

HOLWELL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
ZOOM MEETING
HELD ON 27TH OCTOBER 2020
AT 7.00 P.M.

Present:

Ms Yvonne Hart (Chairperson)
Mr Colin Everett
Mr Nigel Eaton
Mrs Wendy Harris
Mrs Ann Warner (Clerk)
Richard Brown (Chairman of Henlow Parish Council)

Parishioners attending meeting:

Claire Strong
Michael Kelly
Rosemary Gainsford
Colin Copley
Jackie Jordan

Apologies:

Apologies were received from PCSO Heather Burrows, Parish Councillor Martin Thurlow and Hertfordshire County Councillor David Barnard.

1. Minutes:

The Minutes of the previous meeting which have been circulated to all Parish Councillors were agreed to be a true record and were duly signed by the Chairperson Ms Yvonne Hart.

2. Matters to Report:

3.1. Police Update: Heather Burrows was unable to attend but sent a notice for the website and noticeboards on "What should we focus on?" community voice. Also contact details for reporting a new crime or incident.

3.2. County and District Councillors Reports: There were no County or District councillors present.

3.3. Recreation ground issues: Pavilion: new build - Quotes for the proposed new Pavilion have now been sent to Claire Morgan at NHDC to be presented to the committee for consideration. Confirmation has been received from Settle that they are prepared to grant a £50,000 gift to the Parish Council as a contribution to this project.

Claire Strong advised the PC to approach the Rands Foundation again for a grant towards this project.

Mr Kelly introduced Henlow Parish Councillor Richard Brown to the meeting. Mr Brown gave an insight into raising money for big projects. Henlow built a new Sport Pavilion some 6 years ago using a community loan from the District Council, which would need to be paid back through raising the precept and this would not be possible for Holwell as we are a much smaller village. Mr Brown gave general information regarding grants etc. PC thanked Mr Brown for attending the meeting.

3.4. Children's Play area:

The repairs to the play equipment and safety surfaces have now be completed although the rope swing does need to be oiled again as it is sticking. It was reported that the wasps' nest has been removed.

Trees in children's play area – Work has now been completed.

Trees overhanging the recreation ground from The Rectory Grounds – Mr Lyons has now had work done by a tree specialist to rectify this.

3.5. Rights of Way: access to the play area from Holwell Road (definitive Map) – pending the result of the appeal committee.

3.6 Highways: Holwell Road – work on the reinstated path has now been completed although vehicles are still parking up there. This will be monitored.

Rands Meadow – Work was started in Rands Meadow without residents being given the required 2 weeks' notice. Councillor Sam North notified the Parish Council that work was being done to upgrade cabling. As there was no notice given Mr North contacted Highways. Work stopped as they could not gain access due to parked cars.

The recreation ground car park will be opened for the residents to use during the period when work restarts.

3.7 Noticeboard – The installation of the new noticeboard will be on 14th November.

4. Finance:

Current Account - 26,730.51 this includes £18,307.00 insurance claim regarding shed

Deposit Account - 3,304.98

The following invoice has been received:

Castle Water - £946.78 It was agreed that this seems excessive and this will be looked into and the meter checked before payment is made.

5. Correspondence:

HCC - Speed Management
HAPTC - Standards matters

6. Matters for special consideration:

Planning applications:

Full Planning permission – erection of mausoleum building – North Hertfordshire Crematorium and Memorial Park, Bedford Road, Holwell SG5 3RT Ref: 20/02369/FP

The Parish Council had no objections.

Permission in Principle: erection of up to four dwellings land West of Pirton Road, Holwell SG5 3SS Ref: 20/02359/PIP

The Parish Council objected to this development on the following grounds:

*Holwell is a category B village within the rural area outside of the Green Belt which has development restrictions in the emerging local plan. This application is outside the built core of the village.

*The application points to a 20 mph on this extremely narrow road outside the proposed development which is not the case as the speed limit is 30mph throughout the village.

*Holwell is not well served by public transport which will mean more traffic through the narrow lanes. There are no convenience stores, public house, or schools.

*In a recent housing survey, a limited need for new housing in the village was identified and this has been met by the development in Rands Mead, Holwell Road and the applicant's own development in Waterloo Lane.

*The proposed development would have a detrimental visual impact on the surrounding countryside.

The sewage system in Holwell already suffers from capacity issues, a new development can only exacerbate these.

Grain Store – Off Bedford Road -ref: 20/02236/AG

The Parish Council object to this on the grounds that this would cause disruption to Funeral Cortèges and disturb the peace for those visiting the grounds.

Full Planning Permission: Kingsmead, Pirton Road. Ref: 20/02237/FPM

single storey side and rear extension replace existing garage door with window to facilitate conversion of garage into habitable accommodation. Erection of detached double garage to front elevation.

The Parish Council object on the following grounds:

- *The size and impact of the double garage and roof terrace is inappropriate for the site
- *The proposed garage would virtually join the public footpath of a rural village and would have a detrimental visual impact on residents and visitors to the village
- *The building of the garage would be out of character with the rest of the street as it would be in front of the building line by a substantial proportion which is not acceptable.
- *The proposed 3.5m brick wall would abut neighbouring properties and result in the removal of existing green hedge.
- *The propose roof terrace would overlook neighbouring properties resulting in a serious invasion of privacy.

Settle development – Rands Meadow - There have been no issues arising.

HPC Standing Orders and documents review-pending

Community Assets register – pending

St Peter's Green – no issues at the moment

Community Garden – Parish Councillor Wendy Harris reported that she was still trying to contact the owners of the land.

The next zoom meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 1st December 2020 at 7.00 p.m.

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.