

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2016 AT 7.30 PM IN  
THE READING ROOMS, HOLBETON**

Members in Attendance:  
Cllr J Sherrell (Chairman)  
Cllr J Fuller (Vice-Chairman)  
Cllr C Ackroyd  
Cllr D Knight  
Cllr J Pengelly  
Cllr M Reece  
Cllr H Baumer  
Cllr T Craig  
Cllr C Flower

Apologies:  
Cllr P Hearn  
D Cllr K Baldry  
D Cllr I Blackler

Other Attendees

C Cllr R Hosking  
John Herman Parish Clerk  
Police Representative  
Mrs M Battershill  
Mrs J Sherrell

The Chairman introduced Lesley Smith, Manager/County Secretary of the National Association of Local Councils; she had been invited to provide some advice to the Parish Councillors about Code of Conduct issues.

Lesley Smith stated that the Code of Conduct causes Parish Councils the most concern. Codes of Conduct change and are updated in line with Government legislation. The Code of Conduct can provide for members who have an interest, say membership of the Village Hall Committee, to take part in the debate but not vote. She added that Councillors with an interest may be aware of additional information and facts which would assist in the consideration of certain issues, so it can be helpful to the council to permit that Councillor to participate in discussion. If a Councillor has a personal interest they can seek dispensation, as provided for in the Standing Orders. A Council can grant dispensation to permit a Councillor can speak and vote. This would depend on the details of your Code of Conduct and Standing Orders.

The Standing Orders must be adhered to. If a Parish Councillor has a pecuniary interest then they must leave the room before any debate takes place. Cllr Baumer said he would feel uncomfortable on certain items, such as the proposed Village Hall, but would have no concerns on other planning applications. The question is what best serves the public interest. On that basis it is up to the Council to decide whether the Councillor can participate. Cllr Baumer said that it was very important to declare an interest. Lesley Smith added that it is not necessary to declare what that interest is, but the Councillor must leave the room. **Others precluded are, close relations and friends.** She concluded by saying that Councillors should always err on the side of caution and think about public perception.

The Chairman thanked Ms Smith for her contribution and she left the meeting.

**ITEM 1 – POLICE MATTERS**

17/16 PCSO Andy Potter reported that there had been no reported crime during the previous month.

**ITEM 2 – REPORTS FROM COUNTY, DISTRICT AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES**

18/16 Cllr Hosking requested items for the TAP fund. The Chairman produced the following requests:-

Pre-School Outdoor Equipment and Visual Aids  
New bench for play park  
Bike Track Refuse bin with lid  
A sum of £150 towards the new sign for Ford

Regarding the DCC budget, Cllr Hosking reported that for 2016/17 the net reduction had been agreed at £28,000,000 following lobbying by MPs (it was originally £35,000,000). There will be a cut to the finance of the Lollipop service with redundancies (92 out of a total of 320).

With regard to devolution, plans are to create 163,000 new jobs and 170,000 homes built to increase productivity, with an emphasis on infrastructure and housing. A business hub will be established.

As far as High Speed Broadband is concerned, there will be an annual meeting on 10.05.16. Phase 2 tender will be rolled out but there will be a new voucher scheme to take advantage of the new technology.

### **ITEM 3 - MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

19/16 The minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2015 were agreed . Proposed Cllr Ackroyd seconded Cllr Pengelly.

### **ITEM 4 – MATTERS ARISING**

- 20/16 4.1 Standing Orders. Cllr Fuller reported that regretfully this item would have to be carried forward. Cllr Baumer requested that the Clerk produce half yearly income and expenditure returns. The Clerk was asked to obtain a word copy of the SH Code of Conduct, which the council could then easily amend to suit our needs.
- 4.2 Invest in Devon and Locality Grants DCC. The Chairman requested suggestions for the next meeting. Cllr Baumer said that the Pre-School had already put in motion the purchase of outdoor play equipment but any additional funds would be welcome.
- 4.3 Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Craig reported that two places had been booked on the Roadshow on 18 May..
- 4.4 Production of Parish Website and broadband at Reading Rooms. Cllr Knight said that this item would have to be carried forward however she had emailed Pete Stevens who maintains the school website, to see if he could assist. The Chairman said he would look at a page for the transparency code.
- 4.5 New Defibrillator at Battsborough Cross – Electricity Supply Cllr Craig reported that the cost of putting in an electricity supply in the telephone box is prohibitively high ( approx. £4,000). The possibility of using an existing supply was discussed. The Chairman had spoken to the owner of a building at Battsborough Cross who said he would be happy to speak to his tenant about this. Item carried forward.
- 4.6 State of the Parish roads and Ford road signs. Cllr Knight reported that all new works will be delayed until after the start of the new financial year. She said she was continuing to report potholes; the situation at Brent Hill was now very bad. There were still problems with the drain at Gibb and the railings had been damaged yet again at Vicarage Hill. The new sign for Ford will be ordered in the new financial year.
- 4.7 Flete Estate planning application. Item carried forward.

### **ITEM 5 – CORRESPONDENCE**

- 21/16 5.1 Lloyds Bank “Moving to our Treasurers’ Account”. The Clerk outlined the slight changes with the proposed account.
- 5.2 Tower Mint – HM Queen Elizabeth II 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, commemorative medal offer. The Clerk outlined the details of this offer which was specifically designed for schools and Councils. It was decided in view of the low pupil numbers currently at the school, not to take up this offer.

### **ITEM 6 – PLANNING MATTER**

- 22/16 6.1 Bugle Rocks, Battsborough Cross, PL8 1JX – Householder application for construction of garage. No objection but agreed that the Clerk should request an extension of time for the consultation.
- 6.2 Baytree Cottage, Church Hill, Holbeton, PL8 1LN – householder application for extension to rear of existing dwelling. Objection because of the scale of the proposed development in relation to other cottages in that terrace. Also it would block light to other properties and is out of character.
- 6.3 Apartment 2, Flete House, road from Sequers Bridge Lodge to Flete Mill Cottage, Flete, Devon PL21 9NZ – installation of one partitioning wall in one bedroom to create two bedrooms. No comment.

### **ITEM 7 - FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- 23/16 7.1 Hire of Village Hall for AGM - £20
- 7.2 SWW – water rates for allotments - £9.98
- 7.3 Society of Local Council Clerks – Regional Roadshow 2016, Saltash - £69.00 + VAT £13.80 total £82.80. VAT No. 891 7527 83.
- 7.4 Flete Estate – supply of one Christmas Tree - £40
- 7.5 British Gas – Electricity for the Reading Rooms - £73.25 + VAT £3.66 – total £76.91 – VAT No. 684 9667 62.
- 7.6 Bank balance as at 19<sup>th</sup> February 2016 - £7928.23
- 7.7 Cheque received from G A Hay for road sign to Ford - £50
- 7.8 SHDC – Play area replacement cradle seat - £180.00 + VAT £36.00 total £216.00. VAT No. 142 2041 25.
- 7.9 Plymstock Computing – repairs to Reading Rooms computer - £39.16 + VAT £7.83 – total £46.99.
- All the above payments agreed, proposed Cllr Flower, seconded Cllr Knight.

### **ITEM 8 – OPEN FORUM**

- 24/16 8.1 Cllr Fuller reported Mike Rawlings had enquired as to whether he should start the grass cutting in the playpark again. This was agreed. He should also be asked to trim the hedge. The allotment hedge needed to be trimmed.
- 8.2 Cllr Ackroyd reported that with regard to the flooding situation, a Flood Warden could be appointed which would then enable us to apply for up to £2000 in funding. Agreed that an article in Holbeton News asking for a volunteer for this role.

8.3 Cllr Knight had received complaints of dog poo in the Ford area over the last four months. An article will be placed in Holbeton News reminding people that owners are responsible even when their dogs are unaccompanied and can be fined up to a £1000.

8.4 Cllr Knight reported that the proprietors of the Ivy Barn required permission to enter the Reading Rooms back yard to clear brambles etc. This was agreed.

8.5 Cllr Flower reported that he had been to the recent school meeting where parents and community members were given information about the possibility of joining a Multi Academy Trust, headed up by Ivybridge Community College.

8.6 Cllr Baumer reported that he had placed an article in the Holbeton News regarding warning about 'scams'. Zoe Purkis is standing down from the Holbeton News. It was agreed that a thank you should be put in the next edition.

8.7 Cllr Reece said that Mike Rawlings was about to life the surface of the corner of the Village Hall car park as currently large puddles make entry to thr pre-school difficult.

#### **ITEM 9 – CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

**MEETING CLOSED 9.20 pm**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Reading Rooms.**

Cllr J Sherrell, Chairman