

HOLBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Holbrook Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Monday 21st December 2009 at 7.30pm.

(1) Present: Mrs Maureen Abbott, Mr Graham Cook, Mr Jim Gitsham, Mr Dave Meekings, Mrs Angela Mowles, Mr Simon Page, County Councillor David Wood and three members of the public. Also Pc Gary Austin and PCSO Gibson

(2) Apologies; Mr David Tallin, Mrs Julia Carter, Mrs Maureen Harvey and District Councillor David Rose.

(3) Declaration of acceptance of office;

Mr David Ashlee signed his declaration of office and code of conduct forms and these were countersigned by the Clerk.

(4) Declarations of Interest: None.

(5) Approval of Minutes of the last meeting: It was proposed by Jim Gitsham and seconded Dave Meekings that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16 November 2009 be approved. All in favour.

(6) Public Recess;

A discussion took place regarding parking outside the Coop and it was decided to write and ask them to attend a meeting to consider changes to the entrance. The police would also continue to try to educate people to park better.

(7) Matters Arising from the Minutes:

Reade Field Management:

The clerk presented a summary of work which had a medium risk element in the annual assessment. It was agreed to replace the basketball nets and carry out as many repairs as could be done now and review again in the springtime.

Various Parking issues;

A response was received from County highways on various matters raised. The B1080 between The Street and Denmark Gardens did not rank as highly as some other roads and is not therefore in the current programme. Localised repairs will continue to be carried out. The drain outside Windy Ridge has been jetted as has the drain outside Topples. It was noted that the drain at Topples was partially affected by roots from bamboo trees and that the owner has been requested to remove them. Dave Meekings to keep under review. There was some confusion regarding the footway near Green bank on Church hill. The damage is in fact near the bottom house and on the hedge side not the kerb side. The Clerk to report.

Notice Board;

The clerk is still waiting for a response from the owners of the property. Maureen Abbott to ask them to respond.

Parish Website;

David Tallin had spoken to the Chairman to report that enthusiasm in this had waned. The chairman felt that use could be made of the one Suffolk site which he will investigate.

Village hall shed;

The Clerk reported on correspondence received from the Chief Planning Officer and it was agreed that the hall committee should go ahead with installation.

Pettwood gardens access;

The Clerk reported that he had not yet received a response to the suggestion for improvements.

Cedars development;

The Chairman stated that he had spoken to Babergh legal department about issues concerning the access. He was informed that there is a 3 month period to challenge decisions which has long since passed. There were no grounds to pursue the issue.

Telephone boxes; It was agreed that the parish council saw no reason to agree to a closure or adoption and would request that the service continues as it is.

High School meeting;

The new Head of the High School has agreed to attend January's meeting of the council. There were some specific issues she wanted to discuss and these are in a letter which is being circulated.

Emergency Plan;

Dave Meekings gave details of two options for improving the implementation of the plan and these are in the envelope for discussion next time.

(8) Roads and Footpath issues;

The Clerk and Chairman gave a report on their actions relating to problems with the Street road closure. The initial response from County Highways was unsatisfactory and the clerk had written again and a response was awaited.

County Councillor David Wood reported that he will be arranging an open meeting to discuss issues relating to Freston x roads.

(9) Correspondence:

A report was received from the Boundary Commission. Their proposals have been put to the Secretary of State and a decision is expected by the end of January.

It was noted that The Street has been included in the Suffolk Waste reduction programme.

Two estimates were received for bin emptying and it was agreed to stay with the district council whose price was far lower.

Two estimates were received for grasscutting and it was agreed to stay with the present arrangement where the main areas are cut by the County and the perimeter by Roy Mortimer.

The Clerk presented a calendar for 2010 and this was approved.

(10) Parish Papers;

Angela Mowles reported that the next edition was in preparation and there was nothing else to report.

(11) Finance

The Clerk reported that the current account balance stood at £8500 and that the reserves were as reported to the last meeting.

The Precept form was signed by the Chairman, two Councillors and the Clerk.

It was proposed Graham Cook and seconded Maureen Abbott that the following payments be signed. All agreed.

01514-A Masters-salary-£563-73; 01515-Holbrook High School-donation-£30; 01516-RHS enterprises-printing-£301-62; 01517-R Brown-expenses-£19-37; 01518-Suffolk County Council-grasscutting-£807-70; 01519-Holbrook Village hall-grant-£400;

(12) Planning;

Decisions –

B/09/0902-Part Garden, The Cedars-siting,design,landscaping- Approved.

B/09/1039-Denton Church Hill-two storey and single storey extensions-Refused.

B/09/1142-Oak Spinney,Primrose Hill- vehicular access-Approved.

B/09/1189-Alton Green farm-cartlodge-Approved.

B/09/1246-16 Ipswich road-side and rear extensions-Approved.

B/1040 and 1041-Pettwood,Ipswich road-alterations and listed building approval-Approved.

Considerations-

B/09/1292 and 1293-Browns farm-listed building consent and conversion of barn-no objections.

B/09/1451-Hapenny works-revised proposals for parking-no objections.

12. Matters raised by members present; none.

The meeting closed at 9-10 pm.