

# HOLME-NEXT-THE-SEA

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 6.30 PM ON TUESDAY 10TH MAY 2016

PRESENT: 5 Parish Councillors  
29 Members of the Public  
Parish Clerk

1. MINUTES OF THE 2015 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING.

The Vice Chairman, Councillor Felgate, opened the meeting, welcomed those attending and went through the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12th May 2015. These were agreed and signed by the Vice Chairman.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 2015 MEETING.

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

The Vice Chairman Councillor Felgate, as acting Chairman, read the Chairman's Report, a copy of which is attached. Councillor Felgate thanked Councillor Derek Young for all his sterling work whilst on the Council as he had now resigned on his move to France. He wished him well on his now venture. Councillor Felgate commented on the growing number of Planning Applications for extensive enlargement or replacement of properties and confirmed that the Council scrutinises all Applications, listens to Parishioners' concerns and submits the appropriate response to the Borough Council although with limited success. There had been an increase in public attendance at Parish Council meetings over the past year which was appreciated with Parishioners being encouraged to submit comments on the Borough Council Planning website. A well attended public information meeting had been held in February at which Parishioners had expressed a wish that the Parish Council commence the process to implement a Neighbourhood Development Plan and progress is being made to that end. It is hoped that this will help direct the process of development within the village in line with villagers wishes.

It was reported that the toilet refurbishment at the Village Hall had been completed under the supervision of Councillor Burton. A separate report on the Accounts would be given but again no precept had been raised. Councillor Felgate thanked his fellow Parish Councillors for all their work during the year, Parishioners who had attended meetings and everyone who had supported the Council in a variety of ways. The Parish Council looked forward to continuing to look after the village interests in the coming year.

4. RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT.

The Responsible Finance Officer's (RFO) Report for the financial year ending 31st March 2016 was read and a copy is attached. It was stated the Parish Council's income was stable with the majority arising from the caravan park but bank interest on funds held remained dismally low. The RFO stated that the major capital expenditure had been for the refurbishment of the Village Hall toilets although some of those costs had extended into the current financial year. The Parish Council had taken advantage of the 50% matched funding from Norfolk County Council in order to obtain the Speeding Awareness Unit now being used in the village.

General expenditure for maintenance within the village remained similar to previous years as did administrative costs, insurance and subscriptions. A variety of charitable donations had been made throughout the year and the Council continues to be financially well placed.

5. VILLAGE HALL REPORT.

The Village Hall report and accounts were provided by Mary Burton, the Treasurer of the Village Hall Committee. New crockery and cutlery had been purchased with the support of the Parish Council and the income had increased resulting in discussions regarding the possible purchase of a table tennis table. The cleaning is being done by a working party of six and events for village groups still have no hire charge. The toilet refurbishment is a huge improvement and an application is being made to the Village Trust for a moveable island to be purchased for the kitchen.

6. VILLAGE TRUST REPORT.

Councillor Burton reported that there were still slightly over £35,000. in assets with one current application for a Village Hall kitchen island amounting to approximately £1,500. He reminded the meeting that the funds were originally raised from the Car Park when it was rented from the Golf Club and any person or group within the village can make a request for grants or loans for income and/or capital.

7. THE HOLLEYS CHARITY REPORT.

Mr. Tony Foster gave a report on behalf of the three Trustees, himself, Janet Foster and Linda Scott, a copy of

Signed.....Chairman Dated.....

which is attached. He stated that all the information is available on the Charity Commission website and the registered number is 207554. The Charity's activities are listed as 'For the relief of the industrious poor of the village of Holme-next-the-Sea' and was originally paid in coal just before Christmas. In the financial year to 31st March 2016 the income was £570.22p which comes from rent paid for land owned by the Charity. The expenditure amounted to £725. as the Trustees are still catching up following the year when no distribution was made and thanks had been received from some beneficiaries. The Trustees are welcome suggestions of either 'one off' or more regular payments.

#### 8. NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP).

Councillor Devereux reported on progress and there were posters and diagrams on display for information in the main hall. It had been established that the process would take just under two years. The Application for the whole parish to be included in the Plan had gone through the consultation process and had been approved. There had been a list of consultees with helpful advice being given by Historic England and indications of a desire to participate in the process by some parties. Information was now being gathered which would be the basis for policies and their justification. The questionnaire was being reviewed by a statistician and trialled by a number of people. Councillor Easton had agreed to be the point of contact with the questionnaires to be returned by 2nd June and encouragement was given for as many to be completed as possible. There will be a meeting to show the results during the summer. Base maps are being prepared which are fundamental to the Plan helping to explain the environment and understand the potential of the village. They also provide a spatial dimension to the Plan which is not always provided by the Borough Council. The analysis of existing statistics has come up with some surprising results and are illustrated on the display. More evidence gathering is needed as is an application for funding. Professional help will be required at later stages and there is a villager who is a trained facilitator who will work with everyone to help transform the vision into reality. Any suggestions or ideas should be brought to the Parish Council.

#### 9. OPEN FORUM.

The following issues were highlighted with regard to the NDP:

1. Tony Foster thanked those involved in the NDP for all the work already done and reminded people of the Village Information Network (VIN) now being used to circulate information via email. There were some 94 participants so far including second home owners which was astounding as there are 126 resident households.
2. St. Ives are reported as developing an NDP which tries to control purchases by second home owners although this has been challenged by a developer already. The University of Cambridge is building market entry properties which might not appeal as second homes. The NDP will hopefully consider development appropriate to the village and include affordable housing.
3. Affordable housing is difficult to quantify but there are different schemes that can provide information. The Government is now trying to move from affordable homes to starter homes which are sold at 80% of value and can be sold after a five year occupation with the original owner always maintaining a 20% interest. These proposals are of interest to Pension Fund managers.
4. The amount of economic activity in the village has been surprising although a large proportion are self employed. Any future employment within the village would require the appropriate infrastructure.
5. The process involved for the production of an NDP can be divisive and needs to be managed sensitively as there is the potential to cause a split in the village between those who want development and those who do not.
6. When complete the NDP forms a material consideration for development whereas the Village Plan has no statutory status.

Other issues were raised:

- (1) Dog waste on the coastal path particularly between the two current bins. This was explored last year and there is an issue regarding collection along the private road. The Parish Council was asked to pursue the possibility of a Council bin at that location and also at the top of Chalkpit Lane.
- (2) Poor visibility at the cross roads due to the Alexanders. Norfolk County Council Highways Department maintain the verges and a complaint had been made by a villager recently that the work purported to have been completed, had not been. A re-assurance had been made it would be looked at on the next Highways Ranger visit.
- (3) Concerns were raised about builders not leaving sites in a good state following construction work. This has already been raised with the Borough Council but cannot be made a condition of Planning Application approval.
- (4) The pruning of the fruit trees on Park Piece was discussed with varying opinions on whether it should be undertaken or the trees left with natural growth.

The Chairman thanked the members of the public for their attendance and invited them to remain to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council.

The meeting closed at 7.25 pm.

Signed.....Chairman Date.....

