

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2006 -

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr A R Otterburn

Councillors : Cllr T Bellamy, Cllr M Bower, Cllr Mrs M Bower, Cllr Mrs R Bratt, Cllr G Christofi, Cllr Mrs M P Court, Cllr R P Dixon, Cllr A C Garrod, Cllr A L Gosslin, Cllr R N Haynes, Cllr Mrs S Hobson, Cllr Mrs W J Kemp, Cllr R Oldfield, Cllr Mrs J M Osborn, Cllr Mrs J Roberts, Cllr P Robinson, Cllr Mrs H L Rodgers, Cllr P J Rodgers, Cllr R Rogers, Cllr Mrs H P Smith, Cllr Mrs J Spencer

Officers : Mrs MA Bewick, Mrs E Hirst

Kirklees Councillor K. D. Sims was present in connection with item 6 on the agenda.

Mr. M. Beswick and Mr. D. Robinson of West Yorkshire PTE were present in connection with item 7 on the agenda.

2 members of the public were present.

Public Question Time

No questions were raised.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chilton, Firth, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Jackson, Kaye, Macpherson, Oldham and Searby.

06 59 Disclosure of Interests

None were given.

06 60 Admission of the Public

It was agreed that it was necessary to consider item 15 (Provision of Bus Shelters) in private session due to the potential impact on contracts entered into by the Council.

06 61 Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman informed Members of his attendance at various events on behalf of the Council: Holmfirth Music Festival, Holmfirth Connection Launch, Remembrance Sunday service and the Wreath laying ceremony at the Holme Valley Memorial Hospital.

The Chairman's Charity Christmas Cards were now available and he invited Members to support him by purchasing cards. The proceeds from sales to date had been most encouraging with funds being added to his Chairman's Charity.

06 62 Regeneration of the Holme Valley

The Chairman welcomed Cllr. K. D. Sims, Kirklees MC Cabinet Member. Cllr. Sims was in attendance to address the Council regarding various regeneration initiatives proposed for the Holme Valley, the main topic being the recent planning application which had been submitted regarding the open air market in Towngate car park. With the decline of the textile and other industries in the area it was necessary to promote Holmfirth as a market town and to encourage tourism. A market in the Towngate car park had been trialled on specific Sundays during the summer months. Planning permission was required to hold further markets and this had been submitted to the Parish Council in the normal way. The Parish Council had asked that this application should be refused, recommending other sites in the centre of Holmfirth as more suitable. The Parish Council's concerns had been over loss of car parking spaces and the impact on Sunday worshippers. Cllr. Sims indicated parking issues with regard to church attenders had been resolved. It was indicated a further planning application would be submitted. Members again raised a number of concerns regarding the location of the proposed market and how it affected

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highways and parking.

Reference was also made by Cllr. Sims to refurbishment schemes in Honley and progress with the provision of a crossing on Westgate.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Sims for the valuable information he had given. Cllr. Sims left the meeting at this point.

No further discussion took place on the above topics.

06 63 Provision of Bus Shelters

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Beswick and Mr. Robinson of West Yorkshire PTE to the meeting. They were present to have further discussion with Members about Metro's proposals re bus shelters in the Holme Valley.

It was the wish of West Yorkshire PTE to provide modern, well lit shelters in the Holme Valley. The PTE had qualified for Kickstart funding to improve bus services from the valley which would now link with the railway station in Huddersfield. In connection with this, the shelters could be upgraded. If the Parish Council was willing, this would mean Metro taking over responsibility for all the shelters in the Holme Valley where bus routes were served. A report had been circulated to Members.

Concerns were raised by Members as to: proposed colour of cantilever shelters; demolition of stone shelters; lighting; advertising on shelters and revenue raised; costs involved of transferring shelters etc; possibility of removal of shelters without the agreement of the Council.

Mr. Beswick and Mr. Robinson were thanked for attending the meeting. They left the meeting at this point.

06 64 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9 October 2006 numbered 06 44 - 06 58 inclusive be confirmed.

06 65 To receive the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on 16 October 2006 numbered 06 48 - 06 63 inclusive be received and adopted.

In connection with Minute No. 06 52, Hepworth Church War Memorial, a request had been received for a litter bin with cigarette stubber to be provided near this site. The Clerk was asked to pass this request to Kirklees MC.

06 66 To confirm the Minutes of the Planning Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 9 October 2006 numbered 06 81 - 06 86 inclusive and on 23 October 2006 numbered 06 87 - 06 97 inclusive be confirmed.

06 67 To receive the Minutes of the Finance and Management Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Finance and Management Committee held on 30 October 2006 numbered 06 52 - 06 66 inclusive be received and adopted.

06 68 Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED: That the payment of accounts for October 2006 totalling £14,234.87 be approved.

06 69 Local Area Committees

Holme Valley South - Cllr. Bellamy indicated a well attended meeting had been held. This dealt primarily with the Cliffe Recreation Ground and associated vandalism and graffiti at the shelter on the site. West Yorkshire Police had been in attendance.

Holme Valley North - A recent meeting had not been well attended, but it was noted that matching funding for the play area for Oakes Avenue had been approved..

RESOLVED: That the Councillors be thanked for their reports.

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06 70 Attendance at Conferences and Seminars

Members considered attendance at the following events:
Holme Valley Business Association and Kirklees MC: Details of a meeting to be held on 14 November 2006 at 7.30 pm at Holmfirth Civic Hall to discuss vandalism problems with West Yorkshire Police had been circulated. This was noted.
Yorkshire and Humberside Market Towns Network Regional Conference - 21 November 2006 - Boroughbridge: No representative was appointed.
Lancashire Economic Partnership - Local Environment Quality - 24 January 2007 - Leeds: No representative was appointed.
NALC - Shaping Communities - 13 February 2007 - London:

RESOLVED: That the Chairman attends this event, or if he is unable, the Clerk be authorised to attend in his place.

To receive reports of the following events:
West Yorkshire Police Authority - consultation event - 10 October 2006: Cllr. Rogers had attended this event. His concerns were that Community Support Officers had very little power to take action. Some confusion occurred as these Officers did look very like Police Officers. He was thanked for his attendance and report.
SLCC Annual Conference - 20-22 October 2006: The Clerk had submitted a written report of her attendance at this Conference. As usual this had proved useful and she had gained knowledge which would be helpful to the Council in the future. The Clerk was thanked for her attendance and written report.
West Yorkshire Rural Transport Partnership - 3 November 2006: Cllr. Mrs. Court outlined funding which was available for both capital and revenue projects. It was hoped the Holme Valley was to be considered rural in terms of transport as it would qualify for additional funding. Concerns had been expressed that the journey time to Calderdale Hospital had doubled since the changes had been implemented.
YLCA South Pennine Branch Meeting - 8 November 2006: Cllr. Kaye had supplied a brief report of this meeting with information re Parish Plans and the new training course developed by NALC for Chairmen. The Clerk added that she hoped that one of the modules from the course would be offered at the next SLCC West Yorkshire Training Day to be held in March 2007.

06 71 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.

06 72 Provision of Bus Shelters

The Members considered all the information provided earlier by Metro and further information from the Clerk. Some Members indicated the PTE should recompense the Council for its shelters. Members were proud of the stone shelters it had provided and before any decision is taken as to the transfer of ownership of shelters, it was agreed that Councillors should inspect the shelters in their Wards.

In view of the hour and the importance, and implications, of the decision to be taken, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of this item be deferred to the next Council Meeting.

06 73 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