**Draft Minutes of the Meeting of Holme Parish Council**

**Tuesday 16 March 2021 at 7pm (using Zoom).**

**Councillors present:** Mr D Neal**,** Mr E Whittaker, Mrs J Weatheritt, Mr J Griffin (Chairman), Mrs W Aylesbury, Mr P Sargent, Mr H Watson, DistrictCouncillor Tim Alban.

Also present: Mrs J Osborn (Clerk)

1. **Apologies for absence:** County Councillor Simon Bywater
2. **Declaration of interests:** None
3. **Public Participation.**

Three members of the public attended.

Mrs K Thomas (Holme School) gave a report and this will be published in the Parish News. She answered questions posed by Councillors on availability of school places and catchment areas.

1. **Report from District Councillor**:

Cllr Tim Alban reported that more fly tipping was being investigated and encouraged people to report if they see anything. He said that Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) had voted to keep the Council tax at the same level as last year. Parking enforcement is likely to be taken over by HDC. Planning procedure was discussed and Clerk to outline the specific areas of concern after the meeting.

1. **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2021.**

Cllr Neal proposed that the minutes of the meeting held on 19 January be accepted and signed as a true record. Seconded by Cllr Sargent & unanimously agreed. Minutes signed by the Chairman.

1. **Planning**
   1. 20/00208/OUT Yaxley Road. As no new information is shown online, and the decision notice has not been published from the Development Management Committee in December it is assumed that negotiations regarding the S106 agreement are in progress.
   2. 20/00989/OUT- Old Coal Yard – in progress
   3. 20/02600/HHFUL -in progress
   4. 19/02207/FUL – Parkside House, Station Rd- under appeal with the Planning Inspectorate.
   5. 21 Church St – permission granted.
   6. Enforcement Cases.
2. 30/32 30a/32a Church St – Boundary/roadside treatment is not as shown in approved plans, revised conditions in progress

ii. 44 Church St – Hedge next to Spinney Path has not been provided – in hand.

iii. Wall/gravel at Briarways, Station Rd. No news.

* 1. 21/00284/HHFUL- Rendering at Briarways, Station Rd. Applicant answered Councillors’ questions and this to be circulated for comments after the meeting as not all Councillors had been able to look at it in time due to admin problems at HDC.

1. **Matters Arising from previous meetings**
   1. **Speed Indicator –** Speeds have dropped to an average of 25mph near the cemetery in both directions, and max speed 63mph in the last 2 months. Speeds at Holmewood end of village are noticeably higher when the Speed Indicator is not present.
   2. **Traffic Calming/Road closure scheme near school –** Mrs Thomas gave her view. The current staggered start and finish times are going some way to easing the problem.
   3. **Barriers at Hardwick Court –** quote is awaited from CCC Highways
2. **Footpath to Nature reserve**.

Network Rail need the titles of the landowners to draft the permissive agreement. Clerk has contacted Great Fen/Wildlife Trust to find out without response as office is currently closed. A broad specification for the required fence has been received and a “ball park” figure for this to be sought so that the cost of the project can be assessed. Invite representative from Network Rail to meet Councillors.

1. **Trees in Churchyard**

Ayres Tree care had quoted for the works surveyed. Felt it was unlikely that HDC would allow the ash tree (T2) to be felled. Clerk to authorise works as described - brace and tidy T2, T9 and T7 tidied now and permission to be sought to fell T7 in the winter season.

1. **Holme Cemetery**
   1. Sunken graves. These are the property of the owner & families and unless there is danger the Council should not take action, but inform families where possible.
   2. Flowers/wreaths. The regulations state that Christmas wreaths should be removed by 15 February, Clerk to encourage use of more natural, recyclable and sustainable items in future. Rules to be amended for disposal of Christmas wreaths by mid-March.
   3. Memorials. Clerk has attended training and the memorials should be checked both in Churchyard and Cemetery. Cllr Griffin does this regularly but has not made a record, he will undertake a full documented check shortly and lodge record with Clerk. One memorial in cemetery needs to be made safe.
   4. Gravel. Cllr Neal will organise some gifted gravel to be transported to the cemetery approach and a working party will spread this out.
   5. Gates. AK Fencing quote to replace outer gates was accepted. Proposed by Cllr Aylesbury, Seconded by Cllr Watson.
2. **War Memorial**

Clerk had taken advice and learned that it should be cleaned with water and a stiff brush or possibly a pressure washer if necessary. Clerk will attempt to clean a patch and Cllr Watson and Cllr Whittaker to help, if it works, and assess the condition of the lettering when it has been cleaned.

1. **Financial report**
2. **Current Position -** A copy of the receipts and payments and bank reconciliation to 16 March 2021 had been sent to Councillors.
3. **Payments:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Method | Payee | Amount £ |
| 4.1.21 | DD | 1 and 1 Internet | 8.39 |
| 24.1.21 | BACS | Acacia Tree Surveys Ltd | 480.00 |
| 29.1.21 | BACS | J Osborn, wages & Exps January | 306.30 |
| 4.2.21 | DD | 1 and 1 Internet | 8.39 |
| 28.2.21 | BACS | J Osborn, wages February | 259.00 |
| 28.2.21 | BACS | Holme Primary School | 25.20 |
| 4.3.21 | DD | 1 and 1 Internet | 8.39 |

1. **Receipts**: Interest 0.81, VAT refund claimed but not yet received
2. i. Weed killer and bramble removal – agreed Cardell to do the former and Cllr Aylesbury to trim brambles in advance of total removal in the winter season.

ii. CAPALC. Agreed to renew at a cost of £352.46

iii. Ivan Cooper was nominated as Internal Auditor.

iv. (Clerk & Public left the meeting) Clerk’s appraisal was agreed (circulated) and new pay scale discussed and agreed (SCP 25) from 1.4.21.

All Proposed for approval by Cllr Aylesbury, seconded by Cllr Weatheritt.

1. **Reports from Clerk and Councillors**
   1. Noticeboard near pub. Cllrs Watson and Neal have repaired. Cllr Griffin will weed the flower box.
   2. Road sign for Yaxley Road near pub is askew - reported to HDC
   3. Capacity of dog waste bins was discussed.
   4. Visit to school was mooted and Mrs Thomas will facilitate this in due course.
   5. Church wall to be inspected for cracks (Cllr Griffin)
   6. Roadworks were discussed - Clerk to take up with Highways Officer.
2. **Correspondence and other matters.**
   1. Councillor/Chairman Training – Details have been circulated.
   2. Tour of Cambridgeshire dates in September
   3. Clerk to purchase a case for the Tablet computer (used to download data from the SIDs).
   4. Thanks to Cllr Whittaker for again making available his Zoom access

**Date of the** **next Parish Council meeting – Tuesday 4 May 2021**

Dates for 2021: 20 July, 21 Sept, 16 Nov.

**Annual Parish Meeting set for Thursday 29 April on Zoom.**

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19 March 2020

Signed………………………… Date……………………………

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