

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2008 -

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr T Bellamy

Vice-Chairman : Cllr Mrs J Roberts

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

Officers : Mrs S S Barber, Mrs MA Bewick

To accept apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors Dearnley, R P Dixon, Mrs Hall and Mrs B A Smith.

08 50 To receive Members' declarations of interest in items on the agenda

Cllr T Bellamy declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 4 (Post Office closures).

Cllr P S Hirst declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 4 (Post Office closures).

Both withdrew from the meeting during discussion of this item.

Cllr Mrs J Roberts took the Chair for the rest of the meeting.

08 51 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 52 Request to consult with Parish Council

Members of the Working Party (set up to draft the Parish Council's response to the Post Office on its proposals for closure of two post office in the Holme Valley) had attended the first public meeting, held on 8 September 2008. A number of users of these two post offices had expressed their personal concerns and Members had gathered evidence and reasons why they should be kept open. Assisted by the Clerk, Members of the Working Party would prepare a draft submission for each post office, which could then be finalised after the second public meeting, due to be held on 18 September 2008 and attended by a representative from the Post Office.

RESOLVED: (1) That the Parish Council should support the Post Offices at Wooldale and Upper Holme Valley remaining open, based on the evidence provided by the two postmasters and residents in those areas, proving that the post offices are sustainable.

(2) That authority be delegated to the Working Party to produce and forward the Parish Council's submissions to Post Office Ltd by the deadline of 22 September 2008.

08 53 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