

# Holme Valley Parish Council

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 16 JANUARY 2006 -

Those present :

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 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, Mrs E Hirst

5 Members of the public were present

Members agreed that item 13 - Holmfirth Picturedrome - should be taken prior to Item 6 on the agenda - Budget Provision. This was RESOLVED accordingly.

### **Apologies for Absence**

In the absence of Councillor Gosslin, it was RESOLVED: That Cllr. Mrs.M.P. Court be appointed Chairman for this meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Andrea Gosslin, Mrs. Hall and Mrs. Jackson.

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

### **05 79 Disclosure of Interests**

Cllr. Mrs. Bratt declared a personal interest in item 8(1) on the agenda - request for pedestrian crossing - A635 Greenfield Road, Upperthong. She signed the book accordingly.

### **05 80 Admission of the Public**

RESOLVED: That item 14 (Contractors) be taken in private session due to the confidential nature of personal details in connection with the current contractors.

### **05 81 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 November 2005 numbered 05 67 - 05 78 inclusive be received and adopted as a true record of the meeting.

### **05 82 Correspondence arising from the Minutes**

(1) Bradshaw Drive, Honley - removal of payphone - letter from BT: Members welcomed a letter from BT which indicated the facility at Bradshaw Drive, Honley would remain in place at the current time and a final re-assessment would occur before the kiosk is actually removed from the ground. Should usage have increased then BT would leave the payphone in place for further monitoring.

This information was noted.

(2) Poppy Appeal: Members noted a letter from the Area Organiser, Royal British Legion. This indicated a new Area Organiser would be taking over in place of Mrs. Whitford and details were available in the office. Mrs. Whitford thanked the Council and staff for the support she had received during her time in office.

(3) The Deputy Clerk informed Members that no further communication with regard to the proposals for Honley Ambulance Station had been received. It was agreed that the Council should await a consultation through the normal process.

### **05 83 Community facilities**

Holmfirth Picturedrome - The Chairman of the Council informed Members that the Council had been

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approached by the newly formed Valley Theatre Film Association; a meeting had been held attended by Councillors Bellamy and Otterburn and the Chairman of the Council with the Members of the Association. Notes of this meeting were circulated to Members. The discussions were at a very early stage and there were significant hurdles to overcome. Funds could be available from a number of grant making organisations and most of the funding would depend on match-funding being available. The end result could be that the area would have an excellent facility for many uses right in the centre of the town. These were outlined by Councillor Bellamy.

The Association would be required to submit a sound Business Plan before any commitment to the scheme could be given. The Valleys Area Committee had also expressed an interest. Both the Parish Council and the Valleys Area Committee could offer support and this would qualify as match funding.

Questions were raised about the ownership of other independent cinemas. It was envisaged that The Valley Theatre Film Association would have use of the building at certain times each week with the current owner having use at other times.

Many concerns were raised, primarily about ownership and financial considerations. It was agreed that much more detailed discussion would be required, together with the submission of the detailed Business Plan and evidence of community support before the Parish Council could make a decision.

It was proposed and seconded that the Council should be asked to make appropriate provision in the Budget for 2006/07 for this purpose, this provision being subject to all the necessary criteria being met.

RESOLVED: (1) That the item be discussed further under the Budget and an appropriate amount included

(2) That the notes of the meeting be accepted.

The 5 Members of the public left the meeting at this point.

### **05 84 Budget Provision**

Budget Provision 2006/07: Members considered the budget funding. The Clerk had indicated the various decisions of the Committee in a report which had been circulated prior to the meeting and Members considered each item and the budget allocation. The figures, as presented, were agreed. In view of the discussion on the proposal re the Picturedrome it was proposed and seconded that an additional amount of £10,000 be added to the New Projects budget, making a total under this heading of £15,000. With this addition, it was agreed that the budget as presented be put the next full Council Meeting.

RESOLVED: That the suggested budget provision for 2006/07 be agreed, as presented with the addition of £10,000 to be added to the New Projects fund, giving a total amount of £15,000 under this heading and increasing the General Purposes Committee budget to £64,200.

The Clerk left the meeting after this item.

### **05 85 Complaints Procedure**

Area around the Co-op Store at Thongsbridge: Members had been circulated with a copy email. The concerns expressed had been addressed at a meeting which had been held in the Autumn of 2005. The Area Manager, Cleansing Services, Kirklees MC had requested the Enforcement Team should follow up the issues raised and reply directly to the complainant. Members expressed concerns that the area still looked unsightly - the issues being litter and graffiti.

Members noted the information in the email and indicated a wish to be involved in any future meeting, as and when arranged.

### **05 86 Highway matters**

1) Request for pedestrian crossing etc. on the A635 Greenfield Road, Holmfirth - Upperthong J & I School: A copy of a request to Kirklees MC for a pedestrian crossing at the above location had been circulated. The request also contained a plea for a Lollipop Person. Members agreed to refer this request to Kirklees MC with the support of the Parish Council.

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RESOLVED: That the Parish Council would support this request and that it be forwarded to Kirklees MC Highways Services.

2) Request for Parking Restrictions - Huddersfield Road, Holmfirth - near Elmwood Health practice: Following previous consideration this matter had been referred to Kirklees MC. A response had been received indicating that Kirklees MC was reluctant to introduce double yellow lines as requested. However, Members present felt the complaint was justified and that it should be reiterated and double yellow lines at both sides of the entrances to the Health Centres be provided. Comments made by Councillor Otterburn were put to the Members.

RESOLVED: That this request be forwarded to Kirklees MC.

3) Kirklees Rights of Way Forum - Minutes of Meeting - 15 September 2005 and Information Sheet: A copy of the Minutes and Information Sheet had been circulated to Members.

RESOLVED: That the above documents be received and noted.

4) Parking problems - Lower Mill Lane, Holmfirth: Members considered a request for parking restrictions at the above locations. Local residents were being prevented from parking in their private drives; waste refuse vehicles were unable to gain access to the residential area to empty bins etc.

RESOLVED: That a request for double yellow lines at the entrance to Lower Mill Lane, Holmfirth be passed to Kirklees MC. The problems being experienced by the residents of the area to be outlined.

5) Litter bins, Holmfirth Town Centre - letter from Kirklees MC Highway Network Manager: Members considered the information supplied by Kirklees MC with regard to the request to fasten litter bins to the ground in the centre of Holmfirth. The reply from Kirklees MC asked that the Parish Council should trial the new bins in the town centre locations before engaging in the expense of fixing the bins permanently; the cost of this request being high.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council notes the information from Kirklees MC and continues with the trial of the new bins and if problems are encountered these be raised in the future.

### **05 87 Bus Shelters and Seats**

(1) Future responsibility for maintenance of bus shelters: Members were informed of further comments from West Yorkshire PTE regarding the future responsibility for the provision and maintenance of bus shelters in the Holme Valley. It was now indicated that it was likely the Parish Council would continue to own the bus shelters after 1 April 2006 and that the Council should consider this when formulating the 2006/07 budget.

RESOLVED: That this information be noted. The effect on the Council's contractors would be discussed later on the agenda.

(2) Muslin Hall shelter, New Mill Road, Holmfirth: A local resident had requested that graffiti be removed from the shelter. This was a stone shelter and would require the services of the special unit at Kirklees MC.

RESOLVED: That the Deputy Clerk makes the usual arrangements for steam cleaning of this shelter.

### **05 88 Arts Trail**

(1) Meeting - Kirklees MC Countryside Unit and the Arts Council:

Councillor Chilton reported on the recent meeting held with Kirklees MC Countryside Unit, the Arts Council and representatives of the Civic Society/Riverside Way Steering Group. The meeting had been useful and it had been ascertained that the Parish Council could apply to the Arts Council for funding for the extension of the Arts Trail in the area on behalf of the groups involved. From the Arts Council viewpoint it would be possible to apply for funding for a period up to 3 years duration; the Officer indicated she could offer help in that she could vet an application for grant.

RESOLVED: That the grant application papers be obtained and the application to the Arts Council pursued.

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(2) Arts Projects on the Arts Trail/Riverside Walk: Members were informed that the three artists selected at this stage had now submitted designs and costings for this project. Budget funding was available in the current budget. In view of the existence of the Working Group it was

RESOLVED: a) That the Working Group be authorised to select a design or designs within the budget costs earmarked for this purpose.

b) That the recommendations of the Working Group be confirmed at the full Council Meeting on 6 February 2006.

### **05 89 Community Development Service**

Community Payback - National Probation Service: Members had been circulated with information about this scheme and with the criteria required to be met should a scheme be undertaken. Members felt they needed time to consider possible 'grot spots' which could be put forward as suggestions where Working Teams could be deployed. A small budget had been earmarked in 2006/07 for environmental projects. It was suggested an item could be included in the next newsletter seeking the view of local residents. Ideas put forward to date were - clearing the footpath at the rear of the Somerfield Service Station and removing thistles from highway verges. However, before making a commitment to this scheme it was felt there should be time to make relevant suggestions.

RESOLVED: That the matter be included on the next General Purposes Committee agenda and that Councillors be asked to submit suggested areas of concern which could be addressed under this scheme.

### **05 90 Recreational Facilities**

(1) Provision of Play Areas in the Holme Valley- Oldfield, Woodlands (Thongsbridge) and Oakes Avenue: The Deputy Clerk informed Members of the progress with regard to the above schemes. This was as follows -

Oldfield - Planning permission obtained and the scheme to be finalised and installed during the current financial year.

Woodlands (Thongsbridge) - Planning permission obtained - the scheme to be completed early in the next financial year

Oakes Avenue, Brockholes - KMC designing the layout - completion anticipated in early Summer 2006

RESOLVED: That the above information be noted.

(2) Booth House (Burnlee) Holmfirth: Kirklees MC had agreed to inspect the site; carry out local consultations with residents and the school. It was agreed that the Council should await the results of the consultations and site inspection. An amount was included in the budget for 2006/07 of £15,000. This was noted.

### **05 91 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 item 14).

### **05 92 Contractor**

Parish Council Contracts - Bus shelter cleaning and maintenance of bus shelters and seats and maintenance of New Mill Churchyard: Members were asked to consider the action the Committee wished to take with regard to this provision. Briefly, in the past, three separate contracts had been issued for the individual duties. However, following previous discussion, Members were asked to confirm that they wished to proceed with a single contract covering shelters, seats, maintenance works to the closed churchyard at New Mill and other minor maintenance works. This would give a larger contract which could potentially be more attractive to a sub-contractor.

The Deputy Clerk had circulated a copy of a suggested advertisement and a resume of the duties involved. In order for the new contract to be awarded before the commencement of the new financial year authority was sought to the placing of this advertisement in the local press with responses being considered at the next General Purposes Committee.

RESOLVED: (1) That it be confirmed that the General Purposes Committee wishes to pursue the idea of seeking one contractor to carry out all the cleaning, repair and maintenance works required by the

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(2) That an advertisement, as drafted, be placed in the local press in sufficient time for responses to be considered at the next General Purposes Committee to be held on 20 February 2006.

(3) That the current contractors be informed of this course of action and given the opportunity to apply should they so wish.

**05 93 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**