

Holton Parish Council meeting was held on Monday 9th January 2023 starting at 7.30 pm in Holton Village Hall Committee Room

Present:

Chairman - Robert Barter
Vice-chairman – Allan East
Councillor – Andy Murray
Councillor – Roger Farrow
Parish Clerk - Sonja Barter

Also present: Tim Bearder (County and District Councillor)

- 1. Apologies:** Councillor Brian Pridmore
- To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the council held on Monday 12th December 2022 which had been circulated to all councillors before the meeting. .

The Minutes were confirmed. Proposed by Andy Murray and seconded by Allan East.

All agreed

OPEN FORUM

3. District and County Councillor Reports – Discussion with Tim Bearder regarding the Brookes Planning Application and Amendment No 1. Tim will be bringing pressure to bear on the County Council to open realistic negotiations with Brookes over the access road at Holton Park Drive and to engage with Highways on the road issues that will arise if there is only an access point onto the Waterperry Road. Tim in his role as District Councillor has influence on the District Planning Committee and the PC was reminded to contact each District Councillor on the Planning Committee when the application is to be discussed and impress on them the strong views of the residents of Holton and Wheatley. Presence at the Planning Committee would also be advisable.

Tim has some funds remaining in his Councillor funding pot and agreed to help with the funding of a keypad locking system for the access gate from Holton to Wheatley Park School if a suitable system could be found.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

Parish Council email address: Andy Murray has resolved the problem.

The Open Meeting held before the last Parish Council meeting concerning the Brookes Outline Planning Application resulted in the whole village being included in a

leaflet information drop and a high volume of responses and comments from residents being posted on the SODC Planning website.

The model form of the National Association of Local Councils Contract of Employment for Clerks is being reviewed by Allan East who will formalise an appropriate document to be used by Holton Parish.

5. Wheatley Park School Access

Allan East has received a communication from Tim Martin (Headteacher WPS) confirming his agreement to maintain a system of access for pupils from Holton and also details and costs of a keypad lock system for the newly installed gate. Allan East to look into alternative quotes and check the specification required. Note that Tim Bearder would be able to offer some funding to such a project.

6. The Definitive Map Modification Order application.

No action at this time as the councillors present wished to await the outcome of further discussions with the headteacher about the gated access.

7. Traffic, Road and Highway Matters

Pot hole reported on the road opposite Home Close entrance. Status now investigating by Oxfordshire Highways.

Reported on Fix my Street the traffic lights at Holton Park Drive appear to have been set with a bias towards traffic from the school and hence queues are developing at the Holton Turn and A40 bridge with cars held back by red lights but no traffic appearing from the school.

Concern over drainage issues at Holton Turn corner (the drains in the kerb are totally inadequate when there is heavy rainfall) and other drains in the village which need unblocking. The drains outside the village hall are being kept clear as part of the hall general maintenance and are cleared regularly of leaves and mud. These problems have been reported on numerous occasions and the answer from Highways is that they will only act if it is a constant flooding problem and if the water drains away eventually then they will not act as no funding available. The Clerk will report the problems again to Highways. In the mean time if councillors could identify the suspect drains we can take some direct action. A walk around the village with a spade might clear some.

8. Financial Matters

a.	Accounts submitted for payment	VAT	Total inc. VAT
	Clerk's Salary January		455.00
	ESET Security 3 years PC Laptop	6.72	40.33
b.	Bank balances after paying above amounts and monies received		
	Deposit £31,090.52	Current	£1,113.12

d. Monthly Cash Reconciliation with Bank Statement

Andy Murray checked the cash balances with the bank statement, agreed the figures and signed the cash reconciliation.

It was proposed by Roger Farrow and seconded by Robert Barter that the Clerk's Report be accepted, cash balances reconciled and the accounts be paid.

All Agreed

9. Churchyard extension land.

No further movement to report. The Church lawyers have been contacted for an update and a response awaited.

10. Playground Proposals

Other grant applications to be made and awaiting decision on the District Council Capital Grant fund.

11. Planning applications:.

P22/S3975/O. Oxford Brookes University, Waterperry Road, Holton. OX33 1HX
Outline Planning Application. Amendment No 1 Environmental Assessment.
Vehicle access, demolition of all existing structures and redevelopment of the site with up to 500 dwellings. Creation of public open space, leisure, sport and recreation facilities, footways and cycleways.

Comments and suitable responses were discussed, helpful comments from Toby Newman (Wheatley Parish Councillor) had been received which will form the basis of Wheatley Parish Council's response.

Robert Barter to draft a response to be submitted before the deadline on 11th January 2023. (Note: the deadline date has been extended to 18 February 2023).

Planning Appeal APP/Q3115/W/22/3307594. St Andrews Field, Holton. OX33 1PZ
The Chairman has drafted a response to the Planning Inspectorate which had been circulated and approved for submission by 10th January 2023).

P22/S3047/HH – 1. Hawthorn, Holton. OX33 1PS.

Reduction in the size of the extension.

No comments.

11. Planning Decisions: South Oxfordshire District Council

P22/S3829/FUL. Church Farm Stable, Holton. OX33 1PR.

Proposed alterations to vehicle site entrance.

Granted

12. Reports

Holton Village Hall Management Meeting. Annual Accounts completed, internal painting work undertaken, heating systems being investigated.

Brookes Liaison Group – No report

Holton Orchard Committee – The Orchard Pruning/Tidy morning on 26th November was a great success and well attended. A further pruning session to be held on Saturday 4th February 2023 10 – midday.

Fencing work to be carried out end of February.

13. Publications/Letters and forthcoming events.

A request for an increase in funding from the three villages towards the costs of producing the HWW News. The share from Holton to be increased to £450 from £235.00 for the 2022/23 year. The Village News accounts for 2021/2022 were available on the Waterpery Parish Council website and it was agreed to increase the funding to £450.00 with a further review of the accounts and funding in 12 months time. An informed decision to be taken then as to the future cost savings and format.

It was agreed to pay the £450.00 requested for the year 2022/23.

Jan Marlowe has obtained a donation of some daffodil bulbs for planting in the village. A date was agreed for a planting session to be arranged for Saturday 11th February 10.00 – 12 noon to meet at the bus shelter and spread out through the village verges planting the bulbs. This to be advertised in the HWW News.

14. Items for referral to a future meeting

15. Date of next meeting. The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 13th February 2023 starting at 7.30 pm. The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.