

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 17 OCTOBER 2005 -

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr J R Chilton

Vice-Chairman : Cllr Mrs J Spencer

Councillors : Cllr Mrs R Bratt, Cllr Mrs M P Court, Cllr R P Dixon, Cllr A L Gosslin, Cllr Mrs D Hall, Cllr R N Haynes, Cllr Mrs S Hobson, Cllr Mrs R Jackson, Cllr R Oldfield, Cllr Mrs J M Osborn, Cllr P Robinson, Cllr P J Rodgers, Cllr Mrs H L Rodgers, Cllr R Rogers

Officers : Mrs MA Bewick, Mrs E Hirst

Public Question Time

The member of the public present had no questions to put to the Council.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors Bellamy, Mrs. Bower, Michael Bower, Collins, Firth, Garrod, Kaye, Mrs. Kemp, Macpherson, Oldham, Otterburn, Mrs. Roberts, Searby and Mrs. Smith.

05 45 Disclosure of Interests

None were given.

05 46 Admission of the Public

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

05 47 Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman reported on various events which he had attended on behalf of the Council:

- Signing of the Charter between Kirklees MC and Parish and Town Councils - a copy of the signed Charter is being circulated to all Members of the Council. This document will form a yardstick on how relationships between the two tiers should be conducted. He thanked all those Members who had been involved in the drafting of the Charter. Chairs of the Local Councils felt that there was merit in having ongoing meetings of the Chairs. The Chairman would report back in due course.
- A meeting with Kirklees MC Holme Valley South Ward Members, representatives of Holme Valley Business Association, and Holme Valley Civic Society to discuss traffic issues in Holmfirth had proved constructive and useful. It had been agreed that it was useful to have such discussions on an ad-hoc basis.
- Kirklees MC The Valleys Area Committee - first meeting - there was budget available for funding local projects and this opportunity should be borne in mind.
- Agbrigg Division, the Girl Guide Association - Craft Exhibition - The Chairman had been delighted to assist with judging and presentation of prizes to Guides.
- 60th Holmfirth Musical Festival - he commended the very high standard of competition and regretted that the event was not as well supported as might be hoped.
- Tidy Trader Award - although participation in this initiative had improved, there was still potential to increase involvement by local businesses, and he asked Members to encourage traders and business people to participate in this competition next year. As the village centres improved in appearance, so did the pride in the area increase and improve.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman's reports of the above events be received and the comments noted.

The Clerk also reported that Cllr. Searby had been in hospital recently and was now recovering at home, having suffered a mild stroke. The good wishes of the Council would be sent to him.

05 48 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting

In consideration of the minutes of the last Council meeting (minute 05 33), Cllr. Dixon, seconded by Cllr. Rogers, proposed a vote of no confidence in the Chairman of the Council, for disrespect in his

Holme Valley Parish Council

attitude to the Council and the people of the Valley, as evidenced by his attire at Council meetings, and his decision not to hold a civic function.

The Chairman indicated that he hoped Members would judge him on the contribution he made to the work of the Council and its achievements, not on his dress code, but that if the motion was passed, then he would step down from the Chairmanship of the Council.

The motion, on being put to the Council, was defeated, by 11 votes to 4. Councillors Dixon, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Osborn and Rogers then left the meeting. The Chairman thanked Members for their support for his Chairmanship.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 September 2005 numbered 05 31 - 05 44 inclusive be confirmed, with the correction to Cllr. Rogers' name in Minute number 05 43.

05 49 To receive the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on 12 September 2005 numbered 05 33 - 05 48 inclusive be received and adopted.

In connection with Minute number 05 40 Making a Difference Day, the Clerk reported that CragRats had not proceeded with the painting of a bus shelter as discussed previously. This information was noted.

05 50 To receive the Minutes of the Finance and Management Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Finance and Management Committee held on 19 September 2005 numbered 05 41 - 05 57 inclusive be received and adopted.

05 51 To confirm the Minutes of the Planning Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 5 September 2005 numbered 05 67 - 05 73, and on 26 September 2005 numbered 05 74 - 05 86 inclusive be confirmed.

05 52 To confirm the Minutes of the Publications and Editorial Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Publications and Editorial Committee held on 3 October 2005 numbered 05 32 - 05 38 inclusive be confirmed, with the alterations to minute numbering as initialled by the Clerk.

Members were advised that the Parish Council's website was now live, and they were encouraged to put forward ideas for inclusion on the website, or in editions of the Council's newsletter.

05 53 Administrative matters

(1) Membership of Planning Committee - the Clerk reported that Cllr. Bellamy wished to stand down from this Committee.

RESOLVED: That Cllr. Bellamy's resignation from the Planning Committee be accepted.

(2) Use of Substitutes - the Clerk reported substitute arrangements for the Independent group.

RESOLVED: That these arrangements be noted and approved.

(3) Vacancy on Council - it was reported to Members that a casual vacancy had resulted, following the resignation of Cllr. Dalton to the Chairman. This casual vacancy would be reported to Kirklees MC who would make appropriate arrangements for advertising the vacancy, and organising any election called as a result.

RESOLVED: That the above information be noted, and that Mr. Dalton be thanked for his service on behalf of the Council.

05 54 Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED: That the payment of accounts for September 2005, totalling £7,701.61, be approved.

05 55 Local Area Committees

Holme Valley Parish Council

- Valleys Area Committee - the Chairman commented that he had been appointed to the Environment and Transport Sub-Committee of the Area Committee. He indicated that he now had a diary of meetings for the civic year 2005-06. It was agreed by Members that this diary of meetings might usefully be publicised on the Council's website and in the newsletter, Valley Voice.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman's report be accepted and that consideration be given to including the diary of meetings of the Valleys Area Committee on the Council's website and in the Council's newsletter.

05 56 Representation

(1) Members considered representation at the following events:

(a) Remembrance Sunday - the Chairman apologised to the Council and explained that, unfortunately, he had booked a short holiday before he was aware of the date of this ceremony, and it was, therefore, necessary to agree the Council's representation at the Service and Ceremony in Holmfirth. Cllr. Dixon, before leaving the Council meeting, had indicated that he was willing to carry out this duty on behalf of the Council, as a Past Chairman. Cllr. Mrs. Court indicated that she, too, was willing to so act, but would need to check her diary commitments.

Arrangements for placement of wreaths at War memorials in the Holme Valley were agreed as follows:

- Brockholes - Cllr. Mrs. Spencer
- Hepworth - Cllr. Mrs. Jackson
- Holmbridge - Cllr. Mrs. Osborn
- Honley - Cllr. Andrea Gosslin (assisted by Cllr. Mrs. Bower and Cllr. Michael Bower, if so desired)
- Netherthong - Cllr. Mrs. Kemp
- New Mill - Cllr. Mrs. Roberts.

RESOLVED: (1) That the Council be represented at the Remembrance Sunday service and Ceremony in Holmfirth by Cllr. Mrs. Court, if she is able to do so, but if she is unable to be present, by Cllr. Dixon; Cllr. Mrs. Court to confirm if she is available or not within the next few days

(2) That arrangements for placement of wreaths at the other War Memorials be as listed above.

(b) SMP Playgrounds - Play and Leisure Provision for Parish Councils - Thirsk Racecourse - 20 October 2005:

RESOLVED: That the Chairman of the Council, Cllr. Chilton, attends this event, if available.

(c) West Yorkshire Pension Fund - annual meeting for Employers - Bradford - 20 October 2005:

RESOLVED: That information about this meeting be noted.

(d) Luptonfawcett - Employers and Ageing Workers - Preparing for new legislation and managing an ageing workforce - Leeds - 2 November 2005:

RESOLVED: That information about this seminar be noted.

(e) SLCC North Yorkshire Branch Training Day - Legal and Efficient Meetings - Tadcaster - 9 November 2005:

RESOLVED: That the Chairman of the Council, Cllr. Chilton, attends this event, if available; if he is not available, the Council to be represented by the Vice Chairman of the Council, or the Clerk or Deputy Clerk.

(2) Members received reports of attendance at the following events:

- Cllr. Mrs. Janet Spencer and Cllr. Andrea Gosslin - Kirklees Cycling Forum - 7 September 2005: in respect of future Tour of Britain races which might pass through the area, it had been suggested that a large TV screen should be provided, and that a commentary be broadcast on radio to enhance people's enjoyment of the race. Members were thanked for attending this meeting.
- Cllr. Mrs. Roberts - AGM of Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS Trust - 15 September 2005: As Cllr. Mrs. Roberts was not present, no report was given.
- Cllr. Mrs. Janet Spencer and Cllr. Andrea Gosslin - MAGNA Play Seminar - 13 October 2005: this had

Holme Valley Parish Council

been a useful, informative and thoroughly enjoyable event, at which the Members had gained much information, and been allowed to experience for themselves some of the playground equipment.

- Clerk - Society of Local Council Clerks Annual Conference - 8 - 10 October 2005: the Clerk thanked Members for approving her attendance at this event which had concentrated on aspects of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005. Detailed guidance was still awaited about how this legislation would impact on Local Council activities, but there had been much useful and thought-provoking discussion.

RESOLVED: That the Councillors and Clerk be thanked for their reports and for their attendance at these events.

05 57 Commemorative Events

(1) 25 years of the Holme Valley Minibus Service (Finance and Management Committee Minute 05 43 (2) refers) - the Clerk reported that she had not yet received further information from Metro regarding the cost of offering free travel for one day. Members confirmed that the Clerk should make arrangements for the proposal recommended by the Finance and Management Committee, namely, that travel on the Minibus Services should be free for one day to mark 25 years of the Holme Valley Minibus Service, and that the Clerk should endeavour to obtain financial backing from Metro and the operator, together with the Council, for the cost of the day.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be authorised to proceed with such arrangements, and to report back further to the next meeting of the Finance and Management Committee.

(2) Trafalgar Weekend (Finance and Management Committee Minute 05 50 refers) - In Cllr. Rogers' absence, there was no further information to report.

RESOLVED: That it be noted that there was no information to hand of any local event in this respect.

05 58 Quality Councils

The Clerk indicated that the Council was now in a position to consider preparation and submission of its application for Quality Council status. She sought Members' guidance in this respect.

RESOLVED: (1) That, in view of the importance of this application, the Clerk should proceed to prepare the application and to submit it, when she feels happy with the content, to the next appropriate meeting of the Finance and Management Committee, for recommendation for approval by the Council

(2) That it be noted that, in view of the likely size of the finished document, a synopsis only will be issued to Members, and that interested Members should peruse the full document in the Council Chamber.

05 59 Freedom of Information Act 2000

RESOLVED: That, under the Council's Publication Scheme, supporting papers for any item within the public session of the meeting be made available, if requested.

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Chairman