**HOLCOMBE ROGUS PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the April Meeting**

**Held in the King George V Memorial Hall on Thursday 28h April 2022**

**At 6.30pm**

**APPROVED**

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| **4.1** | **Present**:  Councillors: Adam Pilgrim (Chairman), Nikki Orchard, John Butler, Rupert Snook  Nikki Orchard, Jane Lock and George Triggs  District Councillor Jo Norton  Leslie Findlay Parish Clerk/RFO | **ACTION**  **TO BE TAKEN** |
| **4.2** | **Apologies**: Parish Councillor Andy Cooling  County Councillor Ray Radford |  |
| **4.3** | **Declaration of Interests:**  Cllr Lock declared a personal interest in item 4.7.1  Cllr Pilgrim declared a personal interest in item 4.8.3.2 |  |
|  | **OPEN FORUM**  No matters raised. |  |
| **4.4**  **4.4.1** | **Minutes of Previous Meetings and Matters arising**  The March Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record and unanimously approved by all Councillors.  Matters arising**:**  Prince of Wales Pub. The comments from the residents meeting have been forwarded to both the owner’s agent and planning consultant as shown below:  *The Community Steering Group is grateful for the presentation in HR village hall of your clients’ proposals for the village pub which, as you know, has been registered as an Asset of Community Value.*  *The Steering Group has now had an opportunity to consult the community and after a further meeting in the village hall, we can tell you that the current owners’ development proposals for the Prince of Wales and its car park have been unanimously rejected. Several issues over access, rights of way and post war underground debris, let alone development in a conservation area, were also raised.*  *Since the current owners do not, as we understand it, wish to re-open the pub, the opportunity should be given to alternative management to run the pub. With new ownership and enlightened management, it is considered that the Prince of Wales could be sustainably viable and be a successful part our village life.*  There has been no response to date. |  |
| **4.5**  **4.5.1**  **4.5.1.1**  **4.5.1.2** | **Chairman’s Report**  All reports had been given at the Annual Parish Meeting  **Environment**  Canal Report: A member of the public had entered the water at Waytown following a dog that had gone in to the canal and unable to get out. Both, were assisted by a passing member of the public. Although there is a ladder attached to the bank to assist anyone entering the water, the incident had been reported to the Canal Manager with a request for a lifebuoy to be located there. This was declined by the Manager as firstly dogs should not be entering the canal and secondly there is a ladder. The PC agreed unanimously with this decision.    Public Rights of Way: Annual report given at the Annual Parish Meeting and available online. A request for the tall stile on footpath 15 was noted, as it is extremely difficult to take dogs over the high steps. |  |
| **4.6**  **4.6.1**  **4.6.2**  **4.6.3**  **4.6.4** | **Highways**  Work carried out: Nothing to report.  Repairs to be reported: Nothing to report.  The verge ploughing by Pounds Hill will be completed in the autumn once the vegetation has died back.  Road Closure:  Saturday 4th June Fore Street closed for Jubilee Street Party 1200 – 2000hrs.  Clerk completed the rural roads survey and clean Devon on behalf of the Parish Council. |  |
| **4.7**  **4.7.1** | **Planning**  **Application discussed:**  **22/00636/CAT** Notification of intention to remove 1 cherry, 1 apple and 1 Sweet Chestnut tree, crown top 1 tree by 3m and crown top 1 Conifer tree by 3m within the conservation area at Thatches. *Councillors did not object to this application as the trees were undermining a wall that is listed. Replacement trees will be planted in a more suitable location.*  This application highlighted the Council’s concerns that if trees need to be removed there should be a local policy for a replacement tree to be planted. This will be considered when the Environment policy for the PC is written. | **ALL** |
| **4.8**  **4.8.1**  **4.8.2**  **4.8.3**  **4.8.4**  **4.8.5**  **4.8.6**  **4.8.7**  **4.8.8** | **Play Area**  Work on the play area will begin on Tuesday 3rd May, with all the equipment and fencing now insitu.  The replacement of the matting under the picnic table at the top of the field was not initially included in the quote but it was agreed and unanimously approved that this would be advisable with the contractors already on site and would ensure that the area could be used without having to go on the grass to get to the swings. The cost is £1432 + vat.  The date for the official opening will be sometime in June, to be discussed at the May meeting.  Councillor Barker agreed to be responsible for the publicity of the opening and the contact with the media.  Signs. The Chairman and Clerk will visit the sign shops in Tiverton to get quotes for the official sign on the gate, the no entry sign for the stile.  It was suggested that there should also be a sign with the various basic rules for the play area. This will be discussed further at the May meeting. Clerk to seek advice from MDDC and other Clerks in the area who have the responsibility for the play parks to see what is displayed.  There have been several incidents of dogs being taken into the play area. This is strictly forbidden and anyone caught could be fined. Clerk to put a notice in the Parish Magazine and on Facebook.  A risk assessment will also be required. Clerk to contact MDDC. | **SB**  **AP/LF**  **LF**  **LF**  **LF**  **LF** |
| **4.9**  **4.9.1**  **4.9.2**  **4.9.3**  **4.9.4**  **4.9.5**  **4.9.6**  **4.9.7**  **4.9.8**  **4.9.8.1**  **4.9.8.2**  **4.9.8.3**  **4.9.8.4**  **4.9.8.5**  **4.9.9**  **4.9.10** | **Clerk/Finance**  The following income had been received:  **Income:**  Playarea – Driveway Café £350  106 monies £10,091.00  Donation £30  Precept - £5750  Councillors approved and signed the end of year Summary of Accounts including the Solar Fund and P3 Accounts. All summaries are available to view on the PC website.  The Internal Auditor had no comments to make regarding the internal audit and had completed Section 3 of the statement.  The Annual Governance Statement was discussed by the Councillors and unanimously approved and signed.  Section 2 of the Annual Statement was inspected by the Councillors and approved for signature.  The Asset Register was updated. Available to view on the website.  The following expenditure was discussed and approved:   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Amount £** | **DD/BACS/SO** | **Payable to** | **Comments** | | 72.00 | BACS | DALC | Training courses for Cllr Barker | | 9.00 | BACS | A Pilgrim | Travel expenses | | 120.00 | BACS | M Haskins | Internal audit | | 76.49 | BACS | A Cross | Maintenance of notice boards | | 337.30 | BACS | Community First | Annual insurance |   The insurance for the Playarea will increase once the equipment is installed. Clerk to action.  Cllrs Barker and Lock agreed to become new signatories on the Nat West Account. The following resolution was passed:  We resolve that:  If we add or remove Authorised Signatures in the “add or remove individuals” section of this form, the Bank will update our mandate accordingly for the accounts we specify in this form’s “about your business” section.  The Bank can phone the individuals we’ve identified as “Call Back Contacts” to confirm oor correct any instructions or information that we’ve given to the Bank.  The current mandate will continue as amended. *Clerk to action* | **LF**  **LF** |
| **4.10** | **Training**  Cllr Triggs has completed all the New Councillor training courses and Cllr Barker has completed two courses. |  |
| **4.11** | **Correspondence**  All correspondence had been circulated to the Councillors. |  |
| **4.12**  **4.12.1**  **4.12.2**  **4.12.3**  **4.12.4** | **Matters brought forward for information or future agenda**.  The Council has one Councillor vacancy.  Connecting the Culm. Clerk to invite Lucy Jefferson to the June or July Meeting to explain the project.  Public Consultation – TVP Schools/Alumnus MAT to be discussed at the May meeting.  Cllr Lock requested that the street lighting in the village was discussed at the next meeting. | **ALL**  **LF**  **ALL** |
|  | There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.10pm. The next Council Meeting will be the Annual General Meeting on Thursday 26thth May at 7pm. | **ALL** |

Adam Pilgrim

Chairman

Holcombe Rogus Parish Council