

Holme Valley Parish Council

MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

held on **MONDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2024** at **7pm**
in **THE CIVIC, HOLMFIRTH, HD9 3AS**

IN THE CHAIR: Cllr Pat Colling

PRESENT:

Cllr Lawrence Baylin
Cllr Mary Blacka
Cllr Damian Brook
Cllr Tom Dixon (Vice Chair)
Cllr Donald Firth
Cllr Charles Greaves
Cllr Chris Green
Cllr Jenny Holmes
Cllr Glenn Kirkby
Cllr Jo Liles
Cllr Alison Morgan
Cllr Hugh Osborne
Cllr Steve Ransby
Cllr Martin Rostron
Cllr Jane Rylah
Cllr Tricia Stewart
Cllr Sarah Whitelaw
Cllr Andy Wilson

APPROVED APOLOGIES: Cllr Isaac Barnett, Cllr Donna Bellamy, Cllr Andrew Fenwick, Cllr Kath Fernandes
(further dispensation for up to 6 month absence granted)

OTHER ABSENCES: None

TAKING MINUTES: Jen McIntosh (Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE: Rich McGill (Deputy Clerk/RFO)

- DRAFT MINUTES-

Cllr Pat Colling, Chair, welcomed all to the meeting and explained that there was a long agenda to get through, meaning that both members and the public would be expected to keep to the three minute limit on speaking. The Chair also explained that she would also not call on members to speak more than once for any item unless there was new information to report.

The Chair explained how a member of the public in attendance, the Chair of Holmfirth Civic Hall Community Trust, would contribute to item 2425 79 at the appropriate time, Standing Orders being suspended.

The Chair additionally welcomed two other members of the public present who wished to address the COUNCIL.

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to move item 2425 68 to after items 69 to 73 had been heard.

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PROCEDURAL MATTERS

2425 69 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 amended by the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 on 6 August 2014

The meeting was recorded for public broadcast via the HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL YouTube channel. There were no other requests to make a recording of the meeting.

2425 70 Items to be heard in private session

The Clerk explained that any discussion of a legally privileged report distributed to members with reference to item 2425 79 should be heard in private session.

RESOLVED: that agenda item 2425 79 be heard in private session.

Recording to be halted during the item and members of the public to be asked to leave the meeting.

2425 71 Apologies and reasons for absence

Apologies and reasons were circulated prior to the meeting starting.

APPROVED: apologies and reasons for absence from Cllr Isaac Barnett, Cllr Donna Bellamy, Cllr Andrew Fenwick.

Details of a request for a further six month dispensation for Cllr Kath Fernandes had been sent out under separate cover prior to the meeting.

APPROVED: a 6-month dispensation from attending Council events for Cllr Kath Fernandes.

2425 72 Receipt of written Declaration of Pecuniary and Other Interests

Any revised written Declarations of Pecuniary and Other Interests received from councillors will be emailed out in advance of the meeting.

Clerk reported that a revised DPI from Cllr Damian Brook had been received at a meeting of the PLANNING COMMITTEE on 12 August 2024 and had been shared with members prior to this meeting.

A revised DPI from Cllr Steve Ransby had been shared prior to the meeting.

NOTED: receipt of revised written declarations of pecuniary and other interests from Cllr Damian Brook and Cllr Steve Ransby.

2425 73 Declaration of interests in agenda items

NOTED: Cllr Wilson and Cllr Ransby declared interests in item 2425 79 as trustees of Holmfirth Civic Hall Community Trust appointed by HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL and would refrain from voting upon any motion for the item.

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No declarations of interests of officers in agenda items were declared.

2425 68 Public Question Time

As per the earlier resolution, this item was heard after item 2425 73 concluded.

Three members of the public were present.

Two members of the public were in attendance to make representations regarding the Planning Committee's decision from 16 September to object to application 2024/62/92626/W.

One member of the public in support of the application addressed the Parish Council and asked that the Parish Council reconsider the decision to object, making the following points:

- That the application and site referred to was **not** agricultural land but a commercial stables – Class Q does not apply.
- That this was a brownfield site in line with Planning policy.
- That the land had been used for 40 years and that its deeds refer to a right of way.
- That access to the land was not inadequate and visibility was good.
- That the applicants had erected the wide gate.
- That the footprint of building would be reduced, reducing spread into the greenbelt.
- That the change in use proposed would result in a reduction in vehicle movement.
- The property would be a low-carbon, triple-glazed, air-sourced heat pump, grey water harvesting, highly insulated property.
- That the application be supported.
- That similar properties had had similar applications approved.

The Chair thanked the member of the public and stated that this would not be discussed at the meeting. The two members of the public left the meeting after the representation was concluded.

The third member of the public was the Chair of Holmfirth Civic Hall Community Trust and present in order to make representations regarding item 2425 79.

2425 79 The Civic – request from the Trustees regarding roof repairs

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the Chair of Holmfirth Civic Hall Community Trust (HCHCT) to update and consult with Holme Valley Parish Council regarding roof repairs. A legally privileged report regarding repairs had been circulated beforehand along with an email from the Civic Business Development Manager.

The HCHCT Chair explained that differences in costs for roof repairs and essential works between the first sum shared with the Parish Council and latest figures were due in part to adjustments made following receipt of Kirklees conservation officer comments and also as a result of the tendering process.

The difference meant that costs were likely to exceed the £40,000 already committed by the Parish Council for essential works and other funds committed by HCHCT.

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A less expensive 'option B' of a part-fix of the kitchenette roof would only be a short-term fix and was not desirable. HCHCT are committed to fixing the building with longevity in mind so that works do not need to be repeated or further costs incurred.

A report on essential works identified by the architect had been shared with the Parish Council at an earlier meeting. A potential shortfall of £22,000 had been identified for completing those essential works and roof repairs, with the expected cost being £60,143.77 but possibly rising to £81,896.34 should there be delays or cost increases beyond the control of the contractors. The HCHCT Chair stated that it was likely that HCHCT would need to approach the Parish Council for just over a further £10,000 to ensure the works could be completed.

Following a tendering process a contractor had been appointed with a potential two-week lead in time to get the repairs underway.

Due to the time of year and the weather it was a race against time to complete the repairs and prevent further deterioration.

There was discussion and questions for the HCHCT Chair regarding the feasibility of starting repairs works whilst also accelerating work regarding forming a vision of how the Civic might be remodelled for future use. The HCHCT Chair explained that the completed architect's vision report would follow by the end of 2025 but also that it was anticipated that extensive consultation with the public would be part of that process to ensure that the Civic would closely meet the community's needs for the future.

The Parish Council went into private session at 7.16pm to consider the matter.

Cllr Greaves arrived during this item at 7.25pm.

RESOLVED: that HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL takes responsibility for funding Civic roof repairs at pace, including undertaking to pay up to a further £22,000 from General Reserves should the need arise.

An action for Cllr Baylin as Chair of SERVICE PROVISION COMMITTEE was to attend a meeting of HCHCT.

TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

2425 74 Minutes of Full Council meetings

APPROVED: the Minutes of the FULL COUNCIL Meeting held on 24 June 2024 numbered 2425 42 to 2425 67.

Regarding ongoing matters arising from the minutes which do not appear under other agenda items, the clerk stated that a report from the Parish Council's legal representatives was awaited regarding the Civic Underlease.

THE COMMITTEE MINUTES UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

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2425 75 Minutes of Standing Committee meetings

NOTED: the Minutes of the SERVICE PROVISION COMMITTEE Meeting held on 8 July 2024 numbered 2425 01 to 2425 25 **APPROVED** at the SERVICE PROVISION COMMITTEE Meeting held on 23 September 2024.

NOTED: the Minutes of the PLANNING COMMITTEE Meeting held on 15 July 2024 numbered 2425 61 to 2425 79 **APPROVED** at the meeting of the PLANNING COMMITTEE Meeting held on 12 August 2024.

NOTED: the Minutes of the PLANNING COMMITTEE Meeting held on 12 August 2024 numbered 2425 80 to 2425 99 **APPROVED** at the meeting of the PLANNING COMMITTEE Meeting held on 16 September 2024.

NOTED: the Minutes of the FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Meeting held on 19 August 2024 numbered 2425 39 to 2425 55 **APPROVED** at the meeting of the FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Meeting held on 19 August 2024.

APPROVED: the Minutes of the CLIMATE ACTION, COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE Meeting held on 9 September 2024 numbered 2425 25 to 2425 53.

NOTED: the Minutes of the PLANNING COMMITTEE Meeting held on 16 September 2024 numbered 2425 100 to 2425 118 **APPROVED** at the meeting of the PLANNING COMMITTEE Meeting held on 7 October 2024.

APPROVED: the Minutes of the FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Meeting held on 30 September 2024 numbered 2425 56 to 2425 72.

The clerk apologised that the SERVICE PROVISION COMMITTEE minutes from 23 September 2024 were not yet completed.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

2425 76 Council Budget 2024-25 Year-To-Date including Earmarked Reserves

A report from the Deputy Clerk/RFO on the Council Budget 2024-25 YTD including Earmarked Reserves had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Deputy Clerk/RFO reported on costs affecting General Reserves including insurance and by-election costs.

NOTED: Budget Year-To-Date Report including Earmarked Reserves.

2425 77 Schedule of Payments

The Schedule of Payments October 2024 was circulated ahead of the meeting.

NOTED: the Schedule of Payments for October 2024 as presented.

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2425 78 The External Audit and Certificate

Deputy Clerk/RFO reported that the external audit certificate had been received along with the AGAR and accompanying letter. It had been uploaded to HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL website and displayed on the Noticeboard outside the Civic. There were no issues.

NOTED: the receipt of the external audit certificate.

RESOLVED: to approve the removal of the physical copies of the documentation outlined above from the HVPC Noticeboard following the meeting.

MATTERS RESERVED FOR FULL COUNCIL

2425 80 Update regarding referral to YLCA regarding Holme Valley Parish Council commissioning works and not paying VAT

Following the whole council training on 23 September 2024 the clerk raised a query with YLCA regarding Holme Valley Parish Council commissioning works and not paying VAT and is now awaiting feedback.

NOTED: update from the clerk regarding referral to YLCA.

2425 81 Referrals to the Monitoring Officer

Clerk reported on notification of referrals/ referral outcomes from the Kirklees Monitoring Officer.

NOTED:

- (i) 1 referral concerning an alleged breach of the Code of Conduct by a councillor had been considered by an assessment panel. It was not upheld. The councillor involved had been informed. No further details will be released by the Monitoring Officer and the matter was now concluded.
- (ii) 2 further referrals were not being taken forward. No further details would be released.
- (iii) There were no outstanding referrals.

2425 82 The laying of poppy wreaths and participation in Remembrance Services and Processions in the Holme Valley

The Council was asked to nominate representatives for each of the poppy wreath-laying ceremonies at the 8 war memorials sited in the Holme Valley, including the parades in Honley and New Mill to take place on Sunday 10 November 2024.

NOTED: the expenditure of £160 on 8 poppy wreaths.

RESOLVED: representation of Holme Valley Parish Council at Acts of Remembrance on Sunday 10 November 2024 as set out in table below.

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War Memorial and contact names	Details from 2023 – provisional for 2024 and to be confirmed by the clerk in due course	Cllr attending 2024
Holmfirth Rev Keith Griffin	10.45am Holy Trinity Parish Church Wreath is first laid in Church as part of service then taken by car to the War Memorial at Holme Valley Memorial Hospital. Tea and biscuits in the lounge at HVM Hospital afterwards. (Mr John Booth has the wreath and will bring it to the church to give to the attending Councillor.)	Cllr Colling
Brockholes Katrina Robinson-Brown	11am Wreath laid at War Memorial itself followed by Service at St George's Church.	Clerk to check with Cllr Fenwick (Cllr Barnett possible)
Hepworth Rev Keith Griffin	9.30am Service in Holy Trinity Church Hepworth then Act of Remembrance at Church Lych Gate	Cllr Dixon
Holmbridge Rev Nick Heaton	10.50am Wreath-laying Ceremony at War Memorial in grounds of St David's followed by Service inside.	Cllr Whitelaw
Honley Fiona Roberts Honley RBL Katrina Robinson-Brown	10am Service at St Mary the Virgin followed by Procession to War Memorial and Act of Remembrance/wreath laying. Procession then re-forms and goes back through village centre ending in People's Park around 11.20am	Cllr Green
Netherthong Rev Nick Heaton	10.50am Ceremony at War Memorial followed by Service in All Saints Church.	Clerk to check with Cllr Barnett (Cllr Blacka possible)
New Mill Contact to follow Neil Tinker New Mill RBL	10.30am Remembrance Service at Christ Church followed by Procession and Wreath-laying Act of Remembrance (inside)	Cllr Firth
Upperthong Rev Keith Griffin	10.45am Service at St John's Upperthong followed by Ceremony of Remembrance at the Lych Gate	Cllr Holmes

Councillors to collect wreaths from the HVPC office. Clerk to update information regarding the services and inform councillors as appropriate.

2425 83 Meeting of the Complaints Panel

Clerk reported that the Complaints Panel met on Monday 22 July 2024 to consider a formal complaint received from a resident in line with Holme Valley Parish Council Complaints Procedure.

NOTED: the outcome of the meeting of the Complaints Panel held Monday 22 July 2024 – that none of four complaints considered were upheld.

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The complainant has received informal notification of the outcome of their complaint.

Actions for the clerk were to:

- review any policy pertaining to councillors’ use of social media in acknowledgement of a concern having been raised and bring any amendments to a later Full Council meeting.
- arrange for formal written notification to be sent to the complainant in line with the Complaints Policy.
- give feedback to councillors named in the complaint.

The Complaints Panel has requested that all councillors reflect on their use of social media and ensure that this continues to meet the standards set out in Holme Valley Parish Council policy.

An ongoing communications policy was being assembled by the CACE COMMITTEE.

The clerk was thanked for their work in presenting the Parish Council’s case at the Complaints Panel meeting.

2425 84 Adjustments to the Council Meetings Schedule

The clerk wished to make an adjustment to the remaining meetings scheduled for the Council Year 2024-25 to accommodate workload. The intention was to push back the Staffing Committee meeting from Monday 21 October to Monday 18 November 2024. No other meetings were affected. All Committee members had indicated that they were available for the new date.

APPROVED: one change to the Council Year 2024-25 Meetings Schedule, moving the STAFFING COMMITTEE meeting from 21 October 2024 to 18 November 2024.

An action for the clerk was to arrange for the revised schedule of meetings to be emailed out to members and also to the staff of HCHCT and posted to the HVPC website.

2425 85 Report on rights of way relating to the Civic

The clerk had written to the Chair of Holmfirth Civic Hall Community Trust to conclude the matter of rights of way pertaining to the Civic. This letter – containing legally privileged information – had been shared with members prior to the meeting.

The ex-gratia payment referred to in earlier item 2425 77 schedule of payments was with reference to damage caused to a neighbouring property’s garden.

NOTED: that the matter of rights of way regarding the Civic was now concluded.

2425 86 Review of Committee Structure and Meetings Schedule - update from working group

The working group established by FULL COUNCIL on 24 June 2024 reported back on its work to date, including three specimen meeting schedules for the Council Year 2025-26, which were **NOTED**.

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Work so far had involved scrutiny of other local councils' committee/meeting structure and discussion of how HVPC's structures could be changed, including possible disestablishment of the CACE COMMITTEE and changes to the remit and meetings cycle of the PLANNING COMMITTEE. The latter had already streamlined their way of working as a move towards smarter working. The working group's purpose was to review the Parish Council's ways of working and structures to best serve the community.

Feedback included:

- Widening the group to include all Committee Chairs – more involvement in drawing up the proposals was to be welcomed.
- That due consideration be given to the expectation amongst the public that the Parish Council would be involved in planning – the member of public speaking in public session today illustrated this.
- A suggestion that each Committee consider how it might streamline its work and for this to be fed back through Chairs.

Proposals will be brought to a future FULL COUNCIL meeting.

2425 87 Whole Council Training – outcome

The whole council training took place on Tuesday 24 September with 15 councillors present and 2 members of the clerk team.

The trainer, the senior officer from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA), sent the presentation slides used and also the Local Government Association Model Code of Conduct and accompanying Guidance for local and parish councils referred to at the training.

A key takeaway from the training had been that it might be possible to review HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL's current Code of Conduct to provide greater clarity regarding procedures for declaring interests in agenda items.

Cllr Colling offered a condensed version of the training to those members unable to attend.

An action for the clerk was to arrange dates to be fixed for the training catch-up.

RESOLVED: to establish a working group to review the Code of Conduct consisting of Cllr Blacka, Cllr Liles and the Clerk.

2425 88 Councillor training – evaluations record

Clerk reported that councillors are asked to complete a brief evaluation of any training undertaken. A revised evaluation form was under consideration, including a section on actions to be taken following training.

APPROVED: the revised evaluation form, as presented.

Training can include events and experiences as well as paid courses.

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2425 89 Covid Memorial working group - update

Cllr Blacka gave a verbal update from the Covid Memorial working group, explaining that the Honley Library Planning Application for an extension would need amending to allow the establishment of a memorial garden at the site. This was likely to delay the completion of the project.

2425 90 Dropbox for councillors

Following a request from councillors a councillor folder is to be set up using Dropbox in due course. This will enable councillors to access a number of shared documents.

It was suggested that an audit of councillor IT skills and appropriate training would need to be offered so that the Dropbox could be utilised.

Cllr Liles offered to design a questionnaire and video explainer to assist councillors.

2425 91 Ward asset register survey of benches, war memorials and other small assets - update

The clerk reported that there were a number of amendments to ward asset registers outstanding. The clerk apologised for this. The intention was to update these before the next Full Council meeting and distribute to members by email or post as preferred.

NOTED: Ward asset register update to follow ahead of the next FULL COUNCIL meeting.

Action for the clerk to update and distribute ward asset registers before the next Full Council meeting.

2425 92 Elections costs from General Reserves

The bill from Kirklees Council for the costs of the Upper Holme Valley by-election was significantly higher than that of previous by-elections, - £9,016.17. Kirklees has stated that this cost was likely to be an approximate standard cost for future by-elections. There was no current budget line for elections, though there was an earmarked reserve holding £7,000. This, however, was mainly held with a view to adding to it year-on-year so that there would be £30,000 by the time the next full Council election comes round. The RFO suggested that the payment of the election cost of £9,016.17 should come solely from general reserves.

RESOLVED: to approve the payment of £9,016.17 for election costs from General Reserves.

REFERRALS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

2425 93 Grants working group - update

At the meeting on 19 August 2024 the FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE **RESOLVED** to

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recommend to FULL COUNCIL a revised grant application procedure to be in place for the grants cycle in February 2025 (minute 2425 45).

The revised procedure consisted of:

- 1) a Report intended to rationalise the grants process.
- 2) Guidelines for applicants for grants.
- 3) an updated Application Form.
- 4) an updated Grant Evaluation Report.

APPROVED: the revised grant application procedure and accompanying documentation.

2425 94 New model Financial Regulations from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC)

The Financial Regulations Working Group consisting of Cllr Wilson, Cllr Colling and the RFO/Deputy Clerk, presented its draft of the Parish Council's Financial Regulations based on the new NALC model Financial Regulations to the FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT STANDING COMMITTEE 30th September 2024.

The Working Group had set out to try to 1. protect the Parish Council from fraud, whilst 2. rationalising its financial processes so that it operates more efficiently, responsively and effectively, and 3. the Financial Regulations accurately set out how the Parish Council actually operate in practice.

The FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE recommended the draft Holme Valley Parish Council Financial Regulations to the Council as presented. The following points were highlighted:

- Committees can now approve expenditure up to £10,000 from their budget lines and Earmarked Reserves.
- Each committee should have a 3-year plan for expenditure, factoring in inflation.
- Earmarked Reserves should only be rolled over for specific projects.

APPROVED: the revised Holme Valley Parish Council Financial Regulations as presented with immediate effect.

The operational use of the revised regulations to be reviewed by the FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE in approximately six months' time (March/April 2025)

SERVICE PROVISION COMMITTEE

2425 95 Gartside Unit - update

Clerk reported that at the meeting on 23 September 2024 the SERVICE PROVISION COMMITTEE **RESOLVED** to recommend to FULL COUNCIL to release money from EMR 331 Gartside Unit (£6000) for expenditure of up to £500 for essential maintenance and refurbishment of the unit and up to £689.35 for the erection of a new external noticeboard, matching one already in situ.

APPROVED: the release of up to £1189.35 from EMR 331 Gartside Unit to maintain and refurbish the Gartside Unit.

2425 96 Defibrillators

The Clerk reported that following a review of defibrillator provision, ownership and upkeep in the

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Holme Valley the SERVICE PROVISION COMMITTEE at its meeting on 8 July 2024 **RESOLVED** to recommend to FULL COUNCIL that HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL took on the responsibility for two existing defibrillators – one sited at the garage of a private residence on Oaks Lane, Brockholes and one sited on Huddersfield Road, Holmbridge (minute 2425 23).

There were at least 36 defibrillators in the Holme Valley Parish Council area. Of these, 2 were currently the responsibility of Holme Valley Parish Council – one outside the Civic and one outside Holmfirth Toilets. The Yorkshire Ambulance Service – which has oversight of provision – has requested that HVPC take on responsibility for the 2 further defibrillators.

RESOLVED: HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL to take on the responsibility for 2 further defibrillators - one sited at the garage of a private residence on Oaks Lane, Brockholes and one sited on Huddersfield Road, Holmbridge – with immediate effect.

CLIMATE ACTION, COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

2425 97 Big Community Celebration

The working group delegated to organise the Community Celebration on 9th November reported that they were making good progress on planning the event. The Large and Lesser Hall at The Civic had been booked for 10am-4pm. The working group would keep the Parish Council informed of further developments and welcomed input from any and all members. The event was an opportunity for the Parish Council to engage with the community, so the Parish Council wished as many people to be involved as possible.

The Civic Community Café was to run at the event and a schedule had been drawn up for councillors to meet and greet visitors. Six different musical groups were to perform and there were expected to be c.45 stalls to visit.

It was noted that the Assistant Clerk had created and posted some fantastic social media content to attract footfall.

Councillors were asked to take flyers etc to distribute in their wards.

2425 98 Biodiversity Policy

The CACE COMMITTEE at its meeting on 9 September 2024 **RESOLVED** to recommend that the revised Biodiversity Policy as presented be adopted.

RESOLVED: to adopt the revised Biodiversity Policy as presented.

2425 99 New HVPC website going live Thursday 10 October 2024

The new website went live shortly after 10 October after a few teething issues. The website address would be unchanged. Councillors were encouraged to explore content so far and report any glitches to the Assistant Clerk. Previously bookmarked links might no longer be valid and would need to be set up anew.

To date the website content basically consisted of transferred information. Further development of the website would be an ongoing process.

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NOTED: Thanks were to be passed onto the Assistant Clerk for her leadership of the project and the hard work which had evidently been put into the project to date.

2425 100 Solar Panels – Planning Application advice from Kirklees Conservation Team

Notification via email had been received 08-10-24 from Kirklees advising the Parish Council that the Planning Application for installing solar panels on Holmfirth Toilets was likely to be rejected on conservation grounds.

The Assistant Clerk had contacted Kirklees to ascertain possible consequences of either withdrawing or not withdrawing the application and the deadline for any withdrawing of the application the Parish Council had been extended.

Cllr Ransby had also been in touch with the Planning Officer regarding the vagueness of the objections and believed that further contact would be made via the Clerk regarding clarifying any likely grounds for rejection.

Members discussed possible responses to this set back including liaising with the relevant Planning Officer to make any changes to the application, possibly using inset solar panels to make the design more acceptable in a conservation area.

RESOLVED: to proceed with the application to install solar panels on Holmfirth Public Toilets, including if appropriate working with the Planning Officer regarding possible amendments.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

2425 101 Local Plan Review – working group

A Local Plan working group was established by the PLANNING COMMITTEE at its meeting on 15 July 2024 to draw up a response from HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL to the Kirklees Local Plan Review. The working group wished to extend an invitation to any councillor regardless of whether or not they were a member of the PLANNING COMMITTEE to join the group.

The work of the group was important as the revised Local Plan would have a real influence on Kirklees Planning decisions.

RESOLVED: the appointment of additional members Cllr Liles, Cllr Whitelaw and Cllr Rylah to the Local Plan Working Group.

The working group now consisted of:

- Cllr Blacka
- Cllr Colling
- Cllr Liles
- Cllr Ransby
- Cllr Rylah
- Cllr Whitelaw
- Cllr Wilson

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MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS/ CORRESPONDENCE

2425 102 Chair's Report

The Chair gave a verbal report on activities on behalf of HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL including attendance at Meltham Town Council Civic Service, Mirfield Town Council Civic Service and Hebden Royd Council Civic Service. She had also attended Holmfirth Arts Week preview reception and given out prizes at Honley Show.

2425 103 Reports from Kirklees Ward Councillors

There were no reports from Kirklees Ward councillors to share at this time. Cllr Greaves stated that as a Holme Valley North Councillor he would prefer if any councillor present had any questions regarding Kirklees work to raise.

Questions were raised regarding receiving data from the SID and issues with queries to the Planning team not being responded to.

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the issue regarding the SIDs data had been shared with Cllr Mo Crook and a response received.

Cllr Rylah explained that data regarding the SIDs was shared with Kirklees Ward Councillors including herself and she had shared information she had received regarding this. The responses from both Cllr Crook and Cllr Rylah would be disseminated at a future Planning Committee meeting.

Regarding the question about lack of response from Kirklees Planning, Cllr Greaves shared that the same issues were not apparent with Wakefield Council. The Chair gave feedback from the Whole Council training that YLCA viewed Kirklees and Calderdale as the authorities it was least possible to get information from. Cllr Rylah observed that the reduction in staffing currently evident within Kirklees probably meant that it would be easier to obtain information from Kirklees Ward Councillors than from officers.

The Clerk reminded the Council that it had previously been reported that Kirklees Chief Executive Officer had communicated via email to say that Kirklees would be working with its local councils to review a Local Council/Parish Charter which would address communications issues. Nothing further has since been received regarding the matter.

Cllr Colling is trying to establish a meeting with neighbouring local councils to work collectively on this issue.

2425 104 #Tell Tracy – consultation invitation

Parish and town councils were invited to participate in a consultation on the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan. There was a consultation event on Thursday 24 October 1830-2000HRS. Cllr Rylah would check her diary to see if she could attend and then report back.

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2425 105 Communication from *Woven*

The clerk had shared communication from a representative of the Kirklees Woven project, with an invitation for Holme Valley Parish Council to become involved in the project. Cllr Baylin expressed the view that members of the Woven Team be invited to come and talk about the project in person to explore possible HVPC involvement possibly as a lead-in to an invitation to present at a future SERVICE PROVISION COMMITTEE meeting.

2425 106 Charles Brook Convalescent Fund – request for trustees

NOTED: request from the Charles Brook Convalescent Fund for trustees.

Councillors interested in becoming trustees for the Charles Brook Convalescent Fund to inform the clerk.

2425 107 Items for Publicity

The item was a standing item for councillors to put forward potential items for publicity arising from the meeting. The clerk explained that a period of Pre-election sensitivity was in place until the by-election for a Holme Valley South Kirklees Ward Councillor had taken place on 17 October 2024.

The main Parish Council matter to be publicised subsequent to the meeting was the Big Community Event.

The meeting closed at 8.51pm.