

# HOLTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2022

At 8pm at Holton St Mary Village Hall

## Minutes

### Present

Parish Council (PC); Janice Cheng (JC) Chair, Oliver Green (OG), Claire Rowan (CR), Matt Toone (MT), Mark Anderson (MA), Faye Hall (FH) Clerk

District Councillor: John Ward (JW)

County Councillor: Georgia Hall (GH)

Chris Mason (CM) from Ann Mason Care

Members of the Public: 9

### 22.44 Chairman's welcome, accept Councillors apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies were received and accepted from Mike Hay (MH) and Sally Thurlow (ST). JC advised that this meeting was scheduled for September but had to be cancelled due to the mourning period following the Queens death. This meeting will also include a discussion on the planning application of the 28 bed rehabilitation centre in the public forum section.

### 22.45 To accept members declarations of interest in accordance with the Council's code of Conduct

None. All Councillors live within the village

### 22.46 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022 were approved and signed as an accurate record of the meeting by the Chair and agreed unanimously.

### 22.47 Appointments

It was RESOLVED that the following appointments were made:

MH – Footpath Warden

MA – Highways Representative

MH – Tree Warden

CR – Emergency Officer

CR – Millennium Green Representative

ST – Village Hall Management Committee Representative

MA – Safer Neighbourhood Panel Representative

JC – Safeguarding Lead

The Chairman reported that MH had recently corresponded with APT Farming regarding a decayed stile on a public footpath. It was noted the repairs had been undertaken very promptly. This was much appreciated by the PC. MH has extended our thanks to APT Farming

## **22.48 Public Forum and receive reports from the District and County Councillors**

Reports from District and County Councillors were circulated previously and are available on HSM website.

JW wanted to highlight that parishioners need to check that they are registered to vote and also that it is now a national requirement to provide photo ID at the polls.

JW advised that £400,000 CIL contributions have gone out and the council are encouraging applications for projects.

GH talked about the benefit from the trial of the ANRP device and advised that now the trial has ended this device will be rotated. GH advises that Suffolk County Council has 2 records of car collisions in Holton and thinks that this data is incorrect. PC agreed that SCC data doesn't seem correct as it does not include the 2 serious accidents that occurred in the last 12 months. MA will look at compiling data from what accidents are known of and send to GH to look into why Suffolk County Council don't have them on file. **MA to action**

CR would like the PC to promote battery disposal, cost of living support and solar panels mentioned on the reports via Quartet and Facebook. **Clerk to action.**

### **Public Forum**

#### **Planning application:**

**Reference: DC/20/05590**

**Planning Application. Erection of a 28no bedroom community care, rehabilitation and respite centre  
Holton Hall Farm Hadleigh Road Holton St Mary Suffolk CO7 6NN**

JC introduced CM from Ann Mason Care and invited him to speak with regards to the planning application. She stated that the people wanted to know what the difference was between the previous application and the latest revised version.

CM advised that he is not a planning expert but would explain about Ann Mason Care (AMC). AMC are a health care company and work closely with the NHS when people move from hospital to home and need support. AMC have currently been in offices in Holton St Mary for the past 8 year. The proposed community care centre will offer an inpatient and outpatient facility and act as an intermediary between hospital and home. 85%-90% of clients would come from villages between Colchester and Ipswich. The NHS believe that the location of the proposed site is well situated for where clients are coming from.

Forum then opened up for questions to CM

OG - issue of traffic movements, AMC are talking about employing 60 people but only having 66 traffic movements a day which seems understated in the application and the new planning documents do not extensively mention the outpatient's proposal. The noise report shows predicted less than measured levels that exceed BDC guidelines and exclude agricultural equipment and noise from the B1070. Why is this development good for Holton St Mary?

CM - Holton St Mary are a part of the community AMC are providing to and all around this area AMC are being approached for help.



OG - objected and stated that there is no necessity for this care facility to be in Holton, it doesn't add anything to Holton and the proposal is on agricultural land, Holton is not a quiet place and it's quite far away from hospitals. Concerns for operating day and night and visitor parking for night time visitors.

CM - AMC have produced an explainer video which gives answers as to why Holton St Mary is a good location. Part of a recovery period is having nice surroundings and the scale of the location is good and ideal. AMC have been in the building adjacent to the proposed site for 8 years and feel this is a good location. If this planning application goes ahead then it will be a pilot site for others to follow.

Member of the public (MP) – feels that CM has constantly avoided the question being asked - what is in it for Holton St Mary for the 212 people that live here?

CM – designed for the community and is there for when Holton need it.

MP – It's not in a central location, not a relaxing area – it's an agricultural area, it is not accessible – it's on a road that has constant traffic on, people will be pulling out onto a road which is not safe and some of them maybe elderly not having the best eyesight pulling out onto the road in the dark, it is far from the hospitals, It's proposed on agricultural land not suitable for a residential facility, number of cars has been massively under-estimated and does the figure submitted include deliveries, light pollution is a concern, moving bridleways and moving pathways and some of that work has already started and also why is this development not being put near one of the newer developments?

CM – AMC have worked here for 8 years, been travelling in and out of the roads for 8 years and all like working in Holton St Mary.

JC – There is a difference between having an office based here and having a facility based here.

MT - How is the footpath running through the middle of the proposed site which is open to the public going to be managed as there is a swimming pond.

CM - There is no hazard and the path is safe. Low level reactive lighting will be used and the pond is an attraction. The footpath surface will be looked at getting weather proofed.

MT - Concerns about people walking through the footpath and what will stop children potentially going into the swimming pond.

CM - It is a natural pond and an attraction to the landscape. No more danger than the pond already on the side of the road.

JC - The service proposed will be good and is much needed as the pressures on the NHS are huge HOWEVER, the location is unacceptable issue. Users and their families need to be able to access the service, via public transport. What does AMC hope to be registered as?

CM - Hoped to be registered as Health Care for rehabilitation centre with residential facilities with the CQC. Providing support and security to give rehabilitation with no more than a dozen staff going in and out per day.

MP – There is a no public transport in Holton so why has this facility not been proposed somewhere that has public transport routes?

CM - AMC have got issues with staff and transport but they do what they need to do with taxis and collecting people etc. Thought has been given to transport issues.

MA - This facility will be a pilot scheme, so is this a proven model of having a facility in a rural location as doesn't feel like a good location?

CM – There is a plan to have more than one site and the first one is always called a pilot one. AMC have been running for 12 years and know where enquiries come from and Holton is an ideal location as they can meet the community's needs here.

MP - How many more sites were looked at for this proposed development?



CM – There were 2 other sites that were looked at but as AMC are already in Holton and have been since 2015 so they felt that this was an ideal location. They looked at the space being offered which is opposite their current office at the proposed site and followed up on the opportunity given.

MP – How many people at AMC work in Holton at the moment?

CM – Holton St Mary is the office for the home care services at the moment, AMC have people that go into people's homes but they go to the office when training is needed and they currently have 7 people who permanently work in the office. People want to go home but are too weak so they would come to the community care centre in Holton and get support to be able to return back home. AMC were handed the opportunity to have the care centre built at the proposed location which will enable them to offer new and better services.

MP – What is the average age of patients?

CM – Over age of 18 to high 90's at the moment. Facility will be for people at high risk of falling so for on average 65 years and above.

CR – Will it be publicly funded/NHS funded?

CM – Funding will be combined with NHS funding, people being means tested and can also be privately funded.

OG – Understand what AMC are trying to do, the owner of the land has offered the land and funding and then AMC will be the operator. AMC like being in Holton and the land owner wants to develop land into a commercial enterprise which is not good for the village and flies in the face of BDC policies. If this project fails then residential planning would probably be allowed on a piece of land that should be agricultural.

MT – This proposal should not go against Babergh policy just because it's for care home use. This is agricultural land and it should not be allowed to be turned over for development.

JC – Summed up the meeting

There has been a lot of information about the benefits of rehabilitative care and we all understand how much pressure the NHS is under to discharge people, but this fact should not supersede the fact that the proposed location is unsuitable. There is still no clarification of what the difference is between the old plans and the new documents apart from the public footpath which will not now be moved and will follow its current path which is through the centre of the facility. There has been no evidence that shows how the buildings will not negatively impact this small unsustainable hinterland village (proposed to be hamlet). There has been no evidence given this evening to demonstrate how this facility might integrate with the village and there is still no apparent benefit to the small tight knit community of Holton St. Mary. Chris Mason of Ann Mason Care could not demonstrate any benefits to the village other than villagers are all potential users if they are unfortunate enough to need rehabilitation treatment in the future.

It was resolved to submit a letter of objection to Babergh planning dept and draw attention to the letter from our solicitor, Sharon Smith, the contents of which still stand.

Members of the public were invited to stay for the rest of the meeting but all decided to leave at this point.

## **22.49 Planning**

PC all in agreement to reinforce previous objection letter and state that nothing has changed. Letter of objections with comments made this evening to be written and shared with Councillors and also a copy of these minutes before sign off to send back to planning – **Clerk to action**

## **22.50 National Grid East Anglia Green Energy Enablement**

No update

## **22.51 Finance**

Bank Balances as at 30.06.22	Current Account	£ 7,005.94
	Reserve Account	£12,847.28
	Interest	£4.50

Payments since last meeting

£2182.92

The Balances were examined against bank statements, signed and agreed as a true record by the Chair.

It was RESOLVED that the following payments be received and approved:

17.10.22	BACS	Village Hall Hire	£20
17.10.22	BACS	JAK Services July Invoice	£41.75
19.09.22	BACS	SALC Training Invoice 26276	£31.20
17.10.22	BACS	SALC Training Invoice 26334	£93.60
30.08.22	SO	Clerk Salary - August	£260
30.09.22	BACS	Clerk Salary – Back dated pay increase	£51.20
30.09.22	SO	Clerk Salary – September	£325
19.09.22	BACS	BHIB Insurance	£379.28
17.10.22	BACS	Admin expenses	£22.33
17.10.22	BACS	Community Action Suffolk	£60
17.10.22	BACS	Poppy Wreath and Crosses	£30
17.10.22	BACS	Defibrillator battery	£265

## 22.52 Correspondence and Clerk's Report

To note correspondence since last meeting:

Defibrillator training – PC all agreed that it would be good to organise another session of Defibrillator training to be open to villagers. **Clerk to action.**

Email received 29/08 with regards to clearing of footway from outside Avalon down to Four sisters of overgrown vegetation and weeds which still has not been done. Reported again and Highways responded back on the 14/09 to advise that the issue has been assessed and it does not warrant remedial action and will be monitored.

Correspondence received back from Millennium Green secretary confirming that they are not going ahead with the electricity proposal.

External Auditor arrangement – Email from SAAA option to opt out. All councillors agreed to stay opted in.

Clerks 13 week probation period reached on the 25.07.22 and all SALC training completed.

26/9 email received from the Green gym advising of works that they have carried out:

### Green Gym activities June-September 2022

Date	Activity
July	Cleaning and re-staining of the village sign (outside Roseacre)
July	Clearing and cleaning of the two village noticeboards
August	Cleaning, re-staining / re-painting of the Churchyard side gate
August-September	Replacing and re-staining some of the single post footpath way-marking signs around the village boundaries (pending a new Footpath and Tree Warden)

30/9 – email received from JAK Services advising that their business is terminating so an alternative company for grass cutting needs to be found. PC advised to write to JAK Services with thanks for their service and to ask if they could recommend anyone else for grass cutting. **Clerk to action.**

#### **22.53 Village infrastructure including CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy)**

CIL – The PC are all in agreement to think about proposals for CIL monies and also to put some of the monies aside for play equipment for Millennium Green. PC agreed to further discuss in the next Parish Council meeting.

Millennium Green – CR is trying to arrange a suitable date and time for the PC to meet and look at where play equipment can go on the Millennium Green. CR to revert to the councillors on this.

Village Hall Management Committee representative – JC advised that an architect had been identified by Suffolk Pro Help to discuss plans for the village hall but he has yet to make a start. As it is pro bono work, he can't really be challenged on time taken.

#### **22.54 Highways**

MA advised that Stubbins Lane has now been made a quiet lane as phase 3 has now been passed. There will be a new sign with Quiet Lane on it, MA and MT will arrange to collect and install as Suffolk County Council will not do this. Clerk to check PC liability insurance is for a minimum of 5 million to make sure that MA and MT will be covered for the work to be carried out. **Action Clerk**

MA advised that the ANPR trial is now over and is being rolled out. MA advised that looking at the data Holton St Mary are still at a level where there is a speeding issue.

Correspondence received from a parishioner with regards to speeding issues – MA proposed to look at increasing the signage in the village, perhaps having a parent and child or an elderly person sign. **Action – MA to review space for where a new sign could be placed.**

MA reported that there are rumble strips across the road in Holton St Mary to record speed and that the results from this survey are to come.

All road repairs have now been carried out. If there are any problems then please can residents report it.

MA noted that there have been 2 recent accidents which have both been reported to the police and have been advised that a report from the police is expected back within 60-90 days.

#### **22.55 Dog poo issues**

PC all agreed that there is a noticeable dog poo issue in the village. ST had suggested via JC that a poo bag dispenser be placed on Richards Noel's Land (he has agreed). Councillors discussed the matter and it was agreed that the issue is one of education and that notices need to be placed reminding people to clean up after their dog. CR reported that an article from her work, based on research about the impact of dog poo on the environment was very informative. She agreed to précis it and proposed publishing it in the Quartet. JC advised that the PC could commission a sign to go on the Millennium Green advising people that we have noticed an increase in dog poo and remind people to clear up. – **CR to consult with the Millennium Green Trustees.** PC all in agreement to put a poster up on both notice boards. MT proposed also putting a sign on the stile at the end of Merriam's Meadow – permission needed from the owners of Holton Lodge? **Clerk to look into and report back at next meeting**

#### **22.56 Tree and Wildflower Initiative**

PC discussed but all in agreement that there is nowhere that this initiative could be used within the village

#### **22.57 Remembrance Crosses**





JC advised that the PC have 5 crosses to be planted on remembrance Sunday so the PC need to look at inviting 5 parishioners to lay these. All agreed to consider this and revert back.

**22.58 Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council**

JC - CIL monies to be on the next agenda to discuss again

OG advised that Lay and Wheeler are moving to Great Blakenham so there will be a lot of offices in Holton Farm becoming available.

JC proposed that warm rooms should be on the next agenda, all in agreement. OG proposed that as we could experience power cuts this winter would it be an idea if the PC looked into the cost of purchasing a generator for the village hall. All in agreement to enquire about how much this would cost/ technical info- **Clerk to action.**

MT would like it noted on the minutes that the response from Babergh Enforcement with regards to the soil bund by footpath 16 is unsatisfactory. The issue should have been referred back to planning as it is engineering works but Enforcement investigated and advised that the soil material is from the development of the new building subject to planning DC/19/03613 so no further action from Enforcement will be taken.

**22.59 Next meeting**

Confirmed the next meeting will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November 2022

Meeting closed at 2215hrs

Signed:



Date:

9 Nov '22