

A meeting of Holt Parish Council was held on Thursday 24th April 2014 at the URC Hall.

Present: Cllr. Rebecca Stevens, Cllr. Andrew Pearce, Cllr. Jane Grant, Cllr. Rebekah Harrison, Cllr. Marsha Nicholson, Cllr. Bob Mizen, Cllr. Steve Siddall, Cllr. Tom Stimpson, Cllr. Richard Goodman.

Apologies: Cllr. Robin Paice, Cllr. David Cullop.

In Attendance: Cllr. Trevor Carbin.

Open Meeting: Mrs. Heather Morris gave an update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

- Grant monies of nearly £2000 have been obtained. This means the Plan can be properly designed and a copy sent to every household in the Village.
- Two consultation events will be held, the first on 31st May in the Village Hall.
- There will be a stall at the Music Festival.
- Details will be published on the PC website.

The first draft plan should be completed by early May. The second draft plan has to be approved by the Parish Council, after which it will go to an external planning expert for inspection. This is organised by Wiltshire Council. The final stage is a referendum for the whole Village and this, too, is organised by Wiltshire Council. A maximum of £7000 can be applied for through grant funding and it is anticipated that sufficient funding will be available.

Cllr. Trevor Carbin reported that the Bradford-on-Avon Community Area Board has a budget of £38000 for 2014/15, all of which is for capital expenditure none can be used for revenue. There was also £5000 for revenue expenditure and Cabinet decided that this will be spent in Bradford-on-Avon. Councillors considered this to fly in the face of localism.

The Youth Service Consultation has now closed and goes to the May Cabinet meeting.

Cllr. Carbin reported on planning applications for Solar Farms. The proposed development at Snarlton Lane, Melksham has been refused. There are no guidelines at present on solar farm developments, but Wiltshire Council is considering implementing a policy.

Declarations of Interests and Dispensation: Cllr. Becky Stevens declared an interest in Footpath 31. Cllr. Jane Grant declared an interest in flooding issues.

Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th March 2014. The minutes of this meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising: Overgrown hedge at Holt Manor – a response is awaited from Mr. Andy Cadwallader.

Wiltshire Council Solar Farm policy – the Clerk to follow up with WC

Footpath 31 – the Clerk has acknowledged the responses received from Mr.& Mrs. N. Oakley and Mr. & Mrs. R. Arkell.

Post Box, The Common - response is awaited from Royal Mail re provision of a replacement post box.

Recording of meetings – Cllr. Jane Grant to follow up with WALC.

Section 106 surplus money – information circulated by Cllr. Jane Grant.

The next meeting of the WALC Executive Committee will be held on 23rd June. Items for the meeting to Cllr. Grant.

West Wiltshire (Recycling) Bins can be used for all general waste.

Draft letter to Mrs. Jane Scott re Bradford-on-Avon Community Area Board – Cllr. Siddall has circulated the draft and it was agreed that it should be sent in its present form.

Youth Service Consultation – a response has been sent.

Core Training for Councillors – three councillors have expressed an interest. The Clerk to follow up with Cllrs. Paice and Cullop.

Neighbourhood Plan: A copy of the first draft has been circulated to councillors. The Chairman thanked Mrs. Morris and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group for their excellent work in preparing the Plan.

Planning Committee Report: Planning Committee minutes have been circulated and a copy is attached to the master copy of the minutes. Planning Application W13/01/1395/FUL – Land adjacent to 3 Forewoods Common – following the enforcement order to remove the building a planning appeal has been made. It was agreed that the Planning Committee should write to WC reiterating the original objections to the application.

Glove Factory Studios – further plans to be submitted.

Proposed solar farm at Cockhill Farm, Trowbridge – a public consultation to be held on Thursday 1st May.

Cumberwell landfill site – Cllr. Steve Siddall reported that tipping at the site is almost finished. A further planning application has been made for a golf course at Cumberwell and this will require further tipping. Cllr. Steve Siddall to talk to South Wraxall Parish Council re the proposed development. Cllr. Trevor Carbin to be asked to call in the application for the time being.

Boundaries Review – Cllr. Steve Siddall to talk to the Strategic Planning Department.

Village Facilities Committee Report:

- Street Scene – interested parties are being called together to discuss requirements of new WC guidelines and legal obligations of the Parish Council with a view to developing a Village wide policy.
- Old Children's Play Area - New gate – it is not practical to install a gate where there is a gap in the fencing given the different levels of ground and adjoining posts.
- 89 The Street – a site meeting has been held with the owner regarding his request to improve access to his property following accidental damage to a stone pillar which is jointly owned by him and the Parish Council. VFC recommended that the Council should agree to Mr. Scheuber's request to remove the hedge and part of the iron railings. The boundary to be marked with a kerb at two differing heights. Mr. Scheuber to pay for the cost of installing a removable post to protect access. Mr. Scheuber to be asked to give written confirmation that he is in agreement with these conditions.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed, all in favour, that the work can go ahead subject to there being no issue with removing the iron fence within a conservation area.

- Dawes' Pond – The quote received for work to the Pond is unaffordable. The contractor to be asked for a price to supply and fit a liner only, with all ground work being done by Mr. Nick Kirkham at the time that his larger ponds are dug. Cllr. Siddall to investigate grant funding. £9000 is needed to complete the work and to date £4500 is available. Water level at the Pond is low because work carried out by Mr. Kirkham has restricted the flow of water. Mr. Kirkham is aware of the problem and intends to address the issue. The Chairman suggested doing something at the Music Festival to help to raise funds for work to the Pond.
- Ham Green – Cllr. Steve Siddall has met with a representative from Wiltshire Highways to discuss erosion of the Greens caused by parking. Advice has been given re kerbing and a quote is awaited. Wiltshire Council to install posts along the edge of the Narrow Green to deter parking.
- Trees – work to the Ash tree and Turkey Oak have been done.
- Posts and Chains, Ham Green – to be painted soon.
- Bye Laws sign Playing Fields Gates – Cllr. Marsh Nicholson to obtain quotes for a new sign.
- Pavilion refurbishment – the sanitary ware needs to be replaced, cupboards built and painting done. Replacement of the sanitary ware is considered to be most important and a quote is being obtained.
- Metal benches – funding is available for refurbishment of two benches in this financial year.
- Oak benches – it was proposed, seconded and agreed, all in favour, that one bench should be sited near the Community Orchard and the other at Dawes' Pond.

- WWI Commemorations – Cllr. Mizen to attend a one day seminar at Tidworth re County plans for the commemorations.
- Roundabout – Old Children’s Play Area – the edges of the concrete base are sharp and damaged and need to smoothed. Cllr. Mizen to obtain a price for the hire of equipment to carry out the work.
- Dog litter bin – VFC do not consider that another dog litter in the Dawes’ Pond area is needed.
- Unspent funds – to be discussed once the year accounts are available.
- Damaged litter bin by sports court – a quote for a replacement bin to be obtained. Cllr. Mizen to clarify who supplied the bin originally.

Highways & Streetscene Committee Report:

- Traffic Survey – additional information awaited.
- Flood plan – ongoing. New proposals awaited.
- Double Yellow Lines, The Midlands and Beckerley Lane – This is with WC Legal Department.
- Glove Factory Studios – Alterations to the Rights of Way Network. Proposals have been received from Wiltshire Council and a response is required by 23rd May. Highways and Streetscene to consider the proposals and respond to WC.
- Cllr. Siddall has met with Mr. Andy Cadwallader and Mr. Lee Richards to discuss Streetscene work in the Village. Cllr. Siddall to provide a list of work to be done.
- Paths Improvements Grants Scheme – Highways and Streetscene Committee to consider and report back to the Council. The deadline for applications is 25th July 2014.

Bradford-on-Avon Community Area Board: The next meeting will be held on 14th May 2014.

Holt Tannery Limited Liaison Committee Report: Nothing to report.

Pavilion Refurbishment Project Committee Report: Previously discussed.

Website: Cllr. Tom Stimpson reported that the inaugural meeting of the Website Committee has been held. Proposals will be brought to the next meeting.

Correspondence: One Tonne Salt Bag Scheme – 2014.15. This Council does not wish to take part in the schme.

An email has been received from Mr. Peter Flannery re footpaths and stiles. The Clerk to respond.

Village Inspection Report: Cllr. Rebekah Harrison has circulated her report. The Clerk to action. Cllr. Harrison to clarify which basketball net is broken. Garry Aland to be asked to clear debris on the pavement opposite the Old Ham Tree.

Accounts for Payment: The following accounts were approved for payment:

27/14

Bloomfield Masons	£3750.00
Wiltshire Waste/Wheelie Bins	£ 1.20 (VAT .20p)
BWBSL/Water	£ 74.28
Crispin Keysar	£ 416.00
G.Aland/Ground Maintenance	£ 338.08
G. Aland/Caretaking	£ 198.40
J M Beale	£ 405.12
Remuneration	£ 348.06
Fixed Expenses	£ 34.62
Postage	£ 7.44
Telephone/Line	
Rental & Calls	£ 15.00

Any Other Business: Cllr. Pearce reported that details about the War Memorial restoration will be published on the Bradford-on-Avon Community Area Board website.

Cllr. Mizen reported that the quarry company for which Mr. John Smith works has donated blue slate to go around the base of the war memorial.

Cllr. Rebekah Harrison reported that work to the Turkish oak and Ash trees has been done. Planting of a tree on the Playing Fields to be delayed until the Autumn on the advice of Mr. John Fletcher and Mr. Crispin Keysar.

Cllr. Steve Siddall reported that BT Infinity will be installed in the Village during the second half of 2014. He will publicise this through the Magazine.

