

# Holme Valley Parish Council

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 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 Mrs D Hall, Cllr Mrs S Hobson, Cllr Mrs R Jackson, Cllr Mrs W J Kemp, Cllr Mrs J Roberts, Cllr P J Rodgers, Cllr Mrs H L Rodgers, Cllr P D Searby, Cllr Mrs J Spencer

Officers : Mrs E Hirst

Councillor Mrs. Court, the Vice-Chairman took the Chair due to the late arrival of the Chairman of the Committee.

### **Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs. Osborn.

### **05 33 Disclosure of Interests**

Councillor Mrs. Roberts declared an interest in Item 10(b) (War Memorials) on the Agenda and Councillor Mrs. Court declared an interest in Item 14(a) (Arts Trail) on the Agenda. Both Councillors left the meeting during discussion of the appropriate items.

### **05 34 Admission of the Public**

RESOLVED: That item 10 (War Memorials) on the agenda be taken in private session, owing to the confidential nature of the items to be discussed.

### **05 35 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 August 2005 numbered 05 17 - 05 32 inclusive be received and confirmed as a true record of the meeting.

The Deputy Clerk reported that she was seeking suitable dates for the first meeting of the group set up to discuss traffic issues and associated matters in the town centre (Min. No. 05 22). The Chairman indicated he could attend on 26 September 2005 at 6.00 pm and the Deputy Clerk agreed she would try to arrange a meeting for this date.

### **05 36 Correspondence arising from the Minutes**

There was none to report.

### **05 37 Complaints Procedure**

Councillor Andrea Gosslin in the Chair.

a) Electricity Substation - Hinchliffe Mill: Following a previous complaint it was reported that this substation had, in fact, been repaired and the work had been carried out to a good standard. This was noted.

b) Horn Lane, New Mill: Concern had been expressed regarding large letters which had been painted on the road adjacent to Christ Church, New Mill. This matter had been raised as it was thought it could have been a private message but it was now believed the letters could have been written on the road in connection with recent road repairs; the road having been resurfaced. This was noted.

The Deputy Clerk was asked to enquire of Kirklees MC if this practice was one it now adopted in connection with road repairs.

Cllr. Hall also informed Members that Sude Hill Terrace had been repaired.

**05 38 Community facilities**

a) Telephone box at Royds Drive, New Mill: Members had been circulated with a letter and photographs supplied by a local resident. The letter indicated that the telephone kiosk had been badly vandalised and was an eyesore. In the first instance it was agreed that BT should be requested to carry out a survey of usage of this facility as not everyone has access to a mobile or landline. If it is found the usage is adequate it is suggested that possibly just a hood and handset should be provided at this location rather than a booth.

RESOLVED: That BT be requested to carry out a survey of usage and that if this is found to be high then it should look at providing a hood and handset facility as detailed above.

b) Bradshaw Drive, Honley: Members were informed that BT had received the comment regarding this facility and a response would be made in due course. This information was noted.

**05 39 Bus Shelters and Seats**

The Deputy Clerk reported on the following bus shelters and seats -

a) Water Hall Court, New Mill: During recent decoration of this shelter it had been reported to the Council that some building repair work was required. The contractor was unable to carry out this work and it was agreed that Cllr. Hall should contact a local builder to find out exactly what repairs were required and the cost of such repairs. RESOLVED: That Cllr. Hall be authorised to take this course of action.

b) Whilst repairing the shelter opposite Compo's, Greenfield Road, Holmfirth the contractor had found that the shelter was badly warped and he had been unable to fix replacement glass. Two panes were required at this site but until a decision with regard to retention of the shelter is made, it was agreed that the panes not be replaced at the present time.

c) Shelter at the bottom of Church Street, Penistone Road, New Mill: The roof of this shelter had been removed by Metro as it was reported as unsafe. Currently the shelter is protected by a barrier but a decision as to removal of the back of the shelter needs to be taken.

The repair of all the above shelters awaits a response from Metro as to the future responsibility for the maintenance of shelters in the area and the Deputy Clerk was asked to seek a response as a matter of urgency.

RESOLVED: That a further approach be made to Metro, as a matter of urgency, seeking some clarification as to future provision and maintenance of shelters in the area.

d) Seat - Cliffe Lane, Holmfirth: The Deputy Clerk informed Members that this seat had been damaged accidentally as a result of vehicular damage. The owner of the vehicle concerned had informed the Council of the damage and had been informed that she may be asked to contribute towards a new seat at this location.

RESOLVED: That the Deputy Clerk informs the owner of the vehicle concerned of the costs of a replacement seat, including the contractor's costs, and that an account be forwarded to her to claim on her insurance, if appropriate.

**05 40 Making a Difference Day**

As discussed at an earlier meeting the Council was keen to pursue this matter and a letter indicating this had been sent to CragRats. Cllr. Court indicated that she was still to have a meeting with the Company and that all the suggestions to date would be put to them together with the further suggestion of tree 'seed collection'. Kirklees MC Environmental Countryside Unit were keen to be involved in the seed collection project should it be taken on board. However, there would be costs involved for the purchase of compost, containers and sand etc. of £239.00. There were funds available in the New Projects budget from which this expense could be met but it was hoped that there would be some contribution from Kirklees MC, should this project be adopted. An outcome of such an initiative was that it could result in an Environmental Group being formed and this Group could be interested in future projects of this nature.

RESOLVED: 1) That Cllr. Mrs. Court be authorised to discuss the suggested projects with CragRats to

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progress this matter

2) That funds up to an amount of £239 be made available, if necessary.

### **05 41 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal**

Remembrance Ceremonies 2005 - Members agreed that the Deputy Clerk should make appropriate arrangements, as in previous years, for the purchase and placing of wreaths at various Memorials throughout the district, and for floodlighting the War Memorial at Holme Valley Memorial Hospital. It was noted that the Remembrance Service for Holmfirth would be held at 10.45 am on the 13 November 2005 at the Parish Church, Holmfirth to be followed by the usual ceremony at the Holme Valley Hospital at 12.00 noon.

RESOLVED: 1) That 7 wreaths be obtained for placing on the usual memorials throughout the district, namely Brockholes, Hepworth, Holmbridge, Holmfirth, Honley, Netherthong and New Mill

2) That arrangements be made for the wreaths to be delivered to the Parish Council, prior to Remembrance Sunday, to enable Members to collect them and make the normal arrangements for placement on the Memorials

3) That the usual arrangements be made with regard to the floodlighting of the Memorial at Holme Valley Memorial Hospital.

4) That the date and time of the Service and Ceremony for Holmfirth be noted.

### **05 42 Footpaths**

A copy of the Minutes of the Public Rights of Way Forum had been circulated to all Members.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes be noted. Concern was expressed regarding the proposal to allow cyclists to use canal towpaths. This was considered dangerous and the concerns of the Parish Council would be voiced as appropriate.

Cllr. Chilton indicated he was still receiving papers in connection with this matter and the Deputy Clerk indicated she would communicate with Kirklees MC again and seek an assurance his name had been deleted from any records.

### **05 43 Environmental issues**

Tidy Trader Competition - Award Ceremony - 5 October 2005: Members noted the date of this event. The Chairman indicated he would be willing to attend and present the Trophy on behalf of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: That the appropriate arrangements be made.

### **05 44 Arts Trail**

Members considered all the designs submitted to date. It was pointed out that an item in connection with this matter was being published in the Valley Voice and that further designs may be received. It was felt, therefore, that the meeting should consider designs received at a future meeting and discuss suitable locations at such time. It was not possible to discuss all the options until the Council was satisfied that full opportunity had been given for submissions to be received.

RESOLVED: That this matter be discussed at the next meeting.

Cllr. Mrs. Court declared a personal interest, signed the book, and left the meeting during discussion of this item.

### **05 45 Consultations**

West Yorkshire Police Authority - Kirklees District - Parish and Town Councillor Consultation Event - July - Summary : Members had been circulated with this document. Unfortunately the meeting had clashed with a meeting of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: That the document be received and that a copy of the response be forwarded to Cllr. R. Rogers for his information as he had attended the event.

### **05 46 Exclusion of Public and Press**

RESOLVED: That the business of this Committee to be now transacted be not open to the public and

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press on the grounds that the matters to be considered are of a confidential nature (agenda items 10 a) and 10 b).

**05 47 War Memorials**

a) Quotations - Survey of War Memorials: Members had been circulated with copies of the three quotations received. These were required should the Council wish to pursue grant aid for assistance with the costs of the repair of any Memorials. It was noted the Council was responsible for maintenance of War memorials but Members questioned if this applied to safety aspects of memorials. Before making any decision to obtain surveys it was agreed that enquiries should be made of Kirklees MC, YLCA and Wakefield Diocese as to responsibility for safety of memorials.

RESOLVED: That the quotations be held in abeyance until the Council is satisfied that it is proper for it to be pursuing such surveys or if this responsibility lies elsewhere.

b) Lychgates, Upperthong St. John's Church: The Deputy Clerk informed Members that the Churchwardens had indicated that they were pursuing further quotations for lychgates at this location but that to date it was proving very hard to do so.

RESOLVED: That the further quotations requested be awaited but if it is found that it is not possible to obtain such quotations then the Council should consider the quotation currently held at the next meeting.

Cllr. Mrs. Roberts declared a personal interest, signed the book and left the meeting during discussion of this item.

**05 48 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**