year.**

The clerk had responded to a suggestion from Cllr Bellamy that one way to reduce the number of meetings was to combine the CASC and Service Provision Committees. So far, they have been scheduled to occur on the same evening from May 2020 but two meetings per night was not satisfactory. There was discussion regarding this, but the idea was not supported . Cllr Pogson did suggest that the Public toilets would sit better in Service Provision than CASC. The Clerk suggested that if there were to be two meetings on one night that committees would need to be more efficient and keep better timing.

The matter will be discussed with CASC and the full Council at future meetings.

Close of meeting at 21:30. PM

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**Chairman**