

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2005 -

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr P Robinson

Councillors : Cllr M Bower, Cllr Mrs M Bower, Cllr J R Chilton, Cllr R P Dixon, Cllr R N Haynes, Cllr R Oldfield, Cllr A R Otterburn, Cllr R Rogers

Officers : Mrs MA Bewick

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Collins, Dalton, Firth, Kaye, Macpherson, Oldham and Mrs. Smith.

Cllr. Chilton was present in his ex-officio capacity as Chairman of the Council.

05 41 Disclosure of Interests

Cllr. Mrs. Bower declared a personal interest in item 10 of the agenda, Holme Valley Minibus Services, in that she served on West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority.

05 42 Admission of the Public

It was felt that parts of agenda items 13, Miscellaneous Rentals, and 14, Awarded Quarries, may need to be discussed in private session, owing to the confidential nature of the information to be disclosed.

RESOLVED: That these parts of the agenda items be discussed in private session.

As Mr. Simon Linley, from West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, was present in connection with agenda item 10, Holme Valley Minibus Services, the Chairman asked for the Committee's agreement to this item being taken at the beginning of the meeting. This was so agreed.

05 43 Holme Valley Minibus Service

(1) To consider requests received for minor changes in services as agreed (minutes 05 35 (2) refers) - the Clerk had sent YPTE details of requests already mentioned relating to H1/H2 and H5. Mr. Linley from the PTE explained that the officers would evaluate the requested change to services H1/H2 and would seek comments from the operator. Likely problems would be extra time taken to travel the altered route, and potentially a difficult right turn at one point. Suggested alternative turns were detailed for the operator's benefit. WYPTE would report back in due course about this suggested alteration.

RESOLVED: That further comments from Metro and the operator in respect of changes to service H1 and H2 be awaited.

The change back to the previous route for service H5, ie picking up on the inner circle of the Oval, Netherthong, was unlikely to be approved by Metro, given that the reasons for the variation to Leas Avenue had been because of parked cars and damage to both the bus and vehicles parked. Kirklees MC Highways Service had been asked to look at the area to see if any improvements could be made, and the situation would be kept under review, if matters improved. Mr. Linley agreed to pass on the Parish Council's concerns to Kirklees Highways, highlighting residents' concerns and wishes for the service on the Oval to be reinstated.

RESOLVED: That the situation in respect of service H5 be kept under review, in the hope that highway improvements can be made.

(2) 25 years of the Holme Valley Minibus Service - Members asked Mr. Linley if he was now able to inform the Council of the cost of providing a free service for one day to celebrate 25 years of the Minibus Service. Mr. Linley agreed to investigate this cost, and to report back in time for the full

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Council meeting. Members also asked if this cost could be split between the Parish Council, Metro and the operator. Mr. Linley was asked to investigate this possibility, although he indicated that he felt it was unlikely that Metro would be able to assist financially, but it could offer publicity.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: That, to celebrate 25 years of the Minibus Services in the Holme Valley, the cost of operating the services for one day should be borne completely by, if possible, the Council, Metro and the operator; if this proves not to be possible, that this Committee recommends to the Council that the Council should bear this cost.

Cllr. Otterburn asked that at a future meeting, the Committee considers the possibility of offering free travel on the Minibus Services to under sixteen year olds. Mr. Linley agreed to investigate and provide the Clerk with some costs for this for a future meeting.

(3) Minibus Routes - Members considered correspondence from Kirklees MC regarding the gritting of minibus routes but felt that the comments made were not acceptable. Mr. Linley offered to take this up further with Kirklees MC via Metro. This offer was accepted.

RESOLVED: (1) That this matter be considered again at the next meeting, when any further response from Kirklees MC via Metro would be available

(2) That the Clerk also writes to Mr. Terry Brown, Kirklees MC Highway Services, indicating that the response had not answered the Parish Council's concerns re the gritting of minibus routes.

05 44 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2005 numbered 05 22 - 05 40 inclusive be received and adopted as a true record of the meeting.

05 45 Correspondence arising from the Minutes

Members were informed that an inquiry had been received from Wooldale residents about the possible provision of a Christmas tree for Wooldale. The Clerk indicated that she had suggested that a grant application be submitted to the Committee seeking assistance with the initial costs of providing an electricity supply at the site. Members noted this information and would await receipt of any application for consideration by the Committee.

05 46 Investment of Income

RESOLVED: That the Clerk's action in the investment and withdrawal of the Council's funds be approved and the current rates of interest applying to the Council's accounts be noted.

05 47 Financial Statement

RESOLVED: That the Financial Summary, Comparison and Income as at 31 August 2005 be approved.

05 48 Representation

Members considered representation on or at the following:

- (1) Lupton Fawcett Annual Employment Law Seminar - 12 October 2005 - Cedar Court Hotel, Bradford
- (2) Yorkshire Rural Community Council - Annual General Meeting - 15 October 2005 - Thorpe Willoughby Village Hall
- (3) Yorkshire Rural Community Council - Nominations to YRCC's Trustee Board - quarterly meetings.

RESOLVED: That no representation be made to the above events.

05 49 Justices' Licences

Members considered an application for the Transfer of Justices Licence - The Duke of Leeds, New Mill - from Hazel Antonini and Christine Marie Hirst of the Duke of Leeds to Theresa Jane Crossland, of the Rose and Crown, Thurstonland.

RESOLVED: That no objection be made to this application.

05 50 Commemorative Events

Trafalgar Weekend - 21 - 23 October 2005 - Members discussed again the possibility of any local events

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for this weekend, but there was no knowledge of any currently planned. Cllr. Rogers felt that there was an opportunity to mark the occasion with a special church service.

RESOLVED: (1) That Cllr. Rogers be authorised to make inquiries if any of the local churches were already planning any special service to make this occasion
(2) That this matter be considered again at the full Council meeting.

05 51 Consultations

(1) ODPM - Vibrant Local Leadership - Local Vision in partnership with local government - Foreword - Cllr. R. Rogers was now reading through this document.

RESOLVED: That the item again be deferred.

(2) Campaign for the Sustainable Communities Bill - Members were being asked to support this Campaign, and agreed that there was much in the information to support but there were some questions about which organisation was behind the campaign, and where it had originated. The Clerk was asked to make some inquiries about this via NALC.

RESOLVED: That, subject to further investigation about the Campaign via its website, the Committee would recommend to the Council that it should support the Campaign.

05 52 Miscellaneous Rentals

(1) Report regarding action in respect of Hollowgate shelter - to be considered in private session.
(2) Holme Allotments - the Clerk reminded Members that an amount was held by the Council on behalf of the allotment holders at Holme. A request had been received from one of the allotment holders for a refund of the cost of purchasing a strimmer for the allotment holders' communal use. If this amount was refunded there would be some £40 remaining held for this purpose.

RESOLVED: That the cost of £97.37 be repaid, and the allotment holders informed of the remaining amount held by the Council on their behalf.

05 53 Awarded Quarries

(1) The Clerk reported that progress had been made on the application for voluntary registration; the Service Level Agreement with the Land Registry had now been signed by the Land Registry, and one meeting had been held by the Working Party. A further meeting would be held shortly to finalise the information to be returned to the Council's Legal Advisers. It was also noted that an interim bill would be submitted by the Legal Advisers in respect of work undertaken in preparation for this voluntary registration.

RESOLVED: (1) That the Clerk's report be accepted
(2) That, in order to progress this matter speedily, the Working Party, so appointed in this respect, namely Cllr. Chilton, Chairman of the Council, Councillors Bellamy and Dixon, and the Clerk, together with the Chairman of the Finance and Management Committee, be authorised to agree the final submission of material to the Legal Advisers for this voluntary registration.

(2) Jackson Bridge - site of public conveniences - Correspondence had been received from Kirklees MC giving options for the future of this site which vests in the Parish Council. The conveniences are to be closed, and Kirklees MC has offered:

- to demolish the conveniences, clear the site, and hand it back to the Council for future use
- to pass the conveniences to the Parish Council in their present condition, for the Council to find an alternative use.

RESOLVED: That the Council should accept the first option, and ask Kirklees MC to clear the site and hand it back to the Parish Council.

(3) White Wells Road, Scholes - update re boundary issues - to be considered in private session.

05 54 Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED: That the business of this Committee now to be transacted be not open to the public and press on the grounds that the matters to be considered are of a confidential nature (agenda items 13(1)

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and 14(3)).

05 55 Miscellaneous Rentals

Hollowgate Shelter, Holmfirth - Members were circulated with details of information to be submitted to Kirklees MC regarding the breach of planning conditions in respect of the works to this shelter. Members approved the return of this information by the due deadline.

Information from the Legal Advisers was also considered in respect of the current tenancy and the impact of this breach on the Council's position. Members felt that the tenancy should be continued provided the tenant abided by the planning conditions and submitted a new planning application in order to operate from this office. Members wished to see this situation resolved, and recommended that the Clerk did not bank the cheque received for rent until the tenant had adhered to planning conditions, subject to any further advice from the Legal Advisers.

RESOLVED: That the above courses of action be followed and this information conveyed to the Legal Advisers for any further comments thereon.

05 56 Awarded Quarries

White Wells, Scholes - Correspondence had been received from the resident who had encroached upon the Council's site, resolving some of the boundary issues, and indicating a wish to settle the matter amicably. Members agreed that further information would be required from the Charity Commission as to how this particular issue could be progressed. Members also agreed that the correspondent should be informed of the Council's position in respect of the Land Registry and the Charity Commission, in that his interest was noted, but future procedures would be subject to Charity Commission approval, which would be communicated to him, once known. Further guidance would also be sought from the Council's Legal Advisers.

Members also noted that a caution against first registration of this site had been lodged, which had incurred a fee. These actions were approved.

RESOLVED: (1) That the correspondent and the legal advisers be so informed
(2) That the actions taken in lodging the caution against first registration be approved.

05 57 Freedom of Information Act 2000

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

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Chairman