**HOLCOMBE ROGUS PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the March**

**Meeting**

**Held in the King George V Memorial Hall on Thursday 24th March 2022**

**At 7.00pm**

**APPROVED**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **3.1** | **Present**:  Councillors: Adam Pilgrim (Chairman), Nikki Orchard, Rupert Snook, Andy Cooling,  Sally Barker & Jane Lock | **ACTION**  **TO BE TAKEN** |
| **3.2** | **Apologies**:  County Councillor Ray Radford  District Councillor Jo Norton  Parish Councillors George Triggs and John Butler  Parish Clerk/RFO Leslie Findlay  **Co-option of new Councillor**  Councillors unanimously approved the co-option of Sally Barker to the Council. Cllr Barker signed the declaration of acceptance of office of Parish Councillor and witnessed by the Proper Officer. The Chairman welcomed Cllr Barker to the Council |  |
|  | **OPEN FORUM**  No issues raised |  |
| **3.3** | **Declaration of Interests:** None declared |  |
| **3.4**  **3.4.1** | **Minutes of Previous Meetings and Matters arising**  The February Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.  **Matters arising**:  Prince of Wales Pub  The Clerk had been contacted by the Planning Consultant to say they were contacting Steve Potter to arrange a second public meeting. Darren Summerfield is leaving LRM Planning and all future correspondence to be addressed to the agent.  In the meantime, there will be a residents’ meeting to discuss the plans and put forward their comments and questions. |  |
| **3.5**  **3.5.1**  **3.5.2** | **Environment**  Canal Report attached  PROW: NTR |  |
| **3.6**  **3.6.1**  **3.6.2**  **3.6.3**  **3.6.4** | **Highways**  Work carried out A number of potholes have been filled in by Lower Besley Farm and around the Parish.  Verge ploughing at Pounds Hill update – Cllr Cooling still trying to make contact with Stephen Hasell and Dave Authers to arrange a date.  Speed reduction signs in the village  Councillors had concerns about having “20 is plenty “signs around the village as it was not necessarily an effective method to reduce speed.   1. Clerk spoke to DCC and it would appear unless we wished to apply for a permanent sign the cost of a mobile VAS is as follows: 2. DCC use Westcotec and charge £2,700 net (they claim the vat) and it would cost £250 approx to have a post installed.  (You cannot use street furniture or street lights as they are too heavy).  In addition to have a data collection unit would be a further £500. 3. If the PC did wish to pursue this then they must be located where the speeding occurs and able to be located on a wide verge and DCC would need to approve the location before agreeing for them to be installed. 4. They are battery operated and depend on which variety you go for the batteries have to be changed every week or so!  (Something to bear in mind as to who is going to be willing to do this).  There are two types the first shows a smiley or sad face dependent on speed the car is going and the second shows the speed and says “please slow down”.  The smiley face uses more power. 5. In addition, the PC needs to take out public liability insurance and any ongoing costs or replacement etc would be for the PC. 6. The signs can only be located in one location for a month at a time so would go from one location in the village to the other and back again.  The drawbacks can be that drivers drive faster to set it off and they know they will not be fined if they do speed!!   **20 IS PLENTY SIGNS**  Approximate cost of sign is £30 + vat and you will need somewhere to place them. They will also need to be installed. Seddons were offering free ones but not sure we wish to advertise Seddons estate agent around the village! It was agreed this should be an item for the Annual Parish agenda.  Road Closures  Wednesday 30th March road past Waterslade to Humpty’s Hill Wood  Saturday 4th June Fore Street closed for Jubilee Street Party 1200 – 2000hrs | **AC** |
| **3.7**  **3.7.1**  **3.7.2**  **3.7.3**  **3.7.4** | **Planning**  **Application taken outside of Committee:**  **22/0227/CAT** Notification of intention to remove 2 Leylandii trees and 1 elder tree within the conservation area at King George V Memorial Hall – *No Objections*  **22/00416/CAT** Notification of intention to fell 1 Pine tree within the Conservation Area at Timewells – *No Objections*  **MDDC Decisions**:  **22/00228/CAT** Notification of intention to remove 2 apple trees and 1 eucalyptus tree within the conservation area at 29 fore Street – *No Objections*  Pondground Firing Range update  The Clerk had received notification from Devon and Cornwall Constabulary that the planning application and supporting documents will be submitted to MDDC in April. Councillors agreed that there would be a need for a separate planning meeting to discuss this.  Mid Devon Local Plan consultation  Responses have been submitted to MDDC and available to view on the HRPC website. |  |
| **3.8**  **3.8.1**  **3.8.1.1**  **3.8.1.2**  **3.8.2** | **Play area**  Signs  The Fewings Family have confirmed they wish the play area to be known as “The Mary Fewings Playpark”. Clerk to investigate costings for a sign to be made and placed on the large gate. It was agreed, this was the most appropriate place for it to be placed and to include “owned by Holcombe Rogus Parish Council” in smaller print at the bottom of the sign.  A further sign by the stile is required to warn children that the field is private and the stile is only to be used to collect stray footballs. Clerk to investigate costs.  A full breakdown of the funding raised for the playarea as at March 22:   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  |  | **£** |  | **OMMENTS** | | TOTAL COST OF PROJECT |  | 55298.00 |  |  | | VAT |  | 11059.60 |  |  | | **TOTAL** |  | **66357.60** |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  | | **FUNDING RECEIVED/PLEDGED** |  |  | **EXPENDITURE** |  | | HRPC already saved | 19292.80 |  |  |  | |  |  |  | 3821.20 |  | | Local Benefactor |  | 5000.00 |  |  | | Community lottery grant |  | 9834.00 |  |  | | Locality budget |  | 500.00 |  |  | | Craft morning |  | 355.00 |  |  | | sale of guitars |  | 665.00 |  |  | | local benefactor |  | 1000.00 |  |  | | Crowdfunder website |  | 3372.34 |  |  | | anonymous donation |  | 500.00 |  |  | | actionfunder SWW |  | 1000.00 |  |  | | Burlescombe Café |  | 223.00 |  |  | | crowdfunder |  | 1880.00 |  |  | | Nearly New Sale |  | 1457.60 |  |  | | PCC donation |  | 1000.00 |  |  | | Elmgrant Trust |  | 1250.00 |  |  | | local donation |  | 20.00 |  |  | | SUB TOTAL | 19292.80 | 28056.94 | 3821.20 |  | | **TOTAL RAISED** |  | **47349.74** |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  | | **CROWDFUNDER broken down** |  |  |  |  | | £75 local donation |  |  |  |  | | £1162 Light Switch on Event/raffle |  |  |  |  | | £262 Carol singing |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  | | **MONEY TO COME** |  |  |  |  | | allocated 106 contributions | 16149.63 |  |  |  | | vat | 991.60 |  |  |  | | **total** |  | **17141.23** |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  | | **GRAND TOTAL RAISED** |  | **64490.97** |  |  | | Need to find | 1866.63 |  |  |  | | **LF**  **LF** |
| **3.9**  **3.9.1**  **3.9.1.1**  **3.9.1.2**  **3.9.2**  **3.9.2.1**  **3.9.2.1.1**  **3.9.2.1.2**  **3.9.2.1.3**  **3.9.2.1.4**  **3.9.2.1.5**  **3.9.2.1.6**  **3.9.2.1.7**  **3.9.2.1.8**  **3.9.2.1.9**  **3.9.2.1.10**  **3.9.2.2**  **3.9.2.2.1**  **3.9.2.2.2**  **3.9.3**  **3.9.4**  **3.9.5**  **3.9.6** | **Clerk/Finance**  **Income received:**  For the Playarea – Lightsource SPV 13 - £6012.82  Elmgrant Trust £1250  Play area fund - £20  VAT reclaimed £991.60  **Expenditure:**  The following expenditure was approved:   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Amount £** | **DD/BACS** | **Payable to** | **Comments** | | 1250.00 | BACS | L Findlay | Clerk wages Sept - Mar | | 120.00 | BACS | L Findlay | Broadband expenses | | 94.91 | BACS | L Findlay | Clerk expenses | | 150.00 | BACS | Village Hall Trust | Annual rent for 2022/23 | | 50.00 | BACS | Devon Communities Together | Annual membership 2022/23 | | 82.00 | BACS | SLCC | Annual membership 2022/23 | | 1500.00 | BACS | Village Hall Trust | Grant to the village hall | | 33.66 | BACS | L Findlay | Magnets for notice boards | | 25.00 | BACS | Canal Trust | Annual membership 2202/23 | | 21.60 | BACS | Vision ICT | New email for Cllr Barker | | The following expenditure was approved out of Committee: | | | | | 6.00 | BACS | L Findlay | Clerk subscription for Parish News | | 18.00 | BACS | DALC | Cllr Triggs New Councillor course |   Councillors approved for the VAT refund of £991.60 to be transferred into the Playarea Reserve Fund.  Councillors approved for £3000 to be transferred from the Solar Fund into the Playarea Reserve Fund to cover the expenses of signs and to contribute towards the cost of the new equipment.  End of year accounts and documentation for the Internal and External audit will be submitted for the April Council Meeting.  The application to Nat West for two new signatories to be added (Cllr Orchard and Cllr Lock) has not been actioned by Nat West. Clerk to action. | **LF**  **LF**  **LF**  **LF** |
| **3.10** | **Training**  Section 106 Agreements training will be held virtually on 7th April.  Cllr Triggs attended New Councillor Course. |  |
| **3.11** | **Correspondence**  All correspondence had been circulated to the Councillors and if appropriate placed on the website or noticeboards. |  |
| **3.12**  **3.12.1**  **3.12.2**  **3.12.3**  **3.12.4**  **3.12.5** | **Matters brought forward for information or future agenda**.  Councillor vacancies. We currently have one vacancy.  Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. The Council have not received any requests for funding yet. If anyone has any queries or would like to join the 'Platinum Jubilee Committee' they should contact Annabel at **0789 983 4410** or [**annabelhrvillage@gmail.com**](mailto:annabelhrvillage@gmail.com)**.**  Annual Parish Meeting: Cllr Lock agreed to purchase wine/soft drinks and snacks.  The agenda to include 1. Playarea update  2. Queen’s Jubilee – street party on the 4th June  3. Signs for reducing traffic in the village  4. Bicycle lights  Cllr Norton raised that at the most recent Cabinet Meeting it was decided that MDDC would move to 3-weekly collections of refuse sack waste. This means that residents might see a change for better or worse and that they can feed-back to her with their thoughts. Cllr Norton is a member of the Environment Policy Development Group and will raise any issues that are raised by residents. | **ALL**  **JL** |
|  | There being no further business the meeting closed at 8pm. **The next Council Meeting will be on Thursday 24th March 2022 at 6.30 pm followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.15pm.** | **ALL** |

Adam Pilgrim

Chairman

Holcombe Rogus Parish Council

**Grand Western Canal Report**

I attended the Grand Western Canal Joint Advisory Committee meeting on 1st March at Phoenix House, Tiverton. Some members attended virtually.

There was a lengthy presentation by a Police Officer about the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme. The canal’s Community Police boat is led by Dion Howells, a retired Police Officer. Last year at the Inspection Tour, he promoted the idea of members of the Ranger Service becoming accredited. This means that they can confront anyone exhibiting antisocial behaviour in the canal corridor and ask them for their name and address. The role means that they have privileged access to lines of Police communication to seek Police back-up if required. Mark Baker has completed the training and is now accredited.

The Canal Progress Report was sent to members prior to the meeting and lists many activities that the Rangers have undertaken over the Winter. I can make the report available to any Councillors who would like to learn more about the Rangers’ work.

I passed on Councillor Butler’s question about the accumulation of silt in the channel near Lowdwells. As expected, this had already been noted by the Canal Manager. At present this is not a large enough problem to justify the cost of bringing in a pontoon-mounted excavator to remove it.

The EA has been slightly more helpful in moving towards the installation of a water transfer system for passing water from Fenacre Brook to the canal when the canal is depleted.

The Anaerobic Digester close to Crownhill, Halberton continues to be controversial. The current owners don’t seem to be willing to allow the Liaison Group to inspect the site to verify that the operators are complying with their Planning Conditions. I urged Councillor Ray Radford to press for the resumption of these visits and expressed disappointment that he had let this matter slip.

Repairs are needed to the memorial near Manley Bridge that remembers the RAF pilots who diverted their stricken plane away from the town to save many lives at the expense of their own. Councillor Colin Slade agreed to fund this.

Once again, the Grand Western Canal has been awarded a Green Flag Award since its management continues to be of a very high standard.

The next meeting will be on 4th October 2022.

Adam Pilgrim.