

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 28 JULY 2008 -

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr Mrs J M Osborn

Vice-Chairman : Cllr D M Firth

Councillors : Cllr L Bailey, Cllr T Bellamy, Cllr Mrs R Bratt, Cllr J G Cropper, Cllr T W Dixon, Cllr A R Otterburn, Cllr B A Smith, Cllr M A Walker

Officers : Mrs MA Bewick

To accept Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Councillors Mrs. Hall and Searby.

Cllr. Mrs. Bratt was present as an observer.

08 16 To receive Members' declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None were given.

08 17 To consider whether items on the agenda should be discussed in private session

It was agreed that item 7 of the agenda (CCTV Cameras) should be moved to the beginning of the meeting, as a member of the Kirklees Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, Mr. Darren Kennedy, was present, and that this item should be taken in private session.

08 18 Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED: That the business of this Committee now to be transacted be not open to the public and press on the grounds that the matters to be considered are of a confidential nature.

08 19 CCTV Cameras

The Committee discussed aspects of the offer which had been made to the Council of the use of two mobile CCTV cameras. Mr. D. Kennedy of the Kirklees Anti-Social Behaviour Unit highlighted some issues and procedures which would have to be considered in relation to taking up such an offer. Members were reminded that the Council would have to take cognisance of the Regulations of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA Act) in respect of any use and operation of such cameras. It was also noted that the Kirklees Holme Valley South Area Committee had received a similar offer which was being discussed with the Police and the company involved.

Members also discussed the work of the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, and how its involvement in problem areas or issues was triggered. Information about procedures and costs of such involvement was given to Members. Members also queried whether the Unit would work alongside any initiatives by the Parish Council and Kirklees Area Committees; an assurance was given about such partnership working. It was pointed out, however, that the Parish Council would wish to look at the impact on the whole of its area, not just the Holme Valley South Ward.

RESOLVED: (1) That the company involved be asked to put its offer in writing to the Council, together with any conditions involved in the offer, and an indication of how it would comply with RIPA regulations, in operating the cameras

(2) That the company involved be asked to contact and liaise with the Kirklees Anti-Social Behaviour Unit about aspects discussed

(3) That the issues be discussed again once a written offer has been received by the Council and assurances can be gained that action can be co-ordinated with developments through the Area Committee and the Neighbourhood Management Group.

08 20 Readmittance of Public and Press

RESOLVED: That the public and press be re-admitted to the meeting.

Holme Valley Parish Council

08 21 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 30 June 2008 numbered 08 03 - 08 15 inclusive be received and adopted as a true record of the meeting.

08 22 Correspondence arising from the Minutes

(1) Minute 07 117(1) - Shops in Holmfirth - Members noted correspondence from Kirklees Council about the grant scheme available for shops wishing to make improvements to shop fronts, but it was also reported that this money had been expended for the current year. The Clerk was still awaiting replies from particular shop owners about the condition of their shop fronts.

(2) Minute 07 120 Memorial Plaque - it was noted that a memorial plaque had now been placed on a seat on Victoria Bridge, Holmfirth in memory of a local resident. The financial contribution which had been requested had been paid.

(3) Minute 08 08(3) - Street Lighting, Dunford Road - Members noted correspondence from Kirklees Council regarding the issue raised by the local resident.

(4) Minute 08 14 - Arrangements for judging the Tidy Trader Competition were noted.

RESOLVED: That the usual arrangements be made to obtain a trophy once judging has been completed.

08 23 Complaints Procedure

Members noted the Clerk's report of action she had taken in response to complaints received from local residents:

(1) Condition of footpath between Steps and Mag Bridge and condition of railings on White Bridge, Magdale - referred to Kirklees PROW Unit and Kirklees Ward Councillor

(2) Overhanging vegetation - various locations - referred to Kirklees Countryside Ranger for action, and Kirklees PROW Unit for action

(3) Issues raised at Honley Members' Surgery - referred to Kirklees Highways and PROW Unit for action - vegetation now cut back at Exchange, Honley and Cuckoo Lane, Honley and repairs required reported near Burhouse Court, Honley

(4) Request for Grit Bin, Holme Village - The Clerk had been informed that Kirklees Council was unable to fund new grit bins. However, Members believed that this issue had been dealt with by the Holme Valley South Area Committee. The Clerk was asked to check with the relevant officer for the Area Committee.

(5) Request for recycling bins for tetrapaks - Cllr. Bailey asked if Kirklees Council could provide a recycling bin for tetra-packaging to be sited in Crown Bottom, Holmfirth - Clerk to pass to Kirklees Council with support for this request.

RESOLVED: That the above actions taken by the Clerk be authorised and her report noted.

08 24 Footpaths and Bridleways

RESOLVED: That the notes of the meeting of Kirklees Public Rights of Way Forum held on 10 April 2008 be received and noted.

Cllr. Bailey queried about a mention in these notes of an addition to the Footpath map. The Clerk to investigate and report back.

08 25 Highway matters

(1) As suggested at the previous meeting, Cllr. Otterburn had requested that the Council should consider supporting the provision of two public noticeboards, in the centres of Holmfirth and Honley. Members had commented that one problem with this suggestion was who would be prepared to take responsibility for keeping such a noticeboard up to date. He now reported that the Parish Church in Holmfirth would be interested in replacing the current noticeboard outside the Church with a larger one which could act as a community noticeboard, and, on that basis, would be prepared to be responsible for keeping it up to date. It was felt that this was a helpful suggestion, although there were details which would have to be resolved, such as the requirement for planning permission.

It was then queried why such provision should be limited to Holmfirth and Honley, as there had been previous requests for a community noticeboard in New Mill. It was reported that Holmbridge had received funding from the Area Committee for a noticeboard, which was managed by the local WI.

After discussion, Members agreed that a project should be investigated whereby the Council could offer

Holme Valley Parish Council

assistance with funding for community noticeboards in partnership with local organisations who would, as part of that partnership, take responsibility for looking after and maintaining such noticeboards.

RESOLVED: (1) That the Clerk investigates costs of possible noticeboards, and the question of planning permission

(2) That Cllr. Otterburn reports back to Holmfirth Parish Church on this idea

(3) That the idea be discussed again at a future meeting when possible costs would be known for budget implications.

(2) Members noted correspondence re wheelie bins on footways which had been received following the article in the Council's newsletter and approved the responses which had been sent by the Clerk.

08 26 Shelters and Seats

(1) Bus Shelter - Muslin Hall, New Mill Road - late submission of Kirklees invoice - Cllr. Firth indicated that he had raised this matter with a Kirklees officer. but was still awaiting a response. The Clerk also indicated that she had not heard anything further in respect of the invoice which was, therefore, still unpaid. This information was noted.

(2) Damage to bus shelters - Boot and Shoe, Scholes - damage to this shelter had been reported to the Council's contractor and repaired the same day.

The Clerk also reported that the shelter at Hepworth had been damaged and that the Contractor had been asked to repair it as soon as possible.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk's action in this matter be approved and the Contractor thanked for his prompt action in carrying out necessary repairs.

(3) Transfer of shelters to WYPTE - Members were circulated with a report listing the current position with shelters to be transferred to the PTE. The Clerk asked for Members' guidance on some points and the comments made would be incorporated into the report to be submitted to the PTE.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk's report as amended by the Committee be submitted to WYPTE in response to the request from its Solicitor.

Cllr. Otterburn requested that the replacement shelter which was needed near the Toll House on Greenfield Road, should, if at all possible, be provided with end panels to protect residents from the weather. It was agreed that this request would be passed on to WYPTE.

It was further resolved that the stone shelter at Sycamore, New Mill Road, which no longer serves a bus stop, could now be taken down, leaving the base to form the entrance to a path across to the High School. The Clerk was asked to make arrangements with the Council's contractor for its demolition.

08 27 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Members authorised the purchase of seven wreaths as in previous years, but it was requested that a further wreath be purchased for the war memorial at St John's Church, Upperthong. This request was agreed. The Clerk was also asked to make all the necessary arrangements for floodlighting of the memorial at Holme Valley Memorial Hospital and for the laying of all the wreaths. The date of the Remembrance Service was noted.

RESOLVED: (1) That the Clerk be authorised to order eight wreaths as specified and to make all the necessary arrangements for the laying of these wreaths

(2) That the Clerk be asked to arrange for the floodlighting of the War Memorial at Holme Valley Memorial Hospital, and any other necessary arrangements for Remembrance Day and associated services.

08 28 Freedom of Information Act 2000 - to agree what information will be made available to the public

RESOLVED: That, under 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