

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 11 MAY 2009 –

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr T Bellamy

Vice-Chairman: Cllr Mrs J Roberts

Councillors: Cllr L Bailey, Cllr Mrs R Bratt, Cllr J G Cropper, Cllr T Dearnley, Cllr T W Dixon, Cllr D M Firth, Cllr J M Greenwood, Cllr P S Hirst, Cllr C M Kaye, Cllr Mrs J M Osborn, Cllr A R Otterburn, Cllr P Robinson, Cllr P D Searby, Cllr B A Smith, Cllr Mrs B E Smith, Cllr M A Walker

Officers: Mrs S S Barber, Mrs M A Bewick

Public Question Time

One member of the public was present but had no questions to put to the Council.

To accept apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs Mrs Bower, Christofi, R P Dixon and Mrs Hall.

08 137 To receive Members' declarations of interest in items on the agenda

Cllr T Dixon declared a prejudicial interest in the payment of one account (agenda item 12).

08 138 To consider whether items on the agenda should be discussed in private session

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

08 139 To receive Chairman's report

The Chairman reported on various events that he had attended recently, including a meeting of the Hall Trust in Holme Village, Meltham Civic Dinner, Holmfirth Choral Society, Denby Dale Civic Dinner, Hebden Royd Civic Dinner, and the Holme Valley Brass Band contest preparations and concert. The Brass Band Concert took place on 26 April, attended by 18 bands and thanks were given to Parish Councillors for their help in traffic marshalling this event.

He had also attended the St George's Day Parade, the Arts Festival Auction, a competition hosted by Holmfirth Cricket Club, Wooldale Old Folks' Treat and hosted his Civic Luncheon which had raised over £1,000 for his chosen charity, Macmillan Cancer Support. He thanked all those who had supported him at this occasion.

The Clerk reported on a possible Holmfirth Film Festival, to be held in May 2010. Further details to be provided to Members in due course.

08 140 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23 March 2009 numbered 08 119 – 08 136 inclusive be confirmed.

08 141 To confirm the Minutes of the Planning Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 30 March 2009 numbered 08 267 – 08 281 inclusive and on 20 April 2009 numbered 08 282 – 08 294 inclusive be confirmed.

08 142 To confirm the Minutes of the Publications and Communications Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Publications and Communications Committee held on 6 April 2009 numbered 08 30 – 08 37 inclusive be received and adopted.

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08 143 To receive the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on 6 April 2009 numbered 08 102 – 08 113 inclusive be received and adopted, with some further information relating to parking on Huddersfield Road being noted (Minute No. 08 105(8)).

In connection with minute number 08 108, the Clerk reported that the Tidy Trader initiative planned for an extension of the Scheme to the Holme Valley North area had been postponed until next year.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk should invite the Holme Valley North Area Committee Team Manager to a future meeting, to seek clarification on the reasons for this postponement.

08 144 To receive the Minutes of the Strategy and Policy Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Strategy and Policy Committee held on 27 April 2009 numbered 08 25 – 08 31 inclusive be received and adopted.

08 145 To receive the Minutes of the Finance and Management Committee

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Finance and Management Committee held on 27 April 2009 numbered 08 94 – 08 105 inclusive be received and adopted.

08 146 Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED: That the accounts for payment for March totalling £14,067.64 and April 2009 totalling £16,059.44 be approved.

08 147 Audit of Accounts

RESOLVED: That the Annual Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 March 2009 be received and adopted.

08 148 Request to consult with Parish Council

Following consideration by the General Purposes Committee (Minute number 08 105 (10) refers), detailed costings had been provided by Kirklees Highways Service for the Upperthong Conservation Area Enhancement Scheme and authority was therefore sought to use funds previously allocated in the budget.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be authorised to issue a cheque as soon as possible, to be allocated to providing new street nameplates and towards the cost of the improvements adjacent to the red phone box.

08 149 Administrative Matters

(1) Casual Vacancy – Honley West: Members noted that no request had been made to hold an election by the deadline. Actions now had to be taken in relation to a co-option to fill this vacancy, caused by the resignation of Mr R Oldfield.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be authorised to take any necessary actions in this respect and interested applicants to be invited to make a presentation to full Council on 15 June 2009.

(2) Members' Surgeries: Members considered future arrangements, including different days/times of the week and alternative venues, to hold Members' Surgeries.

RESOLVED: (i) That Councillors Dixon and Mrs Walker investigate further re alternative venues in their wards, liaising with the Clerk as necessary.

(ii) That the Clerk should pursue the suggested alternative venues and make the necessary arrangements to finalise dates/times for Members' Surgeries for the year 2009-10.

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08 150 Local Area Committees

a) Holme Valley North Area Committee: Members of the Parish Council had attended the last meeting on 28 March 2009, which had been inquorate. Revised minutes were awaited to outline what was agreed at that meeting, but no date had yet been fixed for a meeting to ratify those agreed actions.

b) Holme Valley South Area Committee: Cllr Mrs Roberts reported that issues discussed included police concerns re increased crime, particularly burglaries and sheep rustling, and implications of bus changes for school children.

08 151 Representation

(1) Attendance at the following events was considered:

- (a) SLCC and University of Gloucestershire – Summer Seminars – 15-16 July 2009 – Cheltenham
- (b) NALC Annual Conference – Putting People First – 4-5 September 2009 – London

RESOLVED: That the above be noted.

(2) Members and Officers reported on attendance at the following events:

- (a) The Holmfirth Tiger – 8 April 2009 – Cllr Bellamy reported that it had been a worthwhile and interesting event.
- (b) SLCC Larger Local Councils Conference – 16-17 April 2009 – The Clerk reported briefly on this conference and highlighted some relevant topics. She thanked the Council for supporting her attendance at this event which always proved useful and helpful in the Council's work.
- (c) Joint Meeting of Parish and Town Councils with Kirklees Council – 29 April 2009 – Representatives from the Town and Parish Councils of Kirklees attended, as well as officers from Kirklees. The agenda covered topics including allotments, Community Governance Review, Localities Working and Planning training requirements. It was suggested that meetings should be held more frequently in future, and such an item of frequency of meetings to be considered on the next agenda.
- (d) Councillor Training Skills – 6 May 2009 – Cllrs Bailey and Mrs Bratt had attended and found the course to be useful and informative.

RESOLVED: That the above be noted.

(3) The Power of Well Being – Council minute 08 134 and Finance and Management Committee minute 08 102(3) refers: To become eligible to use this Power, the Council would require 19 Councillors (80%) to have received training in its use, and for the Clerk to have qualified in its use.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be authorised to make arrangements for her to become qualified and to report back to Council in due course on the benefits of use of the Power of Well Being.

08 152 Freedom of Information Act 2000 – to agree what information will be made available to the public

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