

HOLME-NEXT-THE-SEA PARISH COUNCIL

FEBRUARY (EXTRA) 2016 MEETING

Seven members of the public were present. The acting Chairman stated that the meeting had been called to specifically discuss the proposed Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).

In Public Participation a Parishioner raised the issue of the neon sign at Drove Orchards being inappropriate in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and it was confirmed that this had been raised in the original objections. The acting Chairman then closed the Public Participation session in order to deal with Item 5 on the Agenda which related to Drove Orchards.

The Clerk stated that this item had been included on the Agenda in order to clarify the statement required for the removal of the original objections as agreed at the February meeting. The Clerk then stated that she had checked various documentation following that decision, including the Parish Council's Standing Orders, which stated under Item 10 that '*a resolution (whether affirmative or negative) of the Council shall not be reversed within six months except either by a special motion, the written notice whereof bears the names of at least five Councillors of the Council, or by a motion moved in pursuance of the report or recommendation of a Committee*'. In view of this, as there were not five Councillors to propose such a motion, it was agreed that the decision to reverse the original objections was invalid. The Clerk apologised for not bringing this to the attention of Councillors at the previous meeting.

The meeting was then re-adjourned for Public Participation when there was considerable discussion of matters relating to the proposed NDP which included:

- The area to be covered by the NDP. If it was the Parish boundary, it could be broken down into smaller sections with agricultural land and nature reserves being protected. It was stated that the proposed boundary for the NDP had to go out to public consultation for six weeks.
- The advisability of using consultants. Parishioners felt quite strongly that the NDP must be a vehicle for protection for the village and would be better managed by those with an interest. Parishioners could help by identifying villagers with skills that may be helpful and the Borough Council are happy to provide guidance and advice.
- Parishioners would be consulted initially through a questionnaire which could be distributed through the LINK magazine.
- When completed, the NDP has a formal vote for adoption through the electoral voting system.
- There is grant funding of up to £8,000. available to help defray costs.
- Clarification was needed on whether a simple NDP could be completed with later additions or whether the whole process would have to be repeated to make changes.

Following the closure of the Public Participation session, Councillors agreed the following:

- The initial Working party would consist of two Councillors with administrative support from the Clerk.
- A standing item on the monthly Parish Council Agenda would be the NDP Working Party Report.
- Councillors and / or Parishioners should join the Working Party as their knowledge and skills dictated for varying periods of time.
- As many people as possible should be involved and make contributions as requirements dictated but not more than five at any one time.

- The Borough Council should be consulted with regard to the Plan.
- The official application for a NDP should be made.

Under Finance, a payment to the Parishioner who maintains the plants around the Village Sign was agreed.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 8th March 2016 at 7 pm in the Village Hall. Members of the public are always welcome to attend and put their comments and questions to Councillors during 'Public Participation'.

Christina Jones

Clerk to Holme-next-the-Sea Parish Council