

**Minutes of the meeting of Holme Parish Council
Held on
Thursday 16th November 2023 in Holme Village Hall**

Councillors present: Mr J Griffin (Chair), Mr D Neal, Mr H Watson, Mr P Sargent, Mr E Whittaker, Mrs L Roderick-Smith, Mr J Edwards, Mr C Reed, Mrs W Aylesbury
Also present: Mrs S Abbott (Clerk)

1. **Chairman's welcome** to all Councillors
2. **Apologies** for absence received from County Councillor S Bywater and District Councillor T Alban
3. **Public participation.** No members of the public attended the meeting
4. **To receive declarations of interest.**
 - a. Councillors to declare any personal interest in any items on the agenda
None declared
 - b. Councillors to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests in any items on the agenda and to inform the Chairman if they wish to speak on the matter during public participation. **None declared**
5. **Reports from District and County Councillors** - a written report from District Councillor T Alban was read out by the clerk. It was noted that the developer of Pingle Bank and Yaxley road expects work to start next year.
6. **To approve and sign the minutes of meeting held on 21st September 2023** - minutes were approved and signed by Cllr J Griffin
7. **Financial report.**
 - a. **To note current position:** As at 6th November 2023 cash balances were £59,603.08 as per bank reconciliation circulated Noted
 - b. **To note receipts as per information circulated** Noted

c. **Payments to authorise:** Cllr Whittaker proposed and Cllr Edwards seconded payments per table below

18/09	DD	O2	£7.03
25/09	BACs	Clear insurance	£475.68
09/10	BACs	T.Cardell	£1,466
09/10	BACs	Clerk salary and expenses	£321.15
09/10	BACS	W. Aylesbury (Holme Parish News costs)	23.62
18/10	DD	O2	£7.03
01/11	DD	IONOS (website hosting)	£157.36
01/11	BACs	Clerk Salary (inc. holiday pay) & expenses	£393.90
01/11	BACS	W. Aylesbury (Holme Parish News costs)	£20.00
11/11	BACS	CAPALC - councilor training	£50.00
15/11	BACS	Ayres tree care	£1,020

d. **Banking provider - to decide whether to open an account with another bank.** Risk associated with continuing to bank with Barclays assessed. Although currently a low probability of there being an issue in the next few months, the impact could be very high. Clerk to circulate information on potential alternative bank and options available for a decision to be made at January meeting

8. **Selection of contractor for village maintenance for 2024** - A discussion took place taking into account quotes provided, requirements and feedback from Cllr Griffin and Cllr Edwards. Cllr Edwards proposed appointment of selected contractor and Cllr Neal seconded. All unanimously agreed. It was also agreed that works are required to churchyard/wall urgently and that maintenance of the Spinney footpath was required as fallen leaves are a trip hazard. Clerk to advise relevant parties of outcome and work required.

9. **Renewal of 3 year contract for maintenance of cemetery trees** Cllr Aylesbury proposed and Cllr Whittaker seconded approval of quote for 3 years. All unanimously agreed.

10. **Installation of a Christmas tree - agree next steps** A detailed action plan was agreed to erect a Christmas tree on the green area behind the War memorial. Expenditure totaling £160 was agreed.

11. **To receive update from Playground subcommittee including approval of terms of reference** Cllr Whittaker proposed and Cllr Roderick-Smith seconded Terms of Reference. All unanimously agreed. Cllr Whittaker provided an update including results of surveys that give an indication of the number and age of children who would use a play area. Next steps

were outlined. There are no decisions to be made at this time.

12. **Review of expression of interests in an allotment received and agreement on next steps** Seven members of the public have expressed an interest in an allotment. One possible location has been ruled out due to insufficient size and limitations in access. Cllr Whittaker to feedback to relevant party. Clerk to advertise in Holme Parish News that Council are seeking a suitable area.
13. **HDC biodiversity report - agreement to next steps** All agreed that no more time should be spent on this topic as land surveyed is owned by HDC meaning grants are not available to Parish.
14. **Cemetery - approval of memorial application.** All approved the application for a memorial to be installed in December.
15. **APPROVAL OF 2024/25 BUDGET AND VALUE OF PRECEPT APPLICATION**
The budget was discussed and a few minor changes agreed. Cllr Roderick- Smith proposed budget, Cllr Aylesbury seconded and all agreed. Cllr Neal proposed setting the precept at £15,000 which is unchanged from last year and Cllr Edwards seconded. All agreed and thanked the clerk for the work that had gone into preparing the budget.
16. **Reports from Councillors on activities since last meeting** - Cllr Griffin shared that a resident has a young tree that they are offering to plant in the village. Clerk to establish the species and whether permission required from HDC/Highways. Cllr Aylesbury requested clerk check when tree inspection is due. Cllr Reed requested an item for next agenda: "Beautification of the village".
17. **Dates of the 2024 meetings** - 18th January, 21st March, ~~25th April~~ 2nd May (Annual Parish Meeting), 16th May (Annual Meeting of Parish Council), 18th July, 19th September, 21st November

Sarah Abbott Parish Clerk T: 07548 441977
e: holmeparishclerk@gmail.com
20th November 2023