

Minutes of the Meeting of Holme Parish Council Thursday 21st November 2024 in Holme Village Hall

Councillors present: Cllr Whittaker (Chair), Cllr Sargent, Cllr Roderick-Smith, Cllr Edwards, Cllr Aylesbury, Cllr Neal, Cllr Ebeling, Cllr Griffin, County Cllr Bywater (left after item 7)

Also present: Mrs Abbott (Clerk)

1. **Chairman's welcome to all Councillors**
2. **Apologies for absence - District Councillor Alban**
3. **Public participation - members of the Public may make representations relating to items on the agenda. 14 members of the public attended**
4. **To receive declarations of interest. None received**
5. **To approve and sign the minutes of meeting held on 7th Nov 2024** Cllr Aylesbury proposed and Cllr Roderick-Smith seconded approval of minutes. All agreed and minutes were signed by Chair.
6. **Play Park**
 - a) **To approve FAQs for distribution to members of the public - Cllr Aylesbury proposed and Cllr Roderick-Smith seconded approval of FAQs. All agreed. Clerk explained that having taken advice from Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils, FAQs would be emailed to members of the public who had emailed her on topic of playpark. They would also be placed on Parish Council website (with a notice being placed on Village Facebook page) as well as printed copies being delivered to all residents who overlook the green in Holmewood.**
 - b) **To agree the date for the second consultation meeting - Cllr Sargent proposed and Cllr Ebeling seconded suggested date of 13th January. All agreed. A member of the public requested clarity on process for setting agenda and inviting people to attend. Noted that a police officer will attend.**
7. **Local plan To approve response to be submitted to HDC Subject to one amendment recommended by Cllr Aylesbury, all agreed to clerk submitting response circulated to HDC**
8. **Financial report.**
 - a) **To note current position: As at 31st October cash balances were £63,153.92 as per bank reconciliation circulated Noted**
 - b) **To note receipts as per information circulated Noted**
 - c) **Payments to authorise: Cllr Ebeling proposed authorizing payments. Seconded by Cllr Aylesbury. All agreed**

12-Sep	RJC Countryside invoice 2996	£823.20
18-Sep	O2	£7.64
23-Sep	Royal British Legion	£86.00
23-Sep	Clear insurance	£495.68
23-Sep	Acacia trees	£540.00
27-Sep	Sarah Abbott	£412.65
30-Sep	Bank charges	£18.00
02-Oct	IONOS/Internet	£8.44
16-Oct	RJC Countryside 3002	£523.20
18-Oct	O2	£7.64
31-Oct	Sarah Abbott	£412.00
31-Oct	RJC Countryside inv 3006	£667.20
31-Oct	Bank charges	£5.40
04-Nov	IONOS/Internet	£200.56
06-Nov	Holme School	£25.62
To pay	Ayres Tree Care	£750.00
To pay	RJC Countryside inv 3018	£523.20

9. **To propose changes to Bank mandate & closure of Barclays deposit a/c**
Cllr Ebeling proposed removing Cllr Griffin from bank mandate, adding Cllr Edwards to mandate and closing Barclays deposit account. Seconded by Cllr Roderick Smith. All agreed.
10. **To appoint internal auditor for the year ended 31st March 2025** Cllr Griffin proposed appointing Peterborough Accounting Services. Seconded by Cllr Ebeling. All agreed.
11. **To resolve to suspend financial regulation 5.8 - the requirement to obtain 3 -fixed price quotes for verge & grass cutting** Cllr Aylesbury proposed suspending due to high quality of work of current provider, speed of response to ad hoc requests as well as recognizing there is a learning curve in year 1 for a new contractor. Seconded by Cllr Roderick Smith. All agreed.
12. **To approve quote for verge & grass cutting for calendar year 2025** Cllr Edwards proposed and Cllr Griffin seconded approval of quote from current provider. All agreed.
13. **Selection of contractor and approval of quote for church tree work** Cllr Aylesbury proposed Ayre Tree Care due to local knowledge, speed of response and value for money. Seconded by Cllr Griffin. All agreed.
14. **To agree appointment of a handyperson including schedule of works -**
person has not be found. To be advertised. Action Clerk and Cllr Edwards
15. **To agree plan for purchase & installation of Christmas tree** Discussion on options regarding lights as well as size of tree held. Clerk reminded council that total budget was £250. Cllr Whittaker to take the lead on progressing actions.
16. **To agree action plan for memorial tree in Churchyard** No action required. Revisit topic in May
17. **To receive update on maintenance of parish council notice boards** Noted that noticeboard near Admiral Wells in very poor condition. Some maintenance

on other boards has been carried out by Cllr Neal. To revisit at next meeting.

18. **Approve budgets for 2025/26 including precept** A discussion was held taking into account allocation of reserves held. Cllr Griffin proposed accepting budget as presented including precept of £15,250 being an increase of £250. Cllr Aylesbury seconded and all agreed.
19. **Correspondence**
 - **To agree response to consultation re: remote attendance & proxy voting** Discussed and Clerk authorized to respond on councils behalf.
 - **To confirm council do not plan to make an application for a Local Highway Initiative in January 2025** Confirmed. Revisit next year.
 - **To confirm council do not plan to make an application for CIL funding in January 2025** Confirmed
20. **Reports from Councillors on activities since last meeting**
 - Cllr Neal reported that one Speed Indicator Device had been damaged and that one is not recording all data. Clerk to arrange meeting with/quotes from provider.
 - Cllr Whittaker reported on meeting with neighboring Chairs/Clerks and future developments in bin strategy.
 - Cllr Ebeling reported on the value of having attended new councilor training
21. **Date of next meeting: 30/01; 20/03; 01/05 (Annual Parish Meeting); 22/05 (Annual Meeting of Parish Council); 17/07; 18/09; 20/11**

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2nd December 2024