**HOLWELL PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**HELD ON TUESDAY 14th MARCH 2023**

**IN THE BOWLS CLUB AT 7.00 P.M.**

**Present: Members of the public:**

Ms Yvonne Hart (Chairperson) Rosemary Gainsford

Mrs Wendy Harris Allan Brundell

Mrs Susan Young Chris Williams (Conservative)

Mrs Ann Warner (Clerk) Louise Pearce (Lib. Dem)

1. **Apologies:**

Apologies were received from PCSO Heather Burrow and County Councillor David Barnard and Parish Councillor Colin Everett who has covid.

1. **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.

1. **Matters to report:**
   1. **Police update:** There was no Police representative at the meeting.
   2. **County and District Councillors Reports:** There was no report from the County Councillor and District Councillor. County Councillor David Barnard had been in touch with the clerk by telephone. Mr Barnard enquired whether the Parish Council needed any help from his financial budget before the end of the year. After discussions with the clerk Mr Barnard has given a grant of £500.00 from his Locality Budget for the improvement of the access to the new Pavilions side entrance.
   3. **Recreation Ground Issues:**

Ms Hart reported that at a meeting with the groundsman Mr Alex Ham a number of outstanding works were discussed:-

Clearing of area on recreation ground to create a communal garden

5 Benches to be cleaned and treated

Pavilion railings to be treated

Moving and painting and repairing of the storage containers (await costing for painting)

Hedge hog for the guttering at the Pavilion

Trimming of the hedge in the children’s play area and clean safety surfaces

Harrowing of the recreations ground (to be done by the local farmer Diccon)

It was agreed by all Councillors present that the above should be carried out as soon as possible.

**Pavilion update:-**

The Clerk has contacted Mr Craig Smith regarding the concrete base for the bench outside the Pavilion and making good the side entrance to the Pavilion which we have a grant for, the earliest he can do this work is April. Mr Brundell and Parish Councillor Susan Young will also

endeavour to acquire quotes for this work.

The clerk ordered the chairs and tables for the Pavilion. The tables should have taken four weeks to arrive and the chairs two weeks, however the tables have arrived but not the chairs. Cost for these is £1,308.59 which we have a grant for.

The Clerk reported that the Builder Allan and Sons would be returning to the Pavilion next week to look at the snagging list to be done. The clerk would be meeting him there to discuss the work that needed to be carried out.

Mr Brundell a parishioner of the Parish gave the Parish Council a list of the things he thought should be addressed by the builder. The Parish council were aware of most of these and would be speaking with the builder about the other issues raised.

The Parish Council discussed whether an alarm should be fitted. This would be looked into as the previous alarm on the old building did not work effectively.

It was agreed that fire extinguishers and fire blanket should be purchased.

* 1. **Children’s Play Area:**

The clerk reported that e-mails have been sent to CPM Playgrounds Limited on a number of occasions and have still not received confirmation of when the repair works will be carried out. The clerk will continue to try and contact Mr Bunker.

* 1. **Rights of Ways Update: access to play area from Holwell Road, (Definitive Map)**

The clerk has contacted Mr Richard Cuthbert again on 7th and 24th February 2023.

e-mail received from him has been circulated to all Parish Councillors, Extract from Mr Cuthberts reply, details below:

Re; NH271 Definitive Map Modification Order at Rands Meadow, thank you for letting me know the property has changed hands.

Whether this alters the position or not, very much depends on the new owners, what they have been told, and what they want to do about it.

Mr W's objections were sent for external legal advice, as they were very detailed legalistic points, and we have had a response from our lawyers, to respond to him, so I'll need a forwarding address if the new occupiers have it.

I'll make contact with them, which should elicit what they have / have not been told about the path claim...

If any objection is made and not withdrawn (in writing) we have to send the case to the Planning Inspectorate (PIns) for determination (HCC cannot determine it).

So, I foresee 3 options;

1. Mr W is contactable and maintains his objection, or hands it to the new occupiers who maintain the objection, or
2. Mr W is contactable but now happy to withdraw his objection, or
3. The objector is uncontactable, which means HCC cannot get it removed in writing.

1 and 3 still cause the case to be sent to PIns for determination (who recently had an 11-month backlog), and involve a large body of work to address those legalistic arguments and send all the evidence and counter arguments to PIns in a Statement of Case, in the format they insist on.

* 1. **Highways –** the clerk has reported the way sign is down on the Bedford Road. The new contact person at Parish Paths is Mr Andy Burton.

The road works outside Lawton’s Farm are already breaking up and Highways have not repaired the road entrance to the farm. The clerk was asked to report this to Highways.

**4. Finance:**

It has been confirmed by Mr Steve Parkinson of Parkinson Partnership and HAPTC that VAT on sports fees and procurements are a non-business activity and therefore outside the scope of VAT. There will be a Sports facilities VAT briefing on Wednesday 22nd March at 2 p.m. set up by HAPTC.

The clerk reported that she had been e-mailing PKF Littlejohn the auditors regarding their decision on the audit 20/21. The last e-mail was sent to them on 17th February and they have not replied. I have spoken to HAPTC and they will contact them on our behalf if we do not hear from them soon.

**CASTLE WATER -**dispute still on going. Meter has been read and witnessed by Mr Martin Thurlow and still no contact from the company.

**BULB ELECTRICITY now OCTOPUS – numerous e-mails** and photographs of the meter and still no confirmation of the reading or them coming out to check the meter. Parish Councillor Wendy Harris has agreed to contact them about smart meters and will try and speak to a manager.

The following payments have been made between meetings:

Mr A Ham January and March invoices £420.00 groundworks

Mrs A Warner home as office for year £342.00

Bulb February invoice £321.17

Argos Fridge/freezer/waste bins et £788.57 Pavilion

NHDC Doggie Bins/litter £659.57 recreation ground

It was agreed that the following invoices should be paid.

BHIB -council insurance £1,234.39

F J Lawton sons -hedge cutting £480.00

Money received between meetings:

NH Lottery February and March 9.00

Confirmation has been received of the Precept for 2023/24 £10,276.24 plus £502.57 CTRS grant

Total for 2023/2024 £10,778.81

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

There has been a tree preservation order placed on the Redwood Tree in the Church of St Peters, Pirton Road, Holwell SG5 3SR. This was confirmed on 15th December 2022.

**RANDS MEADOW – Inhaling of Nitrous Oxide in this area – This has been reported to the Police -** The clerk reported that a bin has been requested for the area in Rands Meadow near the new parking bays.

The clerk has spoken to Mr Thomas Batt at Settle Housing on 6th February 2023 regarding lighting the area and was informed that Snowden Homes are due to carry out site works to the entrance soon. They are waiting for permit date to commence work. Mr Batt will contact them to see if there is scope to install some lighting bollards in this area during the course of the works to help to discourage this anti-social behaviour

1. **Matters for Special consideration:**

**Planning Applications:-**

**Received 9th March 2023**

**HAWTHORNS, BEDFORD ROAD, HOLWELL, SG5 3RX**

**Section 73 Application: variation of condition 2(revised plans) of planning permission 21/03450/FPH granted 06.04.2022 for erection of detached 2 x outbuildings comprising of 1x garage with hobby room above and 1x home gym/ancillary. Installation of in-ground swimming pool.**

**Received 10th March 2023**

**DUNROAMIN, RAMERICK NURSERY, BEDFORD ROAD, HOLWELL. SG5 3RX**

**Section 73 Application : variation of condition 2(submission of revised plans -L- 01 Rev E and L-02 Rev D) of planning permission 22/00217/FP GRANTED 04/10/2022 for erection of one detached 4 bed dwelling, detached double garage following demolition of existing detached garage and associated works.**

1. **Any other Business:**

**Bunting for the Coronation weekend –** It was agreed that we should purchase bunting for that

Weekend which will also be the weekend that the New Pavilion will be officially opened.

It was also agreed that a plaque should be purchased naming those that have given grants to make this new Pavilion possible.

The Next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held in the Pavilion on 18th April 2023 at 7.00 p.m. and 23rd May which will be the Annual General Meeting,

There being no further matters to be discussed, the meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.