

A meeting of Holt Parish Council was held at the URC Hall on Thursday, 27th June 2013.

Present: Cllr. Becky Stevens, Cllr. Jane Grant, Cllr. Rebekah Harrison, Cllr. Steve Siddall, Cllr. Tom Stimpson, Cllr. Robin Paice, Cllr. Richard Goodman

Apologies: Cllr. Marsha Nicholson, Cllr. Bob Mizen, Cllr. Andrew Pearce.

In Attendance: PCSO Andrew MacLachan, Cllr. Trevor Carbin. Cllr Jane Scott, Bill Parks WC.

Open Meeting: PCSO Andrew MacLachan reported as follows:

Holt PC Report 27th June 2013

Wiltshire Police NPT Bradford Rural

Crime statistics 24th May – 24th June 2013

There have been 54 reported incidents for the Bradford Rural beat of which 18 occurred in Holt. This compares with 40 reported incidents for the Bradford Rural beat of which 7 relevant to Holt in the last report. These are broken down as follows (previous period in brackets):

Crime	Rural beat	Holt	Comments
Anti Social Behaviour (personal)	6 (7)	1 (0)	Threatening texts received
Anti Social Behaviour (Nuisance)	1 (1)	1 (0)	Youths built a skate board ramp in the Ind Estate car park over a weekend
Burglary	16 (4)	12 (1)	7 th June – 11 burglaries overnight in Hawcroft, The Street and Leigh Rd. 1 further on 19 th June in The Street.
Criminal Damage	3 (2)	0 (0)	
Theft and Handling	5 (9)	3 (1)	7 th June – 2 thefts from motor vehicles and 1 theft of child's scooter from front garden
Violence against the person	4 (3)	0 (0)	
Other	8 (3)	0 (0)	
Concern for Safety	2 (0)	0 (0)	
Domestic related	5 (3)	1 (2)	Details not publically available
Suspicious circumstances	0 (2)	0 (0)	
Transport related	4 (5)	0 (3)	

Priorities

The priority for the Rural Beat is tackling Burglaries and Non Dwelling Burglaries (such as sheds and garages) throughout Bradford Town Centre and the villages. Operation Magpie is currently

being run involving regular high visibility and plain clothed patrols being carried out throughout the area to deter or catch criminals.

Other incidents of interest

- It should be noted from the above stats that burglaries (dwelling and non dwelling) are on the increase again. Holt suffered 11 burglaries and 3 thefts in one night, mainly garages and sheds. Thankfully, the only high value items stolen on the 7th and 19th June were later recovered and returned to the owners (push bikes). Unfortunately, no forensics were recovered from any of the scenes and it would appear no one witnessed the burglaries. At present, these burglaries remain undetected but it is always possible in the future that we arrest someone who admits to these burglaries. With the warmer weather hopefully looming, we urge residents to ensure that windows are shut and doors locked when they go out or go to bed and that all outbuildings such as sheds and garages are secured as best as possible. All too often we attend burglaries where back doors, sheds or cars were left unlocked, and this was the case in Holt where the 2 houses entered were unlocked. Insurance companies may not cover burglaries to insecure premises or vehicles.
- PC Pelling and I have carried out 2 speed checks on 29th May (1430hrs – 1530hrs) and 6th June 2013 (1455hrs – 1545hrs). We stood at the junction of The Street and Little Parks pointing towards vehicles entering the village from the Melksham direction. The results were emailed to the Clerk, but to summarise, the fastest speed captured on both occasions was 35mph (1 vehicle on each check) and only 5 other vehicles registering 32 or 33mph. I also logged the number of M J Church lorries, and observed 1 leaving and 2 entering the village on the first check and none seen on the second check.
- Following the sad death of a walker in Turleigh, we urge everyone to take care when walking in a field occupied by cows, especially if they have calves with them and the walker has a dog.

Success stories

- A male has been arrested in connection with the theft of a car from Avoncliff and a Quad bike from Haugh (near Winsley).
- Operation Magpie is being run on most evenings to deter or catch offenders. We are also carrying out a number of warrants on addresses that we suspect, through intelligence received, might be responsible or connected to these burglaries.

Update from May Meeting

- No further reports received on the motor scooter seen on The Walk
- M J Church – I had forgotten at the last meeting that PC Pelling had already held a face to face meeting earlier this year with M J Church and discussed the matter further of the

lorries driving through Holt. M J Church said they take the matter seriously and would welcome a meeting with the Parish Council to discuss further.

- Lions Orchard parking – no reports of obstruction received from Ms Clayton.

In closing

Please feel free to give out our mobile numbers to anyone who would like to contact us:

PC Lee Pelling 0752 897 2004

PCSO Andrew MacLachlan 0752 897 2236

24th June 2013

Mrs. Teresa Arlett expressed concern about the way in which MJ Church's lorries are driven through the Village and advised the Police to carry out checks early AM to witness driving standards. She also expressed concern about fencing off of footpaths around Holt Manor. The Chairman confirmed that all changes to footpaths in that area are in line with regulations. There are bulls in fields with public footpaths; the Clerk to check rules regarding this.

The Chairman thanked PCSO MacLachlan for his report.

Miss Rita Clayton thanked the Police for helping to resolve the parking problems at Lions Orchard; the situation is much improved.

Mrs. Jane Scott, Leader of Wiltshire Council and Mr. Bill Parkes, Head of Service Local Highways and Streetscene (North) spoke about the work of Wiltshire Council; a poor response from any department of Wiltshire Council should initially be taken up with our unitary member (Cllr. Trevor Carbin) and if he is unable to get a satisfactory response, then Mrs. Scott should be informed. An acknowledgement of any communication should be received within three working days of receipt and a substantive response within ten, with the exception of planning and legal matters. Miss Jenny Hiscocks is the new co-ordinator for local highways and streetscene in this area and Mr. Parkes will arrange for her to contact us.

The Council was advised to contact Mr. Bill Parkes to arrange a walk around the Village to highlight work which needs to be done; a spreadsheet will then be prepared showing work outstanding and a timescale within which we can expect the work to be completed. Shortly an app will be available so that photographic evidence can be sent to WC advising them of problems such as pot holes, fly tipping and full rubbish bins.

MJ Church – Mrs. Scott said she has frequent contact with MJ Church and finds them very responsive.

Area Boards – Mrs. Scott explained that Area Boards have executive powers and were created when Wiltshire became a unitary authority. Parish Councils should be pro-active to get maximum benefit from the Area Board.

Cllr. Steve Siddall expressed concern that the Area Board appear to have no power on local matters; when the local issue of diverting traffic around Holt Manor was proposed the matter was referred to the Area Board who made a clear decision to reject the proposal. However, the matter was subsequently referred to a cabinet member for a final decision. Mrs. Scott to follow up.

Cllr. Jane Grant queried allocation of budgets for the Area Board and asked why 4/5ths is for capital expenditure and 1/5th revenue. Mrs. Scott said that revenue budgets are tight, which is why the money was put into capital. She advised Area Boards should be flexible about the way in which funds are used, switching things between budgets.

Planning enforcement – Cllr. Steve Siddall asked why major conditions on developments are not followed up. Mrs. Scott said Wiltshire Council relies on other people, particularly parish council, to follow things up as it would be unaffordable for the planning department to follow up all applications.

Holt Manor – a final decision re changes to the definitive map should be made by mid July.

Glove Factory drainage – consultants are working with The Glove Factory to put forward proposals.

Holt Manor, unclassified road – this is now in the hands of solicitors, meetings are being held regularly and it is hoped that the matter will be resolved very soon.

There has been a hiccup on grass cutting with the new contractors; this is now being resolved. Please report any bad workmanship to Mr. Parkes.

Highways – WC is aware that there is a large backlog of work to highways, largely caused by two consecutive bad winters; an investment programme is being considered to overcome the problem.

Cllr. Trevor Carbin arrived at the meeting.

The Chairman thanked Mrs. Scott and Mr. Parkes for attending the meeting.

Glove Factory Studios planning application – an extraordinary meeting will be held before 18th July to discuss this application. Mrs. Jenny Foster queried whether Cllr. Tom Stimpson could take part in discussion about the application as he works at the site. The Chairman assured her that the Council has very clear standing orders which will be adhered to.

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 23rd May, 2013: Cllr. Steve Siddall presented a proposed amendment to the April minutes. This was deferred to the August meeting.

The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed with the following amendment: page 4017 Mr. Rita Clayton to read Miss.

Matters Arising: Kingston Farm Development – Cllr. Steve Siddall to confirm whether Bradford-on-Avon Town Council made a decision on this planning application at their meeting held on 18th June 2013.

The Planning Committee has now resolved their query with Mr. Chris Kirk re works to trees.

FOI request to the Environment Agency re Cumberwell Landfill Site licence– a response has been received which is hard to understand. A letter to be sent to Planning Enforcement asking for clarification of the situation.

Insurance cover for individual councilors – Cllr. Jane Grant to get clarification of the definition of 'working alone' and the impact autonomous actions has on the Council as a whole and on the Council's insurance policy.

Mr. Raymond Stillman memorial tree – Cllr. Bob Mizen to follow up the possibility of placing a plaque on the tree once the tree is identified.

Affordable housing – a letter has been sent to Homes4Wiltshire and a response is awaited.

Football charges for next season now available. The Clerk to follow up with Cllr. Bob Mizen.

Mr. Garry Aland has removed cuttings from the top end of the Playing Fields.

Mr. Robert Quartley has agreed to carry out a valuation on land at Frogmore for a fee of £300 if required.

Dog fouling – article in Magazine.

Lowered kerbs – article in the Magazine.

Pothole and pavements, Hawcroft – reported to CLARENCE.

Garry Aland asked to trim weeds across Ham Green.

Wiltshire Council has been asked to clear the area between Mr. Basil Ash's property. The Elms and The Midlands.

The residents of 375 The Street have been asked to cut back overgrowth.

Planning Committee Report: The Planning Committee minutes for the month are attached to these minutes.

Planning Application W11/02226/FUL Barn, Forewoods Common – planning enforcement has stepped in and building has been stopped and a reapplication is being submitted shortly.

Glove Factory – there are three planning applications:

- Flooding work
- Demolition of buildings in a conservation area
- Extension to Glove Factory and car park

There is an exhibition at the Glove Factory on Saturday, 20th June which Cllr. Steve Siddall suggested Councillors should attend. Mr. Nick Kirkham is willing to open the exhibition at other times.

A Planning Committee meeting will be held next week prior to an Extraordinary Meeting which must be held by 18th July as 19th July is the deadline for a response. Cllr. Becky Stevens asked councillors to be sure of their position prior to taking part in discussion regarding this planning application.

Land at Frogmore: Cllr. Steve Siddall has spoken to two solicitors who are unable to offer legal advice on the matter without doing extensive research which would be prohibitively expensive. The Society of Local Council Clerks has given very clear advice; a solicitor will be needed if the land is sold. A letter has been sent to the Department of Education asking for clarification as to whether the land can be sold; this is a requirement of the original Land Registry record.

Village Facilities Committee: Cllr. Rebekah Harrison report on the Pond/Children's Play Area clean up; four councillors and one member of the public (who wished to remain anonymous) attended; bark chippings have been placed under the old play area equipment and along the path. Some of the moss has been cleared from the safety surface and the pond has been cleared.

A tree sub committee has been formed (Cllr. Steve Siddall, Cllr. Rebekah Harrison, Mr. John Fletcher and others). This is quite separate from the Community Orchard.

Dawes' Pond – some leaks have been repaired and some are leaking more slowly! The Chairman confirmed that there is £1000 in reserves for works to the Pond and an additional £500 in this year's precept.

The Terms of Reference to be updated.

War Memorial Restoration – the Area Board has awarded a grant of £1750. A request has been made that the Area Board received feedback on the work undertaken.

The bench sponsored by Meg Slade is being painted and will be in situ very soon.

Dog fouling signs have been put up at the Playing Fields.

Traffic Committee Report: The Chairman apologised that a meeting had not been held in June.

Terms of Reference have been circulated.

CATG meeting – this was attended by Cllr. Andrew Pearce. Wiltshire Council policy on 20mph limits – a consultation will start in July.

BANES – is pursuing a low emission zone for London Road. The Chairman clarified that BANES tried, unsuccessfully, to get a ban on HGV traffic on Cleveland Bridge. If this happens it will have

a big impact on traffic in this area. The Traffic Committee to work with fellow parishes for a submission to Wiltshire Council showing that we wish to object.

4022

Traffic Survey of Holt and Bradford-on-Avon - Cllr. Steve Siddall considers that it has been done. To be clarified.

There have been sixteen prosecutions following lorry watch at Bradford-on-Avon town bridge.

Local Sustainable transport funding of 4.25m will be used to increase the train service between Westbury and Swindon via Melksham, cycle routes to stations and electric charging points.

Forewoods Common junction - a rehash of the junction has been designed and work should be done in 2014. The Traffic Committee to ascertain details of the new layout.

The road from the Cemetery on B3107 to Woolley is a candidate for closure to through traffic.

Zig Zag bus route is under used in some areas and it is likely that the service will be reduced.

B3107 from Challeymead to Melksham will be closed from 7pm to 6am on 21st/22nd August for repair work.

Pavilion Refurbishment Project Committee Report: Cllr. Becky Stevens reported in the absence of Cllr. Bob Mizen. There is £5000 in reserves for the pavilion from fundraising. Three quotations for new doors and windows have been received, the lowest of which is £3800. It was proposed seconded and agreed, all in favour, that £3800 should be spent on new PVC windows and doors.

A wine and cheese tasting evening will be held at the Glove Factory Studios tomorrow evening to raise money for pavilion funds and a coffee morning will be held on Saturday morning at Church House.

Bradford-on-Avon Community Area Board: Cllr. Jane Grant attended a meeting of Bradford-on-Avon Community Area Board and a report of the meeting has been circulated;

- A Community Area Grant of £1750 has been awarded for War Memorial Restoration Project.
- The Board has been allocated a budget in 2013/2014 of £39,942 capital and £11,133 revenue expenditure for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives.
- The Police and Crime Commissioner, Angus Macpherson, spoke about his Innovation Fund which supports initiatives which help him achieve priorities set out in his Police and Crime Plan. It is possible that money might be available from this source for youth work in Holt. Cllr Jane Grant to take back to Youth Club Committee.

Holt Tannery Limited Liaison Committee: Cllr. Steve Siddall reported that Holt Tannery Limited submitted an application to alter the area of opportunity and this is currently being considered; Planning Inspectorate should have an answer in the Autumn of this year.

HTLLC has met with representatives of the Glove Factory but nothing new was discussed.

Neighbourhood Plan and Localism Act 2011: Terms of Reference to be circulated and will include the Traffic Plan Group.

Cllr. Jane Grant reported that work on the Plan is progressing.

Cllr Robin Paice said a neighbourhood plan has to be in place within a certain length of time. Cllr. Jane Grant to get clarification.

Wiltshire Association of Local Councils – Cllr. Jane Grant reported on a meeting of the Executive Committee of WALC at which she was appointed vice-chairman. Memory sticks giving guidance for councillors are available from WALC at £8 each. The Clerk to obtain the memory sticks for new councillors. The latest version of the Good Councillor Guide is available online.

The Next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held on 23rd September. If councillors wish Cllr. Grant to take anything to this meeting, please let her know.

Emergency Response Plan: To be considered by the Village Facilities Committee.

Footpath Survey: Details have been circulated to Councillors. Reports by end August.

Website: Cllr. Tom Stimpson has met with Cllr. Andrew Pearce and Mr. John Fletcher and has taken over control of the website. He will meet with Mr. Dave Huggins, the developer of the site, and he asked Councillors to let him have ideas for the website. He confirmed that the website as it is meets all legal requirements.

Tree Planting: In the absence of Cllr. Bob Mizen, Cllr. Steve Siddall presented this item. £1200 has previously been voted for works to trees and the VFC recommended that £876 is spent on works to the Horse Chestnut trees on Ham Green, leaving £324 for emergency work. If this reserve is unused by the end of the year, then VFC would like the money to be used for work to the Ash Tree on the Playing Fields by the main road. Mr. Crispin Keysar has quoted for the work. It was proposed, seconded and agreed, all in favour, that £876 should be spent on work to the Horse Chestnut trees on Ham Green.

The tree plan prepared by Mr. John Fletcher to be circulated to Councillors.

Correspondence: The Council has been offered 10 bags of compost by Hills as our entry for the Best Kept Village Competition was among the first thirty entries received. The compost to be offered to the Community Orchard.

The Police have warned of bogus alarm salesman. To be highlighted through the Magazine.

Dropped kerbs – the Council has been informed of a gentleman who has moved to The Elms and has requested dropped kerbs to create easy access to his property. The Clerk to pass details of the Good Neighbour Co-ordinator to him.

Village Inspection Report: Cllr. Mizen carried out the inspection. Garry Aland to be asked to sweep the green matting under the play equipment atleast once a month (a new broom to be supplied).

4020

Play Area gate padlock – missing. To be replaced.

HSRC to be reminded of their obligation to mend the fencing around the old play area and to reinstate paths alongside, and at the end of, the new court.

Accounts:

i) **For Audit:** The Council is happy with the accounts as presented by the internal auditor – expenditure is in line with income. Reserves are from previous years and include Pavilion funds, donations for the War Memorial Restoration, the Community Orchard and grant monies. It was proposed, seconded and agreed, all in favour, that the accounts should be approved for audit.

ii) **For Payment:** The following accounts were approved for payment:

Revision 4/Website	£ 71.88
Open Spaces Society/Annual Sub	£ 30.00
G. Aland/Caretaking/April & May	£ 312.55
G. Aland/Ground Maintenance/April & May	£ 403.38
JM Beale	£ 428.08
Remuneration	£344.62
Fixed Expenses	£ 34.26
Photocopying& Stationery	£ 27.00
Postage	£ 7.20
Telephone/Line	
Rental & Calls	£ 15.00

Any Other Business: Members of the Finance Committee were asked to get the bank signatory forms moving.