

**HOLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL- MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY JANUARY 17TH 2023 AT 7-00PM AT THE KENYON HALL, HOLT.**

PRESENT: Councillors – Mr J Cubitt, Mr S Lewis, Mr D Powell, Mr D Munnerley, Mr D Bithell, Mr J Hughes, Mr J Pridding, Mr G Mitchell, Clerk

APOLOGIES: Mrs G Jones, Ms A Shone, Mr A Jones, Councillor M Morris

The meeting was formally opened by the Chairman Mr J Cubitt who welcomed everyone. A silence was held in respect of the late Mrs Marlene Pridding, Mr Ronald Griffiths, Mr Les Hughes, Mr Barry Davies, and Mr Neil Graham

MINUTES: Mr J Hughes proposed these be approved as a true record, seconded by Mr D Munnerley.

POLICE REPORT:

There was no Police presence at the meeting but an email had been received from PCSO Davies advising that there were no statistics for Holt for December and that she would be carrying out more speed checks in the village.

ITEM 1: MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- 1) **ALLOTMENTS:** The fence between allotments 7a and 7b is being erected on Friday 20th January.
- 2) **BOWLING GREEN:** The Clerk advised on the amount of work carried out in November and December on the Bowling Green and that 25 builders bags full of moss and thatch had been removed. The Clerk advised that he would be writing to Mr Alan Cope from the bowlers advising him of the work carried out.
- 3) **MUGA:** The Clerk had advised of the letter from Allington Hughes with their Standard Terms of Engagement and an outline breakdown of the likely costs involved in the transfer of the Muga and Open Space at Castle Green from Castle Green Homes to Holt Community Council; it was agreed for the Clerk to sign and send back agreeing the Standard Terms.
- 4) **COMMUNITY GARDENERS AND COMMUNITY ORCHARD:** Mr D Munnerley has spoken to the Tenants of the Dee Park bungalows, 57-59 and advised them of the proposal to plant a Community Orchard on the small piece of ground between the bottom of the Tenants gardens and the footpath; this proposal was happily received. The Community Orchard would consist of mainly dwarf apple trees and possible some pear trees, with wild flowers and bulbs planted around the trees. The Clerk advised that he was in contact with various people at WCBC to see if permission would be forthcoming for the establishment of the Orchard.
- 5) **CHURCH GREEN BENCHES:** AS it was unknown as to who owned or was responsible for the benches at the Church Green Play Area, the Clerk was asked to contact Carla Hughes at WCBC to see if she could help.
- 6) **FINANCIAL SHEET:** This was discussed and is ok at present; Proposed acceptance Mr J Pridding, seconded Mr D Munnerley.

ITEM 2 : CORRESPONDENCE:

- 7) **DATA PROTECTION:** The Clerk had received an email from John Henry to advise that the Council needed to be aware that changes may be needed to the Data Protection Policy due to legislation being discussed by Parliament
- 8) All other correspondence has been discussed earlier in the meeting.
- 9) **PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** There had been no planning applications received in the period since the last meeting.

ITEM 3: AGENDA:

- 10) **BUDGET APPROVAL AND PRECEPT SETTING:** A discussion was held about the Budget and Precept; an initial Pre Budget meeting had been held on 7th December with the Clerk, Ex Clerk, Mrs J Pierce, Mr J Cubitt and Mr P Hinchliffe. At that meeting a Precept of 5% was agreed subject to full council approval with 3 projects identified and agreed; Holt's entry into Wales and Britain in Bloom, Celebration of Coronation of King Charles 3rd (possibly with Kenyon Hall Committee) and an overhaul of the village toilets. The Community Council was in agreement with the Precept and the projects identified, though it was noted that these projects may be added to or subtracted from, dependent on circumstances.

Budget increase of 5%, new Precept £34,635.00

- 11) **SKILLS TRAINING:** Under Welsh Government legislation, there is a need for the Community Council to set up and maintain a "Skills Matrix" which notes the individual skills of the Councillors and the attributes and experience they can bring to the role of Councillor; in addition there is a need to identify what skills Councillors may need to enhance their role within the Community Council. A subcommittee headed by Mr D Powell, with Mr S Lewis, Mr J Hughes and Mr J Pridding, was set up to further investigate this topic.

In addition to the above, it was noted that the Community Council needs to create and publish on their website by May of each year, an annual report.

- 12) **FINANCE GOVERNANCE TOOLKIT:** A subcommittee headed by Mr J Cubitt, CC Chairman, Mr D Munnerley, Mr G Mitchell, Clerk, was set up and it was agreed to ask Mr P Hinchliffe (ex CC Councillor with Finance experience) to join and assist. The subcommittee is to review the financial arrangements that the Community Council has in place to ensure the appropriate standards are met.

ITEM 4: ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- 13) The Clerk advised on the situation with the Defibrillator; it was called upon to be used twice within a few days in January but unfortunately it could not be used on the second occasion as the pads had already been used. The Clerk is looking to see what is needed to be done in case the situation is repeated. A discussion was held about whether another

defibrillator was needed in the village but it was thought that there may be another one at Bellis Bros. Clerk to make enquires.

The Clerk also advised that he had been asked by a member of the Community to ensure that the hedges leading up to and around the Cemetery, were cut before Rushbearing in 2023; also a request was made for new watering cans to be provided for the Cemetery as the ones presently used, leaked.

Mr D Munnerley advised that the holes in the footpath leading from Dee Park to the Play Area had still not been repaired and also could a Grit/Salt Bin be placed near to that footpath as in the winter weather, the footpath becomes very icy. The Clerk advised that he had already asked WCBC Streetscene to repair the footpath.

Mr D Bithell advised that the waste bin on the left hand side of the road, opposite Holt Copse, had disappeared; also the drain/rain water grids had still not been emptied; the Clerk advised that he had emailed Streetscene about this previously.

ACCOUNTS: Approved for payment in January; Proposed Mr S Lewis, seconded Mr A Jones, Agreed

2928 – AVOW	Wages, Salary, and Charge	£749.51
2929 – Mr J Hughes-	Quoated Tree Removal Cemetery	£400.00
2930 – Wrexham Community Broadcasting	S137 Re Calon FM	£100.00
2931 – Grant Howard,	Fence at Allotments 7a/7b	£150.00
2832 – Hafren Dyfrdwy CYF,	Water at Toilets	£249.52
2933 – EDF Energy,	Power 01/08-01/11/22	£294.82

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE KENYON HALL 28TH JANUARY 2023 AT 7PM

