

**HOLT PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN HOLT VILLAGE HALL
AT 7.30 p.m. ON THURSDAY 16 JANUARY 2025 IN HOLT VILLAGE HALL.**

Present :- S. Williams (Chairman), B. Curral, J. Harper, C. Adams, C. Lightfoot (Clerk).

In Attendance:- District Councillor Mr D. Clarke.

Absent:- J. Hill, M. Taylor and County Councillor S. Richardson-Brown.

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| 1. | <p><u>Public Question Time.</u> There were no members of the public present, so there were no issues raised</p> | |
| 2. | <p><u>To consider apologies and approve reasons for absence.</u> Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Joanne Hill and Michelle Taylor and County Councillor Mr S. Richardson-Brown. These were accepted and the reasons for absence approved.</p> | |
| 3. | <p><u>Declarations of Interest.</u> a) Register of Interests. There were no changes to the Register of Interests. b) Registration of Personal Interests. c) Registration of Prejudicial Interests. d) Written requests for the Council to grant a dispensation. There were no issues on the agenda that required any declarations of interest.</p> | |
| 4. | <p><u>Minutes.</u> The minutes of the meeting of the 21 November 2024 were approved as a true record of the meeting. These were proposed by Parish Council Mr B. Curral and seconded by Parish Councillor Mr J. Harper.</p> | |
| 5. | <p><u>County and District Councillor reports for information.</u> Report from District Councillor Mr Dean Clarke: District Councillor Mr D Clarke gave a summary of the proposals for the devolution of the Councils.</p> | |
| 6. | <p><u>Progress reports for information.</u> a) Footpath clearance – Footpaths that have identified that need widening. - School Lane. - A4133 from mini roundabout to Holt Fleet Bridge. District Councillor Mr D. Clarke suggested that the Clerk contact County Councillor Mr S. Richardson-Brown to see whether these could be included in the current schedule of works. b) Cultivation of wildflower area – progress report. The Clerk reported that the area had been strimmed. Following a discussion the Council made the decision to purchase the Cotswold wild flora mixture with grasses for a cost of £56.18. Parish Councillor Mr J. Harper offered to take over the maintenance of the site and the Clerk agreed to contact Mr Tim Brookes in relation to this. The Clerk was further asked to approach Broomfields to ask whether they would be interested in sponsoring the site. c) Drainage at Red Lion junction – update. Parish Councillor Mr S. Williams reported on issues at Red Lion junction. County Highways have not responded to any reports of concern. The Clerk reported that she had contacted Mr Robert Sherrey re Lambourne Orchard. There is no further action Parish Council can take in relation to the drainage problems experienced as the road is unadopted and therefore the maintenance of the drain is the responsibility of the residents. d) Village gate and sign cleaning – update. We are still awaiting a quote from Droitwich for the work. The Clerk said she would chase this. e) Co-option of vacancy on Parish Council – update. The vacancy has been readvertised with a closing date of just prior to the March meeting of Parish Council. The vacancy has been advertised on Parish noticeboards, website, social media and in the Parish magazine.</p> | <p>CL</p> <p>CL</p> <p>CL</p> |

f) Diary dates for 2025 community events – update.
 The Clerk reported that there is now a central calendar for community events to avoid the clashes that occurred last year. The Clerk was asked to submit the following dates to the administrator.
 7 June summer fayre and 7 Dec carols for candlelight.
 The Clerk was further asked to book the Salvation Army and Droitwich Lions Father Christmas for the carols by candlelight.

g) Uneven footpath by The Heath.
 Parish Councillor Mr S. Williams reported that Platform had been photographing the footpaths on The Heath but there was no indication whether this was going to result in any work being carried out to improve the footpaths on the estate. Currently they have said that the uneven footpath that has been reported does not belong to them and Highways have also said that it does not belong to them. Parish Council were unsure what further action they could take.

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8. Finance.

a) To note the current bank balances.
 It was noted that the bank balances were as follows £1786.03 (current account) and £17 767.54 (deposit account).

b) To consider payments retrospectively.
 The following payments were approved retrospectively by Parish Council.

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| 24 November 2024 | Bank transfer | Holt PCC (Christmas banner contribution) | 100.00 |
| 24 Novmeber 2024 | Bank transfer | Mr P Winney (Christmas tree lights) | 164.11 |
| 06 December 2024 | Bank charges | | 8.00 |
| 22 December 2024 | Bank transfer | Top Cut (Oct 2024) | 168.00 |
| 22 December 2024 | Bank transfer | Droitwich Lions (Father Christmas) | 200.00 |
| 22 December 2024 | Bank transfer | Salvation Army (Christmas) | 200.00 |
| 22 December 2024 | Bank transfer | Mrs C Lightfoot (Clerks salary) | 400.00 |
| 05 January 2025 | Bank transfer | Top Cut (Nov 2024) | 168.00 |
| 05 January 2025 | Bank transfer | CALC training invoice (law course) | 42.00 |
| 05 January 2025 | Bank charges | | 8.00 |

c) To review the current spend against budget.
 Parish Council reviewed the current spend and there were no matters of note.

d) Report on the 2025/26 Precept.
 The Clerk reported that she had received an email approving the precept submitted for 2025/26.

9. Planning

a) **Applications Pending and Approvals/Refusals.**
 To review the recommendations of Parish Council on current applications:

| Application No. | Location | Details | Decision status |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| <u>M/24/0162/CU</u> | Ball Mill Bungalow Main Road Hallow WR2 6LS | Change of use to operation base for salt gritting and ground maintenance storage company. | Pending Decision (Recommend Approval) |
| <u>M/23/01131/FUL</u> | Thatch Lodge Holt Heath | Erection of two detached dwellings following demolition of existing dwelling | Pending Decision (Recommend Approval) |
| <u>M/24/01521/FUL</u> <u>M/24/01522/LB</u> | Naunton Farm Holt Heath Worcester WR6 6NG | Extensions and subdivision of dwelling to provide two residential units | Pending Decision (Recommend Approval) |

Following a discussion Parish Council agreed to approve application M/24/0162/CU with suggested conditions limiting the size of lorries at the site and storage of salt to avoid ground contamination.
 It was reported that application M/23/01131/FUL has now been approved.

b) **Approvals/Refusals.**

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| <u>M/24/00957/LB</u> | The Granary | Replacement of existing patio sliding | Application approved |
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| | | 2 Naunton Farm Barns Holt Heath WR6 6NG | doors, installation of new window, installation of handrail to existing external steps and canopy above door, installation of brick low level wall to front of property and alternations to internal layout (part retrospective) | | | |
| | <u>M/24/01548/HP</u> | The Old Farmhouse Farm Lane Holt Heath WR6 6NQ | Detached garage and car port | Application approved | | |
| | <p>c) Other Planning Issues. Appeal APP/J1860/W/24/3352203 Cornerways, Holt Heath, WR6 6NF. Demolition of bungalow and replacement with 3 dwellings. There has been no further reports on this appeal.</p> | | | | | |
| 10. | <p><u>Correspondence for information.</u></p> <p>All correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting and it was reported that there were no matters to note.</p> | | | | | |
| 11. | <p><u>Clerk's report on urgent decisions since the last meeting.</u></p> <p>a) Christmas tree and lights. The Clerk reported on correspondence she had received from Mr P. Winney in relation to the Christmas tree at Red Lion junction. Due to the high winds the lights were damaged and it was necessary to purchase new lights. An invoice for £88.05 was approved by Parish Council. It was further reported that the Christmas tree was not growing well so Parish Councillor Mr J. Harper had agreed to plant another Christmas tree behind the current one so it would replace it in years to come.</p> <p>b) Parish Council paperwork. Parish Councillor Mr S. Williams reported that he and the Clerk had sorted through most of the paperwork in the Village Hall and it had been disposed of through confidential shredding. He had purchased some additional shredding bags to complete the job. Parish Council approved a payment of £67.90 to Parish Councillor Mr S. Williams for mileage and purchase of additional shredding bags.</p> | | | | | CL |
| 12. | <p><u>Councillor's reports and items for future agendas.</u></p> <p>a) Telephone box. Parish Councillor Mrs C. Adams reported that whilst the electrics have been fixed the phone box does require a bit of a refurbishment in terms of painting and sealing the roof. The Clerk agreed to research who had carried out the work when it was originally refurbished.</p> <p>b) Barriers by Woodbury Park. The Clerk reported that Parish Councillor Mrs. J. Hill had reported that the barriers at the entrance to Woodbury Park required painting. The Clerk agreed to research who could undertake this work.</p> | | | | | CL CL |
| 13. | <p><u>Date of Next Meeting.</u></p> <p>The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 20 February 2025.</p> | | | | | |