

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HOLYWELL-CUM-NEEDINGWORTH PARISH  
COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2014 AT 7.30PM AT MILLFIELDS.**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr M Williamson (Chairman)  
Cllr J Neish (Vice-chairman)  
Cllr Border  
Cllr G Fisher  
Cllr R Fountain  
Cllr A Holloway  
Cllr E MacPherson  
Cllr I Neve  
Cllr C Norman  
Cllr C Pearce  
Cllr A Whyte

Miss J Bowd (Parish Clerk)  
Mrs H Sirot-Smith (Assistant to Parish Clerk)

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

1 member of the public.

**147. APOLOGIES**

Cllr J Carter (personal commitment).

**148. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests, as set out in Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011 and the nature of those interests relating to any Agenda item.

**Personal**

Cllr I Neve – item 156.2 (ii) – planning application at 4 Meeting Lane - neighbour of applicant.  
Cllr R Fountain - Items 158.1-3 – items relating to Village Hall – VHT.  
Cllr E Macpherson - Items 158.1-3 – items relating to Village Hall – VHT.  
Cllr C Norman – items 159.1 & 2 – Bowls Club loan application – husband member of club.

**Prejudicial**

None.

**149. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> January be signed by the Chairman as being a true and correct record. All in favour.

**150. PUBLIC FORUM.**

No matters arising.

**151. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS.**

Cllr K Reynolds (County Councillor), Cllr P Bullen (County Councillor) and Cllr R Carter (District Councillor) sent their apologies.

Cllr T Rogers reported that ‘Facing the Future’ exercise had been completed in last 2months. Identified savings to make as a result. Also revised the ‘Corporate Plan’ remaining 4 tranches reflect what the council want to do.

Budget – central government offering 1% this year and 1% next year if HDC do not increase council tax in 2014/15. This will mean additional 1.5 million into HDC budget so removing need

for more savings. The regional support grant been cut, now getting £6million (about half of original amount expected) and on a reducing scale thereafter.

New homes bonus will bring 3m in during 2014/15. Alterations to Business Rates means that HDC can retain 1% of any additional business rates raised. This will produce an additional £4 million in revenue. Central government policy is encouraging councils to build more homes, to get more business, so receive more funding.

## **152. POLICING**

### **152.1. To receive a Police Report.**

#### **Crime reported**

No crimes reported in the parish.

### **152.2. Neighbourhood Policing Team – Any Issues and Concerns.**

5<sup>th</sup> March – police forum.

Dates of Parish Council meetings have been provided to Huntingdonshire Police and we await to hear when one will be attended by PCSO.

Chairman encouraged Councillors to switch to new E-cops.

## **153. CLERK'S REPORT.**

The following meeting dates were noted:-

### **4<sup>th</sup> March 2014 - Full Council**

### **18<sup>th</sup> February 2014 – Consultation, Leisure Facilities, Planning & Finance committees.**

#### **Environment**

- Great Ouse AONB has submitted application to Natural England a decision is expected April/May. A copy of the submission is on file should anyone wish to read it.
- Work started on clearing Conger Lane by Community Payback Team 25/1/14.

#### **Items to report.**

- **Youth Shelter** – now installed, an article will be in the next edition of the villager and The Hunts Post. Currently obtaining quotes for a floor surface
- Cars which have been left consistently at the village hall car park have had letters put on windscreen. One has now gone. The other has been confirmed by local police as belonging to property very close to village hall. Tax will run out end of the month.
- Clerk has submitted grant on behalf of VHT for improvements to ladies' toilets.
- Clerk has contacted several agencies to make enquiries about who agreed for the lay-by to be filled in outside cottages on High Street (55-63) in connection with the public concern over refuse collection from Senescalls.

## **154. COMMITTEES.**

To note the minutes of the following committees:-

### **154.1 Consultation – 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014**

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the Consultation Committee be noted.

### **154.2. Planning & Finance – 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014**

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the Planning & Finance Committee be noted.

### **154.3 Environment – 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014**

Amend that tyre marks reported by Cllr Holloway on Holywell Front.

Amend the 'Hide' as being located behind the tractor shed.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the Environment Committee be noted.

**Arising from this the Chairman thanked all those who had joined working party in clearing brambles and bushes around the village.**

## **155. FINANCE & RISK.**

### **155.1. To approve accounts for Payment as at 4<sup>th</sup> February 2014.**

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the accounts for payment total of **£10,446.03** be approved. All in favour.

### **155.2. To agree the following payments within the Clerk's delegated powers:**

**(i) Disk drive for computer back-up – Staples - £56.36.**

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the amount be approved. All in favour.

### **155.3. To receive and note the budget report as at 30<sup>th</sup> January 2014.**

That the budget report be noted. All in favour.

### **155.4. To note the bank reconciliation of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013.**

Noted.

### **155.5 To note that Parish Council investments are not covered by Financial Services Compensation Scheme.**

Noted.

Raised by Cllr Holloway in January when Council resolved to pay funds into Cambridge Building Society. Clerk has raised with CAPALC. Confirmed that finances not insured if Bank/Building Society collapses. Advice is to only go to low risk/large scale organisations and to spread the risk.

### **155.6 To approve reinvestment of Cambridge Building Society Bond**

Cllr Fountain did not advocate 2 year bond. Advised VHT have used Virgin which has good rate of interest for charities. Clerk recommended reviewing market regularly. Did not consider Virgin likely to view Parish council as a charity.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That £10,000 to be re-invested in CBS 2 year bond. 10 in favour. 1 against. (Proposed – Cllr Neish, seconded – Cllr Williamson)

### **155.7 To note risk assessment for volunteer workers.**

Council noted Risk Assessment form provided by Clerk for volunteer workers – specifically for tree works. All in favour that RA form be applied and used.

## **156. PLANNING.**

### **156.1 To receive a presentation from representatives of Gifford's Farm.**

Mr James Green apologised to Council that they had not been consulted earlier and stipulated that nothing yet has been agreed. Land approx. 280 acres originally owned by grandfather from 1950s. Approached by St Ives Football club to ask if would consider letting them move to a site on part of their land. At same time, also approached by a couple of other growing companies in St Ives, looking to expand and also for improved site not liable to flooding. The Green family are aware of concerns relating to infrastructure and safety for pedestrians crossing A1123. Have approached HDC about allocation of land amounting to 5 hectares for commercial use. They have had brief dialogue with Head/governors of St Ivo School who confirms that the school are at capacity but obviously population in area growing so some thought could be given to building site for sixth form centre on the site.

Question raised about recent HDC consultation which recognised area of land at farm as high grade agricultural land not considered suitable for development.

Mr Green confirmed that it was grade 2 land.

Cllr Pearce asked for confirmation that the site retained access from the roundabout on A1123 and also how much land had been allocated for housing. Mr Green responded that yes access was held from the roundabout and that no housing development was in the plan hence the original option with a housing developer had fallen away.

Cllr Holloway stated that he did not wish to see 'creep' from St Ives affecting the village environment.

Cllr Border felt this type of development would be more suited on the Huntingdon side of St Ives where all the new housing development was taking place.

**Resolved:** That Chairman write to St Ives Town Council to express the Parish Councils concerns of the lack of protocol in their dealings in this matter (proposed- Cllr Neish, seconded -Cllr Holloway) All in favour

**156.2. To consider the following applications:**

**(i) Application Ref: 1302042FUL – Single storey extension to rear and porch to front.**

**36 The Furlongs, Needingworth.**

**RESOLVED:**

That parish council approved the plans submitted. All in favour. (Proposed – Cllr Macpherson, seconded – Cllr Holloway)

*Cllr Neve declared a personal interest in the following item.*

**(ii) Application Ref: 1400024FUL – First floor extension above garage -4 Meeting Lane, Needingworth**

**RESOLVED:**

That the Parish Council approved the plans submitted. All in favour. (Proposed – Cllr Macpherson, seconded – Cllr Neish)

**157. ENVIRONMENT.**

**157.1. To note the road closure and diversion, Church Street 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> April 2014.**

**RESOLVED:**

That proposed road closures be noted.

**157.2. To consider the 'Community Right to Bid' scheme.**

Clerk outlined what scheme would mean for PC. Chairman recommended that PC registered the village shop under the scheme..

**RESOLVED:**

That the council agreed that Clerk should submit application.

**157.3. To agree redevelopment of the site adjacent to the Lock – Up.**

Clerk outlined request for juniper bush to be trimmed/removed to allow access to side of property for repair work to chimney. The potential re-landscaping of this area by Role of Honour Board was supported.

**RESOLVED:**

AC/Clerk to liaise with owners of 35 High Street before agreeing what landscaping will take place.

**157.4. To consider applying for funds under the CCC Cycle Legacy – Small Grant Fund.**

Clerk thought re-landscaping of Role of Honour board area could be linked with commemoration of start of First World War, with an application to CCC Cycle legacy marking the contribution by those who were members of the Hunts Cycling Battalion.

**RESOLVED:**

That Clerk will make further investigations about a grant application.

*Cllrs Fountain & Macpherson declared a personal interest in the following 3 items.*

**158. VILLAGE HALL**

**158.1. To receive a report from the representative of the Village Hall Trust.**

Cllr Fountain reported that January minutes had not been presented to PC as they have not yet been approved by the committee.

Cllr Williamson outlined the delays that the Premises working Party were experiencing and reported that Clerk and he would be seeking legal advice from Messrs Winters who drew up the original lease.

**158.2. To note minutes of the VH Management Committee – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2013.**

Noted.

**158.3. To consider the request for use of Overcote Playing Field for 2014 Music Festival.**

Cllr Fountain confirmed that would follow same format with regards security, etc as last year.

**RESOLVED:**

That permission be granted. All in favour.

*Cllr Norman declared a personal interest in the following 2 items.*

**159. BOWLS CLUB.**

**159.1. To consider legal advice regarding extension/renewal of Bowls Club lease.**

The Clerk advised the council of the legal advice she had received. Discussion over legal fees for a Deed of Variation of £350.

**RESOLVED:**

That a Deed of variation be applied. All in favour. (Proposed – Cllr Williamson 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Neish)

That the PC pay legal fees relating to the Deed of Variation.

3 in favour of paying amount. 7 against. (Proposed – Cllr Pearce 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Fountain)

That PC agrees to pay 50% of legal fees with Bowls Club to pay the remainder. 7 in favour, 2 against. 2 abstentions (Proposed – Cllr Neish, seconded – Cllr Macpherson)

**159.2. To approve the wording of and signing of the loan agreement between the Parish Council and the Bowls Club.**

**RESOLVED:**

That Chair & Clerk to sign agreement as presented. All in favour.

**160. POLICIES.**

**160.1. To review the CCTV Policy.**

**RESOLVED:**

That the council accept the CCTV policy. All in favour.

**161. CORRESPONDENCE:-**

**To receive correspondence and agree any actions:-**

**161.1. To note the letter from CCC re WW1 Commemorations.**

Noted.

**161.2. To note the campaign to save The Cromwell Museum.**

Noted.

**161.3. To note the launch of Cambridgeshire Energy Switch Scheme.**

Noted.

**161.4. To note the update from NHW.**

Noted.

**161.5. To note changes to bus routes with effect from February 2014.**

Noted. Council request Clerk to see if service will improve through the village and also to write expressing concerns over the increase impact on traffic issues, Harrison Way in peak times.

**161.6. To note CCC Transport questionnaire to be distributed with The Villager.**

Noted.

**161.7. To note the briefing Housing Related Support for Older People.**

Noted.

**162. ITEMS FOR REPORT ONLY.**

- Cllr Neish asked whether any thought had been given to ANPR camera to log every vehicle which came round the ring village. Request received by Holywell resident. Clerk will look into cost and report back.
- Cllr Pearce – concerns raised over lack of feedback from HDC planning department following officer representation at last meeting . He also asked what reply was regarding top access into Greenbank/Kestrel Court. Clerk confirmed that Planning Enforcement were satisfied that conditions had now been met with a gate having been installed and that if PC wish the kerb to be raised then cost will have to be met by PC .
- Cllr Whyte – 33 Harris Crescent – vegetation growing over footpath. 53 Harris Crescent noted dug out fence and put bricks by kerb so that they park their car in back garden.
- Cllr Border advised she would be meeting with Cllr Fisher to agree tasks for tree working party.
- Cllr Neve advised that ‘Scores on the Door’ scheme did not show community café favourably. Clerk advised that re-assessment had not been applied for due to requirements for hand-washing facilities not being able to be met.
- Cllr Norman has received complaint about motorcycles using footpath at Conger Lane to St Ives.
- Cllr Macpherson advised that VHT has Trivia Quiz on 1<sup>st</sup> March. Encouraged all to attend.
- Cllr Holloway requested that in future votes for Chairman & Vice-chair should be done privately. Secondly, he reported that some holes have been filled in the road along Back Lane, Holywell.
- Clerk advised that traffic lights on B1050 (Willingham Road) have been delayed until week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> February due to flooding at Earith bridge.

There being no further business the meeting finished at 9.38 pm.

CHAIRMAN

DATE