

HOLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL – MINUTES OF ZOOM MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER, 2021 AT 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors – Mr. J. Cubitt, Mrs G. Jones, Mr. P. Hinchliffe, Mr. P. Gaade, Mr. D.Powell, Mr. S. Lewis, Mr. J. Pridding, Mr. D. Munnerley, Mr. J. Hughes, Councillor Morris, Mr. Bob Campbell and Olga Greyling (New Website).

CHAIR: Mr. J. Cubitt, the Chairperson took the Chair and welcomed everyone, a silence was held in respect of the following –Late, Mrs Beryl Rose and Mr. Brian Darbyshire,

APOLOGIES: Ms. A. Shone – tried to get into meeting but had technical difficulties).

MINUTES: Mr. P. Gaade asked for a small amendment of a typing error and then proposed, Mr. P. Hinchliffe seconded, the minutes of the last meeting be signed and approved as a true record. All agreed.

ITEM 1A – NEW WEBSITE: -UPDATE ON PROGRESS – Bob Campbell and Olga Greyling invited into the meeting at this point. Bob had kindly forwarded a link to the new website to allow members to view the design and layout and it was thought very good. Organisations are to be contacted to encourage them to have sections for them to update once the new site is up and running. At the moment the original site is still in existence as the link. Once the whole thing has been up and running for a while then the possibility of funding from advertisements e.t.c will be looked at. Olga has kindly taken this on with Bob still working alongside her and Matt Rowlands kindly doing the technical parts but Bob needs to finish with it hopefully within this year and anyone willing to help them would be appreciated. They were both thanked and Bob and Olga offered to keep us up dated on progress. They then left the meeting.

ITEM 1B. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

1. COMMUNITY AGENT: The post has now been filled by Lyndsay Cross who is a very enthusiastic young lady. The Clerk had attended a Consortium meeting at Penley, the previous day to the Council Meeting and met with them to hear all their exciting new developments. They have extended services for Day Care etc to Marchwiell where they have another base and started up a ‘Bereavement Group’ which presently is at capacity but hopefully from this people are helped, make friends and move on to allow others to join. Roadshows are to be held to highlight services and the Holt one will be held on Wednesday, 20th October, 2021 11 a.m. to 12.15 p.m. The van will be on the Cross and the Kenyon Hall will be open (Covid restrictions allowing). The council agreed to have the credit from tonight’s booking of hall transferred to the Road Show booking as Kenyon Hall were going to allow the booking for free for free to Rainbow Consortium. A new Community Development Officer, Jackie Tompkinson has also been appointed and is very keen to work with the Communities.

2.WILDLIFE TRUST: COPSE: A request for a Logo was received from Henry, to go on the Information Board for the Copse. The Clerk sent the image of the Holt Castle that is on the Village Sign. The Clerk had spoken to a couple of members to get agreement for this.

3. HOLT COMMUNITY GARDENERS: Mr. Cubitt, the Chairperson, expressed ‘Congratulations to Holt Community Gardeners and everyone involved, in whatever way, for the success in the Wales in Bloom Competition. The Clerk had sent Congratulations and thanks on behalf of the Holt CC. The Village looked amazing.

‘Holt Car Park Project – Vision’ has been sent from the Gardeners, to the Clerk who forwarded it to members and the Clerk had contacted WCBC as it was not sure who owned which part of Car Park. The Gardeners are applying for a Grant towards this. Councillor Morris was helpful and thought this would not affect any of the Car Park and the Clerk will get back to Nicholas Adamson, WCBC, to ask for an answer. No members had any objection to the Project which would enhance the area. The Clerk will reply to the Gardeners to support this. An application for various funding, from the Gardeners, was read out and this will be considered in the October Grant’s Meeting but the partly involved Funding to raise £2495 to keep the Sculpture, ‘The Face of Holt’ on the Cross This was considered and Mr. Gaade proposed this be supported in principle for £500 subject to the rest of the amount being raised. Mrs Jones seconded this. All agreed.

4. POLICE MATTERS: The PCSO Lisa Davies sent an e.mail to report that more Speed checks were carried out on Frog Lane on 13/9/2021 (14.00-14.10) when no vehicles were recorded over 26mph. Lisa is to be asked if possible to carry out a couple of checks around 17:00 hours and 8.45 to 9.00am when more traffic is around and perhaps for a longer period sometimes, whilst appreciating the police have a big area to cover and we half own the speed gun with Rossett CC. People are encouraged to contact ‘Go safe’ directly with concerns not the PCSOs please. The Holt Community Council were also asked to publicise the North Wales Community Alert Service in order that information would feedback to the local community through this method not by using social media as this is not monitored by the police. With working together and using 101 it is hoped to keep Holt safe and trouble free. The Committee thanked Lisa Davies and other PCSOs for their help.

5. ALLOTMENT RE-GENERATION GRANT: Allotment 2b has now been let and permission given for small controlled fire in a bin to dispose of the mound of wood left from when it was one allotment. Clerk is to suggest advertising on Facebook if anyone needs wood for Log Burners etc. A letter to be sent to the tenants of number 3 allotment as this has not been cultivated to required standard this year. Mr. Gaade proposed these actions, Mr. Lewis seconded. All agreed.

6. GENERAL MATTERS: A representation of members and the Clerk, had met with Greg McArthur and walked the areas of concern and it was very pleasing to hear that several of the matters had been attended to quite quickly. The litter bin has been fixed at the Holt Castle and the other bin moved to Dee Lane, under the bridge. Thanks were expressed to Mr. Powell (who had asked to leave the meeting early so wasn’t present to be thanked personally) but he had taken delivery of the Double Litter Bin and stored it for us. The Clerk had thanked him and WCBC for their help with this.

7. FOOTPATH & PUBLIC HIGHWAY NUMBER 31 – DEESIDE: This had been visited with Greg Macarthur and the Clerk had been instructed to contact Sean Hanratty with concerns and he had visited the owner of Deeside, Mr. T. Winnifrith. Mr. Hanratty sent an update on the visit and the discussion and had discussed the ‘Extinguishing of this and possible re-routing’. The members also received a letter from Mr. Winnifrith. This matter was fully discussed and a resolution was made by the members not to support the action of Closure of the Footpath 31 and highway if this was the route chosen by Mr. Winnifrith. A reply is to be sent to him to say ‘that Holt Community Council had some years ago been given permission to cut the grass on this

Public Right of Way and that if he wished to apply to WCBC, who are the responsible body, for an Extinguishment Order or Diversion of the Footpath, this would need to be discussed with them and advertised through the proper channels, then the Holt Community as a statutory consultee would be consulted in both cases and that the committee have resolved not to support any closure of Footpath 31 or the highway'.

8. FINANCIAL SHEET: The sheet for July & August has been sent to members. This was approved. Mr. Cubitt proposed this, Mr. Gaade seconded. All agreed. It was agreed not to adopt a separate information sheet that had been prepared for the meeting with Sarah Atherton M.P. due to being unable to accurately forecast payment dates for the unexpected high costs needed for Holt's Play Areas. This will be resolved in 2022. Mr. Cubitt proposed this change, Mr. Gaade seconded. All in favour. The Clerk had submitted a time sheet for August as requested and no further sheets are required. Agreed.

9. DEE PARK PLAY AREA – EXTRA LIGHTING: Mr. Gaade & Mr. Munnerley declared interest. Noted. The head of the light at Fairview had been turned but this has not solved the problem and photos were circulated to members of how dark this area is. The Clerk is now to contact Mega to ask their advice on either one new light with 30 watt lamp or double headed lamp etc This is to be situated in middle of park by seat as discussed. This needs to be progressed quickly. All agreed.

10. DEE PARK & CHURCH GREEN PLAY AREAS: The Clerk had contacted the Holt Town Trust to seek help with funding for the Church Green Play Area Surface and they had replied saying unfortunately they have no funds available in this Financial Year. The Clerk apologised as she had asked for the nett amount on Dee Park in error so will send a fresh letter ready for the new Financial Year for consideration. A joint meeting needs to be arranged with the Holt Town Trust to discuss future maintenance of this play area.

11. BREEDON – BORRAS QUARRY – A reply was received answering the queries and concerns, the Clerk had sent to them regarding a pre planning application. This was a helpful letter and noted.

12. BOWLING GREEN: A letter was received regarding treatment of the Green, from Mr. Kershaw and this was discussed. The budget for work at the allotments had been set for 2021/22 and the committee have only allocated work agreed with Mr. Coupland on his quote. It was agreed £450 be allocated for treatment for Autumn and Mr. Coupland will commence this the first week of October. The Clerk explained the Bowlers were under the impression the Green would close on 9th September, 2021 for treatment of the green, but they pay from 1st April – 30th September and the Clerk had therefore put letters at the Bowling Pavilion to say that it would not be closing until 30th September. Members are happy with the condition of the Green now Mr. Coupland is maintaining it and believe the majority of bowlers are too. It is pleasing to see that the membership has increased by 20 members to total 35 hence an income of £700 (an increase of £5 per head had been levied in 2021/22). Mr. Lewis proposed, Mr. Gaade seconded these actions.

ITEM 2 – CORRESPONDENCE:

13. CHESTER MARATHON: This will be coming through Holt on Sunday, 3rd October, 2021. It was agreed the Public Toilets would be left open for this morning, as usual. Mr. Gaade to arrange with G. Crofts. The Clerk had written to the

organisers again to request when the firm who clear all litter come around that they pay attention to ditches. The request had been acknowledged.

14. EXTERNAL AUDIT – ANNUAL RETURN 2020/21 – Notification has been received from Wales Audit regarding the steps for Publication of Audited Accounts for the Year ended 31st March, 2021. The Clerk will publish the requires notice and copy of the Annual Return on the Website and Notice Board as required by law. This was noted by the committee.

15. PLANNING APPLICATIONS: 3 The Gardens, Holt – Outbuildings, Front Porch, Wall, Boundary Fence & Pergola (in retrospect) – the Clerk had consulted members as this was received in the August break and objections had been sent to this as before to a previous application, with some amendments. Holt Hill, Green Street, Holt – 2 applications received. Substantial work being carried out here under the watchful eye of CADW and WCBC therefore Committee have not sent comments on this. (Mr. Hughes declared interest) 1 Bridge Court, Holt – Change of Wooden Windows to UVPC – This is in the Conservation area. Mr. Gaade proposed objection to this as visible from main route through the village but the proposal was not seconded, therefore no objections sent. 1 Ashley Court, Holt – Erection of garage & domestic storage room with new access gate and posts., This falls within Conservation area consent and objections are to be sent as the garage is in front of the building line and checks requested on the height of the gate and posts. Cae Ffynon, Holt Road, Llanypwll, Wrexham – single storey domestic dog kennels & store, No objections.

16. NEW CONSERVATION OFFICER: A meeting had been arranged with the new Conservation Officer, WCBC, Kathryn Moore when several members met her and discussed the Conservation Area of Holt and the planning regulations affecting it. There has been for some time, great concern shown by members because of the lack of consistency with Planning decisions. Residents are confused as they have applications refused and then other similar applications are refused.

15. ELECTRIC CHARGING POINT: Nothing further from WCBC.

ITEM 3 – AGENDA.

17. A. REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE: It is proposed to have a Road Closure and Public address system (microphone and 4 speakers) this year. Covid Situation allowing! Mr. Gaade has obtained a quote of £185 + vat for the Sound System. Mrs Jones proposed this be accepted, Mr. Hinchliffe seconded. This was agreed. The Clerk has obtained all the usual wreaths and the Holt Town Trust have paid for theirs. The North Wales Police lay their provide and lay their wreath.

B. REVIEW OF POLICY ON PLACING ITEMS IN CEMETERY: The Holt Community Council did set ruling a few years ago on the placing of Memorial Benches in the Cemetery and the main basis of this is that seats should be of natural, hard wood. This is to be consistent and prevent a variety of seats being placed here in future. Solar lights – an incidence occurred when objections were made by a family member but at this point there are only a few of these but an eye is to be kept on this in case it becomes excessive.

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C. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The Clerk had requested to move this to 28th October, 2021 but this clashed with another meeting. The Kenyon Hall is not available on Wednesday 27th October, 2021 so it was agreed a Zoom meeting would be set up for Wednesday, 27th October, 2021. The Clerk thanked members.

ITEM 4 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

18. GENERAL MATTERS TO REPORT – Lights on left at bottom of Green Street. 1 still sodium but working, 1 LED not working. 1 Light not converted but working by Fingerpost cottage. Clerk to check these and take the necessary action. 1 light on permanently by J. Williams property, Commonwood. Dee Park – pathway under the arch from Dee Park side. The surface where it was filled after removal of barriers is now worn and is a trip hazard and pushchair wheels can drop into it. Clerk to contact WCBC.

ACCOUNTS FOR - August (approved in advance July). Accounts September.

Mrs Jones proposed these be approved and paid, Mr. Lewis seconded. All agreed.

August Accounts:

2773 – AVOW	Wages, Salary & charge	£715.81
2774 – Clean Police	July, Clean of Public Toilets.	£120.00
2775 – S. Coupland	Grass cuts and maintenance Bowling Green	£240.00
2776 – E. Jones	Hedges – cemetery	£ 72.00
2777 – EDF	Street Lighting – Energy	£198.42
2778 – M & L	Grass cuts Castle & Village entrance	£690.00
2779 – Kenyon Hall	Hire of room – 4 meetings.	£100.80
2780 – Chester Small Plant	Sharpening Blades etc on Mower.	£264.50
2781 – Broxap	Purchase of new Double Bin for Castle.	£545.94
2782 – S. Coupland	Grass Cuts – Bowling Green.	£219.00
2783 – E. Jones	Grass cuts Cemetery.	£240.00

September Accounts:

2784 – AVOW	Wages, Salary & Charge.	£715.81
2785 – M & L	Grass cuts Holt Castle & Village.	£534.00
2786 – J. Pierce	Expenses including ALCC membership.	£ 60.00

The next meeting of the Holt Community Council will be held, as agreed by Zoom on Wednesday, 27th October, 2021

