

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 03 APRIL 2006 -

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 S Hobson, Cllr Mrs R Jackson, Cllr Mrs W J Kemp, Cllr Mrs J M Osborn, Cllr Mrs J Roberts, Cllr P J Rodgers, Cllr Mrs H L Rodgers, Cllr P D Searby, Cllr Mrs J Spencer

Officers : Mrs MA Bewick

Councillor Dixon was present as a substitute for Councillor Mrs. Hall.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. D. Hall.

05 110 Disclosure of Interests

Cllr. Mrs. J. Roberts declared a prejudicial interest in item 11 (2) on the agenda - War Memorials - Lychgate - St. Johns. She signed the book accordingly and left the meeting during discussion of the item.

05 111 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED: That items 9 (Arts Trail) and 11 (1) and (2) War Memorials and Lychgate at St. Johns Church on the agenda be taken in private session due to the confidential nature of the items.

05 112 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 20 February 2006 numbered 05 94 - 05 109 inclusive be received and adopted as a true record of the meeting.

05 113 Correspondence arising from the Minutes

Members noted the following correspondence -

Minute No. 05 86 - Pedestrian crossing, Greenfield Road, Holmfirth - the Clerk reported a letter of thanks from local residents for the actions the Parish Council had taken in connection with this provision. This was noted.

Min. No. 05 72 - Ramsden Road, Holmbridge: Members noted a letter from the Public Rights of Way Manager, Kirklees MC in which it was indicated that a formal consultation was to take place on the possibility of preventing public vehicular use (except for those who have legitimate access rights). An update to this information would be supplied when the consultation had been completed. This was noted.

Min. No. 05 97 - Public Payphone - Royds Drive/Kirkroyds Lane, New Mill: A copy of a letter from BT had been circulated to Members. This indicated that the above kiosk had been involved in an incident and this had resulted in the kiosk being damaged beyond repair. The kiosk had been removed on safety grounds. This was noted.

Min. No. 05 102 (3) - Damage to bus shelter, Huddersfield Road, Holmfirth: The Clerk indicated that quotations were being sought for a replacement bus shelter at this site. The Council had information regarding the accident and this was being pursued with the appropriate Insurers. Should quotations be received in time it was indicated this matter could be put to Council for a decision. This was noted.

Min. No. 05 102 - Sycamore - Graffiti - This shelter needed repainting again due to graffiti. It was

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agreed that the new contractor just starting work be asked to repaint and repair the shelter appropriately.

05 114 Complaints Procedure

1) State of Roads in the Holme Valley: A local resident had recently attended a Parish Council surgery and had asked for the Parish Council's support in raising issues with Kirklees MC regarding the budget provision for this service and enquiring whether a percentage of the budget was allocated to the Holme Valley for use in its area.

RESOLVED: That this matter be referred to KMC with a request for the information sought, along the above lines, to be supplied.

2) Request for Litter Bin, Holmfirth Road, New Mill: It was noted that a request had been made for a litter bin at this site and it was confirmed that the litter bin was in place.

3) Clean up Holmfirth Day: Members noted a letter from a local resident which raised issues regarding litter in the centre of Homfirth and suggested a public participation Clean Up Day. Members were informed that the regular road sweeper been off for some time and it was felt some time should be allowed to see if the situation improved. It was suggested the letter could be included in the Council's newsletter and that the Clerk should check with resident concerned that this was acceptable to her.

RESOLVED: That the above course of action be taken.

05 115 Highway matters

(1) Parking Restrictions - Elmwood, Huddersfield Road, Holmfirth: Further information had been received from Kirklees MC Highways Safety Manager in which it was indicated that there was insufficient justification for introducing any waiting restrictions in this area of Huddersfield Road. It was suggested that the Group Engineer, Kirklees MC, should be invited to join with the Parish Council in carrying out a survey re parking during a whole day, although it would be particularly important to look at the period in the morning, just after school times. A request for volunteers from the Parish Council to complete the survey was made.

RESOLVED: That the Group Engineer, Kirklees MC be invited to join with Parish Council in a survey to monitor parking at Huddersfield Road, Homfirth and that volunteers from the Parish Council Members were needed.

(2) Layby at Holmfirth Parish Church, Towngate, Holmfirth: Members noted the information from Kirklees MC regarding illegal parking. It was stressed in the letter the layby is clearly signed as being no waiting between the hours of 8am and 6pm Sunday - Sunday, therefore any parking which takes place is an enforcement problem. It was agreed, in view of the information from Kirklees MC, that the Council should await Kirklees MC to start enforcement action. A number of anonymous calls had been received by the Parish Council but as they were anonymous no further action had been taken at this stage.

(3) Waiting Restrictions - Lower Mill Lane, Holmfirth: Members had been circulated with a copy correspondence from Kirklees MC Highways Safety Manager which indicated that that authority was in the process of introducing 'no waiting at any time restrictions' at the above location. Full consultations had taken place. Membes were also informed by Kirklees MC that amendments were being made to the Residents Permit Parking in Dunford Road, as a result of complaints from residents. Permit parking times would be changed to suit local circumstances.

RESOLVED: That the information be welcomed.

(4) Parking Permits, Holmfirth: Members considered a request that parking permits be supplied for workers wishing to park in the centre of Holmfirth. It was indicated that Council would not be able to give permits to every worker and although the Parish Council was aware of the problems of parking in the centre of Holmfirth, it did not feel this would solve the problems.

RESOLVED: That the instigator of the request be informed of the above opinion.

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05 116 Recreational Facilities

Oldfield, Honley - Proposed Play Area and Provision of a Teen Shelter at Thongsbridge: Members were informed that Kirklees MC hoped to complete the Oldfield Play Area scheme by the end of May; the Thongsbridge scheme was shortly to go out to tender. In both cases there was a delay in the commencement dates and, therefore, the Clerk's action in not paying bills, until an appropriate date was approved.

RESOLVED: (1) That the Clerk be authorised to pay the invoices for these works when appropriate
(2) That the budget be rolled over, as appropriate.

A local resident had expressed concerns about the proposed play area at Oldfield and how it would affect the village. In an effort to assist in this matter Officers of Kirklees MC Leisure Services were to meet with the resident. This was noted.

Magna seminar: The two Members who had attended the Magna Seminar last year had expressed an interest in doing so again. It was agreed that Cllrs. Mrs. Spencer and Andrea Gosslin should inform the Clerk if they wished to attend the Seminar again this year.

05 117 Arts Trail

(1) The Clerk reported on a meeting held on 4th April 2006 to which all the organisations involved in arts initiatives in the Valley had been in attendance. The meeting had been constructive and it had been agreed that the Clerk should commence the preparation of applications for grant funding to outside organisations.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be authorised to commence the preparation of the applications for grant funding, as appropriate, including an application to Kirklees The Valleys Area Committee.

(2) First project - wall at Steps Bridge, Honley:

It was RESOLVED that this item be taken in private session because of consideration of budget costs.

05 118 Footpaths

(1) Kirklees Rights of Way Forum - Minutes - 1 December 2005 and Information Sheet - This had been circulated to all Members.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes and Information Sheet be noted.

(2) Holme Valley Riverside Way Steering Group - Notes of Meeting: A copy of the notes of this Steering Group had been circulated to Members. These were noted. It was indicated the Parish Council should seek to appoint an extra representative on the Steering Group to assist Cllr. Macpherson, in view of the increased liaison and working now taking place on the Arts Trail.

RESOLVED: That the extra representation be sought at the Annual Meeting of the Council.

(3) Improvement of Public Rights of Way: Members considered the possible formation of a Working Party to look at footpaths and to suggest areas for improvements, and future maintenance. It was thought it best if the problems were tackled ward by ward with the incumbent Ward Member supported by other Councillors.

RESOLVED: That the Deputy Clerk supported by Cllr. Mrs. Court, Mrs. Kemp and Cllr. Chilton be appointed to serve on such a Working Party, together with individual Ward Councillors when considering each Ward.

05 119 Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED: That the business of this Committee to be now transacted be not open to the public and press on the grounds that the matters to be discussed are of a confidential nature (agenda items 9 (Arts Trail) and 11(1) and (2) War Memorials.

05 120 Arts Trail

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Members considered the options regarding the provision of a mural at Steps Bridge, Honley. Two prices had been submitted and it was agreed that the Parish Council should request that the shorter option with smaller tiles be created, with the rest of the budget being kept in case of contingencies.

In connection with this provision the Clerk was asked to make further enquiries with regard to the ownership of the wall at Magdale.

It was also noted that it would be necessary to roll over the budget provision, to provide the funding for this project.

RESOLVED: That the action as outlined above be taken.

05 121 War Memorials

Surveys - War Memorials:

Members indicated they were very appreciative of the work carried out in connection with the survey. The reports received would provide excellent inspection reports, risk assessment, and a good basis of the specification of the work to be carried out.

In order to proceed it was agreed that a War Memorials Working Party should look at the surveys; work out a schedule of priorities for work to be carried out and pursue applications for grants and make the necessary applications. It was agreed that Councillors Mrs. Roberts, Bratt and Hobson should be appointed to serve on such a Working Party.

RESOLVED: (1) That a Working Party along the above lines and with a remit as indicated be appointed to progress the work to be carried out on the War Memorials in the area, and to provide a programme of works to be carried out to War Memorials.

(2) That the payment of the invoice for the surveys be authorised.

Cllr. Mrs. Roberts left the meeting at this point in view of the prejudicial interest she had declared.

(2) Lychgate - St. John The Evangelist, Upperthong - Members noted that quotations had been received but in view of the above resolution it was agreed that this matter be left in abeyance until the programme of work has been agreed.

RESOLVED: That this be agreed.

05 122 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, after approval of the Minutes by the full Council.

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Chairman