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MINUTES

Minutes of the full parish council meeting of Holcot Parish Council held on **Monday 18th October 2021** at 7.00pm in the Youth Wing, Holcot Village Hall, Back Lane, Holcot, Northampton, NN6 9SL

Councillors Present: Chair D Walker, Cllr K Bournier, Cllr C Ferguson, Cllr S Stone, Cllr J Bonsor, Cllr P Matthews, Cllr T Townsend, Cllr P Scordellis

Public Present: 3

Clerk: Ruby Cole

21/214	Apologies: Resolved: No apologies	
21/215	Public address to the council: Public - Traffic Parishioners raised concerns regarding the heavy flow of traffic through the Parish including in particular HGV's. Concerns were also raised regarding the Car Boot operation and Oasis Development. The full statement accompanying the above is attached to the end of the minutes. Public - West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan - Spatial Options Consultation There are 17 places earmarked for potential housing and business development across West Northamptonshire. West Northamptonshire Council have recently opened a public consultation with the expiry date of 6 th December, leaving insufficient time to explore the details. The burden is placed on the local parish councils & residents to respond and if no responses are made, then it could be assumed that there are no issues.	

	<p>There is concern regarding the water and waste supply and the effect this will have. There is also concern regarding drought issues that would impact the regions water supply. Anglian Water and Rutherford North have both made representation to WNC on the Joint Core Strategy which does not necessarily relay the views/concerns of parishioners.</p> <p>Chair thanked speakers</p>	
21/216	<p>Minutes:</p> <p>Resolved: Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 19th July 2021 & 20th September 2021 were approved and signed by Chair</p>	
21/217	<p>Declarations of interest: Under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda</p> <p>Resolved: No declarations of interest</p>	
21/218	<p>Actions Outstanding:</p> <p>Resolved: As below</p>	

21/135.1	TT	To co-ordinate tree project for Queens Platinum Jubilee between committee and council – Cllr Townsend is still researching. Finding a suitable location with sufficient space and within Highways regulations is currently an issue. Suggested that there may be room in the playing field. Ongoing
21/148.1	PS	To contact police with HGV traffic findings - Cllr Scordellis waiting for response - Cllr Scordellis has not received a response to his last email July 21. Further update under agenda item - Road Safety and Highways - Complete
21/165.1	CF/Clerk	To place policies on website from clerk - Complete
21/193.1	Clerk	To arrange cleaning materials etc for litter pick - Complete
21/193.2	CF	Promote spring clean - Complete
21/194.1	CF	<p>To investigate the possibility of a 'welcome' postcard. Cllr Ferguson reported that 80% of information is already on the website. She had produced a sample postcard for circulation. This would be produced at a cost of approximately 85 pence each.</p> <p>Resolved: Councillors approved the principal of the card to replace the new parishioner pack, and related expenditure Complete</p>
21/195.1	JB	To make enquiries with Holcot Hub Youth Club to join in litter pick. Cllr Bonsor has visited the village hall a couple of times on the dates when the Holcot Hub Youth Club are due to meet, but there have been no meetings. Further update under agenda item – Litter Pick Complete
21/195.2	Clerk	Youth Engagement to be added to October agenda – Now November - Complete
21/197.1	Clerk	Queen's jubilee to be added to October agenda - Complete
21/198.1	DW	To arrange Clerk appraisal - Complete
21/201.1	Clerk	To order wreath for Remembrance Sunday - Complete
21/203.1	Clerk	To write thank you letter to First Responders team - Complete
21/204.1	Clerk	To obtain quotes for repair of play equipment - Complete
21/205.1	PM	To liaise with Friends of Holcot to make good pc notice board. Cllr Matthews has reported that Friends of Holcot will repaint the notice board and arrange for new lock to be fitted. Ongoing
21/209.1	CF	To place AGAR documents on website - Complete
21/210.1	DW/JB	To authorise payments for release at bank - Complete
21/212.1	Clerk	To include items on to next agenda - Complete

21/219	<p>Correspondence:</p>	
	<p>HGV's</p>	
	<p>This is an ongoing issue with HGV's continuously flouting the 7.5 tonne limit. This was resolved under road safety 21/232.</p>	
	<p>Car Boot</p>	
	<p>The car boot has been operating on Sunday and Monday, although permission was refused by WNC. Discussed under 21/221.</p>	
	<p>Northamptonshire Acre</p>	
	<p>There is a parish council network event on 10th November to discuss the planning of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend June 2022 amongst other items. Council are making their own plans so there was no interest to attend.</p>	
	<p>Church Bells – Quiet Hours</p>	
	<p>A proposal was made by a parishioner that the church bells are silenced during hours when people (and children) would reasonably be expected to be asleep. For example 2100 - 0700.</p>	
	<p>It was felt that this is not a matter for the Council, but for the Church.</p>	
	<p>Resolved: Cllr Bonsor to contact the parishioner stating that a Church representative would be in touch. Action 21/219.1</p>	JB
	<p>West Northants Zero Survey</p>	
	<p>West Northamptonshire Council has commissioned research on climate change. The research will be used to provide evidence for the development of the West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan.</p>	
	<p>Resolved: Cllr Walker will complete. Action 21/219.2</p>	DW
	<p>Memorial Bench</p>	
	<p>There was a request for a bench to be placed in the parish in memory of Rosemary Cobbald. A possible location could be the 'triangle' at the bottom of Back Lane on Sywell Rd.</p>	
	<p>It was agreed this would be possible. The bench would be gifted to the council for the council to maintain.</p>	
	<p>Resolved: Cllr Bonsor to discuss with the family and bring forward a firm proposal. Action 21/219.3</p>	JB
21/220	<p>Damaged Play Apparatus: The popular Gyrospiral play apparatus would cost £675.45 plus VAT to replace which would include parts and installation. This quote was provided by OPL Outdoor Places Ltd, with all work being undertaken by a single supplier – the Council agreed that this was sensible.</p>	
	<p>Resolved: Clerk to ensure firm quote, and subject to being in-line, place the order accordingly. Action 21/220.1</p>	Clerk

21/221	<p>Planning:</p> <p>West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan – Spatial Options Consultation</p> <p>Cllr Walker attended the briefing session on 15th October 21. Views are sought regarding the development as below up to the year 2050.</p> <p>Spatial Option 1a – Northampton North, North of Buckton Fields – Approx.. 2000 dwellings</p> <p>Spatial Option 1b – Northampton North, East of Boughton – Approx.. 1500 dwellings</p> <p>Spatial Option 1c – Northampton North, West of Moulton – Approx.. 3000 dwellings</p> <p>Spatial Option 1d – Northampton North, North of Moulton – Approx.. 1600 dwellings</p> <p>Spatial Option 1e – Northampton South-East – Approx.. 3000 dwellings</p> <p>Spatial Option 1f – South of M1 Junction 15 – Approx.. 68ha employment land</p> <p>Spatial Option 1g – South M1 Junction 15a – Approx.. 65ha employment land</p> <p>Spatial Option 1h – Land at M1 Junction 16 – Approx.. 55ha employment land</p> <p>Cllr Walker outlined the importance of this consultation.</p> <p>Resolved: All councillors to attend at least one meeting and be ready to discuss at the November meeting. Action 21/221.1</p> <p>Car Boot</p> <p>Concern was raised by Parishioners regarding the Car Boot still operating outside the permitted days, although it is now out of the hands of the parish council. As the season is now coming to an end, and it was reported that the Car Boot is now in compliance, it was decided to take no further action.</p>	All
21/222	<p>New Parishioners:</p> <p>Resolved: No new parishioners</p>	
21/223	<p>Community Payback: Cllr Ferguson confirmed that the following has been approved by the Community Payback team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tidy up of playing field, painting etc • Building of the graveyard extension wall • The repair and painting of bins and benches. 	
21/224	<p>Queen's Platinum Jubilee: Thursday 2nd June 2022 - Sunday 5th June 2022. This is to be placed on website to seek suggestions from the community and volunteers to help organise. It will be discussed at the November meeting</p> <p>Resolved: Cllr Ferguson to place on website. Action 21/224.1</p>	CF
21/225	<p>Litter Pick: Youth to be encouraged to join in. To be placed on website. Date set is the morning of Saturday 30th October.</p> <p>Resolved: Cllr Ferguson to place on website. Clerk to collect kit from Daventry Council Offices on the morning of Friday 29th. Cllr Matthews to return kit on the morning of Monday 1st November. Clerk to arrange with Daventry for the collection of the litter from behind the wall to the playing field.</p> <p>Action 21/225.1</p>	CF PM Clerk
21/226	<p>Communications: The annual review of communications was undertaken - the community are able to access parish council information via the newsletter, notice board and website. To further engage with parishioners, it was suggested to reinstate the drop in session with the local pub as the location</p> <p>Resolved: The White Swan has agreed to set aside the back room. The date set is Friday 12th November between 6.00pm and 7.00pm. Cllr Ferguson to promote. All to attend if possible. Action 21/226.1</p>	CF

21/227	<p>Trees on Poplars Lane: These trees are overhanging across the road and are in danger of becoming a Health & Safety issue. They are on private property, so no action the Parish Council can take.</p> <p>Resolved: Cllr Stone to mention to resident. Action 21/227.1</p>	SS
21/228	<p>Remembrance Sunday: There will be a service at 10.50am on 14 November. Cllr Walker will place wreath on memorial.</p> <p>Resolved: Cllr Ferguson to promote. Action 21/228.1</p>	CF
21/229	Police Liaison: Cllr Bournier – nothing to report	
21/230	<p>Lighting: SSE notification of price increase effective 01/11/2021. Clerk has been trying to establish the reason for this and to understand the pricing structure. Despite several communications, an adequate answer has still not been received.</p> <p>Resolved: Clerk to monitor and persist. Action 21/230.1</p>	Clerk
21/231	Covid 19: The Council agreed that there is unlikely to be further action to be taken, and this item can now be removed from the agenda.	
21/232	<p>Road Safety and Highways: Cllr Scordellis reported on the following:</p> <p>There is an ongoing issue with HGV's continuously flouting the 7.5 tonne limit, as mentioned by member of the public. The clerk was asked if she would re-instate the writing of the letters to repeat offenders. It was agreed that this would be done on a one-month trial basis with specific information provided by councillors/parishioners, coordinated through Cllr Scordellis.</p> <p>Resolved: Councillors agreed to pay the clerk for this extra work on a trial basis. Action 21/232.1</p> <p>The wooden poles on Brixworth Road (from Glebe Close to the village boundary) would be installed by the end of November. This would be on both sides of the road.</p> <p>The kerbing works on Walgrave Road are due to be constructed Thursday 21st Oct and are expected to last 2 days.</p> <p>All the signs have been ordered and are hoped to be installed by the end of November.</p> <p>Cllr Scordellis is still awaiting details for the order of the VASID.</p> <p>Cllr Scordellis supplied a design for the priority working on Sywell Road. The Chicane would cost in the region of £38,000 + VAT to allow for ducting requirements etc. This exceeds the original figure quoted of £20-25k from 2019 and the S106 funds available.</p> <p>Resolved: Cllr Scordellis, plus one other Councillor, to liaise with Matt Barratt from Kier and the highways liaison from WNC on receipt of final costs, to discuss the funding shortfall. Action 21/232.2</p>	<p>PS Clerk</p> <p>PS</p>
21/233	<p>Reforecast: The Council undertook a reforecast for the year 2021/22. This was approved.</p> <p>In November the draft budget will be prepared on the basis of this forecast, and Cllr Walker asked all Councillors to consider project ideas. The next forecast will be undertaken in January when the budget and associated precept for 2022/23 will be approved.</p>	

21/234	Payments: Transactions end September – Quarterly bank charge of £18.00 noted. 2 nd instalment of precept received of £8750 noted. To approve total payments of £359.12 Resolved: All payments were approved. Cllr Scordellis & Cllr Bonsor to authorise on bank website. Action 21/234.1	PS/JB
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Ref	Payee	Description	Amount
67	Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath for Remembrance Sunday	22.25
68	Eon	Street Light Maintenance ¼ ending September 2021	43.84
69	Clerk	October Salary	208.80
70	SSE	Electricity – Street Lighting 02/09/21 – 01/10/21	84.23

21/235	Financial Report: Report and bank reconciliation approved. Bank Balance 30/09/2021 – Current £15459.66. 31/03/2021 – Reserve £8,040.50 Resolved: Cllr Bourner signed at meeting	
21/236	Next Agenda: Ideas for future projects - budget. Spatial Planning. Queen's Platinum Jubilee activity. Resolved: Clerk to place on agenda Action 21/236.1	Clerk
21/237	Next Meeting: Councillors agreed to revert back to Church rooms for future meetings if available. Resolved: Clerk to check Church room availability and book Action 21/237.1 Resolved: Clerk to cancel village hall booking Action 21/237.2	Clerk Clerk

Items from clerk noted

Electric Charging Points – Grants available

Safety Cones – Awaiting response from M Wilson regarding order placement

Meeting Closed: 9.03pm

Action points for tracking

21/135.1	TT	To co-ordinate tree project for Queens Platinum Jubilee between committee and council – Cllr Townsend is still researching. Finding a suitable location with sufficient space and within Highways regulations is currently an issue. Ongoing
21/205.1	PM	To liaise with Friends of Holcot to make good pc notice board. Cllr Matthews has reported that Friends of Holcot will repaint the notice board and arrange for new lock to be fitted. Ongoing
21/219.1	JB	To contact parishioner regarding Church bells
21/219.2	DW	To complete West Northants Zero survey
21/219.3	JB	Discuss a firm proposal with the Cobbald family and present to council
21/220.1	Clerk	To place order with OPL Outdoor places Ltd for the replacement of the Gyrospiral, subject to a firm quote in line with expectation
21/221.1	All	To attend meetings regarding WNSP Spatial Options
21/224.1	CF	To place Queen's Platinum Jubilee on website for suggestions and volunteers
21/225.1	CF/PM/ Clerk	Cllr Ferguson to place on website. Clerk to collect kit from Daventry Council Offices Friday 29 th October. Cllr Matthews to return kit on Monday 1 st November. Clerk to arrange with Daventry for the collection of the litter

21/226.1	CF	Promote drop-in event on 12 November
21/227.1	SS	Contact resident and raise the issue of trees
21/228.1	CF	Promote Remembrance Sunday
21/230.1	Clerk	To continue to establish reasons of SSE price increase and structure
21/232.1	Clerk/PS	Based on input from a Parishioner, PS to provide the clerk with details of companies for her to write to
21/232.2	PS	To liaise with M Barratt from Kier and appropriate highways liaison regarding Chicane costings once finalised and the funding shortfall, involving one other Councillor
21/234.1	PS/JB	Cllr Scordellis & Cllr Bonsor to authorise payments on bank website
21/236.1	Clerk	To place on agenda: Ideas for future projects - budget. Spatial Planning. Queen's Platinum Jubilee activity
21/237.1	Clerk	To check Church room availability and book
21/237.2	Clerk	To cancel village hall booking 15 th November

Parish Council Meeting – Resident's notes presented

We are well placed to witness what I think is the biggest threat to the village namely the volume of traffic and in particular the heavy lorries damaging both the roadside and properties such as mine. As a result of the volume of traffic motorists use Back Lane as a rat run and drive with no consideration for the two blind bends or the children who live in the road. Having seen many motorists drive at excessive speeds I believe it is unfortunately only a matter of time before a serious accident occurs.

The road through Holcot is the unofficial bypass to the Market Harborough Road. With the developments on the A43 and the proposed secondary school in Moulton things are going to get a lot worse.

Of particular concern is the blatant breaking of the 7.5 tonne limit with numerous vehicles breaking this regulation with impunity. I understand from Phil that the police believe that so many vehicles break the regulations that they can't enforce it, additionally I was advised by Phil that it had been stated at the last parish meeting that only xxxx and I and xxxx and xxxx raised concerns about it and it was a minority concern, the minutes do not reflect that but minutes are not complete transcripts of a discussion.

As a parishioner it unfortunately appears to me that fatalistic attitude has been adopted to the issue. I know speaking to other villagers it is a concern and has been since the limit was introduced in the 1970's. Myself and xxxx are willing to do what we can to help and can produce hard evidence to prove the number of vehicles flouting the regulations but want to feel that something proactive is being done by the parish council.

I know Phil has spent many years fighting this cause, but I feel that if we go on as we are things will get progressively worse.

I am also not convinced that the oasis development is sticking to its word as many grab lorries are going through the village, and the running of the car boot for 4 days despite its rejection on the 1st July nearly 4 months ago is also adding to traffic through the village.

Can I ask

1. Whether the Parish council consider it to be a minority issue?
2. What the letters the clerk sends to errant companies breaking the 7.5 tonne limit say?
3. What action will be taken and by who if a company consistently breaks the regulation.
4. What if anything will be done about Back Lane being used a Rat Run?