

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY ASSETS SUPPORT COMMITTEE

HELD ON MONDAY 8 MARCH 2021, 20:00 PM held with an online platform.

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr P Colling

Councillors: Cllrs K Bellamy, M Blacka, J Brook, D Carre T Dixon, S East, R Hogley, J Roberts.

Officer: Mrs Liz Bennett

Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 amended by Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014

As Local (Parish and Town) Council meetings can be recorded, the Chairman checked if anybody wished to record the meeting, to ensure reasonable facilities could be provided. The meeting is being recorded as a zoom meeting and stored will be published on You Tube in due course.

Public Question Time

2021 67 To accept apologies for absence

None received. All members present.

2021 68 To receive members' personal and disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda

Cllr K Bellamy expressed an interest as a member of the Civic Hall Community Trust . Cllr S East expressed a personal interest in Honley Library.

2021 69 To Receive Officers' interests in items on the agenda.

None reported.

2021 70 To consider written requests for new DPI dispensations

None received.

2021 71 To consider whether items on the agenda should be discussed in private session

Resolved; no items to be discussed in private session.

2021 72 To note the minutes of the C.A.S.C meeting on 11 December 2020 numbered 2021 58 to 2021 66 incl.

RESOLVED: To note the minutes which had been previously approved at Full Council on 1 FEBRUARY 2021.

2021 73 Grant Applications

The following six grants will be paid out to the groups concerned in May 2021 when the new precept is received into the Parish Council Accounts. These were grants considered in the 'Expressions of Interest' exercise in September 2020 and were encouraged, as a result of that process, to complete a full

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application with a view to receiving a grant in the 2021/22 Council Year, which starts in April 2021.

(1) Cartworth Moor Cricket Club, requesting £2,000 towards the purchase of new shutters, internal doors and windows in the club pavilion.

Resolved; to approve this grant for £2,000 which will be made under section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. 'to provide and contribute to a wide range of recreational facilities in the Council's area'.

(2) Hade Edge Band Room requesting £3,000 to purchase a new piano.

This piano would enable the band room to be used as an examination centre for a wide area. Fees would be charged for the use of the facilities and the band Room will be able to generate income for other requirements. The piano will also benefit the Hade Edge band members.

Resolved; to approve this grant for £3,000 which will be made under Section 145 of the Local Government Act 1972, 'maintaining bands and orchestras.'

(3) Honley Village trust requesting £5,000 towards roof repairs in the Honley Village Hall.

Resolved; in principle to approve this grant for payment in May 2021 by which time the clerk would have sight of formal quotations for the works to the roof rather than the estimate provided so far. This grant will be made under Section 133 of the Local Government Act 1972, 'contributing to the expenses and upkeep of village halls.'

(4) The Friends of Netherthong School requesting £5,000 towards the establishment of a running track in the school grounds. This track will be available to the public outside school hours. It was noted that there are very few resources in Netherthong for formal exercise and only one small play area.

Resolved; to approve the grant of £5,000 which will be awarded under Section 19 of the 1976 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 'providing or contributing to sports facilities in the Parish'.

(5) Upperthong Village hall requesting a grant of £3,550 towards the provision of a new damp proof course and roof repairs to the hall, as part of series of planned refurbishments.

Resolved; to grant £3,550 under Section 133 of the Local Government Act 1972, 'contributing to the expenses and upkeep of village halls and public buildings.'

(6) River Holme Connections requesting £4,930.60 towards the further refurbishment of the riverside path between Digley reservoir and Armitage Bridge.

Resolved; to approve the grant of £4930.60 which will be made under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the power to provide or contribute to a wide range of recreational facilities. There was some discussion over whether the Council could support the payment of staff costs and it was decided that in this case the costs are intrinsic to the next stage of the project.

The following three grants have not been considered previously and are being considered for payment in this current financial year.

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(7) A request from the Holmfirth Civic Hall Community trust for £10,000 towards the replacement of the fire doors in the large hall.

Resolved; to support this grant. The final decision will be made at Full Council on 22 March 2021 as all grants over £5000 must have full Council approval. The grant will be made under Section 133 of the Local Government Act 1972 (village halls).

(8) A request for £30,000 made by the Holmfirth Civic Hall Community Trust towards the refurbishment of the ground floor toilets, the creation of an office space. The Council previously made a contribution to this but due to delays caused by the Covid lockdowns, the tendering exercise has led to increased costs.

Resolved; to support this grant under the same legislation as above and referring the request to Full Council on 22 March 2021 for final approval. This, if successful, will be paid to the H.C.H.C.T in May 2021 and will be considered to be the total amount of the earmarked reserves for the Civic Hall in next year's budget.

(9) The Preschool Playgroup at Hepworth Village hall have requested a grant of £10,000 for renewal of the outdoor play surface. Additional information from the applicant revealed that there are some 20 to 30 preschool children per year, 40 to 60 after school club attendees and some 15 to 20 in the toddler group, all using the play area. The area is not open for public use unless through the auspices of one of these groups. The play area can still be used, but if there is wet weather half the playground is unusable.

Resolved; to defer a decision on this and to ask the group to resubmit the application as an 'expression of interest' in the next financial year. The group would be informed that the Community Assets Support Committee has decided to limit the grants to £5,000. The group would also be able to provide a quotation for the work by September 2021 when the first round of applications will be considered. The committee were reassured that the facility would not have to close on account of this delay.

Transferred Assets

2021 74 The Honley Library

The decision to transfer the Library to the Holme Valley Parish Council was finally agreed at the Kirklees council Cabinet meeting on 16 February 2021.

The legal officers representing the various parties (The Parish Council, The Kirklees Council, The Trustees of Honley Library and the Kirklees Library Service will now commence to arrange the transfer to Holme Valley Parish Council (freehold), arrange the lease to the Trustees who will manage the building and the Library Service who will seek reassurance that the Library remains to support the Library Service.

The Chairman congratulated the Trustees of the library on this momentous step in obtaining control of the Library for Honley and on their years of devoted support for this transfer and their continued support of the Library Service itself.

Report from the Friends of Honley Library

The Friends of Honley library welcome the agreement to transfer the Library into the care of the Parish Council. They continue to work on increasing the number of volunteers; the arrangements for public Liability insurance for both library and community use of the library

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and the grounds; investigating the business rate relief in regard to a charity; developing a Health and Safety Policy and risk assessment; development of the FOHL website.

Report on the expected requirement for physical maintenance of the Library in the next year

A report from the trustees outlined the projected spend on the building in the first year of ownership. These costs, in total some £11,000, have been understood by the Committee and have been incorporated into the earmarked reserves for the Library in the next financial year 2021/22.

2021 75 Holmfirth Civic Hall

There was some discussion about the Civic Hall report which identifies the refurbishment of the downstairs toilets and the development of an office as the first goal followed by improvements in the decoration of the entrance hall. The Trust's priorities for the next 5 years then centre around creating smaller rooms for hire and the refurbishment of the club room behind the large hall. Further priorities for later years are the redecoration of the main halls.

There was some discussion about whether the development of small rooms for hire was likely to duplicate provision that already existed in other Holmfirth public buildings such as the Tech and the Phoenix centre although it was also acknowledged that such a development would increase the potential for income generation.

Resolved to Note the Business Plan/ report from the HCHCT. The committee would like to request that indicative costs are added to these plans in September when the council will be setting the budgets for 2022/23.

2021 76 Holmfirth Public Toilets

The Public Toilets have remained open since the end of the first Covid lockdown in July 2020.

There is still only one cubicle open so that the cleaning can be increased, and the use of the space.

takes the need for distancing and cleanliness into account. The toilets are much appreciated by the

public although donations are significantly down on previous years because of reduced footfall.

2021 77

The committee felt there was little they could do to improve the problems of parking outside the toilets to enable the contractor to make the process less time consuming and more cost effective.

Noted; that a working party of Councillors is reviewing the contract for the cleaning of the toilets. The current contract is long overdue for a review and re-advertisement as required by the Financial Regulations. The Committee is eager for the contractor to understand that this exercise is in no way a criticism of the current work. The committee is very happy with the service at present.

Noted; that the damage to the shop in Garside buildings subsequent to a flood from the toilets next door has been made good. The cost was slightly higher than expected as a new, level floor had to be prepared (£1,095). There had been no insurance available for these losses as the Council does not have contents insurance.

Noted; that the new internal door at the shop had been installed at a cost of £650 to the

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Council. There was discussion about the costs that the shop demanded compared to providing little income, but it was acknowledged that the retail shop had experienced a difficult time with Covid lockdowns and a flood.

Noted; that the retail premises have a separate electricity meter, but the readings have to be supplied to the RFO so that the shop can be invoiced for their share of electricity usage. There was a large electricity bill for the last quarter. It was agreed that the shop could be given a rebate of £280 of their usage to allow for extra heating required to dry out the shop after the flood.

2021 78 **Noted;** the letter of thanks form River Holme Connections for a £5000 grant towards the development of the Thongsbridge Wild Space.

2021 79 **Noted;** that the sharps bin in front of the toilets was to be removed by Kirklees Council and that the clerk will continue to pursue another place for such a bin and also to look at alternatives for the bike lock ups with Kirklees Council.

21:30 Close of meeting
PM

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Chairman