

**HOLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 AT 7.00 P.M. AT THE KENYON HALL, HOLT.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors – Mr. J. Cubitt, Mr. P. Hinchliffe, Mrs G. Jones, Mr. S. Lewis, Mr. P. Gaade, Mr. J. Pridding, Ms. A. Shone, Mr. D. Powell, Mr. D. Munnerley, Councillor Morris. Mr. G. Mitchell. (Successful Applicant for Post as Clerk/RFO).

**CHAIR:** Mr. J. Cubitt, the Chairman, took the Chair and welcomed everyone. A silence was held in respect of the late Jane Crossley and Martin Jones.

**APOLOGIES:** Mr. J. Hughes.

**MINUTES:** There was an amendment to Item 1 – Minute 6 to read £500 and Item 1. Minute 10 to read Area not Areas. Mr. Gaade then proposed the minutes be approved and accepted as a true record, Mr. Hinchliffe seconded. All agreed.

**ITEM 1 - MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

**1. COMMUNITY AGENT:** The AGM of the Rainbow Foundation is to be held on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022 but the Clerk will probably be unable to attend. The minutes will be forwarded.

**2. WILDLIFE TRUST: COPSE:** The Clerk had contacted Henry from the Wildlife and requested that half the cost of the hedge cutting, at the Copse, be refunded.

**3. HOLT COMMUNITY GARDENERS:** The Gardeners are not entering Holt in Wales in Bloom in 2022 but will enter again 2023! They have entered ‘It’s Your Neighbourhood’. They received the top award in this in 2021. Bob and Peter had attended the launch of Wales in Bloom at Bodnant Gardens. To add to good news another successful grant had been obtained by the hard working group. Congratulations to them.

**4. POLICE MATTERS:** The PCSO is to be asked for follow up of car parked which she had visited. There are still vehicles parking on the pavement by the pull in area to beneath Dee Villas and request for owners to be spoken too is to be made. Letter from Offa CC on ‘Dog Control’ and whether police should take on more to help WCBC? This was discussed and noted.

**5. TREES BY TOILETS:** A verbal quote of approximately £400 has been given by J. Hughes. This is to be accepted and the work carried out as soon as possible. All agreed.

**6. ALLOTMENT:** Mr. Munnerley declared interest. A letter had been received from a tenant wishing to hand his full size allotment over when he relinquishes tenancy. The question was also raised on the Holt CC policy for splitting allotments. Some allotments have been split to suit tenants needs and as the Clerk explained the Grant from Farm Gardens in 2020/21 encouraged the formation of Micro allotments and additional allotments to give a chance for more residents to benefit from this. Mr. Gaade proposed the Clerk renew the tenancy and explain the situation. Mr. Cubitt seconded. All in agreement.

**7. BIER HOUSE/Border of Children’s portion:** A quote has to be given by Mr. S. Jones for the work and the Clerk liaised with Mr. Hinchliffe and agreed the left side @ £460 be edged and repairs to Bier House roof @ £30. Mr. Hinchliffe proposed this, Mr. Lewis seconded. All in favour.

**8. ELECTRIC POWER POINT:** No work has taken place here so the Clerk will contact Mega for a start date! Agreed.

**9. DEE PARK PLAY AREA – Extra Lighting –** A meeting between S. Jones WCBC and representatives from Holt CC had taken place and this was very successful with a

satisfactory discussion taking place on siting and angling of light! The Clerk had contacted P. Rogers WCBC for a quote and the price has risen from approximately £1,300 in January to approximately £2202. This being extra cost of materials and posts altered for strength! It was agreed to move this forward that one light be installed. Mr. Gaade proposed, Ms. Shone seconded. All in favour.

**Grant for Play Equipment:** WCBC have paid the £2000 and the Clerk had contacted them as the project still not started as equipment to be agreed. This was no problem. Ongoing.

**10. CHURCH GREEN PLAY AREA:** A letter has been sent and the Clerk is waiting for a date for a meeting over Church Green. Noted.

**11. REVISED BURIAL CHARGES:** Clerk forwarding these for 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2022.

**12. VILLAGE WEBSITE:** There has been difficulty with this as both Olga and Matt have work commitments. Bob has kindly carried on and Paul Hinchliffe done lots of work on this. David Powell kindly agreed to help with structure and layout and a meeting to be arranged. Thanks expressed to all.

**13. HAFREN DWFRYDWY –**The Clerk had brought some problems with signage up with Catherine Webb from Severn Trent and Mr. Gaade had also contacted her. Her response to problems was fantastic and issues solved with great speed. The Clerk had thanked her!

**14. DEFIBRILLATOR:** This has now been checked by Helen McCarthy and the Clerk has updated the ‘Circuit’. Thanks to Helen.

**15. JOB INTERVIEWS FOR POSITION OF CLERK/RFO:** These had taken place and the successful applicant is Mr. Graham Mitchell, a resident of Holt, who was invited to the meeting and introduced to members. Mr. Mitchell was congratulated and will work alongside the Clerk for a short time before taking over completely.

**16. SECTION 106 MUGA –** The pathway has been laid and landscaping done. The situation here with the drainage pit has been monitored but is still concerning. Councillor Morris has been dealing with this and visited other sites. Discussion took place but a meeting is needed here, with a chat afterwards, as soon as possible. Many thanks to Councillor Morris for his help.

**17. MEMORIALS:** An application for a headstone and kerbs received for grave late Mrs M. Ince. Mr. Gaade proposed, Mr. Lewis seconded this be approved. All agreed.

**18. FINANCIAL STATEMENT:** This had been circulated to members along with the cover note. Mr. Hinchliffe explained the financial situation and permission was given for the Capital Element to be altered as some projects not started or completed in 2021/22 thus altering the end of year balances. Mrs Jones proposed the sheet be approved and any necessary Capital Fund alterations be made, Mr. Cubitt seconded. All in favour. Mr. Hinchliffe thanked.

**ITEM 2 – CORRESPONDENCE:**

**19. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** 12, Ashley Court – installation of replacement windows (Conservation objected). Clays Caravan Park, Bryn Estyn Park, Wrexham, Extension and refurbishment of existing reception and facilities building. No objections. 11, Vicarage Court, Holt. – single storey side extension, resurfacing of driveway and replacement windows, Fascias, soffits, guttering and drainpipes. No objections. Frog Lane House, Frog Lane, Holt. – works to trees in Conservation area. No objections. Yew Tree Farmhouse, Wrexham Road, Holt – Part demolition and

repositioning of courtyard wall and conversion of garage to studio.

**20. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE:** Holt C.P. School – Community Room now open for hire (free to Holt CC ). Mr. Gaade proposed to leave the decision of where to meet for new Council in May. Mr. Cubitt seconded. Agreed. Risk Assessment for Council meetings in Kenyon Hall – no longer applicable! No business rate payable on Public Toilets 2022/23. Noted. Clerk had reported branches overhanging on Footpath 6. Sion Roberts to arrange work. Decarbonisation Training – WCBC – Notice to short for first meetings, Clerk to put forward Mr. J. Cubitt for future training. Thanks to John.

**21. ELECTIONS 5<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2022:**The Clerk had attended a meeting in WCBC and had delivered the application forms to members. These are to be submitted to WCBC Electoral by 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 at 4p.m. The necessary notices have been posted.

**ITEM 3. AGENDA:**

**21. FORMAL RECEIPT OF ANNUAL RETURN 2021/22, FROM WALES AUDIT, INTERNAL PLAN FROM JDH BUSINESS SERVICES, INTERNAL AUDITORS.** Mrs Jones proposed the Annual Return, be received and accepted. The Internal plan and letter of Engagement from JDH received and Clerk to Accept this and date has been arranged for 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2022. Mr. Pridding proposed this, Mr. Hinchliffe seconded. All agreed.

**22. NALC 2021 PAY INCREASE FOR CLERK:** This is to be backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2021 according to the sheet prepared. New salary is £5176.32 per annum. Mr. Lewis proposed this, Mr. Munnerley seconded. All in agreement.

**ITEM 4 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

**23. GENERAL MATTERS:** Clerk had reported fence, Fairview but it has only been tied up. She is to request replacement with green bow topped fencing. Litter bins on Cross, by Bridge, need emptying! Councillor Morris had been contacted to request bin in Bieston on old road. WCBC will fix it and empty it if Holt CC purchase it. Mrs Jones proposed Mr. Lewis seconded one be purchased. Agreed. Hedge along Francis Lane adjacent to MUGA – Cutting of this to be passed to new council after May! Barrier needed onto Francis Lane from footpath by MUGA. Mrs Jones reported that the new school play equipment has been started. Contractors to complete. Dee Park – shipping containers removed from opposite 18/20. Grass yellow and deep ruts. Request for reinstatement. Police Matter – Anti social behaviour at cemetery – reported but police have not visited. Cars being parked on pavement along Church street. This was explained. Tree at cemetery – Mr. Crofts will trim free. Permission given for him to carry out work. Clerk had obtained refund for Cemetery bins (not yet paid). Bib inside Dee Park moved. Needs fixing firmly.

**24. COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN MAY:** Mr. Hinchliffe informed members that after 5years, he will not be standing for re-election. He has enjoyed his time as a Community Councillor. He has been very active in assisting with Financial matters and with rulings of council and of great assistance to the Clerk for which she is very grateful. Mr. Hinchliffe was sincerely thanked. Mr. Gaade then said ‘like Paul I will not be standing for re-election this time. I have served on the council for 40 years and have enjoyed my time as Councillor. I am however sadly, not finishing on a happy ending, as Paul Hinchliffe is, but a very disappointing one. I and a number of councillors met the new Conservation Officer for WCBC, on the Cross and I was disappointed with some of her comments about the village and especially

number 1 Bridge Court. At the next meeting this application was discussed and as I had pointed out, in the Conservation rules, Main Road facing windows should be wooden. The application was for UVPC all around. I proposed there should be wooden windows main road facing and UVPC at the back and was very disappointed that my proposal wasn't seconded. I don't want to be on the back lash of previous applications which have been refused'. Mr. Gaade then thanked everyone and hoped they enjoyed their 40 years as Councillors'. He was thanked for the invaluable work he has undertaken during his time as Councillor. The Clerk especially values all the help she has received from him.

Members are sorry to lose two excellent Community Councillors!

**ACCOUNTS:** Mr. Cubitt proposed the accounts (including Clerk's Annual Accounts) be approved and paid, Mr. Hinchliffe seconded.

2838 – Avow	Wages, Salary & annual charge	£ 730.81
2839 – E. Jones	Grass Cuts – All areas	£240.00
2840 – Wales Audit	External Audit 2020/21	£210.00
2841 – J. Pierce	Annual Expenses	£505.88
2842 – Kenyon Hall	Hire of Hall	£ 47.25
2843 – Clean Police	March Clean of Toilets.	£120.00
2844 – S. Coupland	End treatment and cut.	£250,00

Next meeting will be held in Kenyon Hall on 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 at 7p.m



