

**HOLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL – MINUTES OF ZOOM MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, 30th November, 2021 AT 7.00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Councillors – Mr. J. Cubitt, Mrs G. Jones, Mr. P. Hinchliffe, Mr. P. Gaade, Mr. S. Lewis, Mr. J. Pridding, Mr. J. Hughes, Ms. A. Shone, Mr. D. Powell, Councillor Morris.

CHAIR: Mr. J. Cubitt, the Chairperson took the Chair and welcomed everyone, a silence was held in respect of the following –Late, Mr. John Floyd, Mr. Daniel Cotton.

APOLOGIES: Mr. D. Munnerley.

MINUTES: The Clerk was asked to amend Allotment item to read ‘4 Willow trees’ Mr. Gaade proposed this, Mr. Hinchliffe seconded, the minutes of the last meeting be signed and approved as a true record. All agreed.

ITEM 1 - MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

1. COMMUNITY AGENT: Notification has been received that the Rainbow Centre Has now become ‘The Rainbow Foundation’. The new name comes with many extra services being introduced in Communities which is welcome news. There is also a Community Development Officer, working from the Rainbow Foundation. Her name is Jackie Tomkinson and she is very eager to help establish groups that residents feel would be beneficial to the community. A questionnaire has been set up for anyone interested to access. Forms are on <https://forms.gle/QqoLivprQjWvdr6p8>

2. WILDLIFE TRUST: COPSE: This area has had a lot of work done and sincere thanks to Mr. David Bithell, the Holt Community Gardeners, Henry from Wildlife Trust and anybody else including many children, who have worked so hard to make this area an asset to Holt. The hedge is due to be cut in the next fortnight.

3. HOLT COMMUNITY GARDENERS: The Holt Community Gardeners are busy finalising funding and planning for their Project at the Car Park. The Holt Community Council have given their approval.

4. POLICE MATTERS: The matter of a car and Campervan, parking on the pavement, by the pull in on Bridge Street, has been reported and the PSCOs are keeping an eye on the situation. This pull in is for the purpose of unloading to go up the access to Dee Villas, not for parking, especially on the footpath by it. The Clerk had also reported an issue of cars speeding along the Rossett Road. The PCSOs will also monitor this. Clerk had thanked them.

5. HEDGE ALONG WREXHAM ROAD: The Clerk had been asked to contact Bellis Bros as the hedge had been cut, by contractors and the tractor had churned up the small verge on the left of the Wrexham Road and the hedge cuttings had been left on the narrow footpath making it a hazard. A reply had been received and the path was cleared and suggestions asked from Holt CC to avoid problems, for next year. The Clerk was asked to reply, suggesting the work perhaps be carried out in dry weather at end August/September and ensure cuttings swept up. All in favour.

6. ALLOTMENT: Mr. Gaade will bring quotes to Budget meeting in January, for trees that need attention.

7. BIER HOUSE: Some cement has dropped out of the left side of the roof. This had been reported to the Clerk. Mr. Gaade will contact Mr. S. Jones to get this repaired. Agreed. Tree by toilet block. This needs attention and Mr. Gaade had obtained a 2 quotes from J. Hughes. One of £500 to cut and clear and wood be removed by A. Pridding The second £575 to fall and clear. The quote for £500 was approved.

8. FINANCIAL SHEET: The members had been sent the sheet and Mr. Hinchliffe talked through the cover note and finances. Holt Castle grass cutting – The Clerk still has 3 months to claim back from WCBC. Village Cleaning - Mr. Hinds has not sent his invoice yet but if all the agreed hours have been completed he is to be requested to carry out one extra day before Christmas, tidying areas of the village. Mr. Cubitt proposed this be accepted and approved, Mr. Hinchliffe seconded. All agreed.

9. ELECTRIC POWER POINT: WCBC had contacted the Clerk and a meeting had taken place on Car Park with Mega Electrics who are pricing for the contract for them. Mr. Gaade, Mr. Hinchliffe and Clerk attended and the meeting went very well. Carl Williams stated that a separate electric meter would be installed to record the usage of the chargers as this will need to be reclaimed from WCBC. There is to be one point with double headed charger. Clerk will reply to WCBC regarding this meeting.

LIGHTS – Needing attention. Car Park – Mega had attended but needed barrier opening. This to be done. The Clerk walked from this meeting to the lights on Holt Hill and discussed problems. The two Carls then went with Clerk and Councillors to Dee Park.

10. DEE PARK PLAY AREA – EXTRA LIGHTING: This was discussed and it was suggested taking supply from the light by 53 Dee Park, installing a shorter post there, Take the supply to by seat and install post with double head. Quote to be sent for this but won't be carried out before January.

11. DEE PARK & CHURCH GREEN PLAY AREAS: The Clerk had written again to the Holt Town Trust and asked that the Church Green Play Area be put on their January Agenda as this is the start of Holt TT new Financial Year. Carla Hinde had contacted the Clerk with news that a grant had been sought for Dee Park but that Church Green not eligible because it had already been agreed. This would help greatly to the unexpected cost.

ITEM 2 – CORRESPONDENCE:

12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS: S.106 Wrexham Road development – Councillor Morris had kindly pursued this with WCBC planning and they have written to the developers. It was mentioned they had been delayed constructing the MUGA because of a pond. Euro Garages Ltd, Holt Road Service Station, Holt Road, Llanypwll, Wrexham – Installation of Jet Wash Bay & Associated Screen (in retrospect). Councillor Morris had also contacted planning and filled members in on situation. No objections.

Westfield, Buck Road, Commonwood, Holt – Erection of garage. No objections.

Natalie Cottage, Frog Lane, Holt – single storey, rear extension. No objections.

Ty Castell, Castle Street, Holt – 1. Demolition of existing conservatory to be replaced with a sunroom plus installation of two dormers to rear elevation. One with double doors accessing a veranda (within a Conservation area). 2. Ty Castell – Conservation area consent for demolition of existing conservatory to be replaced with a sun room. No objections to these applications. Bellis Country Market, Wrexham Road, Holt – Demolition of existing building and erection of reception and storage building. No objections.– nothing further to date.

13. RWF PROJECT – HIGHTOWN BARRACKS: Offa Community Council are constructing this project which consists of a Life size sculpture of a Royal Welch Fusilier to be situated in a Memorial Garden in front of Hightown Barracks. A lot of funding has been raised or pledged including several Community Councils. Mr. Gaade

proposed we pledge £250 Mr. Lewis seconded. All agreed.

14. A. REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE: Mr Gaade thanked Mr. S. Lewis for his assistance with placing large poppies on posts. He also was very pleased that the Service went smoothly and was well attended. The sound system from Apple Sound worked well again. Many comments were received on ‘A lovely Service. Thanks extended to Mr. Gaade as always for his efforts to make sure this service runs smoothly.

16. SMA AWARDS 2021 : The exciting news, had been sent to members, that the Holt Local History Society had been declared Winners of the Museum Archaeology, (SMA) awards 2021 for the display in Wrexham Museum ‘Hidden Holt. Congratulations extended to all involved.

17. TOWN & COMMUNITY ELECTIONS 2022 – Correspondence advising Holt CC could face an invoice for £3000 should circumstances arise in May elections that they are contested. It was agreed this amount be budgeted for.

18. REPRESENTATIVE ON HOLT TOWN TRUST: A very nice letter was received from Mr. Mike Stenson, confirming his resignation as a representative from the Holt Community Council on the Holt Town Trust. He thanked Mr. Gaade and the members of Holt CC for affording him the chance to sit in this role and had enjoyed it and the company of the unpaid volunteers that keep the Holt TT running. A new representative will be elected in May by the new Community Council members! Agreed.

19. DEE PARK: New seat – Mrs Jones declared interest. Mr. Dennis Jones very kindly ordered and will install, a seat on the Holt CCs behalf and also one as a Memorial seat, for his parents, as agreed. The Community Council agreed to pay the invoice for their seat and thank Mr. Jones for getting discount and free delivery. An invoice is to be paid also to him, for installation, which is to be carried out with another person, when received. Mr. Cubitt proposed, Ms. Shone seconded. Agreed.

20. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS: An e.mail had been circulated to the Community Council from a member regarding attendance and giving personal reasons for these views. All members had considered these and Mr. Gaade proposed that a letter be sent to the member stating the Local Government Act 1972 s85 is clear that if a Member absents themselves from meetings of the Council for six calendar months (irrespective of whether a meeting is held in a particular month) then that member is automatically disqualified from holding office and the seat becomes vacant, Mr. Cubitt seconded this. All agreed.

ITEM 3 – AGENDA:

21. RE-ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS & CHAIRMANSHIP, REVISED RISK ASSESSMENT, CODE OF CONDUCT, REVISED FINANCIAL ORDERS, RETENTION POLICY, INVESTMENT STRATEGY, FREEDOM OF

INFORMATION: Mr. Hinchliffe proposed these all be accepted and approved, subject to an addition to the Standing Orders that ‘Agendas and Minutes can be delivered electronically’. Mrs Jones seconded. All in favour.

22. PRE-BUDGET DISCUSSION: Extra play equipment was suggested. This to be considered. Burial Fees – Increase of these to be considered. Clerk to get comparisons. River Paths Improvement - £4, to be carried into 2022.23 for this.

PRECEPT for 2022/23 – it was agreed an increase of 3.8% be written into the Budget when working on figures to cover the cost of living increase. These were proposed by Mr. Gaade seconded by Mrs Jones. All in favour.

ITEM 4 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

18. GENERAL MATTERS TO REPORT: Stop light at the end of Smithfield/Wrexham Road. 40mph Brickyard bends – sign twisted entering from Wrexham and 40mph hit again leaving Holt for Wrexham. 30mph leaving Frog Lane , twisted. Fence at Academy Garage site blown down. (this was reported immediately). Pothole – Esp Hill.

19. ACCIDENT ON A534/ JUNCTION HOLT VILLAGE: Clerk to contact WCBC to ask if anything can be done. Light Bollard has not been lit here as it is thought to be reflective.

20. VACANCY FOR CLERK: The Clerk has informally given her notice that it is her intention to leave her position, hopefully at the end of March but is willing to work alongside a new Clerk until the end of May in order to complete the Internal Audit 2021/22 and sending External Audit and also help with the procedure for the elections of the new Community Council in May 2022. She is to begin drawing up a list of duties for members to advertise the position. This was agreed.

ACCOUNTS – November & December (agreed any necessary payments in advance) – Mr. Hinchliffe proposed, Mr Lewis sec. these be paid. Agreed.

2806 – P. Gaade	Expenses paid out (Lock & Cable ties)	£ 43.84
2807 – AVOW	Wage, Salary & charge.	£715.81
2808 – J. Hughes	Tree work – Dee Park	£250.00
2809 – A Pridding	Grass Cuts at Castle Meadows 2021	£1080,00
2810 – EDF	Street Lighting – Energy.	£207.94
2811 – M & L	Grass Cut – Village entrance.	£ 78.00
2812 – Apple Sound	Hire of Equipment & operator.	£222.00
2813 – Marie Curie	S. 137 Grant	£100.00
2814 – WCBC	Trade Refuse – 2nd half annual charge	£505.00

**The next meeting of the Holt Community Council, will be held, in January.
This will be the Budget/setting of the Precept for 2022/23, meeting.**

Date to be arranged. Seasons Greetings to All.

