

Holme Valley Parish Council

DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY 11th OCTOBER 2021 at 7PM
HADE EDGE BAND ROOM

PRESENT: Cllr Pogson (Chairman), Cllr K Bellamy, Cllr T Bellamy, Cllr Blacka, Cllr Brook, Cllr Bustard, Cllr Carré, Cllr Colling, Cllr Dalton, Cllr Davies, Cllr TW Dixon, Cllr East, Cllr Gould, Cllr Greaves, Cllr Hogley, Cllr Lockley, Cllr Sheard, Cllr Wilson

OFFICERS: J McIntosh (Clerk); R McGill also present

Public Session

There was one member of the public present who chose not to speak and left during **item 2122 64**.

2122 41 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 amended by Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014.

The meeting was recorded in audio format for upload to the Parish Council's *YouTube* channel. No other requests to record the meeting were made.

2122 47 To observe a minute's silence to mark the passing of former Chairman Mrs Betty Mewies and Kirklees Officer Rob Dalby

A minute's silence was held to commemorate the recent passing of Mrs Betty Mewies (formerly known as Mrs E F Coombes JP) and Mr Rob Dalby, Kirklees Operational Manager for Parks and Green Spaces.

Mrs Mewies was Chairman of the **URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF HOLMFIRTH** for **1973-4**.

Rob was known to a number of councillors and officers through the various roles he held in his 23 years of working at Kirklees.

2122 48 To present 2019-20 Chairman's jewel

The Chairman presented Cllr Trevor Bellamy with his Chairman's Jewel in recognition of his service as Chairman of **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL 2019-20**.

2122 42 To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence

RESOLVED: to receive and approve apologies for absence from Cllr Sweeney, Cllr Firth, Cllr R P Dixon and Cllr Hall.

Cllr Roberts has a continuing approved dispensation for absence.

Cllr Greaves had notified that he would be arriving late.

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2122 43 To receive Councillors' and Officers' personal and disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda

NOTED: none received.

2122 44 To consider written requests for new DPI dispensations

NOTED: updated DPI had been received for Cllr Hogley, had been shared with Kirklees Monitoring Officer. Clerk to upload to **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** website.

2122 45 To consider whether any items on the agenda should be discussed in private session.

No requests were made for items to be discussed in private session.

2122 46 Minutes of Council & Committee meetings (Standing Order 5(ii) and (iii))

APPROVED: minutes of the **CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE** meeting held on **19/7/2021** numbered **2122 12 to 2122 25**

NOTED: minutes of the **PLANNING COMMITTEE** held on **26/7/21** numbered **2122 65 to 2122 79**

APPROVED: minutes of the **EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL** meeting held on **26/7/2021** numbered **2122 32 to 2122 39**

NOTED: minutes of the **PLANNING COMMITTEE** meeting held on **23/8/2021** numbered **2122 81 to 2122 98**

APPROVED: minutes of the **FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** meeting held on **6/9/2021** numbered **2122 34 to 2122 55**

APPROVED: minutes of the **PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE** meeting held on **13/9/2021** numbered **2122 17 to 2122 33** notwithstanding the addition to the minutes that Cllr T Bellamy is to be part of a Community Champions meeting.

APPROVED: minutes of the **SERVICE PROVISION COMMITTEE** meeting held on **20/9/21** numbered **2122 12 to 2122 29**

APPROVED: minutes of the **PLANNING COMMITTEE** meeting held on **27/9/21** numbered **2122 99 to 2122 116**

NOTED: that minutes of both Council and Standing Committee meetings will be a record of decisions made. Councillors may request particular individual contributions to be noted in minutes if they so wish.

Policy, Procedural & Administrative Matters

2122 49 To consider recommendation from **PLANNING COMMITTEE** for Cllr Sheard to be approved as a member of the **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

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RESOLVED: to approve the appointment of Cllr Sheard as a member of the **PLANNING COMMITTEE**.

2122 50 To consider recommendation from **FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** for Cllr Gould to be approved as a member of the **FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED: to approve the appointment of Cllr Gould as a member of the **FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**.

RESOLVED: to approve the appointment of Cllr K Bellamy as a member of the **PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**.

2122 51 To consider protocol regarding councillor attendances, absences and giving apologies - **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 s.85**

RESOLVED: to adopt the following (amended) protocol:

(1) Receipt of apologies and approval of reasons for absence shared in advance to be considered and recorded in minutes as a composite group whilst retaining the option of considering each individual apology where deemed necessary.

(2) Clerk to keep a dated record of events Councillors attend at behest of or on behalf of **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

2122 52 To consider establishing a standing item for all meetings – publicising work of **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

RESOLVED: officers to add an item to all Council and Committee agendas asking Members what events or news they wish to publicise via the press, **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** website and/or Facebook at that time.

Financial Matters

2122 53 To note receipt of and subsequent publication of the *External Audit and Certificate* and to consider length of time to be published on the Council website.

NOTED: the external audit and certificate had been received and uploaded to **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** website.

RESOLVED: to remain on website indefinitely and on Parish noticeboard until the end of October 2021.

2122 54 To note the schedule of payments for August and September 2021

NOTED: the schedule of payments for August and September 2021 as reported by the RFO.

2122 55 To approve the schedule of payments for October 2021

APPROVED: the schedule of payments for October 2021.

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NOTED: Cllr Dalton requested his view to be on record that the *Your Valley, Your Vote!* leaflets to be delivered to all households regarding the NDP referendum should have been seen by **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** before being published.

Cllr Greaves joined the meeting at 7.40pm.

2122 56 To consider virements recommended by the Finance and Management Committee

RFO reported that there had been some lag between monies being budgeted for in 2020-2021 regarding a variety of projects with delays in drawing down the funds requested due to Covid. When monies are not drawn down as planned they go back into General Reserves. The following virements arose due to grants/spending being approved for 2020-2021 budget but being drawn down from the 2021-2022 budget.

APPROVED: virement from general reserves to budget line '4310 Holmfirth Civic Hall – Projects' for payment made 13th July 2021 of £30,000 to Holmfirth Civic Hall towards new toilets and an office space development.

APPROVED: virement from general reserves to budget line '4310 Holmfirth Civic Hall – Projects' for £10,000 payment made 13th July 2021 to Holmfirth Civic Hall towards new fire doors.

APPROVED: virement from the earmarked reserve '333 EMR Holmfirth Tech' for payment made of £5,000 on 13th July 2021 to Holmfirth Tech towards new toilets.

APPROVED: virement from the '4405 Grants' budget line for £202.50 for Kirklees Council towards three replacement waste bins for Holmfirth.

NOTED: creation of a budget line for bins with **SERVICE PROVISION COMMITTEE** to have oversight.

2122 57 To approve the list of regular payments for 2021-2022

APPROVED: the list of regular payments for 2021-2022.

2122 58 To approve the list of regular payments 2022-2023

APPROVED: the list of regular payments planned for 2022-2023.

2122 59 To note factors affecting the pending Council Budget 2022-23

NOTED: In its budgetary calculations for Council Year 2022-23, the Parish Council will need to adjust its reserves to move towards the recommendation from the **Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance Practitioners' Guide March 2021** which states: '*Councils with an NRE [Net Revenue Expenditure] exceeding £200k are recommended to retain a 3-month general reserve*' - meaning 25% of annual expenditure. Holme Valley Parish Council's precept was £274,326 2021-22. Three months or 25% of that is £68,581.50. The Parish Council currently holds £187,274 in its general reserves. The Parish Council may move towards the recommendation by 1) increasing planned expenditure on projects in the year 2022-23 2) earmarking reserves for future projects 3) cutting the precept and charge to households.

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RFO requested to circulate the *Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance Practitioners' Guide March 2021* to all councillors.

2122 60 Proposal to earmark past Chairman's Allowance for Holme Moss Viewpoint Project

APPROVED: an annual budget of £1000 to be created going forwards as an earmarked reserve for unused Chairman's Expenses.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY: that the £935 left in Cllr Hogley's Chairman's Allowance (subsequently budgeted as Chairman's Expenses) at the end of her term of office in July 2021 be earmarked for a viewpoint display in the car park at the summit of Holme Moss in liaison with Peak District National Park, Yorkshire Water and Kirklees Council about the permissions required. Cllr Hogley to develop and bring forward plans for the above to a future meeting.

NOTED: Cllr Hogley was thanked for tabling the proposal.

Forthcoming Events

2122 61 To consider HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL representation at the laying of poppy wreaths and participation in Remembrance Services and Processions in the Holme Valley

The Council nominated representatives for each of the poppy laying ceremonies at the 8 war memorials sited in the Holme Valley, including the parades in Honley and New Mill as follows:

War Memorial	Further details	Cllr attending
Holmfirth	Holy Trinity Parish Church. Wreath is first laid in Church as part of service then taken to War Memorial. Flag flown at Holme Valley Memorial Hospital and floodlights on.	Cllr Pogson
Brockholes	Wreath laid at War Memorial followed by Service at Methodist Church.	Cllr Sheard
Hepworth	Service in Holy Trinity Church Hepworth then Act of Remembrance at Church Lych Gate	Cllr T Dixon
Holmbridge	Service at St David's Church followed by Wreath-laying Ceremony	Cllr T Bellamy Cllr K Bellamy
Honley	Service at St Mary the Virgin followed by Procession to War Memorial and Act of Remembrance/ wreath laying. Procession then reforms and goes back to village centre	Cllr Colling
Netherthong	Ceremony at War Memorial followed by Service in Church	Cllr Blacka
New Mill	Remembrance Service at Christ Church followed by Procession for Wreath-laying Act of Remembrance	Cllr Hall
Upperthong	Service at St John's Upperthong followed by Ceremony of Remembrance at the Lych Gate	Cllr Bustard

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The wreaths will still be laid should the public services not take place. Clerk to circulate further details of services in due course. It was established that it was custom and practice for the Chairman of **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** to attend the Holmfirth Remembrance Service.

Resolved: Clerk and RFO to arrange public display of the Holmfirth wreath prior to Remembrance Sunday.

Noted: Cllr Dalton requested that it be noted he was willing to take part in wreath-laying both in 2020 and 2021 but was prevented from doing so due to the sanctions in place pertaining to him.

Clerk to confirm details of Remembrance Services with attending Councillors and arrange for the collection of wreaths.

Correspondence

2122 62 To note letters and replies regarding the Yorkshire Motorsport Festival

Noted: a series of letters and replies received by **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** regarding the Yorkshire Motorsport Festival.

Noted: a verbal report was received from Cllr Hogley regarding a meeting held with festival organisers Ian and Lyn Jordan with Cllrs Hogley, Blacka and Sheard. This was an exploratory discussion with no firm proposals to take forward by either Yorkshire Motorsport or **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL**. Yorkshire Motorsport were floating an idea to establish and develop a community orchard during the remaining lifespan of the festival (4 years) as a goodwill gesture. Yorkshire Motorsport were seeking to work with the Council through the **CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE** to identify a possible location for the mooted orchard. Yorkshire Motorsport were also due to meet with councillors from Meltham Town Council.

2122 63 To consider a possible **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** contribution to the *Your Voice, your Holmfirth* consultation

Holmfirth is one of 4 small town centres in Kirklees due to have £1.5 million worth of investment to improve the look and feel of the centre area. This regeneration is due to be implemented in around 6 months' time. A consultation is taking place from 6th September to 15th October 2021 for individuals and organisations to give their views and ideas. A series of face-to-face conversations have been scheduled and publicised and there are opportunities to give feedback online and via printed questionnaire.

Noted: Councillors are encouraged to take part as individuals in the online survey.

2122 64 To consider Kirklees plans for Holme Valley play areas

Councillor Davies gave a verbal update on Kirklees Council costed 3 year plan for upgrading and refurbishing Kirklees-owned and operated recreational spaces within the Holme Valley. There are significant specific shortfalls in monies for each identified recreational area, escalating construction costs being a main factor in this. The ambition behind the refurbishment of the recreational spaces is to make a difference to end-users such as young people and parents of young children.

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NOTED: no proposal to allocate funds to this or to agree to support the project in principle could be brought forward at the meeting as none had been tabled through the agenda in advance.

RESOLVED: Cllr Davies to prepare a costed proposal for **FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** to consider at the meeting on **22nd November 2021**.

Summary of points raised during the discussion that may contribute to proposal development:

- i. The establishment and upkeep of recreational areas is a statutory obligation for Kirklees Council not **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL**.
- ii. **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** can choose to allocate funds to the development of recreational areas using Section 137.
- iii. There is precedent for **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** working with Kirklees to improve recreational spaces.
- iv. It was confirmed that Kirklees Council would be the body responsible for ongoing maintenance.
- v. Should **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** commit to work in partnership with Kirklees to implement the existing plan it ought to be clear whether or not the monies committed were *adding value* to the Kirklees proposals for the Holme Valley to establish *better* recreational areas than initially planned – or whether this was about making up a shortfall in funding -a shortfall that might mean aspects of the Kirklees 3 year plan would not be implemented.
- vi. The role played/monies provided by **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** would need to be visible and part of the plan: for example, plaques making clear what had been provided through **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** funding.
- vii. Any proposal needed to be specific regarding amounts and whether monies are to come from general reserves or to create earmarked reserves for succeeding years viring monies from general reserves.
- viii. Any proposal forthcoming would benefit from an accompanying timeline of developments/costs, specifying the *additionality* provided by **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** involvement.

The member of the public in attendance left during this item.

RESOLVED: to extend the meeting to 9.30pm so that the final item could be taken.

2122 65 Nuclear disarmament pledge

The Chairman read out the proposed pledge. Cllr Sheard read a prepared statement in favour of the pledge.

Cllr Brook left the meeting at 9.10pm.

Cllr Dalton left the meeting at 9.10pm.

The ensuing discussion encompassed a diverse range of views about whether or not **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** was the correct forum for a resolution about what might be viewed as a national rather than a local issue.

Resolved: that a recorded vote be taken on the following motion:

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Holme Valley Parish Council:

- a. Is deeply concerned about the grave threat that nuclear weapons pose to communities throughout the world, including ours. Any use of nuclear weapons, whether deliberate or accidental, would have catastrophic, far-reaching and long-lasting consequences for people and the environment.
- b. Firmly believes that our residents have the right to live in a world free from this threat.
- c. Recognises the necessity of creating a nuclear weapons free world.
- d. Consequently, declares its unequivocal support for the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, adopted by 122 nations in 2017, which entered international law on 22 January 2021. This prohibits the development, testing and use of nuclear weapons.
- e. Is disappointed that the United Kingdom government has refused to sign or ratify this landmark treaty.

This Council resolves to write to:

- (1) The United Kingdom government urging it to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, thereby joining the majority of countries opposed to nuclear weapons.
- (2) Local Members of Parliament urging them to press the UK Government to sign and ratify this Treaty.

The motion was carried with the votes of those present recorded as follows:

In favour: Cllr Blacka, Cllr Carre, Cllr Colling, Cllr Davies, Cllr T Dixon, Cllr East, Cllr Gould, Cllr Pogson, Cllr Sheard (9 votes)

Against: Cllr T Bellamy, Cllr Lockley, Cllr Wilson (3 votes)

Abstained: Cllr K Bellamy, Cllr Bustard, Cllr Greaves, Cllr Hogley

Cllr Sheard to draft the letter with the motion to be sent to the local MP and HM Government; Chairman to sign.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.