

HOLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL- MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY JUNE 28TH 2022 AT 7-00PM AT THE KENYON HALL, HOLT.

PRESENT: Councillors – Mr J Cubitt, Mrs G Jones, Ms A Shone, Mr D Munnerley, Mr J Pridding, Mr A Jones, Councillor M Morris

Also present, Mr G Mitchell, new Clerk and Mrs J Pierce, retiring Clerk.

APOLOGIES: Mr S Lewis, Mr D Powell.

CHAIR: Mr J Cubitt, Chairman, took the chair and welcomed everyone. A silence was held in respect of the late Mrs Ann Baker.

Mr Cubitt read out a card from the retiring Clerk, Mrs Jean Pierce, advising that she was formally retiring at the end of July and thanking the Councillors, both past and present, for the support and friendship given to her over the 43 years in which she has been Clerk to Holt Community Council.

MINUTES: Mr J Cubitt proposed these be signed and approved as a true record, seconded Mrs G Jones

ITEM 1 – MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- 1) Mr J Pridding signed the Declaration of Office and Acceptance of the Model Code of Conduct in the presence of the retiring Clerk who countersigned (as per requirement in Law)
- 2) **HOLT COMMUNITY GARDENERS:** The Holt Car Park Nature Project is progressing well
- 3) **COMMUNITY AGENTS:** A letter from the Rainbow Foundation was read out which advised that the Rainbow Foundation had joined with the National Trust and were inviting people in the local communities to join with them in a series of wellbeing activities at Erddig in June and July: the activities include Nordic walking, an outdoor tour, art in the garden, woodland walks and books on prescription, with the activities designed to encourage the natural world and to take advantage of the beauty of Erddig. Full details of the activities, dates and times were included in the letter.
- 4) **ALLOTMENTS:** A meeting with Grant Howard regarding quotes for Allotment fencing, tile waste removal from one of the allotments and removal of a fallen apple tree is to be arranged by the Clerks.
- 5) **MUGA:** Councillor Morris advised that a meeting is due to be held soon to discuss Section 106 and the surface water issues.
- 6) **PLAY EQUIPMENT DEE PARK:** A meeting was held with Alison, Area Sales Manager for Sutcliffe Play to discuss which equipment to order for the Dee Park play area; both Clerks and some councillors attended; 2 options were identified and Alison will provide detailed quotations.
- 7) **FINANCIAL SHEET:** The Financial sheet had been circulated to the Councillors; it was discussed and variances explained; proposed acceptance by Ms A Shone, seconded by Mrs G Jones, all agreed.

- 8) The retiring Clerk advised that on her return from holiday, a message had been received on her answerphone from a resident of Cae'r Lew Flats on Quakers Way asking for the land at the approach to Dee Villas to be tidied up; an email was sent to the Street Scene Co-ordinator at WMBC who went to have a look but could not find anything wrong. In addition, the Clerk had sent thanks on behalf of Holt CC for the swift removal of the graffiti on the bypass bridge.
- 9) **WILDLIFE AT CASTLE:** The retiring Clerk advised that she had had a lengthy conversation with Rachel Carter from One Voice Wales regarding free garden packs from Local Places for Nature but it was decided that it was not suitable for Holt.
- 10) **PLANNING:** Due to a Councillor having an interest in a planning application, this item was deferred until the end of the meeting.
- 11) **MONUMENT MEADOW:** Mr J Cubitt, Mr P Hinchliffe and Mr D Munnerley attended the recent open day.
- 12) **INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION FOR WALES:** Mr J Pridding was advised of his right to claim expenses but declined the offer.
- 13) **GRANTING OF FREEDOM OF HOLT TO MR P GAADE;** The meeting was advised that Mr Gaade had been presented with the scroll and that he had been pleased to accept the honour.

ITEM 2: CORRESPONDENCE

- 14) An email had been received from Rachel Varley, Senior Parliamentary Researcher to Sarah Atherton MP requesting whether it would be possible for local MP to attend a meeting of Holt CC; after a discussion, it was decided to invite Mrs Atherton to the September meeting with a time slot of the first 15 minutes to be made available: Proposed Mr J Pridding, seconded by Mrs G Jones, all agreed, Clerk to confirm.
- 15) A request had been made by WMBC to site a small cabin on a corner of the car park (as had happened previously) while repairs were made to the nearby council houses; this work was likely to take some weeks, possibly a couple of months; this was agreed by all
- 16) A letter had been received from the office of the Mayor of Wrexham inviting the Chairman Mr J Cubitt, to attend a Civic Service at St Giles Church, Wrexham on Sunday 10th July; unfortunately, Mr Cubitt is away on holiday, and the Vice Chairman is away on holiday at this time and cannot be asked whether can attend; accordingly, the request will be declined.
- 17) An application for a premises licence for The Quarry Arms (formally the Gredington Arms) had been received.
- 18) A notice was read out regarding the Holt and Farndon Community Archaeological Project

ITEM 3: AGENDA

- 19) The retiring Clerk advised that she had been informed that it was not possible to co-op Mr J Hughes onto the Community Council and that a notice needed to be displayed in the first instance; this was done but as

Mr D Bithell had expressed an interest in becoming a Community Councillor, another notice was now required advising that there were 2 vacancies and has subsequently been put up.

ITEM 4: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 20) Mrs G Jones advised that the condition of the archway into the Dee park play area was getting worse; Clerk advised this had previously been reported to WMBC; also that a wiring cover on a street lamp at the entrance to Chapel Lane had fallen off and the wiring exposed; Clerk to contact WMBC
- 21) Mr J Pridding advised that commercial bins were being left out for days on the footpath on Green Street; this was to be monitored: a Mercedes van was being parked on this side of the traffic lights on the bridge and was causing an obstruction; damage had been done to the tiling on the inside of the toilets and tiles now need replacing; it was agreed to check the CCTV and if necessary inform the PCSO.
- 22) Councillor M Morris brought up about having more CCTV cameras in the village especially on the Cross although this may create difficulties regarding monitoring of them.
- 23) Mr J Cubitt mentioned that names of ex Councillors needed removing from the website; also banking mandate needed to be amended; in addition, Mr Cubitt had been contacted by his opposite number on Farndon Parish Council asking whether it would be possible to establish a closer relationship between the 2 adjoining councils; a suggestion was made to invite the both Chairpersons to attend meetings of each council. Mr Cubitt asked the Clerks to try and get an approximate cost to lay electrics to the allotments.

MR J PRIDDING, WHO HAD DECLARED AN INTEREST IN A PLANNING APPLICATION, LEFT THE MEETING.

- 24) **PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** A letter from a J10 Planning, a company working on behalf of Pridding Farming Partnership, was read out; the letter was a "Consultation Before Applying For Planning Permission Notice Under Article 2D". The property was "land adjoining Sycamore House, Wrexham Road, Holt." The notice was requesting a pre-application consultation response from specialist consultees before the application for planning permission was made. Councillor Morris advised that the notice was a legal requirement as part of the pre-application process. The site had been included in the Pre Local Planning for the Local Development Plan of 2013 which has not yet been adopted. Councillor Morris commented that any application before the Local Development Plan is adopted is presumptuous. It was commented that some of the proposed houses were 2.5 storeys high, that 39 properties was too many and there was not enough provision for affordable housing.

A discussion was held and the Clerk was asked to reply to J10 Planning advising that at this stage, the Community Council considered that the provision for open space was inadequate, that because parts of the site were elevated, 2 storeys high should be the maximum and that the overriding demand for the village was for starter homes and bungalows.

ACCOUNTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT FOR JUNE: These were proposed by Mrs G Jones and seconded by Mr D Munnerley

2862 – AVOW Wage, 2 x Salary & charge £1198.87

2863 – Zurich Insurance 2022/23 £693.51

2864 – M & L Grass cuts, Castle & Village £402.00

2865– S. Coupland Cuts of Bowling Green £220.00

2866 – E. Jones Grass Cuts £240.00

2867– Kenyon Hall Hire of Room May £ 25.20

2868 – WCBC Half year play areas check £338.40

2869 – J. Pierce Expenses including poppies £ 98.27

2870 – Broxap New Litter Bin £429.60

2871 – S. Coupland Grass cuts etc June 2022 £275.00

Next Meeting will be held on Tuesday 26th July at the Kenyon Hall