

Holme Valley Parish Council

NEWS - February edition

Council approves a budget to support the community

With the cost of living crisis continuing, Holme Valley Parish Council has chosen to play its part in supporting local initiatives whilst shielding rate-payers from any increase in their Council Tax.

The Parish Council receives its finances through the precept which is part of the Council Tax paid to Kirklees. For 2023-24 the Parish Council has set a budget of £357,831, meaning that it is digging deep into reserves to maintain spending on local amenities and projects without raising the precept.

This includes making available over £20,000 for grants to support local community projects and events and £53,000 to help maintain local community assets. This is in addition to its continuing commitment to the Civic in Holmfirth and the recent transfer of Honley Library to Parish Council ownership.

The budget for 2023-24 commits monies to many cherished services and projects including keeping Holmfirth Public Toilets open, making provision for Christmas trees and other decorations across the Holme Valley, maintaining hundreds of benches and a number of stone shelters for public use and continuing to support public transport through part-funding Stott's minibus services.

New for 2023-24 the Parish Council has created a budget of £25,000 to support high quality youth work. Cllr Sean East, Chair of the Service Provision Committee, said "The Committee looks forward to working with a consortium

of groups including Enabling Youth, Café 100 and Honley Youth to provide regular, term-time youth clubs across the Holme Valley."

Cllr Jason Brook, Chairman, spoke about the budget following the meeting in December. He said "This is a budget that acknowledges the difficult times Holme Valley residents are facing. We are using all the resources we have to support our community and ensure that the Holme Valley remains a place that people want to settle in, contribute to and enjoy. Longer term, we've earmarked reserves to help future-proof some of our local amenities such as Honley Library against rising energy costs. This is part of a commitment to ensure that the Holme Valley does its bit to meet the ongoing climate emergency."



Cllr Brook, Chairman, presents a Tidy Trader Silver Award to Bluebird Bakery in November 2022.

Gold Award winners were the *Old Bridge Inn* and *The Fleece Inn and Pantry*.

Other Silver Award winners were the *Hair Barn*, *Wired Coffee & Cake* and *Mexicali*.

+++STOP PRESS+++ Congratulations to Cllr Tony McGrath, co-opted to represent Honley Central and East at the Council meeting in December 2022.

All Parish Council seats will be up for election on 4 May 2023. Interested in standing for election as a Parish Councillor? Contact the Clerk for more information.

Contacting Holme Valley Parish Council

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For contact details for all 23 Parish Councillors and all the latest news please visit our website.

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