



Chairman: Mr David Walker

Clerk: Mrs Lisa Callan
2 Walgarth Court
Holcot
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**Minutes of the meeting of Holcot Parish Council
held on Monday 18 February 2019 at 7.30p.m. in the Church Rooms, Main Street,
Holcot, NN6 9SP**

Councillors Present: D Walker, P Scordellis, R Hawkins, J Fountain, R Gunnett, Cllr Shephard
Clerk: L Callan
Public: Fiona Unett, Northamptonshire County Council

- 19/25 **Apologies:** Cllr Woolnough, Cllr Buckle and Cllr Wilson sent apologies which the council accepted.
- 19/26 **Public address to the council:** None.
- 19/27 **Household Waste Recycling Centre e-permits:** Fiona Unett (Head of Waste Management, Northamptonshire County Council), explained to the council that the expectation is that the cost of the disposal of waste generated from volunteer work around the village, should be covered by the precept. It should not be disposed of for free as household waste at the Household Waste Recycling Centres. The nearest trade waste service is at Sixfields where charges will be applied.
- Cllr Walker asked if there had been an increase in fly-tipping since the introduction of e-permits. Fiona informed the council that the 2017/18 figures were comparable.
- The clerk was asked to write to Fiona to thank her for attending the meeting. **Action 19/27.1**
- Cllr Shephard reported that the County Council will be adding 5% to council tax bills in order to raise the additional funds as part of the 2019-20 budget.
- 19/28 **Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 21 January 2019 were approved and signed.
- 19/29 **To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda:** None.
- 19/30 **Matters Arising:** None.
- 19/31 **New Parishioners:** Ian and Sian Stone have moved into The Old Barn.

19/32

Review actions not covered elsewhere:

16/154.1	RG	Pursue nature reserve access and concessions (in abeyance) PENDING
17/142.1	RG/MW	Inform Friends of Holcot - Install bin at bus stop PENDING
18/31.1	DW	Post VDS on website PENDING
18/50.1	DW	Map on confines in VDS PENDING
18/74.2	Clerk	Contact Highways about planters when told to do so PENDING
18/106.1	KB/RG	Prepare sketch of Crossroads for next meeting Covered on agenda
18/131.1	RG	Ask FOH to place cable ties on swing bars PENDING
18/157.2	Clerk	Enquire about map Still awaiting response
18/170.2	Clerk	Mowing contract on winter agenda Next month
18/180.1	Clerk	Contact Chris Heaton-Harris regarding response to letter sent in April Covered under correspondence
18/184.1	JF	Promote website in next newsletter PENDING
18/200.1	Clerk/DW	Audit certificate to be published PENDING
18/208.1	PS	Remove trees and order flags COMPLETED
19/8.1	Clerk	Find out what is involved regarding fines for use of 'access only roads' Cllr Scordellis took on the action. COMPLETED
19/8.2	Clerk	Ask NCALC to continue with the DPO role and pay fee COMPLETED
19/8.3	MW	Speak with Nick Middleton regarding mud COMPLETED
19/8.4	Clerk	Respond to Jenny's email/Report mud on road coming from the Mere COMPLETED
19/8.5	DW	Ask for tennis court volunteers COMPLETED. No volunteers so the clerk will take over the role and arrange a meeting with Julie Cooper Action 19/23.1
19/10	Clerk	Contact Jeremy Lucas to confirm additional work COMPLETED. Cllr Fountain informed the council that the area looks so much better now,
19/11.1	Clerk	Contact Sgt Dobbs regarding HGV Control COMPLETED. Sgt Dobbs has written to the clerk and has passed the information onto Kevin Fagan, Chair of CSP Roads JAG, which is the best forum for ascertaining how to resolve these kind of issues. The Road JAG has all the right people around the table and Kevin will put the item on their next agenda.
19/12.1	Clerk	Add Gigaclear to next agenda COMPLETED
19/13.1	Clerk	Respond to Julie Cooper's email COMPLETED
19/16.1	Clerk	Report street light 37 COMPLETED
19/18.1	PS	Order 10mph sign COMPLETED
19/21/.1	Clerk	Post precept form COMPLETED

19/33

Correspondence: *to agree response/action to correspondence received.*

- a) *NACRE Village awards.* The council agreed that due to certain areas of the village they are unable to do anything about at the moment, it is not something they wish to participate in this year.

- b) *Ian Boyes, email in response to access-only status.* The council noted this as a standard response.
- c) *Caitlin Docker of Anglian Water, permitted footpath response.* Caitlin Docker (Engagement Executive, Anglian Water) had written to the council to say they could potentially look into another alternative route involving a new path within the Nature Reserve that would still need approval and funding. Cllr Gunnett said the response was a positive step forward, and the clerk was asked to respond to inform them that the council are keen to get involved. The clerk will ask if they are able to arrange a meeting as soon as possible. **Action 19/33.1**

19/34 **Crossroads maintenance:** The clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with Cllr Gunnett and Cllr Buckle before the next meeting to get things moving. **Action 19/34.1**

Cllr Scordellis commented on how good the snowdrops look outside Matthew Gunnett's house. He informed the council that Heather Wilson has offered to do some further planting if the Parish Council agrees to cover the cost. The council welcomed Heather's offer but suggested that the planting should be delayed until a final design of the site had been agreed.

19/35 **Gigaclear:** Cllr Scordellis informed the council that he had been in contact with a contractor regarding loose soil being left in areas where there was previously grass. Also, Deryck Watson is requesting compensation for snagging work that Gigaclear was supposed to do but didn't, resulting in him doing it himself. The council gave Cllr Scordellis support to follow this up further. **Action 19/35.1**

The clerk was asked to contact Highways to find out more about their contract with Gigaclear and the rules regarding reinstatement. **Action 19/35.2**

19/36 **Parish Council Laptop software:** The clerk informed the council that she is unable to use the Parish Council laptop at the moment as the software needs renewing. The cost of this is £59.99 annually or a one-off payment to be confirmed. The clerk explained that the transparency funding from NCALC to be used for this purpose would cover the cost, but Cllr Hawkins didn't think the council should spend anything on software. He informed the council that his software isn't compatible with Microsoft and therefore he can't open any documents that the clerk sends him. The council agreed to Cllr Hawkins finding a suitable free alternative to Microsoft (including Word and Excel) and to inform the clerk. **Action 19/36.1**

19/37 **Planning:** No current planning applications.

19/38 **Police Matters/Neighbourhood Watch:** Nothing to report.

19/39 **Lighting:** Cllr Hawkins informed the clerk that there were several street lights not working on Main Street. The clerk said she would find out which lights were not working after the meeting and report them to EON. **Action 19/39.1**

The clerk reiterated that if councillors or parishioners notice a street light not working, they must contact the clerk as soon as possible.

- 19/40 **Church Room:** Nothing to report other than a slight increase in the cost of room hire.
- 19/41 **Traffic Management and Road Safety:** Nothing to report.
- 19/42 **Playing Field:** The Friends of Holcot Playing Field will be holding their next meeting on the 26th February to discuss fundraising events for 2019. The group only has 3 members at the moment and are desperately looking for more volunteers. They are unable to organise any big events currently due a lack of help. Cllr Walker pointed out that support will be available from Parishioners if specific tasks can be allocated.
- The group has applied for a few grants but have not yet been successful. The current balance in the Friends of Holcot Playing Field account is £2985.18.
- 19/43 **Website & Communications:** Cllr Walker said the website was getting around 1500 hits a month. The most popular pages were the White Swan and Planning applications.
- 19/44 **Finance:** The council approved the payments below, as well as £203.47 to pay Paul Butler for the cost of the maintenance of the Christmas tree lights (cheque number 100991) and £65.42 to Freestyle Sign and Graphics Ltd (cheque number 100992) for the 10mph sign.

Cheque No. 100989	Lisa Callan	Salary February	£187.84
100990	Ramprint	Newsletter	£146.00

NEXT AGENDA

- 19/45 **Next Agenda:** Mowing contract, Crossroads, Parish Meeting

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- 19/46 Next meeting: 18 March 2019

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

16/154.1	RG	Pursue nature reserve access and concessions (in abeyance)
17/142.1	RG/MW	Inform Friends of Holcot - Install bin at bus stop
18/31.1	DW	Post VDS on website
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18/74.2	Clerk	Contact Highways about planters when told to do so
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18/170.2	Clerk	Mowing contract on winter agenda
18/184.1	JF	Promote website in next newsletter
18/200.1	Clerk/DW	Audit certificate to be published
19/27.1	Clerk	Write to Fiona Unett
19/32.1	Clerk	Arrange meeting with Julie Cooper
19/33.1	Clerk	Respond to Caitlin Docker's email
19/34.1	Clerk	Arrange Crossroads meeting with Cllr Buckle and Cllr Gunnett

19/35.1	PS	Follow up Deryck Watson's complaint with Gigaclear
19/35.2	Clerk	Contact Highways regarding Gigaclear contract
19/36.1	RH	Find alternative software and inform the clerk
19/39.1	Clerk	Report 3 lights out on Main Street