

A meeting of Holt Parish Council was held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2014 at the URC Hall.

**Present:** Cllr. Becky Stevens, Cllr. Andrew Pearce, Cllr. Jane Grant, Cllr. Rebekah Harrison, Cllr. Bob Mizen, Cllr. Steve Siddall, Cllr. Richard Goodman, Cllr. Robin Paice.

**Apologies:** Cllr. Marsha Nicholson, Cllr. Dave Cullop, Cllr. Trevor Carbin.

**In Attendance:** PCSO Joe Leeds.

**Open Meeting:** PCSO Joe Leeds presented the following report which was prepared by PCSO Andrew MacLachlan:

Holt PC Report 26<sup>th</sup> June 2014 Wiltshire Police NPT Bradford Rural

*Crime statistics 24<sup>th</sup> May – 24<sup>th</sup> June 2014.* There have been 31 reported incidents for the Bradford Rural beat of which 5 occurred in Holt. This compares with 23 reported incidents for the Bradford Rural beat of which 1 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)	4 (3)	1 (0)	Great Parks. Several calls ref skateboarders on newly resurfaced road causing ASB. Youths yet to be identified.
Anti Social Behaviour (Nuisance)	2 (1)	0 (0)	
Burglary	0 (1)	0 (0)	
Criminal Damage	1 (3)	0 (0)	
Drug related	0 (0)	0 (0)	
Theft and Handling	3 (2)	0 (0)	
Violence against the person	7 (4)	3 (1)	7/6 – Male arrested for head butting another male after music festival 7/6 – Fight at music festival. Enquiries ongoing 15/6 – Hawcroft. Male attended an address and assaulted a female. Female did not wish to prosecute
Other	2 (2)	0 (0)	
Concern for Safety	2 (2)	0 (0)	

Domestic related	3 (2)	1 (0)	7/6 – Green Close. Male arrested prevent breach of Peace.
Suspicious circumstances	2 (1)	0 (0)	
Transport related	5 (2)	0 (0)	

**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** - PCSO MacLachlan has received several reports of cars not stopping for pedestrians on the B3107 zebra crossing. Consequently, PCSO MacLachlan has stepped up his presence at the crossing in the mornings. This is the first time I have reported on zero burglaries on our beat, which is very encouraging. However, there have been three daytime dwelling (house) burglaries in Bradford on Avon town centre in recent weeks, so as usual, we recommend householders to ensure they lock their doors and windows etc. There is nothing to suggest that this pattern will move to the rural beat, but you can never be too careful!

**Success Stories** - Stephen James from Bradford Leigh was sentenced to 3 years imprisonment for cultivating cannabis in two shipping containers on a farm in Bradford Leigh.

**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 Please remember to “like” our Facebook page called “Bradford on Avon NPT” for regular updates on what is happening on our beat.

Concern was expressed about the pedestrian crossing and consideration will be given to extending the no parking area at the crossing.

PCSO Leeds was informed that cars parked opposite the Playing Fields had been ‘keyed’ on the evening of the Music Festival. To be followed up by the Police.

PCSO Leeds to contact Mr. Jim Ovens, Copse Farm, following an incident of his cows running loose in the Village.

Mr. Alan Fox thanked the Parish Council for supporting the Youth Club and informed the meeting that youth services for Holt and Broughton Gifford Youth Club may have to cease at the beginning of August as Wiltshire Council has withdrawn funding. The Youth Club are drafting an open letter to be sent to Wiltshire Council; this letter will also go to the press. WC informed the Youth Club of their decision last week following a consultation period. It would seem that WC has gone ahead with its original proposals with disregard to the findings of the consultation.

Cockhill Farm – Solar Park Development: Mr. Sam Gaiger thanked the councillors who attended a site meeting at Cockhill Farm and said he would be happy to do a further site visit; the site is secure and not open to members of the public. The land would be returned to farmland after 25 years and the development would be of community benefit; it would provide employment for local people during construction and funding of £1000 per MW per annum, indexed, and paid for the life of the project.

Gaiger Ltd. has proposed that 75% of the fund should be paid into the Community Foundation for Wiltshire and 25% to Holt Parish Council.

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**Declaration of Interests & Dispensation:** Cllr. Jane Grant declared an interest in flooding issues.

**Minutes of the Meeting Held on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2014:** The minutes of this meeting were approved and signed.

**Matters Arising:** Village Hall Car Park – damage to the car park surface caused by skateboarders has been reported to the Chairman of the Village Hall Trustees.

Committees: Cllr. Steve Siddall has joined the Highways & Streetscene Committee and Cllr. Rebekah Harrison is a member of the Planning Committee.

Hedge, Holt Manor – Ongoing.

Replacement post box – Royal Mail intend to install a post box at the junction of The Common with Little Parks; the work will be done once responses from the utility companies have been received.

Letter to Mrs. Jane Scott, Leader of Wiltshire Council – a response is awaited. The Clerk to follow up.

Core training for councillors – ongoing.

BT Infinity – Cllr. Steve Siddall to place an article in the Magazine.

Holt Manor verges – a response to Mr. Jim Gooding's letter has been received from Mrs. Sarah Marshall, Legal Department, Wiltshire Council. The matter will not be pursued further.

URC – overgrowth – the Clerk to follow up.

The Bowls Club has been asked to ensure that visitors to the Club do not park in the Playing Fields.

**Planning Committee Report:** Glove Factory Studios – the planning applications for the car park and flooding issues have now been approved, together with signage for the site.

Planning application 14/05596/FUL - Cockhill Farm, Trowbridge Solar Park Development. Following a site visit by members of the Planning Committee it was proposed, seconded and agreed, 7 in favour, 1 against, that this Council has no objections to the planning application.

It was proposed that this Council should accept Gaiger Ltd.'s offer that 25% of the community benefit should be paid to Holt Parish Council. This was seconded and agreed, all in favour.

Wiltshire Council policy on solar development is that energy proposals should be encouraged; there is not a national policy.

#### **Village Facilities Committee:**

- **Report:**
  - Benches – more to be refurbished.
  - Cllr. Marsha Nicholson has a written quotation for £285.71 for repairs to a swing seat, replacement bearings for a swing and replacement clips on the scrambling net. It was proposed, seconded and agreed, all in favour, that this quote should be accepted.

- Sign for gate done and will be put up shortly.
- Posts and chains, Ham Green – done but VFC are not completely happy with the standard of the work. The contractors have agreed to put things right.

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- WWI Commemorations – all going well, but the brass band which was booked has dropped out; brass instrument players being sought.
- Holt Manor footpaths – a public enquiry will be held on 30th and 31<sup>st</sup> July at the Village Hall; it is permissible for the Parish Council to advertise the event and people are being encouraged to come along as numbers attending will be noted by the inspectors. The enquiry will run over one or two days and may involve a site visit. Cllr. Bob Mizen to place an article in the Magazine.
- Dog litter bin adjacent to the Children's Play Area to be removed.
- The damaged bin by the sports court has yet to be replaced.

**Dawes' Pond:** A written quotation of £3000 has been received for work to the Pond. This would entail removing the island, making the Pond 3 meters shorter, sloping the sides and carrying out work to prevent leakage. Mr. Nick Kirkham, Glove Factory Studios, has given written assurance that the maximum liability for Holt Parish Council would be £1500. There will be a new inlet pipe into the pond with flow control. Once work to the Pond is done to this Council's satisfaction, Mr. Kirkham then wishes to remove the weir which was put in to allow Dawes' Pond to be filled. This will improve the flow in the brook and help to alleviate flooding problems: this work will be done at Mr. Kirkham's expense and forms part of the approved flood prevention plans agreed by WC.

Cllr. Steve Siddall asked for approval to spend up to £500 for an inspection report once the work is completed.

Whilst the work is being done, machinery on site will be used to remove the posts and fencing from around the old children's play area. This will be done at no cost to the Council.

Mr. Kirkham to arrange for a design for a bridge across the brook by the Pond to be drawn up.

It was proposed that Mr. Kirkham's offer to carry out work to the Pond at a cost of £1500 to the Parish Council should be accepted, together with agreement to remove the weir, and that £500 should be made available for contingencies and final landscaping once the work is done. This was seconded and agreed, all in favour.

### **Highways & Streetscene Committee Report:**

- Double yellow lines, The Midlands – ongoing.
- Community Days – the Clerk to arrange a meeting with Jennifer Hiscocks, WC, with members of the H & S Committee.
- Flood plan – Cllr. Steve Siddall to obtain a copy of the letter sent to the riparian owners by Mr. Steve Scothern, WC.

- Path Improvement Grants – a grant is no longer needed as Mr. Nick Kirkham to replace the gate in question.
- Diversion of footpaths 12,14,16 18, 25 – it was proposed, seconded and agreed that proposals to divert these footpaths at the Glove Factory Studios should be accepted, subject to an amendment to the diversion for FP14, which should be around the eastern boundary of the field. The clerk to respond to WC by 30<sup>th</sup> June.

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- Footpath 7 – work to improve access in the muddy gateway to be carried out.
- Signage policy, Glove Factory Studios – Cllr. Andrew Pearce to contact the Planning Department as the planning application for work at the Glove Factory Studios has been signed off and this Council has not been consulted on signage, as previously agreed.

**Pavilion Refurbishment Project Committee Report:** Nothing to report.

**Holt Tannery Ltd. Liaison Committee Report:** Cllr. Steve Siddall reported that the project is going ahead; a company, NUULIV, has been set up and it is anticipated that a planning application will be submitted by the end of the year. A new masterplan is being drawn up and it is likely that there will be a reduction in housing and industrial units.

**Neighbourhood Plan:** The draft plan has been circulated to all households in the parish. Following the consultation day in May positive responses have been received and are being collated. The consultation period ends on 30<sup>th</sup> June. .

**Website:** In the absence of Cllr. Tom Stimpson this was carried over to the next meeting. It is acceptable for Cllr. Stimpson to be paid for work to the website if due process is followed and three quotations are obtained.

**Auction of Promises – Funding:** A bid for funding from the Auction will not be submitted this year but all councillors were asked to bear this source of funding in mind for future projects.

**Correspondence:** A voucher from Hills for 10 bags of compost has been received and this was passed to the Tree Committee.

**Village Inspection Report:** Cllr. Bob Mizen to circulate his report. There is overgrowth at the entrance to the overflow car park in The Midlands. The Clerk to follow up.

**Accounts for Payment and Internal Audit:** The following accounts were approved for payment:

Mrs A Crawford/Internal Audit	£	120.00	
Wiltshire Waste/Wheelie Bins	£	4.80	(VAT £0.80)
Citiglen/Sign Playing Fields	£	34.80	(VAT £5.80)
British Gas/Electric	£	52.66	(VAT £0.31)
G.Aland/Ground Maintenance	£	280.08	
G. Aland/Caretaking	£	250.04	
J M Beale	£	429.61	(VAT £6.38)
Remuneration	£	348.06	
Fixed Expenses	£	34.62	
Stationery	£	31.93	
Telephone/Line			
Rental & Calls	£	15.00	

Accounts for audit, as prepared by the internal auditor, have been circulated and it was proposed, seconded and agreed, all in favour, that they should be adopted.

The Finance Committee to discuss adopting a policy on reserves.

**Any Other Business:** Holt Guide – the Clerk to write to Mrs. Tina Davies thanking her and her team for the excellent guide which they have produced.

Cllr. Jane Grant reported on the recent meeting of WALC Executive Committee.

Cllr Robin Paice informed the meeting that road and pavement sweeping is carried out quarterly and weeding annually.