

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 24 JULY 2006 -

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr A R Otterburn

Vice-Chairman : Cllr C M Kaye

Councillors : Cllr T Bellamy, Cllr M Bower, Cllr Mrs M Bower, Cllr Mrs R Bratt, Cllr J R Chilton, Cllr G Christofi, Cllr Mrs M P Court, Cllr D M Firth, Cllr A L Gosslin, Cllr R N Haynes, Cllr Mrs S Hobson, Cllr Mrs R Jackson, Cllr R Oldfield, Cllr Mrs J M Osborn, Cllr P Robinson, Cllr Mrs H L Rodgers, Cllr P J Rodgers, Cllr R Rogers, Cllr Mrs J Spencer

Officers : Mrs MA Bewick

Public Question Time

Two members of the public were present.

The members of the public had already contacted the Council with a suggestion that there should be public participation Clean Up days in Holmfirth to tackle the ongoing litter problem. At the time, the Council had felt that time should be allowed for the regular street sweeper to return to work after a period of illness to see if the situation improved. She felt that there had been no real improvement and wished to ask the Council to consider the matter further. She felt that participating in such a public clean-up would promote a feeling of pride in Holmfirth and asked if the Council could assist with a public campaign.

After some discussion, it was agreed that the suggestion should be referred back to the General Purposes Committee.

The members of the public were thanked for raising this again with the Council.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Collins, Dixon, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Kemp, Macpherson, Oldham, and Mrs. Smith.

06 11 Disclosure of Interests

None were given.

06 12 Admission of the Public

The Clerk advised that it might be necessary to consider item 18 (reference from General Purposes Committee re bus shelters) in private session due to confidential information to be given to Members. This was so noted.

06 13 Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman informed Members of his attendance at various events on behalf of the Council: Kirklees MC Mayoral Dinner, Saddleworth PC Civic Sunday, New Mill Gala, Holme Valley Singers Concert and the award of Fair Trade status to the Holme Valley.

The Vice Chairman had also attended some events: Kirklees MC Civic Sunday, Meltham TC Civic Sunday and the opening of Holmfirth Artweek. The immediate past Vice Chairman had also attended Mirfield TC Civic Sunday with Cllr. Gosslin. The Chairman thanked his fellow Councillors for representing the Council on his behalf at these events.

He also thanked Cllr. Mrs. Court for arranging and entertaining the School Council of Holmfirth J, I & N School on a visit to the Council Chamber.

He informed Members about the launch of his Charity Christmas Card, and of his Charity Concert to be held on 17 September 2006. He asked for the Council's support for these two fund-raising activities,

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and would particularly welcome young volunteers to assist with programme selling and collection boxes at this Charity Concert. He had also secured several Corporate Sponsors for his charity appeal.

The two members of the public left the meeting at the end of this item.

06 14 To confirm the Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 22 May 2006 numbered 06 01 - 06 10 inclusive be confirmed.

06 15 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council held on 15 May 2006 numbered 05 128 - 05 146 inclusive be confirmed.

06 16 To confirm the Minutes of the Planning Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 15 May 2006 numbered 05 191 - 05 198, on 22 May 2006 numbered 06 01 - 06 02, on 12 June 2006 numbered 06 03 - 06 16, on 4 July 2006 numbered 06 17 - 06 28 and on 17 July 2006 numbered 06 29 - 06 39 inclusive be confirmed.

06 17 To confirm the Minutes of the Publications and Communications Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Publications and Communications Committee held on 22 May 2006 numbered 06 01 - 06 02 inclusive be confirmed.

06 18 To receive the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on 22 May 2006 numbered 06 01 - 06 02 inclusive and on 19 June 2006 numbered 06 03 - 06 16 inclusive be received and adopted.

It was reported by Members that Metro were affixing signs to bus shelter belonging to the Parish Council and the Clerk was asked to investigate this and to report back to the General Purposes Committee. It was also reported that the shelter at Moorbottom, Honley which had previously been walled up because of mis-use had been re-opened by Kirklees MC. This, again, would be investigated and the results reported to General Purposes Committee.

It was also reported that improvement works at Oldfield Recreation Ground and the creation of the new play area at Thongsbridge had been completed and were already proving popular.

06 19 To receive the Minutes of the Staffing Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Staffing Committee held on 4 July 2006 numbered 06 01 - 06 07 inclusive be received and adopted.

A correction to the attendance list was requested and authorised, in that Cllr. Kaye was present, but not Cllr. Mrs. Smith. This was duly initialled in the Minutes by the Clerk.

06 20 To receive the Minutes of the Finance and Management Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Finance and Management Committee held on 22 May 2006 numbered 06 01 - 06 02 inclusive and on 10 July 2006 numbered 06 03 - 06 22 inclusive be received and adopted.

In connection with Minute number 06 06, the Clerk reported investigations and action she had already taken in respect of the possible future use of this shelter, but advised that due to the need to submit a new planning application for any change of use and conversion, she felt that under Financial Regulations 3.4 she would be obliged to take emergency action to restore the shelter to its previous condition to meet conditions required by Kirklees MC Enforcement Officer. She informed Members of the possible cost of such works and asked for their authorisation to take such emergency action. This was so RESOLVED and her actions approved.

In connection with Minute number 06 15(2) Joint Charter Review Meeting scheduled for 14 September 2006, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council indicated that both would be away from the area on that date. The question of representation at this meeting would be considered further by the Finance and Management Committee.

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06 21 Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED: That the payment of accounts for May 2006 totalling £11,186.49, and June 2006 totalling £10,940.56 be approved.

06 22 Local Area Committees

Cllr. Bellamy arrived at the beginning of this item, and apologised for his late arrival at the meeting, but he had had to attend another meeting prior to the Council meeting.

(1) Given the changes in the Kirklees MC Area Committee structures, it was now necessary to appoint representatives to the Holme Valley North and South Area Committees. Three were required for the Holme Valley North Area Committee and six for the South Area Committee.

RESOLVED: That the following Members be appointed to serve on the Area Committee as indicated:

Holme Valley North: Councillors Kaye, Oldfield and Mrs. Spencer

Holme Valley South: Councillors Bellamy, Christofi, Mrs. Osborn, Otterburn and Mrs. Roberts
(this left one vacancy on this Area Committee).

(2) Holme Valley North and South Area Committee Meetings - In the absence of appointed representatives to the Area Committee, the Chairman and Vice Chairman had attended on behalf of the Council. Both reported that the meetings had covered consultation on the Local Development Framework, and had been well attended with lively debate at both meetings.

Cllr. Otterburn indicated that at the South Area Committee, concerns had been expressed by local residents about problems of drug dealing and vandalism. He had obtained details and asked local Ward members to contact the local residents to obtain further information. He asked if the General Purposes Committee would look at possible ideas for tackling these problems, including the potential for temporary CCTV cameras to be located at problem areas. The matter would be considered at a future General Purposes Committee once Ward Members could report back.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman and Vice Chairman be thanked for their reports.

06 23 Attendance at Conferences and Seminars

(1) Members considered attendance at the following event:

YLCA, ERNLLCA and YHRTP Joint Training Conference - 29 September - 1 October - Scarborough

RESOLVED: That the information be noted, but that no representative be sent on this occasion.

(2) Councillors reported on attendance at the following events -

YLCA - Councillor Skills - Skelmanthorpe - 29 March 2006 - Cllr. Gosslin had found this a useful and stimulating seminar. She was presented with a certificate of her attendance.

RESOLVED: That Cllr. Gosslin be thanked for her report and for attending this seminar.

West Yorkshire Rural Transport Partnership - Huddersfield - 27 June 2006 - Cllrs. Mrs. Court submitted a report of the first meeting of the partnership in its new role. There were now delegated funds from which groups could seek funding. She hoped that Members would assist this project by distributing circulars seeking information; she hoped that each Councillor would take 10 copies for distribution within their Wards.

RESOLVED: That Cllr. Mrs. Court be thanked for her report.

YLCA - Joint Annual Meeting - York - 15 July 2006 - Cllr. Chilton had attended this meeting on behalf of the Council to receive commendation on its achievement of Quality Council status.

RESOLVED: That he be thanked for undertaking this.

06 24 Holme Valley Business Association

Cllr. Christofi, on behalf of the Holme Valley Business Association, sought assistance from the Council with the Food and Drink Weekend being organised for 22 - 24 September 2006. He indicated that he

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would welcome volunteers from the Councillors to act as Street Marshalls, Car Park Attendants, etc.

He also indicated that he hoped the Council would act as a sponsor for the Food and Drink Weekend, by granting financial assistance. It was pointed out to him that any request for financial assistance should be submitted via a grant application form to be considered in the normal way by the Finance and Management Committee.

RESOLVED: That the information about the Food and Drink Weekend be noted.

06 25 Health Services

The findings regarding the "Looking to the Future" consultation exercise had now been sent to the Council and were available from the office. This was noted.

06 26 Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED: That the business of the Council now to be 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 18).

06 27 Provision of Bus Shelters

- General Purposes Committee minute number 06 10(2) - repairs to Holme shelter. It had been thought that this shelter contained asbestos but on further investigation, this proved not to be the case. The Contractor had indicated that he could carry out repairs to clad the ceiling. It was agreed that this was a suitable cost-effective solution to the problem.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be authorised to arrange for these repairs as indicated to be carried out to Holme Shelter.

- General Purposes Committee minute number 06 10(4) - The Clerk reported that information had now been received from Metro about a possible transfer of shelters, on certain conditions. She asked whether, in view of this information, she should at this point progress with recommendations to purchase and install replacement shelters at certain sites.

RESOLVED: That, in view of the above, action to replace shelters should be delayed until further details are obtained from Metro, and the Council has had the opportunity to consider whether it wishes to discuss any possible transfer of shelters.

06 28 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.

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Chairman