

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY ASSETS SUPPORT COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 22 JUNE 2020

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr T Dixon

Councillors: Cllrs G Barker, K Bellamy, M Blacka, P Colling, S East, R Hogley, J Roberts, D Carre.

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 on the clerk's computer.

Public Question Time

Six members of the public were present.

The River Steward from River Holme Connections answered some queries about the proposed riverside path at Thongsbridge. He confirmed that the path was porous. He said it was not possible to stop rats being present in the area but hoped that public use of bins would mean that litter was not around to encourage them. The scheme is a part of a bigger plan and funding is being sought from a number of bodies for the other elements. One Cllr asked whether this area wasn't already of interest to a local cyclist club. It was considered that this had been some years ago. The RHC have researched the project and sought agreement from the local bodies.

A representative of the Brockholes Village Trust described how the new Boules court at the Village Hall would be a venue for attracting general use rather than any one specific group.

A representative of the Wooldale Community Association described the need for a child friendly surface on their play area and said that the preschool at the centre was their anchor tenant, making this facility crucial to retaining that booking. The cost of the surface was £8,000 and they would welcome any contribution the council could make.

A representative of the Holmbridge Cricket club elaborated on the path needed for the cricket ground to enable disabled access. They would welcome any contribution the Council could make to the overall cost of £8,000.

Two members of the Honley Library Trust were present and described further efforts being made to include new users of the library building and efforts to include isolated residents in new projects. The trustees had undertaken more work on assessing the requirements to keep the building in good repair of the coming years.

The visitors were thanked for their contributions. Since the committee voted to discuss the grant applications in private session, they all decided to leave the meeting after making their contributions.

2021 01 To accept apologies for absence

RESOLVED: Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs S Sheard.

2021 02 To receive members' personal and disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda

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Cllr K Bellamy expressed a personal interest in the Civic Hall Community Trust . Cllr S East expressed a personal interest in Honley Library and Cllr P Colling said that she was a 'friend' of the library.

2021 03 To Receive Officers' interests in items on the agenda.

None reported.

2021 04 To consider written requests for new DPI dispensations

None received.

2021 05 To consider whether items on the agenda should be discussed in private session

RESOLVED: Grants applications to be discussed in private session.

2021 06 To accept the minutes of the C.A.S.C meeting on 21 January 2020 numbered 1920 52 to 1920 63 distributed previously. (B)

RESOLVED: To accept these minutes as true record.

2021 07 Holmfirth Civic Hall

The report from the trustees described the current plans to re-open the hall in July, the grants that have been secured to help with the running costs, the uncertainty around what hiring groups will be re-established after Covid-19. They have requested a grant of £1000 from the Parish Council to help with a 'deep clean' of the Hall on 29/6/2020 before the hall re-opens to the public. This will be referred to Full Council on 29/6/2020.

2021 08 Sub lease to the HCHCT

Councillors asked why the sub-lease to the HCHCT had still not been completed even though the papers were signed two years ago. The clerk had not been able to get a satisfactory answer from the solicitor. The forms have recently been signed again with currently serving Councillors and the present clerk. The clerk will however put pressure on the solicitor to complete as soon as possible.

2021 09 Renovations to the Civic Hall Toilet Block.

NOTED; The renovation was to be delayed until January 2021 due to problems relating to the Covid -19 crisis.

NOTED; That the monies toward the toilet block and the new fire escape had been transferred to the HCHCT.

RESOLVED; That Cllr Hogley be nominated to take part in the tendering for the renovation work.

2021 10 Holmfirth Public Conveniences

2021 11 Closure of the public toilets due to Covid-19 and possible re-opening.

Since the agenda was produced the advice from YLCA has changed. Councils are able to open up toilets according to their own risk assessments. The maintenance contractor and the clerk have been looking at the costs and implications of opening the toilets and maintaining the government guidelines as they apply. The suggestion is that the one disabled persons toilet is

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opened, people go in one at a time and queue appropriately outside. Clear signage would be provided. The toilets can be cleaned three times a day within the current contracted staffing. There will be hand sanitizer to use on entering and leaving. Hand towels and a pedal bin can be provided and emptied regularly; hot air driers disabled. Users must accept there is a level of risk that they accept if they use the toilets.

There was discussion about the measures proposed and general approval of moving to open the toilets. There are risks to health in not opening the toilets. Other local areas are opening. Any future decisions about increasing the number of cubicles could be discussed at Full Council in July as C.A.S.C does not meet again until October. Holme village toilets have opened throughout. In the meantime, further preparations will be made.

Cllr Dixon asked that a phone number was advertised at the toilets to call in extra cleaning when needed.

RESOLVED; to open the public toilets when the staff were ready, probably from 1 July .

2021 12 Garside Buildings

The committee were widely supportive of accepting the new prospective tenant. There were numerous suggestions about the need for any work to the space needing to be to proper safety standards and building regulations. The committee did not wish to deter the tenant by these provisos but possibly support the expenditure in some way. The budget exists for the council to enable the conversion.

RESOLVED; that The Chairman, Cllr East and the clerk would meet at the toilets with the maintenance contractor and the prospective tenant this week to agree the levels of work and how that would be effected. The resolution would then come back to full council on 29/6/2020 for a decision.

2021 13 RESOLVED; the various quotations for work would be held in abeyance while these discussions took place.

2021 14 RESOLVED; the solicitor who has been ready to act on the lease agreement for the last two years will be asked to complete the lease.

2021 15 Report on Honley Library.

The two Library representatives described efforts carrying on improving links in the community . They have a 'pen pals' project for elderly people. They had an encouraging meeting with the Library Service recently where there was agreement in principle to move the computers to the far end of the room, so making the whole space more flexible for other hirers The library remains closed due to the Covid -19 restrictions and one councillor reported that it was likely to remains so into the New Year.

However, the Kirklees Council are still continuing with the process of asset transfers and have reported that the Honley Library should be going committee soon. The representatives were disappointed that one Kirklees representative had expressed some doubt that the Council would wish to proceed with the transfer given the Covid -19 issues. The Councillors and representatives expressed their wish to proceed and reiterated the point that the library is an important community resource and not just a library.

The representatives thanked the council for their continuing support . The committee expressed their thanks to the Library representatives for their stalwart work towards the transfer and their other work within the community.

2021 16 RESOLVED; that a formal letter would be written form the Council to Kirklees Council reiterating their determination to take the library on as a transferred asset and saying that they wished this to happen as soon as possible.

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- 2021 17** **RESOLVED;** the legal work in completing any lease involved with the Honley Library could remain with the solicitor already requested to carry this out previously. The Financial regulations allow the council to avoid getting three estimates for this work if it involves a person previously contracted. It was also acknowledged that a realistic estimate of the cost is virtually impossible in such a situation where the amount of work is only known as the case progresses. It was thought there would be advantages in using a solicitor who is already familiar with the council's situation. Further **RESOLVED** to seek advice from a local council who has taken on responsibility for a library.
- 2021 18** **RESOLVED;** the committee will request that the monies remaining in the CASC budget last year, which have since been moved to general reserves, should be vired back into the CASC budget. Two of the grants on the agenda today were submitted last year but they were not decided upon due to the Covid-19 crisis. This would be a virement of £ 9,500.
- RESOLVED;** to accept Councillor Hogley's proposed letter and outline application form, inviting any community groups to register their capital expenditure needs for the rest of the year and into next year, so that the committee can decide on priorities and seek other resources to meet the needs it is minded to support.
- 2021 19** **Grant Application from Holmfirth Bowling Club for £7,500 for refurbishment of the toilet block.**
- RESOLVED;** to make a grant of £5,000 (pending the virement from reserves as in 2021 18 is successful at Full Council on 29/6/2020) (and pending confirmation that the differential membership fees for men and women at the club did not represent any discrimination). This grant will be under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, section 19, 'Recreational Facilities' .
- 2021 20** **Grant Application from Wooldale Community Association for £2,000 toward resurfacing the children's playground.**
- RESOLVED;** to make a grant of £2,000 (with the proviso above). Clerk to ensure a quote for the work has been submitted. This grant will be made under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, section 19, 'Recreational Facilities' .
- 2021 21** **Grant application from Upperthong Village Hall for £14,496 toward refurbishment of the hall.**
- RESOLVED;** to make a grant of £5,000 (with the proviso above). This grant will be made under the Local Government Act ,1972, Section 133, 'Provision of Parish and Community Buildings'
- 2021 22** **Grant application from River Holme Connections for £4,994 towards the completion of a riverside path at Thongsbridge.**
- RESOLVED;** to make a grant of £5,000 but to reserve payment until all the monies being sought for the project have been pledged. This grant will be made under the Highways Act 1980, section 43 .
- 2021 23** **Grant application from Brockholes Village Hall for £2,000 to create a fence around the new boules court.**
- RESOLVED;** to make a grant of £2,000 with the proviso of added funds as above). This grant will be made under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, section 19 , ' Recreational Facilities' .

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2021 24 Grant application from Holmbridge Cricket Club for £8,628 toward the completion of an accessible path and associated lighting for path at Holmbridge Cricket Club.

RESOLVED; to make a grant for £5,000 (with the proviso above). This grant will be made under the Local Government (Miscellaneous provisions) Act, 1976, Section 19 'Recreational Facilities'.

2021 25 **NOTED;** a payment of £2,600 for the installation of a drinking fountain outside the Public Toilets was agreed at the Climate Emergency Committee on 08/06/2020

2021 26 **Holmfirth Tech Ltd**

NOTED; The Holmfirth Tech had been successful in securing the ownership of the Tech building. It is now owned by the Community Interest Company for the use of the community. The £25,000 given as a grant from HVPC will not therefore be returned

RESOLVED; that a formal letter be written to the Tech congratulating them and thanking them for supporting the Covid Mutual Aid work over recent months.

Close of meeting; 21:30 PM

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Chairman