

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 20 JUNE 2005 -

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr A L Gosslin

Vice-Chairman : Cllr Mrs M P Court

Councillors : Cllr T Bellamy, Cllr Mrs R Bratt, Cllr J R Chilton, Cllr R P Dixon, Cllr Mrs R Jackson, Cllr Mrs W J Kemp, Cllr Mrs J M Osborn, Cllr P J Rodgers, Cllr Mrs H L Rodgers, Cllr P D Searby, Cllr Mrs J Spencer

Officers : Mrs MA Bewick

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Hobson and Mrs. Roberts. Cllr. Dixon was present as substitute for Cllr. Mrs. Hall.

Cllr. R. Rogers was present as an observer.
1 member of the public was present.

05 03 Disclosure of Interests

None were given.

05 04 Admission of the Public

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

05 05 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meetings held on 11 April 2005 numbered 04 109 - 04 122 inclusive and on 16 May 2005, numbered 05 01 - 05 02 inclusive be received and adopted as true records of the meetings.

05 06 Correspondence arising from the Minutes

The Clerk reported that further investigations into the possibility of applying for a grant for refurbishing the war memorials had indicated that such an application would have to be directed to a different fund than the one already identified, and that an application would have to be submitted for each war memorial (Minute number 04 120 refers). It was, however, possible for a further application to be made for assistance with the costs of obtaining a condition survey of all the war memorials, which would indicate their condition and the recommended works to be undertaken. The Clerk also reported an initial indication of the cost of obtaining such a survey. Further advice had been supplied by the funding organisation as to recommended surveyors.

Members asked the Clerk to continue to progress with obtaining quotations for carrying out the condition survey and to submit a grant application for this work as soon as this was feasible. It would then be possible to start preparing applications for each of the war memorials, and to keep the Committee informed of the progress.

RESOLVED: That this action be taken.

The Clerk also informed Members that further information had been received from St. John's Church, Upperthong about necessary repairs to the lychgate. This information would be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

05 07 Complaints Procedure

- Litter bin on the corner of Upper Meadows/Upperthong Lane - lack of emptying by Kirklees MC - The Council had received a complaint about the infrequency with which this litter bin was emptied.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contacts Kirklees MC Cleansing Services about this complaint, and asks that this

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bin be emptied on a more regular basis.

05 08 Responsible Dog Ownership

emptied a) Dog Waste - the use of litter bins for dog waste - Members had been circulated with further information from Kirklees MC and a copy of the Cabinet Member's report in this respect. Although the Panel had recommended that it was possible to place dog waste in ordinary litter bins, the issue of how and who

these bins had still not been resolved. Members noted the information circulated and noted Cllr. Otterburn's comments in this respect, but felt that no further action could be taken until a decision was received from Kirklees MC about the emptying of litter bins containing dog waste.

Members were also circulated with information relating to the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005 which offered new opportunities for dealing with such matters, and other allied issues of concern to the Committee. It was agreed that an item be placed on a future agenda, once further guidance and advice had been issued by Defra about how such powers could be put into operation.

RESOLVED: That the above action be taken.

b) Use of dog waste bags - a complaint had been received from a local resident asking for additional waste bins, at strategic locations. The resident had already been informed by the Clerk of the action which the Council had already taken and of the recommendations under consideration by Kirklees MC.

Members noted the resident's concerns which they shared, and approved of the reply already sent to the resident by the Deputy Clerk.

RESOLVED: That the resident's concerns be noted and the correspondence noted.

c) Provision of dog waste bags - the Clerk reported that more than half the supply of dog waste bags which had initially been purchased had been distributed, and she asked Members to consider obtaining further supplies. There was some discussion about whether or not this provision should be continued, in that responsible dog owners should provide their own dog waste bags. It was, however, felt that offering such bags encouraged more people to clear up after their dogs and that it was a useful and relatively inexpensive service for the Parish Council to offer.

RESOLVED: That a further purchase of 10,000 dog waste bags be made.

05 09 Community facilities

facility (1) Holmfirth Market - the Clerk reported to Members that Kirklees MC Markets planned to trial a Sunday market to operate from Towngate Car Park for 14 weeks. For the first week only, a free Park and Ride

would be offered from Sands to the centre of Holmfirth. It was intended that this market should complement the Farmers and Craft Markets which operated from the Market Hall, and the Markets Service was hoping to attract quality general trading stalls. Alternative arrangements had already been made for members of the church congregation who normally parked in this car park whilst attending Sunday services.

the Members expressed some concerns about parking issues, in that traders would have to park somewhere in these town centre and there were other popular events taking place on the same day. The Clerk agreed to take concerns up with the Markets Service before the first Market.

success of RESOLVED: That the information about the new Sunday Market be noted and Members review the the trial at a later date.

discussed (2) Removal of Public Payphone - Cinderhills, Holmfirth - a further request had been received from a local resident to remove this facility as the kiosk is subject to vandalism problems. This matter had been previously, and it was reiterated that as there was some half a mile between the two payphones, it was necessary to retain the Cinderhills facility for emergency purposes (minute 04 104 refers). Cllr. Mrs. Court offered to consult residents of the adjacent estate to see if there was support for retaining this facility.

view RESOLVED: (1) That the Council should inform BT and the local resident that it was still inclined to the

that this facility should be retained, but that it was checking with local residents whether this view was soundly based, and would inform BT in due course of the results of this consultation

vicinity (2) That the Council accepts Cllr. Mrs. Court's offer to consult with residents living in the vicinity of the payphone and to report back in due course with their support or otherwise for retention of the

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payphone.

(3) BT Time Sensitive - a consultation had been received to consider the removal of some facilities within the area. BT proposed to remove one payphone at Bradshaw Drive, Honley and to convert two others to a cashless facility. These were at Oakes Avenue, Brockholes, and Wooldale Road, Holmfirth. Members discussed this proposal, and felt that whilst it was acceptable to convert the two payphones to a cashless payment option, it could not support the removal of the payphone at Bradshaw Drive, Honley, but would be prepared to support providing only a cashless payment option.

RESOLVED: That the Council would support the conversion of all three payphones listed to a cashless payment option only, but would not support the removal of the facility at Bradshaw Drive.

05 10 Footpaths

Kirklees Public Rights of Way Forum - Minutes - 9 March 2005 - Members noted the minutes of the meeting of the Public Rights of Way Forum as circulated. Cllr Mrs. Court asked why the Council had no representative on this organisation, and she was informed of the previous decision taken by the Committee in this respect. She asked if the Committee could reconsider this decision, as she would like to attend these meetings.

RESOLVED: That an item be placed on the agenda of the full Council to re-appoint a representative to this organisation.

Public Footpath Holmfirth 205 - Black Hill, Holmfirth - Public Path Extinguishment Order 2002:

RESOLVED: That this order be noted.

05 11 Arts Trail

Members noted suggestions which had been received about future development of the Arts trail. These suggestions had been received as a result of the article in the Holme Valley Express. An article was also to be included in the next edition of the Council's newsletter and in the catalogue for Holmfirth Artweek. Reply forms would be published in the newsletter, and would be available during Artweek. It was felt that no further action could be taken until there had been adequate time for people to respond to this wider consultation. Members were interested in the suggestions already received and wished to thank the local residents who had responded so far.

RESOLVED: That further responses to the consultation be awaited, and that the suggestions received to date be held for later consideration.

05 12 Bus Shelters and Seats

a) Arts bus shelter - Holmfirth Market Hall - the Clerk reported on the damage which had occurred to this shelter and the action taken to date. Members approved all the actions taken by the Clerk in ensuring that the shelter was not dangerous and immediate tidying up carried out. She had since been informed by the Police that CCTV footage provided no evidence of vandalism, and that it would appear the fire was caused by carelessness rather than malicious damage. A verbal quotation had already been provided by the sculptor for remedial works to reinstate the shelter which amounted to £2,800.

After some discussion about incurring such an unbudgetted cost, it was agreed that this shelter was in a prominent place in the town centre and a flagship element of the Arts Trail. By virtue of its originality as a piece of art, it was also felt that there was no option for it to be repaired other than by the original artist.

RESOLVED: That Mr. Kirkby-Geddes be asked to repair this shelter to its original condition as soon as possible

after Council approval.

b) Sycamore shelter - Following earlier discussions about this shelter, a local resident had asked that the shelter be repainted. The Clerk reported that she had asked the Council's contractor to carry out some repairs to the shelter and to repaint the inside as requested. She had informed the resident of the action to be taken.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk's action in this matter be approved.

The Clerk also reported that a shelter had now been provided at Banksville, New Mill Road, as agreed

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previously. This information was noted.

05 13 Highway matters

traffic
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shoppers
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- Victoria Street, Holmfirth - at the recent Parish Meeting, a local resident had voiced his concern about problems on Victoria Street, Holmfirth, caused by deliveries being made to shops at busy times of the day, by the length of time taken to make such deliveries. The resident had asked the Parish Council to consider there was any way these problems could be alleviated. Although Members were sympathetic with local business needs of servicing their premises and accepting deliveries, the needs of local residents and shoppers had to be kept in mind. Members suggested that if this problem was isolated to certain shops, then the Council could contact the shopkeeper and ask for greater co-operation in arranging the timing of deliveries to the shop.

to

There was discussion about possibilities of suggesting early morning or evening deliveries and of alterations to the siting of the traffic lights to alleviate congestion. It was also felt that there was abuse by private car owners of the parking provision on Victoria Street, which caused further traffic problems. Whilst it was felt that greater implementation by the Police of parking regulations would ease the flow of traffic, this would not solve all the problems which were occurring. It was suggested that it would be helpful to have further discussions with the Business Association to hear their views and suggestions for improving the situation.

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RESOLVED: (1) That the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the General Purposes Committee should meet the Holme Valley Business Association to hear its views about this matter and to bring its concerns back to the Committee

(2) that, in the meantime, the Clerk also contacts the shopkeepers whose deliveries had been particularly noted as causing problems, to ask for their co-operation in requesting deliveries to be made at quieter times

(3) that the Clerk also contacts Kirklees MC to seek its views about how to tackle traffic management issues on Victoria Street, Holmfirth.

Cllr. R. Rogers, and the member of the public left the meeting after this item.

05 14 Recreational Facilities

Clerk
areas
design to

In connection with the development of play areas at Thongsbridge and at Oakes Avenue, Brockholes, the Clerk reported that she was still waiting for written assurance from Kirklees MC Housing Services that these areas could be dedicated as play areas. In the meantime, a play area manufacturer had provided a possible design to give Members ideas of what could be provided. This design was circulated round the meeting and received generally favourable support.

RESOLVED: That no further action can be taken until the necessary assurance is provided by Kirklees MC Housing Services.

05 15 Justices Licence - Transfer

Members considered an Application for Final Transfer of the Licence for the Duke of Leeds, New Mill to Christine M Hirst and Hazel Antonini from Russell Gardener.

RESOLVED: That no objection be made to this Transfer.

05 16 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