

A meeting of Holt Parish Council was held at the URC Hall on Thursday 23rd January 2014.

Present: Cllr. Becky Stevens, Cllr. Andrew Pearce, Cllr. Jane Grant, Cllr. Rebekah Harrison, Cllr. Marsha Nicholson, Cllr. Bob Mizen, Cllr. Steve Siddall, Cllr. Dave Cullop.

Apologies: Cllr. Richard Goodman, Cllr. Tom Stimpson, Cllr. Robin Paice will be arriving late..

The Chairman opened the meeting by asking those present to stand for a minutes silence in memory of Mr. Jack Thierens who died recently; he served on the Council for thirty years, three of which as chairman.

Open Meeting: PCSO Andrew MacLachlan presented the Police Report; Several unlocked cars have been broken into and he urged people to ensure that their cars are locked.

Holt PC Report 23rd January 2014 Wiltshire Police NPT Bradford Rural

Crime statistics 22nd December 2013 – 22nd January 2014 There have been 37 reported incidents for the Bradford Rural beat of which 6 occurred in Holt. This compares with 33 reported incidents for the Bradford Rural beat of which 5 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)	2 (3)	0 (0)	
Anti Social Behaviour (Nuisance)	1 (2)	0 (2)	
Burglary	2 (3)	0 (1)	
Criminal Damage	6 (2)	0 (1)	
Drug related	0 (0)	0 (0)	
Theft and Handling	13 (4)	5 (0)	Over New Years Eve, 5 cars in the Nibbs Terrace/ Lions Orchard area were found to be unlocked, were entered and items stolen. Enquiries still

			ongoing
Violence against the person	2 (8)	0 (0)	
Other	2 (5)	0 (0)	
Concern for Safety	0 (0)	0 (0)	
Domestic related	2 (0)	0 (0)	
Pets/Animal related	2 (0)	0 (0)	
Suspicious circumstances	2 (0)	0 (0)	
Transport related	3 (6)	1 (1)	31/12 RTC on B3107, clash of wing mirrors and other damage. Driver failed to stop but has since been traced and will be dealt with accordingly

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 Four of the five cars broken in to in Nibbs Terrace/Lions Orchard were unlocked – we cannot emphasise enough the importance of locking cars when they are left unattended.

Success stories

- Matthew Reynolds, who was mentioned in the last report for multiple burglaries in the Bradford area, was sentenced to 5 years and 3 months imprisonment last week. He was charged with 3 burglaries and asked for 21 to be taken into consideration.
- An adult male from Bethell Court in Bradford on Avon has been charged with possession and supply of a class B drug.
- A youth from Hilperton, who has been causing problems around the Bradford area on his moped, admitted to smashing a car windscreen on 31st October 2013. The victim requested that the matter be settled with a Local Resolution whereby the victim and offender can agree a course of action. The victim asked the offender to pay £120 costs which had to be funded by the offender being forced to sell his moped. Proof that Local Resolution can be very effective

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

Operation Harness is being held on 28th February; councillors are invited to spend a day with the Police. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Proposed extinguishment of Footpath 31 (part). Cllr. Becky Stevens declared an interest and did not take part in any discussion. At present part of this footpath runs through the gardens of three properties in Leigh Road. Affected residents presented their case for extinguishment of the footpath. Mr. Dominic O'Connor said he considered it to be two separate issues, 1) Extinguishment of the footpath, 2) Establishment of what people believe to be the footpath as definitive. He was anxious to make clear that this situation is very different from ongoing issues relating to footpaths at Holt Manor; when the affected properties were purchased, searches did not throw up the fact that a footpath runs cross them and this could significantly affect their value.

Mr. Jimmy Gooding has written to the Council urging them to ensure that the current route of FP31, which has been in use for well over 50 years and runs alongside 21A Leigh Road, is legally established before any extinguishment takes place.

The land over which the proposed new route of FP31 runs belongs to Mr. Keith Tucker and Mrs. Barbara Tucker has informed the Parish Council that they would be minded to object to the proposed change of route.

Cllr. Robin Paice arrived at the meeting.

Mr. & Mrs. Nick Oakley expressed concern about the potential length of time it would take to agree a new route for the footpath and urged the Council to support the proposal to extinguish the path, without making it conditional on the new definitive path.

The access to the path as proposed by WC is on a blind bend and less safe than the existing path which runs alongside 21A Leigh Road.

Mr. Roger Smith, Ashley Designs, representing Mr. & Mrs. Jim Ovens of Copse Farm, spoke about the planning applications for a new dwelling at Copse Farm and an extension to the permission for the existing temporary dwelling. He said there was need for them to be on site twenty four hours a day because of livestock. Cllr. Steve Siddall queried the presence of a milking herd on the farm. Mr. Smith confirmed that there are cattle there which cannot be sold because of TB; this also prevents Mr. Ovens from enlarging his herd until the farm is clear of the disease.

Proposed relocation of the Post Office to Holt Superstore. Mrs. Helen Raboitti said the consultation process regarding proposed changes to the Post Office will end on 3rd February; if all goes well the Post Office will move to Holt Superstore. Mrs. Raboitti and Mr. Harry Rai, Holt Superstore, confirmed that the service would remain unchanged and postal services would be available for 98.5 hours per week. Both parties are happy with the proposal. Mr. Rai said parking outside the shop has been monitored and it has been ascertained that the Post Office should not create

a parking problem in the area. The average spend in the village shop is small with the vast majority of customers parking for a very short period.

Mrs. Rita Clayton expressed concern about the spate of break ins to cars in the Village.

Mr. Mike Hawkins spoke about his concerns regarding obstruction of sight lines on The Common for drivers exiting Beckerley Lane because of vehicles parked on driveways at 198 and 199 The Common. Following advice from the Clerk, he has spoken to Mr. Andy Mullings at WC who is taking this forward with the Planning Department.

Cllr. Trevor Carbin presented the following report:

- Wiltshire Council will be holding an extra meeting on 4th February to consider, amongst other things, a call for the pay award to cabinet members and the leader to be rescinded.
- Guidance from the Government now clarifies that there is no need for parish councillors to get a dispensation when setting council tax.
- Holt Manor – WC has stated ‘The Council are still in the process of meeting with relevant parties before deciding whether or not it will be appropriate to take any further action in this matter at this stage.

Mr. Brian Cook expressed concern about the increase in flood waters coming through The Brook.

Cllr. Becky Stephens confirmed that the Council is taking action to resolve the situation: Mr. Nick Kirkham, Glove Factory Studios, has commenced work to alleviate the problem but, ironically, things have been held up by the wet weather. Meetings will also be held with WC, the Environment Agency and riparian owners of The Brook. Mr. Gerald Milward-Oliver said the outstanding work will probably only take one day to complete once agreement has been reached with all concerned parties. To date Mr. Kirkham has spent £60,000 on work to resolve the problem.

Declaration of Interests and Dispensation: Cllr. Becky Stevens declared an interest in Footpath 31 and did not take part in any discussion relating to the footpath. The chairman asked for other declarations of interest. There were none.

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 5th December 2013: The minutes of this meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising:

- Overgrown hedge at Holt Manor – the Clerk to follow up with Streetscene.
- Padlock, Playing Fields gates – the emergency services prefer to have a code number and a new padlock has been purchased.

- Section 137 Policy – agreed to pass to the Finance Committee for consideration and recommendations. Held over until March.
- The PC website address has been published in the Magazine.

It was agreed that Item 16 should be brought forward.

Proposed Extinguishment of Footpath 31 (part): Cllr. Andrew Pearce, Vice-chairman, took the chair. Cllr. Steve Siddall reported on a meeting of the Highways and Streetscene Committee; it is recommended that the footpath should run from point 1 to point 2 on the attached map, rather than from point 3 to point 2 as point 3 is situated on a blind bend.

After lengthy discussion it was proposed that this Council should agree to Wiltshire Council's proposal to extinguish Footpath 31 from Point A to Point B on the Ordnance Survey map and, additionally, pursue with Wiltshire Council the establishment of what is regarded to be the existing right of way as shown on the definitive map. A vote was taken, 8 in favour and one against.

It was further agreed to seek an early meeting with the Rights of Way officers at WC in order to confirm what we consider to be an existing right of way.

This course of action is considered to be consistent with action being taken regarding footpaths at Holt Manor.

The Clerk to draft a letter to Wiltshire Council and circulate to Councillors.

The involved landowners to be pursued to confirm what the Parish Council considers to be an existing right of way over their land. Cllr Bob Mizen to follow up.

Planning Committee Report: Cllr. Steve Siddall reported that an enforcement notice regarding Planning Application W13/01/1395/FUL land adjacent to 3 Forewoods Common is with the Legal Department at WC. Once approved it will be served on the owner of the property.

Planning Committee minutes for December/January are attached to these minutes.

Planning Application W13/04366/FUL Copse Farm. After discussion it was proposed, seconded and agreed that previous objections to a planning application for a new dwelling at Copse Farm should be withdrawn and Cllr. Trevor Carbin asked to withdraw the call in.

Planning Application W/13/06579/FUL - Copse Farm extension of permission for a temporary dwelling for a further two years. It was proposed that no comment should be made on this application. This was seconded and agreed, 5 in favour, 1 against and 2 abstentions.

Village Facilities Committee Report: The minutes have been circulated.

- £850 is available to spend on bench refurbishment in the next financial year. £400 from donations and £450 from the precept.

- Centenary of the outbreak of WWI– VFC consider that the Parish Council, as custodians of the war memorial, should instigate its rededication and Village plans to mark the centenary. Cllr. Mizen to attend a meeting in Tidworth in May. The Vicar is keen that the whole community should be involved. Cllr. Bob Mizen to take forward.
- Dawes Pond – written agreement has been received from Mr. Nick Kirkham confirming that he will make a financial contribution to the proposed works on the pond.
- Graffiti, small sports. It was agreed that this should not be removed.
- Ham Green, posts and chains. Funds for restoration work have been received from St. Katharine's Church from the Auction of Promises. The work is scheduled to be done in March.
- Tree Committee – has not met recently. Works to Horse Chestnut trees on Ham Green to be considered by the Tree Committee.
- Gate for play area adjacent to the second sports court – a quote of £350 has been received. Further quotes to be obtained.
- Rubbish bins the Playing Fields – bins to be hired from the start of the next financial year. Garry Aland has been asked to empty the bins and will to be asked to remove debris from Dawes' Pond.
- Pavilion doors and windows have been replaced. Funding is available to redecorate the pavilion, replace the sanitary ware and build a storage cupboard for football kit.

Users of the pavilion are leaving it in a mess. Letters to be sent to the football clubs asking for written confirmation that they will undertake to leave the premises in an acceptable state after matches prior to work being done.

It was agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to the Pavilion Committee thanking them for their fund raising efforts for refurbishment of the pavilion.

Rubbish bin, Children's Play Area – the Clerk to check out the rogue bin in the area.

Footpaths 71/72 – the inspectors have offered the dates of 30th/31st July for a proposed public hearing. The Village Hall trustees to be asked to facilitate this although one of the dates clashes with Luncheon Club. If these dates are not accepted it is possible that the hearing will not be held in Holt.

Highways & Streetscene Committee Report: Minutes have been circulated.

- Traffic Survey – results awaited.
- Community Speedwatch and metro count – scheduled for January.
- Holt Manor issues – the Chairman and the Clerk to attend an informal meeting with Mrs. Sarah Marshall, Legal Department, WC on 28th January.

- Double Yellow Lines, The Midlands – ongoing.
- The Star – stones on the verges. Being followed up by WC Highways.
- Footpaths 12, 14, 16, 20, 25 – diversions requested. The Chairman and Cllr. Steve Siddall have met with Mr. Nick Kirkham re flooding and footpaths. He is happy for this to be in the public domain and an open afternoon will be arranged at the Village Hall so members of the public can view the proposed plans.
- Beckerley Lane – Mr. Andy Cadwallader, Highways, has inspected the junction and does not consider there to be a problem. However, the Parish Council can make a request to Bradford-on-Avon Community Area Board for parking restrictions at the junction and this has been done. Cllr. Andrew Pearce to contact the Clerk.
- Forewoods Common – the poor state of the road has been referred to Highways and the Clerk to contact our co-ordinator at WC to have repairs placed on the list of outstanding work.
- Disabled bays – it is not WC policy to remove markings for disabled parking spaces; they are left to wear away.

Policies:

- **Signage Policy** – to be discussed at the March meeting.
- **Section 137 Policy** – to be referred to the Finance Committee for recommendations.

Bradford-on-Avon Community Area Board: Cllr. Andrew Pearce attended a recent meeting of BoACAB and has circulated notes on highlights of the meeting.

- A joint assessment event about the Bradford-on-Avon community area is to be held on 5th February. Cllr. Pearce to attend.
- Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service is likely to combine with the Dorset service in 2016.
- Wiltshire Police precept is to be increased by £3.15 per household per annum.
- A series of events to commemorate the outbreak of WWI to be held.
- Holt and Broughton Gifford Youth Club has been awarded £1896 for a youth worker for the next financial year.

Holt Tannery Limited Liaison Committee Report: Nothing to report.

Pavilion Refurbishment Project Committee Report: Previously reported under VFC.

Neighbourhood Plan and Localism Act 2011: Cllr. Andrew Pearce reported that a rough first draft has been circulated together with the proposed consultation programme for the first draft. The reaction of WC is awaited. Those who have received a copy of the first draft have been requested to respond by 6th February.

The NHP Steering Group would then like to send a copy to every household in the Village. A public consultation day to be held in the Village Hall once the second draft is available, which will probably be the end of March. The Parish Council to respond once the second draft has been released.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Andrew Pearce and the NHP Steering Group for their work on the plan.

Website: Cllr. Tom Stimpson is awaiting feedback from councillors; only two have responded to date. Cllr. Tom Stimpson to be asked to remove outdated material. Councillors were asked to ensure that Cllr. Stimpson has their details for the website and that these details are kept up to date. The link for the Register of Interests is broken.

Holt Post Office – Proposed Move to New Premises: The Council is not opposed to this proposal.

Energy Efficiency: Cllr. Jane Grant referred to the scheme to encourage insulation and install efficient boilers. Many houses in Holt are more than forty years old and could benefit from such measures. The Council could promote this under the Power of General Well Being. Initially Climate Friendly Bradford-on-Avon to be approached. Cllr. Jane Grant to take forward.

Correspondence: Mr. Andrew Beck has written to the Parish Council regarding flooding urging the Council to ensure that before there is any further heavy rainfall either the land around the Glove Factory Studios be returned to its previous condition, or the proposed works are completed.

Cllr. Steve Siddall reported that Mr. Nick Kirkham has commissioned a study re flooding; this report shows that other people are restricting the flow of The Brook and this is contributing to the problem. Once the proposed works are complete there should not be an issue with flooding. A new consultant is to be asked to look at the Glove Factory site together with Wiltshire Council and the Parish Council to decide what further work should be done.

Mr. Tim Burgess, Bridge House, has written to the Council expressing concern about flooding issues and has asked the Council's position on the matter.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Arkell, 22 Leigh Road, have written to the Council asking that they consider favourably Wiltshire Council's proposal to extinguish part of Footpath 31.

Village Inspection Report: The inspection was done by Cllr. Robin Paice and his report circulated. The Clerk to ask Garry Aland to carry out necessary work. Cllr. Becky Stevens to do the next inspection.

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

Accounts for Payment January 2014

Holt Village Hall	£200.00
SLCC/Annual Sub	£101.00
URC/Hall Hire	£120.00
Getmapping Plc	£ 57.60 (VAT £9.60)
Cllr.Bob Mizen/Padlock	£19.72 (VAT £3.92)
Playground Inspectors	£71.94 (VAT £11.99)
G. Aland/Caretaking	£253.33
G. Aland/Ground Maintenance	£394.33
JM Beale	£1286.56
Remuneration	£696.12
Fixed Expenses	£ 69.24
Computer	£499.00 (VAT £83.17)
Postage	£ 7.20
Telephone/Line	
Rental & Calls	£ 15.00

Any Other Business: Cllr. Marsha Nicholson extended thanks to Mr. Garry Aland for his work around the Village.

In the absence of Cllr. Becky Stevens, the next meeting will be chaired by Cllr. Andrew Pearce.

