

Holton Parish Council meeting was held on Monday 8th January 2024 starting at 7.00 pm in Holton Village Hall Committee Room

Present:

Vice-Chairman – Allan East

Councillor – Andy Murray

Councillor – Robert Barter

Parish Clerk - Sonja Barter

1. **Apologies:** Charli Keely, Brian Pridmore, Tim Bearder

Vice Chairman Allan East took the chair.

2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the council held on Monday 11th December 2023 which had been circulated to all councillors before the meeting.

The Minutes were confirmed. Proposed by Robert Barter and seconded by Andy Murray.

All agreed

3. **Declarations of Interest** – none

OPEN FORUM

Eileen Race raised her concerns about the Retrospective Planning application for an agricultural building on St Andrews Field, Holton and the Lawful Use application also on that field.

4. **District and County Councillor Reports** – Tim Bearder was unable to attend and sent his apologies.

5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

None

6. **Traffic, Road and Highway Matters**

Wheatley Park School verge posts have been put in position. It was suggested that the involvement of the Parish Council in securing this scheme should be advertised in the HWW News under Holton Parish Council

Holton Super Users reporting to Fix My Street - Mel Ault and Clive Ganczarski to receive training from Oxfordshire Highways.

Enquiries have been made to Oxfordshire Highways concerning the start of the 20 mph outside Wheatley Park School main entrance and why the 20 mph does not cover both entrances.

7. Financial Matters

a. Accounts submitted for payment	Total inc. VAT
Clerk's salary - Jan .(£515 + £60 backpay)	575.00
Holton Village Hall Rent to 31/12/2023	77.00
Pd Solutions Clerk Job Evaluation	120.00
Office Expenses Oct 2023/Jan2024	119.14

b. Bank balances after paying above amounts and monies received
Deposit £9,919.84 Current: £453.85

c. Monthly Cash Reconciliation with Bank Statement

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

d. Holton Parish Council Debit Card

The Clerk has completed the application form for a Holton PC Debit Card . Awaiting response.

e. Appointment of Internal Auditor for 2023/2024

Eugenia Skelly is appointed to carry out the Internal Audit.

Proposed by Robert Barter and seconded by Andy Murray.

All Agreed

It was proposed by Robert Barter and seconded by Andy Murray that the Clerk's report be accepted, cash balances reconciled and all accounts paid. All Agreed

8. Contract of Employment

A new Contract of Employment Model Document has been produced by NALC and SLCC. To be reviewed by the Personnel Committee along with employment policies. The OALC Job Evaluator has reported back and places the post in Upper Substantive Range LC! . NJC points 13 – 17 based on the Council being a Profile 1 Council with one employee.

It was agreed that this new model Contract of Employment was a much improved version of the original document.

9. Churchyard extension land.

Reverend Nigel Hawkes the holder of the Benefice of Holton has signed the transfer document and it is now with the solicitors for Richard and Paul Hunt to complete the transfer.

10. Planning Applications

P24/S4253/FUL. St Andrews Field, Holton. OX33 1PR
 Erection of an agricultural building (retrospective)

Issues regarding this application and a Lawful Development application were raised by a resident of Holton earlier in Open Forum.

Holton Parish Council have not been consulted regarding the Lawful Development application at this time and a check to be made with the Planners to see if it could be requested.

Questions arose about the need for this agricultural building when the landowners were extending the existing barn and the hard standing under a separate Lawful Development application.

The measurements of this building appear to differ, in that the supporting statement lists the building as being 6m x 6.5m with a height of 2.70m whereas the plan in the application shows a building of 6.8m x 5.75m and no indication of height unless you calculated it from the scale provided.

It was agreed to an Objection to this application 2 votes to 1 vote. **Objection**

P24/S0027/HH. Willow House, Holton. OX33 1PS

Proposed two storey rear extension with associated internal and external works.

No Objection

13 Planning Decisions: South Oxfordshire District Council:

P23/S3296/FUL. Holton Park Cottage. OX233 1PR.

Replacement dwelling, formation of new access and associated operations.

Granted

14. Reports

Holton Village Hall Management Meeting. Advent Windows throughout the village proved successful and the donation bucket raised a large sum towards the cost of the Defibrillator. The Defibrillator has been fixed in place on the front of the hall and is now operational. CPR classes for the village are to be organised.

Orchard Committee – Pruning workshop on Saturday 20th January 2024. 10-12 noon. Grant application for another teak seat has been approved.

Brookes Liaison Group – A email has been sent to representatives of Bulmer Land Holdings regarding the purchase of a strip of land to provide a footpath to the new development on the Brookes site.

15. Publications/Letters and forthcoming events.

Gigaclear will be holding an information evening in Holton Village Hall on Friday 12th January at 7.00 pm.

Play Activity Day on Saturday 13th July 2024 and a request for funding of £500. As this request came in after the PC had set their Precept for 2024/25 and the budget had been earmarked for other funding requests. It was felt that in this instance this request could not be met. Also to inform the group that our precept is set in December and any future requests should be made by that date.

Wheatley Parish Council – New Sports Facility. A request from Wheatley PC that a representative from Holton PC would be prepared to spend around 45 minutes

talking to one of the Gifted (professional fund raisers) consultants who wish to speak to a variety of people so that they can shape the strategy based not only on research but also the constructive opinions of others. The Parish Councillors present at the meeting suggested that Brian Pridmore would be a good choice to present the views of the village. The Clerk to contact Brian Pridmore.

16. Items for referral to a future meeting:

17. Date of next meeting. The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 12th February 2024 starting at 7.00 pm. The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.