

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING STANDING COMMITTEE HELD IN HOLMFIRTH CIVIC HALL MONDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2022

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr M Blacka

Councillors: P Colling, T Dixon, R Hogley, S Sheard, A Wilson

Officer: Mr R McGill (Deputy Clerk)

Welcome

- Cllr Blacka welcomed Members to this meeting of the Planning Standing Committee.

Open Session at Planning

- No members of the public were present for the public session.

2122 181 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 amended by the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 on 6 August 2014

- Council meetings can now be recorded.
RESOLVED: The Officer was recording the meeting in video format for upload to the Parish Council's YouTube channel. No other people present wanted to record the meeting.

2122 182 To approve apologies for absence

- Cllr RP Dixon had tendered his apology.
RESOLVED: The reason for his apology was approved by the Committee.

2122 183 To receive Members' and Officers' disclosable personal and pecuniary interests in items on the agenda

- None were declared.

2122 184 To consider written requests for new DPI dispensations

- No written requests for new DPI dispensations had been received.

2122 185 To consider whether items on the agenda should be discussed in private session

- **RESOLVED:** Members decided that no items on the agenda should be discussed in private.

2122 186 To confirm the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- **RESOLVED:** The Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 10 January 2022, numbered 2122 153 – 2122 170 inclusive were approved.

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2122 187 Completed Planning Applications Lists

- **NOTED:** The Planning Committee noted List 2021/09 updated with the views of the Committee

2122 188 New Planning Applications – Kirklees Council

- Members considered new or amended applications received by Kirklees Council from 4 January 2022 to 1 February 2022 inclusive – List 2122/10.
RESOLVED: That the Standing Committee’s comments on the above applications be forwarded to Kirklees Council by the Deputy Clerk.

2122 189 Kirklees Council – Planning Officers’ Decisions

- **NOTED:** The Planning Standing Committee noted the list of Decision Notices issued by Kirklees Council for the period 4 January 2022 to 1 February 2022 inclusive

2122 190 Neighbourhood Planning

- **NOTED:** Members noted that the Parish Council had received three hardcopies of the “made” Holme Valley Neighbourhood Development Plan that can be accessed/loaned by Councillors or members of the public.
- The Committee considered a proposal to supply hard, paper copies of the Neighbourhood Development Plan to all Councillors.
RESOLVED: Members resolved that a hard, paper copy of the Holme Valley Neighbourhood Development Plan should be supplied to all Councillors as it is a foundation document underpinning the Council’s work. The Deputy Clerk would seek some quotations for the cost of printing 20+ copies.
RESOLVED: The copies for Members of the Parish Council would be accompanied by a covering note from the Committee Chair written with support of Committee Members.
RESOLVED: It was resolved that the Neighbourhood Development Plan should be further promoted. The Deputy Clerk would put notices on the noticeboard at The Civic and at Holmfirth toilets notifying the public of how to access the Neighbourhood Plan (via the internet, libraries, Parish Council office etc).
- The Committee suggested that the Parish Council should engage with Kirklees regarding development of a Streetscape Design Handbook.

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- Councillor Hogley gave a report on what she saw as the next stages for the plan. She expressed the hope that Committees would continue to implement and review action plans arising from their reflections on the Neighbourhood Plan. Further, Councillor Hogley reported that she would like to see some specific campaign targets arising from the Plan, - for example, the establishment of more 20mph zones in built-up areas in the Holme Valley.
RESOLVED: All Members of the Planning Committee to review the Parish Council actions in the context of the Neighbourhood Plan with a view to prioritising outcomes. This would be an ongoing agenda item.
- The Committee Chair raised the subject of the £1.5m that will be made available to Holmfirth from Kirklees Council's Small Centres Funding. Kirklees' 'Your Voice Your Holmfirth' consultation had had limited engagement from Holme Valley people. The Committee suggested that the Parish Council should plan to engage with Kirklees Council as to how this money might be spent.
RESOLVED: The Deputy Clerk would find out a timeframe for the funding.
RESOLVED: The Committee would, as above, review the Parish Council's actions with a view to defining key outcomes at the next meeting of this Committee to be shared with Kirklees Council so as to open a dialogue about the Small Centres Investment Funding.
- Members reflected on how to integrate ongoing learning opportunities on the policies from the Neighbourhood Plan into the agendas of this Committee so that the Committee is better able to respond to planning applications with direct reference to the Neighbourhood Plan.
- Members hoped that opportunities would arise to engage directly with developers on the hopes and expectations of the Parish Council and the people of the Holme Valley as laid out in the Neighbourhood Plan regarding local developments.
RESOLVED: The Committee Chair and Cllr Hogley as former Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group would separately contact members of the Kirklees Planning team for feedback on how Officers felt developers were engaging with the Neighbourhood Development Plan. Additionally, to inquire whether the Parish Council could be doing more to promote engagement.

2122 191 Peak District National Park Authority

- **NOTED:** Members noted that the government had published "Landscapes Review – National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty," its response to the Glover report. Members commented that it is fortunate that part of the Parish Council area falls within the Peak District National Park.
The Chair highlighted the report's hope to promote greater diversity of people using the national park and other local, rural landscapes.
Members would respond individually to the accompanying consultation with regard to the Glover report.

2122 192 Ongoing Highways campaigns

Concerns of local residents regarding speeding and noise pollution Woodhead Road Holmbridge to Holme

- The Deputy Clerk reported that, following repeated requests for updates on this campaign, with support from the Committee Chair, he had 31/01/2022 written a formal letter to Mark Scarr, who is now the interim Service Director Highways and Streetscene, copied to Colin Parr, Strategic Director Environment and Climate Change, about the very poor communication on this issue going back some months. A very brief response had been received but this had no relevance to the campaigns identified in the letter.
NOTED: Members noted the Deputy Clerk's report.
- Members considered further actions on this issue at this time.
RESOLVED: It was resolved that no further action would be taken until the Service Director Highways and Streetscene post had been filled.
Cllr T Dixon pointed out that the issues at this highway would be diminished in the winter months as usage decreased but that pressure on this issue from the Parish Council needed to be employed as spring and summer approached.

Campaign for a Safer Magdale

- As above, at the previous meeting of this Committee, the Deputy Clerk had reported on the poor communication from Kirklees Highways on this ongoing issue and campaign. Members heard that Mark Scarr had since replied saying, "Apologies for the delay in responding. The highway Safety have been inundated with road safety enquiries of late. I will ask them if they can look at your enquiry as a matter of urgency" but that no communication had been received on this issue at the time of the meeting. As above, the Deputy Clerk 31/01/2022 wrote a formal letter to Mark Scarr who is now the interim Service Direct Highways and Streetscene copied to Colin Parr, Strategic Director Environment and Climate Change, about the very poor communication on this issue. Only a brief response had been received at the time of the meeting.
NOTED: Members noted the Deputy Clerk's report.
- Members considered further actions on this issue at this time.
RESOLVED: It was resolved that no further action would be taken until the Service Director Highways and Streetscene post had been filled.

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Hade Edge Road Intersection

NOTED: Members noted that the Committee Chair has been in contact with local residents and with Kirklees Highways about this campaign. She reported that her main contact in Hade Edge did not want a “soft option,” staged approach to developments at the Boshaw Trout road junction as proposed by Kirklees Highways and supported by the Parish Council. Without the support of Hade Edge people and little support from Holme Valley South Kirklees Councillors, this approach looked to have stalled. Cllr Blacka made Kirklees Highways aware of this. However, the Chair reported more positively that Mark Scarr from Kirklees Highways had since revisited the plan and contacted the three Holme Valley South Councillors about proposals. Cllr Blacka was hopeful regarding these developments.

Burnlee Road Closure

- Cllr Wilson reported on the longstanding road closure. Members thanked Cllr Wilson for his perseverance in highlighting this issue and championing the cause.
NOTED: Members noted the letter of 17th January 2022 from Farhad Khatibi/Ben Wright from the Structures team at Kirklees Highways regarding the closure. The Committee considered any further actions on this issue.
RESOLVED: The Deputy Clerk would thank Kirklees for their letter but insist that the necessary works to see through the re-opening of the road be progressed with due haste. Residents should not be waiting so long for a through-road to be reopened.

2122 193 Ramsden Road

- **NOTED:** The Committee noted that the Deputy Clerk had formally requested an update from Will Acornley, Head of Operational Services at Kirklees Council overseeing open spaces, on the progress of the Public Space Protection Order on the lanes and byways around Ramsden, Brownhill, Riding Wood and Yateholme reservoirs with a timescale for completion. The Committee further noted the report from Will Acornley that the reason the PSPO had not been implemented was due to estimated prohibitive costs of the project, - namely, £100,000+ for the gates.
- **RESOLVED:** It was resolved that the Deputy Clerk suggested to Kirklees that the Council review its design of the gates. It was understood that the proposed gates were very high-specification to hinder members of the public cutting through the gates with an angle grinder. But Members proposed that a simpler, cheaper design might be as effective such as that used by Erewash Council in a similar PSPO. Cllr Wilson will inquire about the gates used by Erewash. The Committee, again, thanked Cllr Wilson for his engagement on this issue.

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2122 194 Feedback from Training

- The Committee Chair reported on having attended webinar training on Broadening Your Planning Knowledge. The Chair said she found the training useful and would précis the content for the Standing Committee. The Chair reported that the training had indicated that Parish Councils should take the initiative on design codes for their local areas.
- **NOTED:** Members noted the Chair's report.

2122 195 Footpath 6-month TTRO Closure Honley

- **NOTED:** Members noted a Parish Councillor's objection to the length of time of the Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) to Public Right of Way HOL 31/40, Honley.
- Members considered whether to support this objection.
RESOLVED: Members voted to express concern about the duration of this footpath closure, and the Parish Council would ask for more details about the need for the closure.

2122 196 Wolfstones Footpath 60

- **NOTED:** Members noted that the public inquiry into the diversion of Holmfirth Footpath 60 at Wolfstones reopened on 28th January 2022 and that, at some point thereafter, a decision will be made by the Inspector.

2122 197 Publicising the work of Holme Valley Parish Council

- **RESOLVED:** It was resolved that the Deputy Clerk would post links to planning lists to the Parish Council Facebook page; shared to the Community pages. In particular, the Deputy Clerk would draw people's attention to the more controversial applications. The Parish Council would work on involving members of the public virtually in meetings via Zoom teleconferencing and in-person.
- **RESOLVED:** It was further resolved that articles and posts might concentrate on drawing out themes from the Neighbourhood Plan, - like landscape characteristics and sustainability.
- **RESOLVED:** It was resolved that the Parish Council would post or publicise its comments on some major or controversial developments.
- **RESOLVED:** It was resolved that the Committee would write an article for the Holme Valley Review on how the planning committee is using the Neighbourhood Development Plan in its work. Also, a short "Did you know...?" sketch-report would simply state, "Did you know that the Parish Council reviews all planning applications in the Holme Valley from Kirklees Council and the Peak District National Park Authority?"

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A member suggested that it would be positive if Planning Committee Meetings reviewing large-scale planning developments were held in ward localities to encourage local engagement.

The meeting closed at 830pm

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Chairman