

HOLWELL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2021
IN THE BOWLS CLUB AT 7.00 P.M

Present:

Ms Yvonne Hart (Chairperson)
Mr Colin Everett
Mr Nigel Eaton
Mr Martin Thurlow
Mrs Wendy Harris
Mrs Ann Warner (Clerk)

One member of the public – Sue Young

Rands Representative for the Parish Council:

Mr Colin Everett has resigned from his post as Parish Council representative to Rands. The Parish Council thanked Mr Everett for all his work in representing the Parish interests on behalf of the Parish Council.

Mrs Wendy Harris has agreed to take on this role. This was voted on and all Parish Councillors agreed to this appointment.

1. **Apologies:** Apologies were received from Mr David Barnard, Hertfordshire County Councillor. These were accepted and approved by the Parish Council.

2. Minutes:

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

3. Matters to report:

3.1 Police update: There was no Police representative at the meeting.

3.2 County and District Councillors Reports: There was no report from the County Councillor or District Councillor.

3.3 Recreation Ground Issues:

Pavilion:

The clerk reported that Elite Electrical came out to restore power to the Pavilion. The electrician suggested removing the heater from under the work surface as this was a potential fire hazard and

disconnected all appliances until the source of the trip was established. There is a second trip meter in a secure brick-built housing at the back of the Pavilion building.

Ms Hart would be contacting the Football and Cricket Clubs regarding the electrics and plumbing (broken tap in kitchen).

It was agreed that a plumber should be consulted regarding the draining of the water at the Pavilion for winter months.

The clerk met with UK Power Network regarding the housing of the electric meters at the entrance to the recreation ground and the possible splitting of the connections to the Bowls Club and Pavilion.

This would be very costly at the present time. This could be looked at when the proposed Pavilion is replaced and there is an electrician on site. The housing for the meters is fine and only needs two bolts replaced to hold it in place.

The clerk and Ms Hart had a meeting with the Builder and Architect to discuss the drawings. The original drawings were not like for like as the builder had quoted and the Architect was asked to redo to the builders spec. There were also numerous questions to be answered from the Football Foundation who are one of the funding applicants.

The Parish Council has also received another quote for the building of a new Pavilion £150,000 plus vat. The clerk would be contacting the company.

It was reported that the Football Club are unhappy with the state of the recreation ground due to the worm castings. This is unfortunate as the PC have no control over this as it is a directive that no worms must be killed in the maintenance of such grounds. Our groundsman will be looking into other methods of control and would report back at our next meeting

Evolution Trees: have quoted £780 plus vat to:-

Black Poplar with large amounts of deadwood dying back; branches to crown; reduce by approximately 40%. All green waste recycled. Mr Thurlow will get another quote.

South East Security – Service completed and batteries changed

Old Tractor Shed - needs removing. The clerk will get a quote for the removal.

3.4 Children's Play area :- The play inspection by the Play Inspection Company on behalf of North Hertfordshire District Council has now been completed and no major problems have been reported.

3.5 Rights of Ways Update - access to play area from Holwell Road – pending the outcome of the Appeal Inspector.

3.6 Highways:

Bench – pending contractor bolting into place.

The following has been reported to Highways:-

Lamp post 6 outside 18 Rands Meadow has been driven into and is leaning, which is dangerous
ref: 401002327199

Lamp Post 8 is surrounded by a tree and this obstructs the light. Ref: 401002327243

The overgrown trees on the left-hand side of Rands Close outside the boundary of 28 Holwell Road
ref: 4010023227274

A Parishioner has kindly cleared the footpath from the entrance to the recreation ground through the car park and has also cleared the path around the church from weeds. The Parish Council are extremely grateful.

4 Finance:

It was agreed that the followings payments be made:

Elite Electrical	£100.00	Pavilion
NHDC	£60.00	Play Inspection
2Commune	£522.00	Website
Bulb Electrics	£59.00	DD
Brookers	£25.36	Keys Recreation Ground
South East Security	£144.00	Due to be paid 6 th January
Castle Water		awaiting new reading

Precept:

The clerk gave a financial update to the Parish Council.

The Parish Council discussed the projected costs and maintenance of the village amenities for the next financial year. It was agreed by all Councillors that the Precept for the year should be increased to be able to provide the necessary work that needs to be carried out within the village.

The clerk was instructed to write to NHDC with the precept requirement for 2022/23. This will be a rise of 5% from £9,462.81 to £9,935.95.

5 Correspondence: All correspondence via e-mail and post had been circulated.

6 Matters for Special consideration:

Planning Applications:-

Glendale – ref: 21/03069/FPH - the Parish Council raised no objections.

Community Garden – pending

Litter Pickers/Parking – Mr Eaton requested more litter pickers at a cost of £10-£15 to maintain the Holwell Road area. This was agreed by all Councillors to purchase these. Mr Eaton would arrange the purchase.

It was agreed that the recreation ground car park would be made available for weddings and funerals to alleviate congestion on the Church bend. A sign would be placed on the days needed to say Church parking.

It has come to the attention of the Parish Council that the Church may need to close in the near future

due to lack of attendance. No further information was available at the present time. This would be a great loss to the community.

LC Whip Programme -Mrs Wendy Harris reported that she would be meeting with the Pirton counterpart Marilyn Parkin in Pirton on Friday to discuss this further.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 8th February 2022 in the Bowls Club at 7.00 p.m.