

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 03 SEPTEMBER 2007 -

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr C M Kaye

Vice-Chairman : Cllr T Bellamy

Councillors : Cllr L Bailey, Cllr M Bower, Cllr Mrs R Bratt, Cllr G Christofi, Cllr J G Cropper, Cllr T Dearnley, Cllr R P Dixon, Cllr T W Dixon, Cllr D M Firth, Cllr J M Greenwood, Cllr Mrs D Hall, Cllr R Oldfield, Cllr Mrs J M Osborn, Cllr A R Otterburn, Cllr Mrs J Roberts, Cllr P Robinson, Cllr P D Searby, Cllr B A Smith, Cllr K L Smith, Cllr Mrs B E Smith, Cllr M A Walker

Officers : Mrs MA Bewick, Mrs E Hirst

Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present.

Apologies for Absence

Cllr. Firth had asked that apologies be accepted for his probable late arrival at the meeting. This was accepted.

07 31 Admission of the Public

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

07 32 Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman wished to highlight to the Council the need for inexperienced Members to seek advice about Council procedures and other matters from more senior Councillors or from the Council's Officers. He confirmed that both officers were very experienced and had his full confidence, and he believed, that of the Council as a whole. He asked that all Members work with the common objective of being an effective Council, whilst respecting and understanding Member/Member and Member/Officer relationships. He asked that two relevant articles be circulated to Members and advised all Councillors to take cognisance of this advice.

Cllrs. Firth and Greenwood joined the meeting at this point.

The Chairman reported briefly on two events attended on behalf of the Council, and informed Members of his forthcoming Civic Service which would be held on 30 September 2007 at St. Mary's Church, Honley, followed by a buffet held afterwards in the Church. He hoped that as many Councillors as possible would support him at this service.

The Chairman informed the Council of a letter received that day from Hebden Royd Town Council expressing sympathy and good wishes to those in the Holme Valley affected by flooding earlier in the summer. The Clerk was asked to write to Hebden Royd Town Council to thank it for its support and concern about the impact on the Valley.

07 33 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 9 July numbered 07 11 - 07 27 inclusive be confirmed.

Following their adoption at the last Council meeting, Members were all supplied with copies of the revised Code of Conduct and of the amended Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

07 34 To confirm the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Special Council meeting held on 20 August 2007 numbered 07 28 - 07 30 inclusive be confirmed.

07 35 To receive the Minutes of the Strategy and Policy Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Strategy and Policy Committee held on 9 July 2007 numbered 07 01 - 07 06 inclusive be received and adopted.

07 36 To confirm the Minutes of the Planning Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 9 July 2007 numbered 07 31 - 07 36 inclusive, on 23 July 2007 numbered 07 37 - 07 50 inclusive, and on 20 August 2007 numbered 07 51 - 07 59 inclusive be confirmed.

In connection with Planning Application 31/05, the Clerk reported that she had been forwarded a copy of an objection to this plan which had been emailed to various Members of the Committee, but not in time for Members to be aware of the resident's objections before consideration. The email had been acknowledged by the Deputy Clerk, with this information and advice about further action the resident could take. This action was confirmed.

07 37 To receive the Minutes of the Publications and Communications Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Publications and Communications Committee held on 16 July 2007 numbered 07 17 - 07 24 inclusive be received and adopted.

07 38 To receive the Minutes of the Staffing Committee

In presenting the Minutes, the Chairman of the Committee informed the Council that he had taken advice from the Standards Board about a possible breach of the code of conduct by a Councillor at a meeting of the Staffing Committee. He wished to apologise to the Officers and wished to assure them that he would try to ensure that it did not happen again.

It was proposed and seconded that the Minutes of the Staffing Committee be received and adopted. An amendment was proposed and seconded that minute number 07 11 of the meeting held on 16 August 2007 be referred back for further consideration. A recorded vote was requested on the proposed amendment.

FOR: Bellamy, Christofi, Cropper, Dearnley, R. P. Dixon, T. Dixon, Firth, Greenwood, Hall, Kaye, Osborn, Roberts, Searby, B. A. Smith, B. E. Smith, K. Smith, and Walker
AGAINST: Bailey, Bower, Bratt, Oldfield, Otterburn and Robinson

RESOLVED: That Minute number 07 11 of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 16 August 2007 be not adopted but referred back to the Staffing Committee for further consideration given the view of the majority of the Council that the recommended option is not acceptable.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Staffing Committee held on 23 July 2007 numbered 07 01 - 07 04 inclusive, on 2 August 2007 numbered 07 05 - 07 08 inclusive, and on 16 August 2007 numbered 07 09 - 07 13, with the exception of minute number 07 11, be received and adopted.

07 39 To receive the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on 30 July 2007 numbered 07 20 - 07 30 inclusive be received and adopted.

Minute number 07 27 Transfer of bus shelters - Information had been supplied by Metro that Metro's Board had approved the use of non-corporate colours of black and cream for the shelters as specified in an earlier letter. This was noted.

07 40 To receive the Minutes of the Finance and Management Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Finance and Management Committee held on 6 August 2007 numbered 07 18 - 07 27 inclusive be received and adopted.

Minute number 07 24, Charity Accounts, as requested by the Finance and Management Committee, the Clerk explained a new requirement of the Annual Return that charity accounts should be extracted from statutory Parish and Town Council accounts. This had always been the case within the Holme Valley Parish Council's accounts. Members noted this information.

Holme Valley Parish Council

Minute number 07 25, Members approved two bookings for the Joint Training Conference to be held at the end of September and noted that a supplement was payable for single occupancy of double rooms. This was approved.

Having declared an interest in this item, the Clerk explained that she served, voluntarily, as West Yorkshire partner on the Yorkshire and the Humber Regional Training Partnership, and as an occasional training provider (for which on occasions she received a fee) for this organisation. This work did not impact on the Parish Council's time and activities. This information was accepted.

Minute number 07 26(4) Cllr. R. Paul Dixon indicated that he no longer had a prejudicial interest in this property as it had been withdrawn from sale, and neither he nor Cllr. Tom Dixon had therefore declared any interest in this matter at this meeting.

07 41 Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED: That the payment of accounts for July 2007 totalling £12,783.89 and August 2007, totalling £9,089.62 be approved.

07 42 Representatives to Outside Bodies

(1) The Council noted that the Kirklees Road Safety Panel, and Police Community Forum had now ceased to exist - two organisations to which Council representatives had previously been appointed.

RESOLVED: That the above information be noted and the Clerk be asked to arrange for any necessary alterations in the Register of Interests forms for the relevant Members.

(2) Picturedrome - to discuss representation at future meetings - withdrawn

(3) Yorkshire Rural Community Council - Nominations to YRCC's Trustee Board - no nominations were forthcoming.

07 43 Representation

(1) Members considered attendance at the following events:

(i) Campaign to Protect Rural England - Branch AGM - 11 September 2007 - Hardcastle Craggs and Gibson Mill - no representation

(ii) Joint Review Meeting with Kirklees MC - 19 September 2007 - Burton Village Hall - Cllrs. Kaye and Bellamy and the Clerk

(iii) Calderdale PCT - AGM - 20 September 2007 - Dean Clough, Halifax - Cllr. Mrs. J. Roberts if any relevant items on the agenda

(iv) Action for Market Towns Convention - 26 - 27 September 2007 - Newmarket - no representative

(v) Holmbridge WI Information Day - invitation to participate - 29 September 2007 - Hombridge Parish Hall - charge for stand - stand to be booked; exhibition material to be prepared by Cllr. K. Smith, stand to be manned; the following offered assistance - Cllrs. Christofi, Firth, Mrs. Roberts, and K. Smith

(vi) Kirklees Partnership - Picture of Kirklees 2007 - 11 October 2007 - 2 nominations invited - Cllr. Kaye, if possible, but more information requested

(vii) WYPA - Engagement Strategy - Kirklees District meeting - 30 October 2007 - Brighouse - Cllrs. Christofi and Mrs. Walker.

RESOLVED: (1) That representation as above be approved

(2) That the payment of a fee to Holmbridge WI Information Day be approved, and the Members listed be asked to make the appropriate arrangements for providing and manning an exhibition and display stand.

(2) Reports of attendance at the following events were received and noted:

(i) Holmfirth Community Breakfast Meeting - Vice Chairman and Clerk

(ii) YLCA - AGM - Cllr. Greenwood

(iii) Rural Public Transport Seminar - Cllr. Bailey

(iv) EU LEADER funding seminar - Clerk.

RESOLVED: (1) That the above reports be received and all thanked for their attendance on behalf of the Council

(2) That the Publications and Communications Committee be asked to consider the inclusion of information about the Valleys Community Transport Scheme in a future newsletter to encourage greater take-up of this scheme from the Holme Valley.

Holme Valley Parish Council

07 44 Local Area Committees

Holme Valley North and South Area Committee Meetings - Cllr. Searby reported on the Holme Valley North Area Committee which had considered issues relating to Honley Park, police matters, and the changes to the frequency of bin collection.

Holme Valley South Area Committee had been discussing community safety issues and would be looking at potential problems with the changes to bin collection and green bins. The meeting was to be held at Holmbridge Parish Hall in view of the expected public interest in the refuse collection issues.

RESOLVED: That the above reports be received and the Council's representatives thanked.

It was also suggested that an item be placed on a future meeting of the General Purposes Committee to take up some the issues discussed regarding young people's issues and anti-social behaviour.

07 45 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.

.....
Chairman