



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Our Strategic Priorities supporting our community, economy and environment

HOLME Valley Parish Council is a large parish council which serves nearly 30,000 people.

Our main aim is to improve the quality of life of our residents and through our different committees we do this in a variety of ways.

To help us deliver our outcomes more effectively and explain to residents what we do and why, we have recently developed a series of Strategic Priorities which runs through all our work and shows how we seek to support our community, economy and environment.

These are informed by our existing responsibilities and services alongside the new commitments we made during 2020, through the publication



of our Neighbourhood Development Plan and Climate Emergency Action Plan, which both outline visions of the future up to 2030.

Our Strategic Priorities are outlined in the graphic below with examples of actions we will be taking forward in the future.

Full Council approved these five key priorities earlier this year and each of our Committees is seeking to use them to help focus its future activities and responsibilities.

To find out more about what we do, please visit our website: www.holmevalleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Neighbourhood Development Plan update

THE Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) is currently being reviewed by an Independent Planning Examiner, Peter Biggers.

He is considering the NDP alongside all its supporting documents including the Basic Conditions Statement, which explains how the NDP policies relate to national and local planning

policies, and a Consultation Statement, which outlines how we have engaged with local people throughout the process.

We are currently answering Mr Biggers' detailed questions on the NDP following further meetings with Kirklees Council and the Peak District National Park Authority.

Mr Biggers will then issue his report and once we have made any modifications requested by the Examiner, it will then go forward to a public referendum later in 2021.

This is when all local voters decide whether to adopt the NDP, making its policies thereafter inform planning decisions in the Holme Valley.

Open and returning to face-to-face meetings

IT has been great to see our towns and villages starting to re-open their shops and businesses and welcome customers back now that COVID restrictions are easing.

We hope the gradual return to face-to-face trading will go smoothly and wish all local businesses well, both old and new, and hope that they thrive as we move

towards the summer.

We are pleased to see residents and visitors making use of the Holmfirth public toilets, which offer a vital service inside and now outside as well with the new water bottle filling station allowing people to top up when they are in town.

The Parish Council has returned to physical meetings at Holmfirth Civic

Hall, in line with national regulations which no longer permit remote council meetings.

We are testing remote facilities in the Council Chamber to allow members of the public to speak to us during meetings (as they have been able to through our Zoom meetings to date) so please contact the clerk for further details if you wish to attend meetings.