

HOLTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Held on Wednesday 8th November 2023
8pm at Holton St Mary Village Hall

MINUTES

Present:

Parish Council: Oliver Greene (OG) Chairman, Claire Rowan (CR), Mark Anderson (MA), Mike Hay (MH) and Faye Hall (FH) Clerk.
County Councillor Georgia Hall (GH)
District Councillor John Ward (JW)
Members of the Public: 1

01.11.23 Chairman's welcome, accept councillor's apologies for absence.
None.

02.11.23 To accept members declarations of interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct.
None.

03.11.23 Minutes
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th September 2023 were approved and signed as an accurate record by the Chairman – all in agreement.

04.11.23 Councillor Vacancies
An expression of interest has been received from Mark Rogers wishing to become a Parish Councillor and Mark was present at the meeting. Councillors discussed the application and MH proposed to co-opt Mark Rogers onto the Parish Council, CR seconded and all in favour. Mark Rogers was invited to sit with the other Councillors and take part in the meeting. The Parish Council still has 2 remaining vacancies.

05.11.23 Public Forum
Reports from District and County Councillors were circulated previously and are available on HSM website, noticeboards and District/County Council websites.

County Cllr Georgia Hall (GH) highlighted from her report:
Milestone Infrastructure have been appointed as the new Highways contractor – the new contract started on the 1st of October.

The County Councils budget is getting tighter and the public are being asked for their views - online consultation which closes on the 04.12.23. and can be found at www.suffolk.gov.uk/budget.
A public consultation has been launched encouraging the public to tell Suffolk County Council what they would like from their library services in the future - the consultation can be found at www.suffolk.gov.uk/LibraryConsultation and closes on the 26.01.24.

MA raised the 40mph speed limit around the four sisters junction – the Council work on facts for criteria to reduce speed limits and the accident numbers are below the threshold to move to a 40mph zone so MA asked if there is any potential that Holton and other villages could succeed in getting the speed limit reduced. GH advised that an initial report could be funded but there would be a cost for this of around £500 - £750 plus. East Bergholt are currently at the 1st stage of looking to get a 20mph zone implemented due to the new houses being built on the area and if this gets passed then the speed limit from the four sisters junction would need to be reduced as there would have to be a buffer zone.

JW 10/11/24

JW highlighted from his report:

Consultation is now open asking the public what they think the Councils priorities should be - <https://baberghandmidsuffolk.citizenlab.co/en-GB/>.

State of the district reports have been published.

The moving cinema came to Sudbury and was very successful – looking to take this around the district.

There was a cabinet meeting on the 7th of November and approved an additional £900,000 from the housing Revenue account reserves to speed up repairs and maintenance on Council houses.

OG asked JW about the Community Energy project – this project is part of the Suffolk climate change partnership and in recognition to become carbon neutral. Babergh District Council are working to encourage and support community energy schemes and are holding a meeting to discuss the possible creation of a community energy project eg a community generating their own electricity and also looking at alternatives for purchasing low carbon energy. PC all in agreement to attend a meeting to find out more. Clerk to look at proposed dates for the meeting and revert to Councillors.

06.11.23 Planning

DC/22/04751

Proposal: Full Planning Application - Change of use of land for the siting of 38 No. additional Holiday Lodges and construction of raised decking for each unit **Location:** Brett Vale Golf Club, Noaks Road, Raydon, Ipswich Suffolk IP7 5LR Reason(s) for re-consultation: Change in application description reducing the number of proposed lodges to 38.

JW advised that this planning application is now going to the planning committee on the 13.12.23. Later this month Babergh are adopting a new Joint Local plan and this application will be looked at against this. Policy LP13 – holiday letting in the countryside will be relevant. If the planning committee recommended this application to be approved Babergh Council could overrule but they would have to state which policies the application did not conform with to override recommendation. PC in agreement to write a new objection letter stating that the objections remain the same and also refer to the LP13 policy. Clerk to action.

Care and Rehabilitation Centre at Holton Hall Farm – JW advised that he will double check if this is still going to the planning committee on the 15.11.23. PC all in agreement for the OG to represent the PC at the planning committee where the PC are allowed to speak for 2 mins about the application.

07.11.23 National Grid East Anglia Green Energy Enablement

No updates received

08.11.23 Correspondence and Clerk's Report

To note correspondence received since last meeting:

Precept payment of £3577 received from Babergh 11.09.23 – Noted.

Email 05.10 – Proposal from a Parishioner to replace all the tubs in Church Square. PC all in agreement for the tubs to be replaced and discussed replacing with wooden barrel tubs. Clerk to revert back to parishioner and explore costs for this.

Email from John Ward 01.11 - There is a group in East Bergholt that is exploring setting up a community energy scheme and they would like to engage with neighbouring communities because it's too big a job for one village. In addition, SCC is working with Community Energy South (CES) to assist with community energy schemes. The group needs several people in order to meet with CES and discuss various options. Would Holton St Mary be interested in exploring this with the East Bergholt group. Discussed under Agenda item 05.11.23.

09.11.23 Finance

Financial Report:

Bank Balances as at 31.08.23	Current Account	£ 8,114.22
	Reserve Account	£12,273.86
Receipts since last meeting	Interest	£30.61
Payments since last meeting		£1,145.32


18/11/24

- a. It was resolved that the following payments be received and approved:

02.10.23	SO	Clerks Salary September	£325
18.10.23	BACS	CAS – Website renewal	£60
30.10.23	SO	Clerks Salary October	£325
08.11.23	SO	Clear Councils – Insurance renewal	£389.72
13.11.23	BACS	Village Hall hire for 28.09.23	£20
13.11.23	BACS	Village Hall Hire for 08.11.23	£20
13.11.23	BACS	Kelvedon Lawn Mowing – Grass cutting	£125
13.11.23	BACS	Richard Appleton – Bulbs & Compost for Village Square tubs	£31.95
08.11.23	Cheque	Royal British Legion Poppy wreath & Crosses	£30

Precept for 2024/2025 – discussed adding a 10% increase for services – Clerk to circulate the budget and discuss at the next meeting.

10.11.23 Village Infrastructure including CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy)

CIL -

Proposal to replace the surface in Church Square – The carpark is not a public carpark and if the surface was to be replaced then the path down to the Church would still be gravel so not accessible. The PC agreed to consider and look into further.

Proposal for the Little Lending Library – CR advised that we are waiting for an update from Jeanette Appleton with regards to this idea.

MH proposed to replace the remaining 3 stiles in Holton with gates so they are all accessible. PC to further look into this with the landowners and obtain costs.

MA proposed using CIL money to implement having gated signs installed – one gate on entrance and one gate on exit to the village (there is not enough space for one either side of the road). This would create a possible calming effect. Holton do not meet the criteria to have a white line or no overtaking signs so gates might be an option. MA to look into further.

Village Hall Management Committee representative – No update

Millennium Green Representative – The Millennium Green Committee have advised that due to having a tree removed there is now space for the PC to plant a Coronation tree. Clerk to look into this.

11.11.23 NSIPS

CR attended a meeting on this subject - Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects - ie pylons.

SALC have also created a guide for Parish Councils dealing with NSIPS and CR will circulate this to the Councillors. JW advised that Babergh have a NSIP expert Bron Curtis who can also assist with any questions. Concerns raised that PCs do not have the resources to deal with NSIPS.


12.11.23 Highways - Speeding, Road Condition and other road issues

Speeding and other road issues – Correspondence received from Phillips Brothers advising that they have instructed all their drivers to follow the instruction of 'No overtaking cyclists' when travelling through Holton St Mary. They have advised that there have been 4 incidents in September-October of cars overtaking their 59ft vehicles whilst they were maintaining 20mph behind a cyclist, one of which was a car that overtook the lorry and the cyclist at high speed with oncoming cars in view. MA went to visit Phillips Brothers after the incident with a cyclist and they agreed to enforce no overtaking cyclists whilst driving in the village. Paul West of Suffolk County Council has advised that Holton does not meet the criteria to get a white line or no overtaking signs as there have not been enough incidents reported. 40mph from four sisters junction – see agenda item 05.11.23, PC all in agreement to wait to see what happens with East Bergholt.

Footpaths and pavements – MH noted that Mr Philpot has advised that virtually none of the footpaths are on land that he is working so if there are any issues then it will be other people that we need to contact.

13.11.23 Donation request from Dedham Vale & Stour Valley Project AONB

All in agreement for OG to speak to the Dedham Vale & Stour Valley project to find out further information about their work and also the possibility of arranging a talk to the village.


10/1/24

14.11.23 GDPR Review

Defer to next meeting.

15.11.23 Defibrillator

Defer to next meeting.

16.11.23 Community Self Help Scheme

PC all in agreement to sign up for this scheme and have some parishioners who has expressed an interest in having their names put forwards for this. Clerk to action.

17.11.23 PCC Meeting 1st November 2023

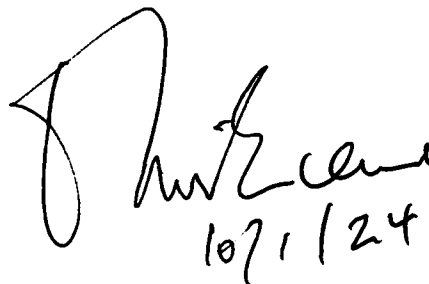
Request made to the Chairman to ask the Parish Council to change the parking sign to 'Private parking for residents and Church visitors only. All in agreement for the change of sign but need to consider the location of the sign so defer to the next meeting. An email was received from a parishioner who lives in Sandpits Lane raising that they park in Church Square to collect their daughter from the school bus as it is too far to walk – PC all in agreement that this is not a problem as resident of the village. Clerk to revert back to the parishioner.

18.11.23 Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council

None.

19.11.23 Next meeting

To confirm 10th January 2024 as date for next meeting.



10/1/24