

**HOLT PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN HOLT VILLAGE HALL  
AT 7.30 p.m. ON THURSDAY 21 MARCH 2024 IN HOLT VILLAGE HALL.**

**Present :- D. Pugh (Chairman), S. Williams, C. Adams, J. Hill, M. Taylor, C. Lightfoot (Clerk).**

**In Attendance:- District Councillor Mr D. Clarke.**

**Absent:- J. Harper, County Councillor S. Richardson-Brown.**

<b>1.</b>	<p><b><u>Public Question Time.</u></b> There were no members of the public present and therefore no questions.</p>	
<b>2.</b>	<p><b><u>To consider apologies and approve reasons for absence.</u></b>  The Clerk reported that apologies had been received from Parish Councillor Mr J. Harper and County Councillor Mr S. Richardson-Brown. Parish Council approved the reason for absence.</p>	
<b>3.</b>	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interest.</u></b>  <b>a) Register of Interests.</b> There had been no changes to the Register of Interests.  <b>b) Registration of Personal Interests.</b> Parish Councillor Mrs C. Adams registered an interest in planning application M/24/00263/HP Grove Cottage.  <b>c) Registration of Prejudicial Interests.</b> There was no registration of Prejudicial Interests.  <b>d) Written requests for the Council to grant a dispensation.</b> There had been no written requests for dispensation.</p>	
<b>4.</b>	<p><b><u>Minutes.</u></b>  The minutes of the Meeting of Holt Parish Council held on 15 February 2024 were reviewed by Parish Council. Parish Councillor Mr S. Williams proposed that the minutes were approved by Parish Council as a true record of the Meeting. This was seconded by Parish Councillor Mrs M. Taylor and unanimously agreed Parish Council. The Chairman signed the minutes.</p>	
<b>5.</b>	<p><b><u>County and District Councillor reports for information.</u></b>  In the absence of County Councillor Mr S. Richardson-Brown no matters of note had been reported.  District Councillor Mr D. Clarke reported the following matters of note:-  a) Planning issues. Sinton Green Solar Farm. This planning application has been turned down. M/23/01713/OUT Cornerways, School Lane, Holt Heath, This has been refused.  b) West Worcester Beacon Group of Churches. The Chairman and District Councillor Mr D. Clarke reported back from the Community Conversations Meeting they had attended with The West Worcester Beacon Group of Churches.</p>	
<b>6.</b>	<p><b><u>Co-option to fill current vacancy on Parish Council.</u></b>  The Clerk reported that an application had been received from Mr Bill Currall for the vacancy advertised on the Parish Council. Unfortunately, Mr Currall was unable to attend the meeting due to medical reasons. Parish Council agreed the co-option of Mr Currall in principle and agreed to timetable the motion for the next meeting of Parish Council to be held on 18 April 2024.</p>	<b>CL</b>

7.	<p><b><u>Progress reports for information.</u></b></p> <p>a) Village VAS – The Clerk reported that a grant of £1000.00 had been awarded by the PCC towards the cost of the proposed VAS opposite Broomfields. The Clerk reported that she had accepted the grant in principle. Parish Council approved the purchase of the VAS and the Clerk was asked to order a VAS featuring a slowdown warning. Parish Councillor Mr S. Williams agreed to contract Tanya Crake of Worcester Highways in relation to the installation of the VAS as it is outside the 30mph so the Lengthsman will not have the required insurance cover to carry out this task.</p> <p>b) Highways issues – investigation of concerns of speed limits on Ockeridge Lane. The Clerk reported that she had updated the residents saying that although we are still awaiting on a Highways assessment it is unlikely the speed limit will be reduced from the national speed limit on the main road. There is a possibility that alterations may be approved to the junction between Ockeridge Lane and A443 to slow down vehicles turning onto Ockeridge Lane but no decisions will be taken on this until the Highways assessment has been completed.</p> <p>c) Hedging– update on progress to cut back overhanging hedging throughout the village. Top Cut had offered to trim the hedging opposite the village hall for a cost of £75.00 but unfortunately approval had not been received from Parish Council in time for this to be carried out prior to bird nesting season. Parish Councillor Mrs C. Adams raised that the hedge would continue to grow throughout the summer and would need trimming back later in the year as it would be overhanging the road and obscuring road signs. Parish Council agreed that the Clerk should write to the residents concerned and ask whether they would like Parish Council to get some quotes to cut back the hedge in the autumn after bird nesting season.</p> <p>d) Refuse – update on dumped refuse, litter and advertising signs around the village. Issues regarding dumped refuse are still ongoing outside 1 The Heath. Parish Councillor Mr S. Williams reported that he had been in touch with Platform Housing and they are monitoring the situation. The Chairman reported that a litter pick had taken place around the village and he thanked the individuals involved. He also reported that he had personally thanked Parishioners in the Parish magazine who undertake regular litter picking around the Parish. All the unauthorised signs in the village have been removed. The Clerk was asked to book Simon Fletcher of Fletcher Access to clean the village signs and gates.</p>	<p>CL</p> <p>SW</p> <p>CL</p> <p>CL</p>
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8.	<p><b><u>Finance.</u></b></p> <p>a) To note the current bank balances. It was reported that the current account bank balance currently stood at £2,428.39 and the deposit account at £10,718.03.</p> <p>b) To consider payments retrospectively. The following payments were approved by two members of Parish Council and made by bank transfer. These were agreed retrospectively by Parish Council.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Date</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Description</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>07 March 2024</td> <td>Bank charges</td> <td style="text-align: right;">8.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13 March 2024</td> <td>Bank transfer</td> <td style="text-align: right;">168.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21-Mar-24</td> <td>Bank transfer</td> <td style="text-align: right;">400.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21-Mar-24</td> <td>Bank transfer</td> <td style="text-align: right;">63.98</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>c) To review the payments against the budget. Parish Council reviewed the payments against the budget and no issues were raised. The Clerk reported that the audit pack had been received and she would be producing the year end accounts at the end of March.</p>	Date	Description	Amount	07 March 2024	Bank charges	8.00	13 March 2024	Bank transfer	168.00	21-Mar-24	Bank transfer	400.00	21-Mar-24	Bank transfer	63.98	
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9.	<p><b><u>Planning.</u></b></p> <p>a) <b>Applications Pending.</b> To review the recommendations of Parish Council on current applications.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Application No.</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Location</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Details</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Decision status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b><u>M/24/00239/FUL</u></b></td> <td>Former Ball Mill Quarry, Main Road, Hallow, WR2 6LU</td> <td>Part retrospective application for agricultural and educational facility buildings providing storage, animal housing and</td> <td>Pending Decision <b>Recommend Approval</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Application No.	Location	Details	Decision status	<b><u>M/24/00239/FUL</u></b>	Former Ball Mill Quarry, Main Road, Hallow, WR2 6LU	Part retrospective application for agricultural and educational facility buildings providing storage, animal housing and	Pending Decision <b>Recommend Approval</b>	
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		teaching spaces. (Variation of condition 2 Ref: 21/02004/FUL)	
<u>M/24/00263/HP</u>	Grove Cottage Holt Heath Worcester WR6 6LZ	Proposed single storey extension	Pending Decision <b>Recommend Approval</b>
<u>M/24/00107/HP</u> <u>M/24/00108/LB</u>	Holt Brook Barn 3 Naunton Farm Barns Holt Heath WR6 6NG	Conversion of roof space to home office, w.c. and shower and installation of 2 no. conservation style roof lights	Pending Decision <b>Recommend Approval</b>
<u>M/23/00341/FUL</u>	Red Lion Witley Road Holt Heath Worcester WR6 6LX	Erection of 2 dwellings	Pending Decision due to submission of amended plans <b>Recommend Approval</b>
<u>M23/01293/RM</u>	Cherry Tree Cottage Holt Heath WR6 6NB	Reserved Matters following outline approval ref. M/22/01604/OUT for one dwelling for appearance. Landscaping. Layout and scale	Pending Decision <b>Recommend Approval following amendments to application.</b>
<u>M/23/01131/FUL</u>	Thatch Lodge Hott Heath	Erection of two detached dwellings following the demolition of existing dwelling	Pending Decision <b>Recommend Approval</b>
<u>M/23/01757/FUL</u>	Elm Cottage Holt Heath WR6 6NG	Erection of 2no Solar trackers in field to the south of the property	Pending Decision <b>Recommend Approval</b>

Parish Council discussed application M/23/00341/FUL Red Lion. A motion was raised that Parish Council should write to MHDC to say that since Parish Council recommended approval of the application the situation has changed and the Red Lion is being reopened as a public house. Following discussions it was recommended that the Parish Council write to the MHDC and express that they now had concerns over their previous recommendation of approval as the Red Lion is being opened as a public house.

It was noted that all the concerns raised on application M/23/01131/FUL Thatch Lodge had been addressed by the applicant.

**b) Approvals/Refusals.**

<u>M/23/00977/HP</u>	The Farmhouse Top Barn Farm Worcester Road WR6 6NH	Renovation of existing 2 storey farmhouse including demolition and replacement of existing side and rear extensions and demolition of existing outbuildings to be replaced with 2 storey annexe.	Application approved
<u>M/24/0081/HP</u>	12 Cherry Orchard Holt Heath	Demolish existing single story extension	Application approved.

CL

	WR6 6ND	and replace with new tow and single storey side and rear extension, along with partial demolition and rebuilding of existing garage to accommodate new oil tank.	
<u>M/23/01713/OUT</u>	Cornerways, School Lane, Holt Heath, WR6 6NF.	Demolition of existing bungalow to be replaced with 3 no. dwellings (all matters reserved).	Application refused.
<u>M/23/01710/HP</u>	Elm Hurst Farm, Witley Road, Holt Heath, WR6 6LX	Erection of 2 storey side extension to the south elevation following demolition of existing southern wing.	Application approved.

It was noted that development of M/23/00977/HP The Farmhouse, Top Barn has been delayed due to bats in the roof.

Application M/23/01713/OUT Cornerways had been refused on several issues including overdevelopment of the site, highways concerns, drainage concerns and impact on neighbouring properties.

**c) Other Planning Issues.**

District Councillor Mr D. Clarke reported that MHDC would be delivering training courses later in the year for Parish Councillors on planning.

<b>10.</b>	<b><u>Correspondence for information.</u></b>  a) Portrait of King Charles The Clerk reported that she was in the process of registering to receive a portrait of King Charles. d) Parish and Town Council Conference. Parish Councillor Mr S. Williams offered to attend this on behalf of Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to book him a place. e) Closure of Shrawley Road. The Chairman highlighted that a closure of Shrawley Road would take place from 2-5 April 2024 to address the drainage issues.	<b>CL</b>  <b>CL</b>
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<b>11.</b>	<b><u>Clerk's report on urgent decisions since the last meeting.</u></b>  The Clerk reported that there were no matters to note.	
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<b>12.</b>	<b><u>Councillor's reports and items for future agendas.</u></b> a) Parking. Parish Councillor Mr S. Williams reported that a number of complaints had been received in relation to people parking on the pavements on The Heath and also outside the Post Office. It was reported that whilst there is a necessity to park partially on the pavement to allow access for emergency vehicles some people were being inconsiderate by leaving no pavement space for pedestrians. It was agreed that communication should be put on the Parish website, Millennium Green Facebook page and Parish magazine highlighting the problem and asking people to park considerately. b) Criminal damage. There have been a number of incidents of criminal damage reported in the village including break ins of garages and a damaged gate in the play area on The Millennium Green. The Clerk highlighted the importance of reporting all incidences to the police so that they have a record. The Clerk was asked to contact SNT at Tenbury and report that there have been several incidents and residents were concerned. It was further decided that parishioners would be asked to be vigilant in the Parish and this should be copied onto the Parish website, The Millennium Green Facebook page and Parish magazine. b) Millennium Green. Parish Councillor Mrs J. Hill asked for financial help from Parish Council to plant bulbs on the Millennium Green. A discussion took place and Parish Council agreed in principle to support the Millennium Green. The issue was raised that a tree survey needed to be carried out on the Millennium Green before any new planting took place. It was agreed that a tree surgeon would be booked to carry out an assessment	<b>SW</b>  <b>DP</b> <b>CL</b>
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	<p>on the Millennium Green. Following the outcome of this a further discussion would take place of the financial contribution Parish Council would make to works to be carried out. The Clerk was asked to timetable this for the next meeting of Parish Council.</p> <p>c) First Aid course.</p> <p>Parish Councillor Mrs C. Adams asked for the arrangement of first aid training on the use of defibrillator to be scheduled for the next meeting.</p>	<p><b>CL</b></p>
<p><b>13.</b></p>	<p><b><u>Date of Next Meeting.</u></b></p> <p>The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 18 April 2024. District Councillor Mr D. Clarke gave his apologies for the next meeting due to planning commitment at MHDC.</p>	