

UNADOPTED

A meeting of Holt Parish Council was held on Thursday 23rd July 2015 at the URC Hall.

Present: Cllr. Becky Stevens, Cllr. Andrew Pearce, Cllr. Marsha Nicholson, Cllr. Bob Mizen, Cllr. Steve Siddall, Cllr Richard Goodman, Cllr. Mervyn Osman, Cllr. Robin Paice.

Apologies: Cllr. David Cullop.

In Attendance: Cllr. Trevor Carbin, PCSO Andrew MacLachlin.

Open Meeting: PCSO Andrew MacLachlan presented the following report:

Holt PC Report 23rd July 2015 Wiltshire Police NPT Bradford Rural

Crime statistics 23rd June – 23rd July 2015 There have been 40 reported incidents for the Bradford Rural beat of which 3 occurred in Holt. This compares with 50 reported incidents for the Bradford Rural beat of which 2 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)	1 (7)	0 (0)	
Anti Social Behaviour (Nuisance)	2 (2)	0 (0)	
Burglary	4 (7)	2 (0)	26/06 – Bradley Lane. Dwelling burglary – items stolen. No leads so closed undetected. 03/07 - Beckerley Lane. Shed entered and items stolen. No leads so closed undetected.
Sexual Offences	2 (0)	0 (0)	
Drug Offences	0 (2)	0 (1)	
Criminal Damage	3 (5)	0 (0)	
Theft and Handling	5 (4)	0 (0)	
Violence against the person	7 (6)	0 (0)	
Other	0 (1)	0 (0)	
Concern for Safety	2 (2)	0 (0)	
Domestic related	3 (3)	0 (0)	
Pets/animal related	1 (0)	0 (0)	
Suspicious circumstances	3 (3)	0 (0)	

Transport related	7 (9)	1 (1)	24/06 – The Street. Parked vehicle hit by an unknown vehicle. Enquiries ongoing
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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.

Other incidents of interest:2 other burglaries this month: A non dwelling burglary in Winsley and another in Limpley Stoke.

Success Stories:NPT have arrested one male twice in Winsley for offences against his neighbour, the case is ongoing.

NPT also arrested a female in Bradford Town, Frome Rd for breach of Court Bail relating to a domestic incident.

NPT supported The Police and Crime Commissioner on Thursday 9th July at a community awareness event in Bradford Town Centre.

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

PCSO Andrew MacLachlan 0752 897 2236 and PC Lee Pelling. *“Like” our Facebook page – Bradford on Avon NPT*

Sign up to Community Messaging at www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk

PCSO Andrew MacLachlan reported that earlier in the day school children had been seen holding guns – these turned out to be toy guns – resulting in considerable police activity in the Village, including a police helicopter.

Concern was expressed for the safety of a lady who has been seen on several occasions recently walking with a trolley to and from Bradford-on-Avon. Andrew MacLachlan to follow up.

Mr Magnus MacDonald, Chairman Bradford-on-Avon Area Board and Mr. Peter Dunford, Communities Engagement Manager for the area, spoke about the work of Bradford-on-Avon Area Community Board and the intention that their work should focus more on engaging all areas of the area, not just Bradford-on-Avon. Mr MacDonald invited feedback from Parishes about the work of the area board and how it can be improved. There is to be more sensitivity to issues concerning the surrounding villages. CATG needs to find other sources of funding; at present just £11,000p.a.is allocated for the whole of the Bradford-on-Avon area. £15,000 has also been transferred from the Area Board to the CATG funds.

Cllr. Steve Siddall outlined his dissatisfaction with the way in which the Area Board has dealt with several issues in the past and queried the power of the Area Board.

Mr. MacDonald said that the Board is intending to consider alternative forms of transport to compensate for the loss of bus services, develop cycle routes and footpaths, extend the emergency volunteer force and focus more on tourism, amongst other things. Cllr. Marsha Nicholson asked that bridle ways should be added to the list. He said communities will need to become more self-reliant as more responsibility will be devolved to local councils, including the running of car parks and playing fields.

The Chairman thanked Mr. MacDonald and Mr. Dunford for attending the meeting.

Cllr Trevor Carbin reported on Wiltshire Council's intention to cut subsidies to bus services; this could mean an end to all services except those between the major towns which run at a profit for the operators. Wiltshire Council has to go through a consultation process which will take place over the winter. A petition against these cuts can be found at: <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/save-our-buses>.

He informed the meeting that Gladman Developments has now appealed the Melksham Road site and updates are available on the Planning Inspectorate website at: <https://acp.planningportal.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?Caseid=3063775&ColD=0>.

Declarations of Interest and Dispensation: None.

Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd June 2015: The minutes of this meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising: Parking on pavements – the Police have been asked to monitor this and take whatever action they can. Michelle Donelan MP, supports action to stop parking on pavements and suggested that initially the Council should take this up with the Area Board. Councils now have the power to erect signs banning parking on pavements without first going to Whitehall. At the recent CATG meeting it was advised that people should report vehicles causing obstructions to the police and stay with the vehicle until the police arrive. It is unlikely that the police will take action if they do not consider the obstruction to be dangerous.

It was suggested that the Council acquires some stickers to place on the windscreens of offending vehicles. Highways and Streetscene Committee to consider and report back to the next meeting.

Ham Green, overgrown trees – these have been cut back.

Bridge House – a letter has been sent to the occupants regarding the timescale on work at the property. A reply is awaited.

Flood Plan – Cllr. Bob Mizen has offered to be the flood warden. The Clerk to progress.

Spa Pump, The Midlands – a letter re ownership of the pump has been sent to the occupant. The pump almost certainly belongs to the property, but the owner would not be able to do anything to the pump.

Area Board terms of reference – circulated to councillors.

Planning: Gladman Developments have asked when the Council will be undertaking Regulation 14 consultation for the Neighbourhood Plan. Gladman Developments to be informed that this regulation was completed in May/June 2014.

Thrings solicitors, have written to the Council regarding proposed development at Manor Farm. Thrings to be informed that the final draft of the Neighbourhood Plan has been forwarded to Wiltshire Council and the plan, as it stands, rules out development on the proposed site which sits in the green belt. An invitation to attend the open part of the September will be extended to Thrings Solicitors.

Planning Application 15/06342/TCA, 106 The Street - Copper Beech tree. The Council is opposed to the felling of this tree and it was proposed, seconded and agreed, all in favour, that the Arboriculture and Landscape officer should consider the application of a TPO or other less drastic measures, such as crown reduction, rather than the complete removal of the tree.

Village Facilities Committee: Bus shelter – two quotes have been obtained, one written quote for £519 and one verbal quote, subject to a site meeting, of £75.

The oak bench which Crispin Keysar made from oak donated by Keith and Barbara Tucker is now in situ at Dawes Pond. Letters of thanks to be sent to both Crispin and the Tuckers.

Raising of estimates – it was agreed that VFC should obtain estimates.

Dawes' Pond – estimates for works to the pond awaited.

Caretaker's job specification – ongoing.

Orchard Committee – Cllr. Steve Siddall asked for the Council's approval in principle to create a second orchard at the top end of the Playing Fields on the corner by The Street/Ground Corner. The intention is to plant cidar apple trees. This was proposed, seconded and agreed, all in favour.

Works to trees, allocation of budget – it was agreed that an independent survey of trees in the Council's care should be carried out prior to obtaining quotes for work.

Highways & Streetscene Committee Report:

- Flood Plan – statutory authorities have carried out a good deal of work in the last year and work is still in progress. A report will be available later in the year.
- Storm drains from the B3107 have both discharged in the brook under the road bridge, and this needs to be taken into account for the required capacity of the brook south of the B3107. Steve Scothern, Wiltshire Council, to be contacted.
- Jennifer Hiscocks, Streetscene, Wiltshire Council, to be contacted re the frequency of sucking out of road gullies, which seems to be inadequate.
- Double Yellow Lines, The Midlands – publication of the Traffic Order still awaited. Cllr. Trevor Carbin to be asked to follow up.
- The Courts, parking – the opening of the Glove Factory Studios car park does not appear to have made any significant difference to parking congestion. The National Trust to be approached again re possible action.
- Footpath, the Recreation Fields – it was generally felt that action on this should be deferred until a more comprehensive plan for traffic improvements as envisaged by the Neighbourhood Plan has been produced.
- Traffic Count – the idea of holding a meeting with Atkins and Wiltshire County Council to discuss the difference between the ANPR study and this Council's count has not been pursued, as a similar situation in Bradford-on-Avon did not have a useful outcome. The proposed recount to be delayed until the Hilperton Gap road is opened. This will be in late September.
- Pavement from Firlawn to the Shop – a repair and upgrade request has emerged without this Council's intervention and has apparently been turned down. It was generally accepted that this stretch of pavement is no better or worse than other pavements throughout the Village, all of which are in need of attention.
- BCATG – the last meeting was informed of a large budget cut which meant no further work could be carried out in this financial year. Since the meeting the Area Board has transferred a further £15,000 from its finances.
- Footpaths – Cllr. Marsha Nicholson's offer to take responsibility for footpaths is welcomed.
- Silver Birch tree, The Midlands – planted to replace a Cherry tree without consultation with the Council and is an unsuitable choice of tree because of its eventual size. It is considered unlikely that it will survive.
- Community Action Days – Cllr. Steve Siddall considers it difficult to keep track of problems reported to Wiltshire Council and the action taken because records have not been

maintained satisfactorily; there are multiple routes for reporting problems to Wiltshire Council, not all of which are included in the PC loop. Cllr. Siddall to consider the problem.

- Future programme – Cllr. Pearce said the recently completed Neighbourhood Plan would be a rich source of possible projects for the Committee, once it was formally agreed.
- Future HSSC meetings usually to be held on Thursday, two weeks prior to PC meetings to allow time for the notes to be circulated with the PC agenda.

Regarding the proposed footpath on the Recreation Ground, it was considered that any decision should be deferred until it is known what benefit, if any, will be derived from the Tannery Development. A Village wide scheme could then be considered. Once the Neighbourhood Plan has been approved, this Council would then be entitled to 25% of the Community Infrastructure Levy paid to Wiltshire Council by the developers of the Tannery site.

Cllr. Andrew Pearce has written to Wiltshire Council regarding changes to road signage to encourage use of the Hilperton Relief Gap road when open.

Website Report: The clerk's new email account is now up and running. 2015 meeting dates are on the website and the audited accounts are to be posted.

Councillors to send material to the Clerk for posting on the website. An article re works to Dawes pond to be posted on the website and sent to the Magazine.

Bradford-on-Avon Community Area Board: Superfast broadband will be available in Holt in the near future.

Holt Tannery Limited Liaison Committee Report: James Child attended a recent meeting. A final report is being completed. A contamination report has shown that there are no concerns with the land. Parking issues are a problem. A high proportion of affordable housing is proposed for the site. There will be an event room with seating for 40/50 people. The developers hope to submit plans by the end of August and anticipate approval by the end of 2015.

The next meeting of HTLLC will be held on 2nd September.

Cockhill Solar Farm Development: The amended lease has been signed and returned to Wansbroughs. The first payment is anticipated in the near future.

Bowls Club Rent: Legal advice awaited.

URC Hall – Donation for Improvements: It was proposed, seconded and agreed that £250 should be donated to the URC.

Wiltshire Housing Site Allocation Plan: A Further round of consultation on Wiltshire's Housing Site Allocations DPD is taking place. Cllr. Andrew Pearce to follow up: it is considered that the Neighbourhood Plan, not the DPD, should define land in Holt. The deadline for response to the consultation is 12th August and it was agreed that Cllrs. Pearce and Siddall should respond on the Council's behalf.

Path Improvement Grants and Footpaths: Diversions to footpaths 12,14,16 and 18 were confirmed on 18th September 2014. These paths are uneven and overgrown and way markers are needed. This work to be done once work at GFS is finished. Mr. Nick Kirkham to be asked the anticipated timescale of work at GFS. The Clerk to follow up.

Footpath survey reports to be deferred to end September.

The Ramblers Association has a path watch scheme and they wish to ensure that every footpath in the country is walked. Footpath problems can be reported to their website – bigpathwatch/ramblers.

Path Improvements Grants are available on a matched funding basis and Cllr. Marsha Nicholson suggested that funds could be used to replace some stiles in the area. Kissing gates were favoured and metal kissing gates are available at £308 and timber at £216. Timber mobility kissing gates are also available at £262. The stile behind Starfield House (footpath 48) is in need of replacement. It was proposed, seconded and agreed, all in favour that up to £200 should be allocated to replace the stile on footpath 48 with a kissing gate.

It was agreed that Cllr. Marsha Nicholson should become an ex officio member of the Highways and Streetscene Committee, as she has taken on responsibility for footpaths and these are part of the Committee's remit.

Footpath 31 – ongoing.

Footpaths 71 & 72 – waymarkers are in place. Fingerposts for these paths to be considered.

Holt footpaths book – copies to be given to Cllrs. Nicholson and Siddall.

Correspondence: Wiltshire Council Briefing Note 247 - Passenger Transport sets out changes to commercial bus routes by First. The routes that are significantly affected in Wiltshire are: Service 234 and service T1, both withdrawn from 2nd August. Service 231, the extension to the route around Pewsham will be withdrawn from 23rd August. Service 265 will continue, but from 23rd August the route will be via Tynings Road, leaving the section of Winsley Road past Cottles Lane and Ashley Lane unserved.

Faresaver X34 will add a Saturday service running every hour instead of the current 234.

Wiltshire Council Briefing Note 248 – Waste Management Service Contract awarded to Hills Waste Solutions Lot 1, dry recyclables, Lot 3, garden waste composting, Lot 4, landfill services. All three contracts will start from August 2017 and run for eight years with the option for the council to extend each contract by a further eight years.

Lot 2, tenderers invited to review and confirm their tenders based on the reduced opening hours which were introduced from 13th July 2015.

Lot 5 – waste a recycling collections – tenderers invited to submit a variant tender based on a fully co-mingled (wheeled bin) collection of dry recyclable materials including glass.

Tenders for lots 2 and 5 to be agreed at the November cabinet meeting.

Wiltshire Council Briefing Note 249 – Wiltshire Council and Balfour Beatty are working towards a solution for ongoing delivery of the highway maintenance contract in Wiltshire. Discussions are ongoing.

Village Inspection Report: Cllr. David Cullop carried out the inspection and his report has been circulated. Garry Aland to be asked to clear the Brook. The Clerk to follow up.

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

Withy King/legal advice	£180.00	(VAT £30.00)
I & B Ayliffe/kerbstones Ham Green	£3456.00	(VAT 576.00)
Avon Printing Services/NHP	£ 360.00	
Jane Ingram/NHP	£ 250.00	
J. Lilley/Water Leak Pavilion	£ 50.00	
Playforce/Repairs to play equipment	£ 421.43	(VAT £70.24)
G.Aland/Caretaking	£ 500.08	
G.Aland/Ground Maintenance	£ 730.00	

Wiltshire Waste	£ 20.04 (VAT £3.34)
JM Beale	£449.28 (VAT£6.74)
Remuneration	£355.71
Fixed Expenses	£ 34.62
Stationery	£ 40.45
Telephone	£ 18.50

Any Other Business: Cllr. Marsha Nicholson reported that the dog bin by the main playing fields gates is overflowing. Garry Aland to be asked to empty it.

VFC minutes to be posted on PC website.

Cllr. Steve Siddall raised the matter of dogs off leads on the Playing Fields. There is one offender in particular who, despite repeated requests not to let his dogs off the lead on the site, continues to do so. To be followed up and, if needs be, bye laws put into force. The matter to be highlighted through the Magazine and on the website.

Cllrs. Becky Stevens, Steve Siddall and Mervyn Osman gave their apologies for the September meeting.

Transparency Code to be circulated to councillors.