

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2007 -

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr D M Firth

Vice-Chairman : Cllr Mrs J M Osborn

Councillors : Cllr L Bailey, Cllr T Bellamy, Cllr Mrs R Bratt, Cllr J G Cropper, Cllr Mrs D Hall, Cllr C M Kaye, Cllr Mrs J Roberts, Cllr P D Searby, Cllr B A Smith, Cllr M A Walker

Officers : Mrs E Hirst

Cllr. Kaye was present in his ex-officio capacity as Chairman of the Council.

2 members of the public were present.

Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was accepted from Cllr. Christofi.

07 63 Disclosure of Interests

None were declared.

07 64 Admission of the Public

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

07 65 Speakers at meetings

The Chairman of the General Purposes Committee welcomed Helen Kitching, Development Manager of the Holme Valley Patient Transport Scheme and Dr. Shamsee of the Oaklands Practice to the Meeting. Ms Kitching informed Members of the current situation, both operational and financial, with regard to this scheme. Various funds which had been forthcoming when the scheme had been set up were now not available; in an effort to keep the much valued scheme operating, charitable status had been applied for, and approved. This status had enabled approaches to be made to other grant giving bodies. An application to the lottery fund had proved unsuccessful.

Concerns were expressed by Councillors that the Primary Care Trust must be approached for help with funding. Other issues raised were how the system was booked and operated and what running costs were accrued. It was suggested users of the service should be encouraged to contribute to the costs by personal donation. It was suggested the scheme could be funded by contribution through the Doctors' Lists.

Members agreed that the Parish Council would be prepared to make a contribution to the cost of keeping the service running but that the Primary Care Trust involved must be prepared to contribute.

Ms Kitching and Dr. Shamsee left the meeting at this point.

07 66 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on 15 October 2007 numbered 07 48 - 07 62 inclusive be received and adopted as a true record of the meeting.

The Deputy Clerk indicated that following the WI Information Day at Holmbridge a request for litter bins at Digley reservoir car parks had been forwarded to Yorkshire Water. That authority had indicated it would be happy to discuss partnership working for litter bin provision if the Parish Council were prepared to enter into an agreement to service such bins. It was agreed, in the first instance, that Kirklees Council should be asked if they would be prepared to empty such bins, should they be provided.

07 67 Correspondence arising from the Minutes

Minute number 07 39 - Netherthong - request for 'waiting limit' signs: Cllr Roberts reported that she and Cllr. Dearnley had met with a representative of Kirklees Highways. It was agreed, following further discussion, that to provide any type of prohibitive signs or yellow lines would not be helpful at this location. This was noted.

Minute number 07 39(3) - Quad Bikes - West Yorkshire Police: Information from West Yorkshire Police was noted. Cllr. Firth indicated that he had recently learnt that, under the Crime and Disorder Act Section 38, where it was found the unlawful use of Quad bikes was causing a problem, the Police could take note and warn owners and if found to be in contravention of any warning, the quad bike could be confiscated and destroyed. This was noted.

Minute number 07 50 - Experimental disc parking scheme - contact number for enquiries as supplied by Kirklees - 01484 225696 - email - highways.consultations@kirklees.gov.uk. This information was noted.

07 68 Highway matters

Hollowgate Bridge - Vehicle Collision Damage: Members had been circulated with a copy of a letter from Kirklees Council. Because of the previous accidents at this site, Kirklees Council is intending to impose a limit on the length of vehicles travelling over the bridge. This restriction will be further reinforced by the construction of a build out adjacent to the bridge to avert vehicles from the bridge parapets. This information was noted.

Members again discussed the use of pictorial signs indicating the unsuitability of roads. It was indicated such signs were not lawful. Currently the matter is being put forward for discussion at national level with a view to such signs being sanctioned at Government level.

07 69 Complaints Procedure

The Deputy Clerk indicated she had no complaints to report under this item. However, the condition of the Riverside Way path near the Post Office was in a poor condition. This had been reported to Kirklees Council and would be repaired within the very near future. This was noted.

07 70 Public Seats

1) Accident at Honley (Eastgate) - The Deputy Clerk indicated the Council had been notified of an accident to a user of the seat at Eastgate, Honley outside the Council's bus shelter. The matter had been passed to the Parish Council by Kirklees Highways; it had been acknowledged by various Kirklees Councillors. The Deputy Clerk asked for the Council's instructions with regard to how she should deal with the matter. Members agreed the report of the accident should be received at this stage.

2) Removal of seats at Burhouse Street, Honley: Seats had now been provided at the above site by Kirklees Council as part of its street improvement scheme for Honley. The seats taken from the site had been now been collected by the Council's contractor and would be refurbished for use at other sites. This information was noted. It would be necessary to check the maintenance arrangements for the new seats provided by Kirklees Council as part of these streetscape improvements.

07 71 Community facilities

1) Picturedrome, Holmfirth: Members had been approached by the owner of the Picturedrome, Holmfirth. He indicated it was his intention to start showing films again and asked that the Parish Council give him with a letter of support for this project to enable him to apply for a lottery grant.

RESOLVED: That the appropriate letter of support be supplied to the owner of the Picturedrome.

2) Closure of Post Offices - commencement of consultation exercise - Yorkshire Area - April 2008: Members noted the date of the consultation period, as indicated.

3) Holme Valley Riverside Way - Minutes of meeting held 3 September 2007: A copy of the Minutes had been circulated to Members and the date of the next meeting, 3 December 2007 was noted.

Cllr. Bellamy indicated it was the intention to provide litter bins at seven locations along the Riverside Way and that Kirklees Council had agreed to empty such bins. The litter bins would be sited where they were accessible to collection vehicles. This scheme could proceed provided funding could be

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established. This was noted.

07 72 CCTV Cameras

Vetatech - Cameras: The Chairman indicated a representative of Vetatech would be willing to attend a future meeting of the General Purposes Committee to address Members on future CCTV provision in Holmfirth and Honley areas.

RESOLVED: That a representative of Vetatech be invited to the next General Purposes Committee scheduled to be held on Monday, 14 January 2008.

07 73 Footpaths and Bridleways

1) Public Footpath 71 (Wickens Lane, Upperthong) Information had been reported previously to the Planning Committee with regard to this Public Path Diversion Order. As indicated previously, it was possible this matter may be the subject of a public inquiry and Kirklees Council would keep the Parish Council informed of the situation. This was noted.

Cllr. Cropper declared a personal interest in this matter.

2) Public Footpath 50 - Miry Lane, Woodlands: An approach to Kirklees Council for the wall at the above site to be repaired had proved unsuccessful. In the circumstances the Deputy Clerk was instructed to write to the Head of Highways Services bringing this matter to her attention and asking for the wall to be repaired.

RESOLVED: That the above course of action be taken.

07 74 Consultations

Defra - Ways to tackle climate change: A booklet was available for interested Members. Cllr. Bailey indicated his interest in reading the book.

RESOLVED: That the above booklet be passed to Cllr. Bailey.

07 75 Transport issues

1) Kirklees Passenger Consultative Committee - Agenda and papers: Members noted the availability of the papers for the meeting that had taken place on the 10 October 2007.

2) Thurstonland bus services: Members had been circulated with a copy of a letter from a resident of Thurstonland. This drew the attention of Members to the lack of bus services to Thurstonland. The letter had been addressed to the Brockholes Ward Member and he had merely acknowledged it and asked that the resident concerned should contact Metro regarding the lack of buses in the Thurstonland area.

RESOLVED: That the concerns be noted and that a response from either the resident concerned or Metro be awaited.

3) Holme Valley Patient Transport Scheme: Following earlier discussion of this item it was formally agreed that the Parish Council should allocate funds for this scheme when considering the budget provision in the following item.

RESOLVED: That this be agreed.

07 76 Budget Provision

1) Budget provision 2007-08: Members considered the current budget position and the allocation of budget funding

(a) That the following actions be authorised for expenditure likely to be incurred before the end of March 2008 -

War Memorials - expended in conjunction with successful grant applications or as funds permit
Environmental Projects - searches for ownership of land issues re public footpaths in Underbank
Film Provision b/f - vired to Holme Valley Patient Transport Scheme - £2,500 to be contributed in 2007-08

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b) That the following amounts be held over to 2008-09 earmarked for the following schemes -

- Remainder of Film Provision b/f allocated to Holme Valley Patient Transport Scheme - £2,500
- Tidy Trader - earmarked for new trophy for extension of scheme to Honley - £250
- Play Area improvements b/f - Booth House - £15,000
- Arts Trail - expansion - £5,000 - previously earmarked, hopefully to be matched by grant.

c) That it be agreed that the following action be taken with regard to the following scheme -

Dog Waste Bags - to investigate less expensive bags

RESOLVED: That the above specified actions be approved.

d) Closed Churchyard, New Mill:

RESOLVED: It be noted that expenditure on maintaining the closed churchyard has exceeded budget provision in 2007-08.

2) Budget Provision 2008-09: Members considered the budget for 2008-09 in the light of Council resolution on budget policy.

RESOLVED: That the following budget provision be suggested for 2008-09

	£
Minibus	20,000
Shelters - contribution to Metro	4,500
New seats	1,000
Maintenance of seats and shelters	12,000
War Memorials	4,000
Dog Waste Bags	500
New Projects - Holme Valley Patient Transport Scheme	2,500
Tidy Trader (including budget committed for Honley Trophy	200
Closed Churchyard	1,000
Christmas Trees	2,500
Play Areas	10,000
Arts Trail	5,000

Earmarked budget to be carried forward

- Tidy Trader - Honley Trophy £250
- Booth House - play area improvements - £15,000
- Arts Trail - £5,000

07 77 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