

# Holme Valley Parish Council

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 19 JUNE 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 Mrs R Jackson, 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 E Hirst

Councillor Otterburn was present in his ex-officio capacity as Chairman of the Council.  
1 Member of the Public was present.

### **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Hobson and Mrs. Kemp.

### **06 03 Disclosure of Interests**

None were given.

### **06 04 Admission of the Public**

It was agreed that no items required to be taken in private session.

### **06 05 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meetings held on 3 April 2006 numbered 05 110 - 05 122 inclusive and on 22 May 2006 numbered 06 01 and 06 02 inclusive be received and adopted as true records of the meetings.

### **06 06 Speakers at meetings**

Yorkshire in Bloom - Holmfirth: The Chairman of General Purposes Committee welcomed Susan Mahon, Senior Development Officer, Partnership & Procurement, Kirklees MC to the meeting and invited her to address Members with regard to Holmfirth's participation in Yorkshire in Bloom. She informed Members that she worked in conjunction with Mr. David Wyles and she had particular responsibility for Holmfirth. Holmfirth had been entered into the Spring judging of the event and had received favourable comments from the judges. However, the Summer judging was about to commence and the first judging would take place on the 18 July 2006 commencing at 2.00 pm. Ms Mahon indicated the various groups she was working with, eg Holmfirth J & I School who were preparing a poster which it was hoped would be displayed in shops in the town centre and also she had made contact with the local Brownies/Guides. She hoped to be able to involve local businesses in the project and to obtain sponsorship of some of the floral areas. It may be possible to organise some litter picking teams in order to ensure the town is as clean as possible. The town would be judged on its floral displays; areas of permanent planting; cleanliness of the town etc. The route taken by the judges would start at the Old Bridge Hotel, Towngate, Riverside Rest, Fire Station, Huddersfield Road, Victoria Park, Victoria Street, Hollowgate and finish at the Old Bridge Hotel.

In connection with this matter the Council's involvement with the Tidy Trader competition was raised. The Deputy Clerk was asked to make the usual arrangements with the artist responsible for the preparation of the individual trophy. The judging for this event would be held in the weeks commencing 24 July and 14 August 2006 and the Council was invited to appoint the judges. Mr. C. Morton was not available. The Chairman of the Council, Councillor Otterburn and Councillor Mrs. Court agreed to do the judging.

Cllr. Otterburn offered to prepare a press release incorporating the points raised at the meeting.

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RESOLVED: (1) That Councillors Otterburn and Court be authorised to carry out the judging in conjunction with Ms Mahon;

(2) That the Deputy Clerk reminds the local artist that a Tidy Trophy will be required early in September;

(3) That Councillor Otterburn be authorised to prepare an appropriate Press Release about the event.

Thanks were expressed to Susan Mahon for attending the meeting and for her help with this project. She left the meeting at this point.

Cllr. Bellamy also left the meeting.

### **06 07 Correspondence arising from the Minutes**

(Min. No. 05 98(5)) Sycamore recreation ground - mole problems: Members considered a letter from Kirklees MC in which it was indicated that if the moles were not causing a particular problem, then it was not the practice to take steps to exterminate them.

RESOLVED: That the information be received and noted.

(Min. No. 05 98(4)) Dog waste - Digley area and Greenfield Road: Following complaints by the Parish Council a response had now been received from Kirklees MC Dog Wardens Service which indicated that patrols of Greenfield Road, Holmfirth had been carried out. It was hoped that problems would be reduced in the area. With regard to the Digley site, Kirklees MC had indicated this was the responsibility of Yorkshire Water. Councillor Mrs. Osborn indicated that since the Council had provided the green disposal bags for dog waste, there had been some improvement in this area. However, it was agreed that all the copy correspondence should be sent to Yorkshire Water for its attention.

With regard to bins specifically identified for dog waste it was reported that Kirklees MC's stance on this was as before, but that bins were being trialled in Mirfield and Holmfirth where litter and dog waste could be disposed of together and the Council would be informed of the results of these trials in due course.

(Min. No. 05 114) State of Roads, Holme Valley: This matter had been raised at a previous meeting following a question at a Parish Council surgery. The information received by email from Kirklees MC had been circulated to Members at the meeting. Following discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council should inform the local resident of the information received and that Kirklees MC be thanked for its help.

RESOLVED: (1) That the local resident be informed of the information received  
(2) That Kirklees MC be thanked for this information.

### **06 08 Complaints Procedure**

(1) Zebra Crossings - Victoria Street/Towngate: Members were informed that following a recent complaint about the faintness of the white lines on the road at the Zebra Crossings in Victoria Street and Towngate, steps had been taken to re-paint the lines as a matter of urgency. This was noted and Councillors would take particular notice next time they were in the area as to whether this work had been completed.

(2) Overhanging trees - New Road: This complaint had been addressed to Councillor Mrs. Roberts. She had made a site visit and ascertained that the trees were very large, were overhanging but were not of any particular value. However, they were on land which the complainant was hoping to purchase and if he was successful he intended to prune the trees accordingly. This was noted.

(3) The Deputy Clerk had received a complaint of car parking on Daisy Lane/Towngate which was causing inconvenience to other occupiers of buildings in that area. The complainant had been informed that she should contact the West Yorkshire Police about this matter. In view of the fact that Kirklees MC is shortly to take on responsibility for this type of complaint, it was agreed that the matter should be forwarded to Kirklees MC at the appropriate time.

(4) New Mill play area - condition of field following 2006 Fair: A local resident had had course to complain to the Parish Council about the state of the New Mill recreation ground following the visit of

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the fair this year. The ground had been left in a very dangerous condition with deep ruts and his child had sustained an injury as a result of using the recreation ground. The Clerk had passed this complaint to Kirklees MC for its attention and this was noted.

### **06 09 General Purposes Committee**

Long Term Strategy of the Committee: Councillor Otterburn had raised this matter as he felt the Committee and the Council should be looking at longer term planning of improvement works and projects. He felt a small Working Party to consider such projects should be appointed with a remit to consider possible projects for say three years in the future. He was prepared to write some proposals to this effect.

RESOLVED: That the above course of action be taken.

### **06 10 Bus Shelters and Seats**

(1) General report on bus shelters and seats: The Deputy Clerk informed Members that the contractor had completed a photographic survey of all the bus shelters in the area. He had repaired many shelters and in general the shelters in the valley were in a much improved condition. The comments of appreciation of the Committee would be passed to the contractor.

(2) Bus shelter repairs: The Deputy Clerk sought authorisation to proceed with repairs at two shelters. These were at Holme village in the centre of the Square and at Cross Lane, Oldfield. In respect of the bus shelter in Holme village, the contractor had indicated the roof was partly asbestos and as such should be removed from the structure. However, Councillor Chilton indicated that he would be prepared to meet the contractor on site before any action was taken as the back of the shelter is part of the wall to the play area and its demolition would result in repairs being necessary to the wall. The Cross Lane shelter could be repaired and the contractor would be asked to provide an estimate of the cost of such a repair, including rebuilding the adjacent wall.

RESOLVED: That the contractor be asked to make arrangements to inspect the bus shelter in Holme with Councillor Chilton and that he provide a estimate of the costs in respect of Cross Lane, Oldfield.

(3) Smithy Place Bus shelter - authorisation to fix timetable case: Metro were seeking authority to place a timetable case on this bus shelter. It would be necessary to fix this on the inside back wall of the shelter. This was agreed.

(4) Provision of new bus shelters: Quotations had been invited for the supply and erection of new bus shelters at the following sites -

Penistone Road, New Mill  
Huddersfield Road, Holmfirth  
Greenfield Road, Holmfirth

It was agreed that the quotation of Commutaports be accepted as follows -

Penistone Road, New Mill - 2 bay flat roof shelter (no end panels)  
Huddersfield Road, Holmfirth - 3 bay domed roof shelter with half end panels - this item is the subject of an insurance claim because of an accident at the site and the Deputy Clerk was authorised to proceed with this as an insurance claim  
Greenfield Road, Holmfirth - 3 bay flat roof shelter with half end panels

All the shelters would be erected by the company concerned and would be glazed with polycarbonate and painted in the Council's colour, namely brown and cream.

RESOLVED: That the quotation of Commutaports as detailed above be accepted and that arrangements be put in hand for the replacement shelters to be installed.

(5) Provision of Memorial Seat - Hullock, Scar Hole Lane, Jackson Bridge: The family wishing to provide a Memorial Seat at this location had now indicated that instead of providing a wooden seat, as is the usual practice, they wished to provide a metal seat, details of which were available. The costs of this seat would be borne by the family concerned. The Deputy Clerk indicated it was the usual practice to ask for a contribution for future maintenance. However, this was likely to be minimal as the seat was metal but she was asked to communicate with the gentleman concerned to discuss this aspect.

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RESOLVED: That subject to the future maintenance issue being agreed, that permission be granted to the family concerned to install a metal seat, as detailed by them, at the above site.

(6) Provision of possible Memorial Seat or other feature: A further request for a feature to commemorate a family member had been received. Further information had been given to the person concerned but as yet no response had been received.

RESOLVED: That the matter be left in abeyance until such time as a response is received.

### **06 11 Recreational Facilities**

The Deputy Clerk informed Members of the current situation with regard to the various projects ongoing in the area -

(1) Oldfield Recreation Ground: Works had commenced on site preparation but there had been a delay supplying the equipment. A further comment was made about the gate and dry stone. An enquiry had revealed the wall and gate were a condition of the Planning application but further enquiries would be made, if thought appropriate.

(2) Oakes Avenue Play Area: Members had been circulated with a copy of the proposals. No further comment was made at the meeting and it was agreed that Kirklees MC should be asked to proceed with this scheme as quickly as possible.

(3) Skatepark at Ilkley: An approach had been made from Ilkley Town Council through YLCA asking for the views of Councils with regard to skatepark provision in the town.

Members felt the skatepark in Holmfirth had been very successful and was well used. Lighting was essential and it was suggested that a curfew time should be placed on any planning permission of say 9.00 pm. This comment would be passed to Ilkley TC for its attention.

### **06 12 War Memorials**

Members were informed that the War Memorials Working Party had met prior to the meeting. Following perusal of the condition surveys it had been possible to identify that maintenance of the War Memorials should be prioritised as follows -

Holmbridge - in the grounds of St. David's Church - vesting in the community

Brockholes - at the junction of Oakes Lane/Brockholes Lane - vesting in the Parish Council

Holmfirth - in the grounds of the Memorial Hospital - vesting in the Hospital Management Board

Councillor Mrs. Bratt informed Members that it should be possible to organise grant applications and obtain quotations in respect of the above War Memorials and that decisions on the applications would be known by the end of 2006 or early in 2007 enabling the work to be carried out before the financial year end 2007. The Parish Council had sufficient budget funds for the above projects provided match funding was available, as discussed. Hopefully it would be possible to finish the whole project within 2 - 3 years.

A local resident had pointed out various maintenance requirements at the Brockholes site.

RESOLVED: (1) That the works as detailed above be carried out at the War Memorials at Holmbridge, Brockholes and Holmfirth;

(2) That the resident of Brockholes be informed of the Council's intentions

(3) That the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Councillor Bratt work together to finalise the applications for grant funding, as appropriate.

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**06 13 Arts Trail**

(1) Mural at Magdale: The Deputy Clerk informed Members that the necessary permission for the mural to be placed at Magdale had been given by the owner of the wall. She also indicated that the artist was progressing well with the workshops at Brockholes J & I School and it was hoped the mural would be ready for installation by October 2006. This was noted.

Bridge at Magdale: A local resident was concerned that there was local history about the bridge at Magdale. In view of the comments made it was agreed the bridge could be refurbished and funds allocated to provide information boards giving the history of the bridge. This scheme was not due to be implemented at the current time as the funds available had been used to provide the mural and further works would await confirmation of the receipt of grant funding when this was known.

RESOLVED: That the views of the local resident be borne in mind when making any decision with regard to the bridge at Magdale in the future.

(2) Holme Valley Riverside Way and Arts Trail: Currently this project was awaiting the preparation of the grant application to the Arts Council. This would be prepared and ready for submission very shortly.

Holme Valley Riverside Way Steering Group - 5 June 2006: The notes of this meeting had been received but had not been circulated to Members as yet. The Officer at Kirklees MC wished for the Clerk to agree the comments made. The Minutes would be circulated to the next meeting.

River Forum Event - Slaithwaite: Councillor Court indicated she had attended this event in Slaithwaite. It was a very well organised Group with good ideas. Various newsletters and leaflets were available for Members should they wish to read them.

**06 14 Burial Grounds**

New Mill Closed Churchyard: The Deputy Clerk informed Members that the contractor had carried out the first maintenance cut and tree pruning at this site. He had spent a considerable amount of time at the site to ensure the site was fully maintained. Because of the growing season it was necessary to visit again and carry out a further cut. At the same time as cutting the grass the contractor would remove the previous wood cut from the site.

RESOLVED: That authority be given to the contractor to carry out a further cut as soon as is possible together with removal of the previous cuttings.

**06 15 Footpaths**

Public Rights of Way Forum - Minutes of the Meeting - 9 March 2006 and Information Sheet: Members had been circulated with the above Minutes and Information Sheet.

RESOLVED: That they be received and noted.

**06 16 Freedom of Information Act 2000**

RESOLVED: That, under the Council's Publication Scheme, supporting paper 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**