

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 19 DECEMBER 2005 -

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr J R Chilton

Vice-Chairman : Cllr Mrs J Spencer

Councillors : Cllr T Bellamy, Cllr M Bower, Cllr C E Collins, Cllr Mrs M P Court, Cllr R P Dixon, Cllr D M Firth, Cllr A L Gosslin, Cllr R N Haynes, Cllr Mrs S Hobson, Cllr Mrs R Jackson, Cllr Mrs W J Kemp, Cllr R Oldfield, Cllr Mrs J M Osborn, Cllr A R Otterburn, Cllr Mrs J Roberts, Cllr P Robinson, Cllr P J Rodgers, Cllr Mrs H L Rodgers, Cllr P D Searby, Cllr Mrs H P Smith

Officers : Mrs MA Bewick, Mrs E Hirst

One member of the public was present.

Public Question Time

There were no questions from the member of the public present.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors Mrs. Bratt, Mrs. Hall, Kaye, Macpherson, Oldham and Rogers.

05 77 Disclosure of Interests

None were given.

05 78 Admission of the Public

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

05 79 Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman reported in detail about various events and seminars which he had attended on behalf of the Council:

- Meeting with Holme Valley Civic Society and Kirklees Countryside Management Unit in relation to development of the Arts Trail - a constructive meeting, agreed to work in partnership
- Meeting with selected artists, also in connection with the Arts Trail
- Holmfirth Choral Society concert - remarkable evening of music; the Vice Chairman also attended a Choral Society concert
- Kirklees MC Valleys Area Committee - planning meeting
- NHS Trust - consultation re proposed changes to health services
- Community Pay Back - Visible Unpaid Work launch - potential opportunity for Council to put forward projects
- Switch on of Christmas Lights, Holmfirth
- Kirklees MC Valleys Area Committee - Environment and Transport Sub Group meeting and full Area Committee - opportunities may exist to get improvements to Riverside Way, and in conjunction with the Arts Trail
- Farmers' Market - presentation to Members of Holmfirth Cancer Relief Committee who have provided refreshments at the Farmers' Market, raising a significant sum for Cancer Relief.

05 80 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 November 2005 numbered 05 60 - 05 73 inclusive be confirmed.

05 81 To confirm the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 12 December 2005 numbered 05 74 - 05

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76 inclusive be confirmed.

05 82 To receive the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on 21 November 2005 numbered 05 67 - 05 78 inclusive be received and adopted.

In connection with Minute number 05 76, Budget Provision, Cllr. Otterburn asked that the Committee look again at the figure proposed for new projects within next year's budget, in view of any potential approach from the newly formed Cinema Trust for the Council's support.

Also in connection with this minute, Cllr. Dixon commented on the proposal that the Council should contract only one self-employed person to carry out necessary works in relation to the seats and bus shelters. There would also be tax issues to investigate in such an event. It was agreed that further investigations were to be carried out before proceeding with this proposal.

It was also agreed that a report would be presented to the next General Purposes Committee in relation to progress with the new Cinema Trust and the operation of the Picturedrome, which would then inform the Committee's discussions further.

05 83 To confirm the Minutes of the Publications and Editorial Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Publications and Editorial Committee held on 21 November 2005 numbered 05 39 - 05 46 inclusive be confirmed.

05 84 To confirm the Minutes of the Planning Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 14 November 2005 numbered 05 109 - 05 115 inclusive and on 28 November 2005 numbered 05 116 - 05 126 inclusive be confirmed.

05 85 To receive the Minutes of the Staffing Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Staffing Committee held on 1 December 2005 numbered 05 01 - 05 06 inclusive be received and adopted, and the recommendations be noted and approved.

05 86 To receive the Minutes of the Finance and Management Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Finance and Management Committee held on 5 December 2005 numbered 05 71 - 05 83 inclusive be received and adopted.

The Clerk reported that she had now received accounts from the Holme Valley Business Association, as requested in Minute number 05 77(1).

05 87 Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED: That the payment of accounts for November 2005, totalling £7,442.78, and December 2005 (part), totalling £11,175.69, be approved.

05 88 Quality Councils

RESOLVED: That the Council's application for Quality Council Status be approved.

The Clerk and Deputy Clerk were thanked for the work which they had done in preparing this application. The Clerk was also asked to thank Mr. Bratt on behalf of the Council, for assisting by taking photographs used in the application.

05 89 Request to consult with Parish Council

(1) NHS - Looking to the Future - Following the Special Meeting of the Council Members commented that the presentation by the representatives of the PCTs and NHS Trusts had been very helpful, but concerns were still expressed at the risks to which the proposals might expose those requiring maternity services. Members could appreciate the need for changes within the surgical services, but felt that leaving Huddersfield Royal Infirmary with a midwife-led unit, and no consultant to hand was not acceptable and increased potential risks for patient care.

RESOLVED: (1) That, in response to the above proposals, the Council accepts the need for change to services offered by the two hospitals, but would seriously challenge the proposal regarding the

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Maternity Unit, and that the Council would ask that a consultant-led maternity unit, together with associated facilities, be retained at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, as well as at Calderdale Royal Infirmary

(2) That a copy of the Council's response be sent to the Chief Executive of Huddersfield Central and South PCT.

3 Members voted against.

(2) Audit Commission - Proposed Changes to the Audit Regime for Local Councils - Members considered proposed changes to the Audit regime for Local Councils, which would have a favourable impact of this Council. It was felt that the changes proposed seemed to be reasonable, and would set audit fees for the next five years.

RESOLVED: That the Council welcomes and supports the proposed changes to the Audit regime for Local Councils.

05 90 Local Area Committees

- Valleys Area Committee - Following the Chairman's report at the beginning of the meeting, there were no further reports from Parish Council representatives.

05 91 Representation

(1) Members reported on their attendance at the following events:

- Cllr. Mrs. Roberts - Kirklees Pennine Rural Transport Partnership Steering Group - she was, unfortunately, unable to attend this meeting, due to another meeting.

- Cllr. Chilton and others - Community Payback - Visible Unpaid Work launch - The Chairman had commented on this event earlier in the meeting. Cllr. Mrs. Court reported that she had obtained further details of the criteria to be met in suggesting projects for this scheme. These would be reported to the next meeting of the General Purposes Committee.

RESOLVED: That the above reports be noted and received.

(2) A Parish Charter Review Meeting was to be held with Kirklees MC and other Parish and Town Councils, to which the Chairman of the Council and two further Councillors and the Clerk were invited. Various dates had been suggested, but a final date was not yet known.

RESOLVED: That the Council be represented at this meeting by the Chairman, Clerk and Councillors Michael Bower and Mrs. Court.

05 92 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