

Holton Parish Council meeting was held on Monday 9^h September 2024
starting at 7.00 pm in Holton Village Hall Committee Room

Present:

Vice- Chairman – Allan East (Acting Chairman)

Councillor – Andy Murray

Councillor – Robert Barter

Chairman – Brian Pridmore (Apologies sent – arrived at agenda item 7)

Parish Clerk - Sonja Barter

Not present: Charli Keely

1. Apologies:

2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the council held on Monday 8th July 2024. The Minutes were confirmed. Proposed by Allan East and seconded by Andy Murray.
All agreed

3. Declarations of Interest – none

OPEN FORUM

4. District and County Councillor Reports – No District/County Councillor present.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes: none

6. Traffic, Road and Highway Matters

Road Safety Group – The next meeting of the group will be held on 17th September. A member of the Group, Mick Blowfield, has sadly passed away following complications during his recent operation. His involvement with the road safety committee and other village activities will be greatly missed. Ian Beach on behalf of the road safety group has placed an article in the September HWW News calling for volunteers to join the committee and for road safety issues to be highlighted by villagers.

Verge maintenance – Unfortunately the contractor has let us down and although being asked to cut the verges back in July he has failed to carry out the work despite numerous promises. More pressure to be put on the contractor and in the mean time other contractors to be contacted regarding future contracts. A note to go in the October HWW News explaining the situation with the contractor.

Road Safety Week – 29th September – 5th October. Village Road Safety Awareness Scarecrows. Unfortunately, the advance information was missed off the September

HWW News. Notes will be sent around the village advertising the event with the Prize Giving to be held at the Apple Pressing Afternoon at Holton Village Hall on Saturday 5th October.

7. W P School Access Gate:

Allan East has received a letter from the Head Teacher Tim Martin regarding a request from some of the residents of Barns Close etc. This is a matter between the residents and the school and not for the Parish Council. It was agreed to remove this item from future agendas.

8. Financial Matters

a. Accounts submitted for payment Total inc. VAT

August.

Clerk's salary - August	514.80
Richard Taylor Village Grass Cutting July	90.00
Richard Taylor Village vision splays July	84.00
Richard Taylor Church grass cutting July	211.20
Richard Taylor Orchard July	196.80
Amazon Printer Inks B/w and Colour	75.29
Rospa Annual Play Inspections	93.60

September.

Clerk's Salary September	514.80
Winkworth Sherwood Final Fee transfer of land	664.80
Public Works Loan September 23 rd 2024	859.33
Richard Taylor Village Green August	135.00
Richard Taylor Orchard August	295.20
Ricard Taylor Churchyard August	316.80
Richard Taylor Orchard Hedge/long grass	120.00

Precept received 5th September 2024 - £10,164.00

b. Bank balances after paying the above amounts and monies received

Deposit £18,036.92 Current: £1,712.45

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 AGAR and Annual Accounts y/e 31/03/2024.

Annual Governance and Accounts with the Auditor Moore & Co. Information on the grants received and the purchase of the play equipment was requested and this has been supplied.

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

All agreed.

9. Contract of Employment

The Health and Safety Policy has been approved by the Personnel Committee and will be forwarded to Parish Councillors. The NALC Grievance and Disciplinary Policy to be forwarded to Parish Councillors.

The Contract of Employment has been agreed by the Clerk subject to minor amendments and will be forwarded by the Personnel Committee to all Parish Councillors.

An Appraisal strategy to be agreed by all parties. NALC Appraisal template to be forwarded to Parish Councillors.

10. Churchyard extension land.

A mark of recognition of the generous gift from the Hunts, such as a plaque in the stone wall or such like to be agreed. Awaiting a comeback from the vicar David Bendor Samuel regarding future burial plans and then agreeing with the PCC the works needed to be undertaken. Holton PC will liaise with the Vicar and the PCC and support this project in any way they can.

11. Brookes Liaison Group.

Awaiting a decision on the Reserved Matters application. The last meeting of the group with Savills and Crest Nicholson was held on 6th August and a Holton Public Meeting on 8th August which informed the village on the project so far and was helpful in forming the Parish Council's response to the reserved matters application. Concerns about the ability of Thames Water to cope with the extra demand on the Wheatley Pumping station were raised and the road safety issues around the school entrance and the site entrance at the Holton Turn

Charles Bulmer has not been back in touch as yet regarding a proposed footpath to the Brookes site.

12. Planning Applications:

Appeal lodged against the Enforcement Notice at St. Andrew's Field, Holton.

P23/S1407/RM. Reserved Matters application for the erection of 447 dwellings, including affordable housing together with sports facilities, associated infrastructure, internal roads, car parking, public open space and landscaping pursuant to Outline Planning Permission P17/S4254/O (Outline planning application with all matters reserved for subsequent approval except details of vehicular access, for demolition and associated works.

Comments from Holton PC following Public Meeting held on 8th August 2024: Supported but concern over inadequate sewerage capacity at the Wheatley Ditch Pumping Station.

13 Planning Decisions: South Oxfordshire District Council:

None

14. Website Migration and gov.uk domain

Final draft ready to go live - .Gov.UK Domain awaiting Registration with Hugo Fox. Preparing to cancel TEEC website provider but retain the Holton PC .org Domain and emails until a full changeover to .GOV.UK.

The Holton Facebook page, a link has been added to the new website. Discussion followed on the use of the existing Facebook page to advertise village events and PC news and Brian Pridmore to discuss with the other Holton Facebook moderator Jan Marlowe.

15. Reports:

Holton Village Hall – Excellent Village Orchard Summer Barbecue in August.

Afternoon Teas continue to be popular and are held fortnightly. Film Night 20th September 'Phantom of the Open', Apple Pressing Afternoon/Road Safety Scarecrow competition judging and a small archive exhibition of Saturday 5th October.

Orchard Committee – Summer pruning workshop held in July and Playground Inspection carried out. Mole activity to be monitored and remedial action taken if thought necessary. To organise a Autumn/Winter Orchard Committee Meeting.

The Cherry Tree on the green has been pruned and shaped – thanks to Kieron Smith and Mandy and Allan East.

Victoria Reading Room Charity – The Charity has been closed along with the bank account and the balance of £3,176.12 transferred to the Holton Village Hall Deposit Account.

16. Publications/Letters and forthcoming events.

The new Updated Financial Regulations to be circulated for information and comment. Once adapted for Holton Parish Council, the regulations can then be adopted at a later meeting.

17. Items for discussion and /or referral to a future meeting.

Wheatley Park School is hosting a Cyclocross event on October 6th 2024. Advance information to be added to the October HWW News.

18. Date of the Next Meeting. The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 14th October 2024 starting at 7.00 pm. The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.