

HOLME LACY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL ON TUESDAY 8th SEPTEMBER 2020, HELD ONLINE VIA ZOOM AT 7PM

PRESENT:

Chairman: Cllr Christina Harris

Councillors: Trevor Williams (Vice Chairman), S. Farr, S. Lawson, and J. Riley.

In attendance: Jennifer Eva – Parish Clerk.

Public: 0

- 16. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** ... apologies were received from Cllr Bishop (IT issues) and Cllr Edwards (ongoing illness).

Councillors noted that Cllr Edwards has been unable to attend a PC meeting for some time due to long-term sickness.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to write to Cllr Edwards for an update on his condition and a potential date for his return to PC meetings.

- 17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** ... Cllr Riley declared an interest in item 9 as he is a Trustee of the Village Hall.

18. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: to approve the minutes of the 14th July 2020 as an accurate record of the meeting.

19. OPEN SESSION

- 19.1** To receive a brief verbal report from Ward Councillor David Summers.

Cllr Summers' verbal report contained the following points;

- Footpath HL 18 – emails from Cllr Summers to the Clerk have been circulated to members. An employee of BBLP inspected the footpath today and we await further information as to when it will be redirected/reopened.
- School building – Cllr Summers confirmed with HC, a month previously, that there have not been any new developments with the site and if there is then HC will hold a meeting with the community. Cllr Summers is not in favour of the removal of the school building and would like to see it protected as an historical building.
- Footpath from Holme Lacy to Hereford – Cllr Summers is working to have the footpath reinstated. Cllrs confirmed that this was investigated some years previously by HC.

- 19.2** To note matters raised by parishioners relevant to the Parish – no issues were raised.

- 19.3** Holme Lacy Primary School Building.

Cllr Williams has been contacted by several residents living near to the former school playing field /building to express their concerns about future over development of the site. Residents are concerned that potentially 25 houses could be built on site which would have an impact on the village and neighbouring properties.

The Parish Council shares the concerns of residents and agree that if new houses are built then 25 would be over development for the location as there are drainage issues associated with the site.

Cllr Summers confirmed that he is not aware of any current plans for development and agreed that 25 homes would be too much for the site and he emphasised that the drainage issues would need to be addressed beforehand.

RESOLVED: the Clerk will write to the leader of Herefordshire Council, Cllr Hitchiner, Cllr John Hardwick, Chairman of the Planning and Regulatory Committee and Alistair Neill Chief Executive.

20. FINANCE;

20.1 To receive and consider a finance report for August 2020.

20.2 To consider the following invoices for payment.

20.2.1 Eyelid Productions ... annual website support ... £100.00

20.2.2 Holme Lacy Village Hall ... room hire ... £156.00

RESOLVED: to approve the above invoices for payment.

20.3 To note payments made since the last meeting.

20.3.1 Clerk ... July & August salary

20.3.2 HALC ... website hosting/domain name ... £66.00

20.3.3 DC Gardening Services ... playing field mowing ... £96.00 (inc. vat)

20.3.4 BBLP ... SID hire ... £212.30 (inc. vat)

20.3.5 G Jones ... Lengthsman ... £41.50

20.3.6 HRFD Council ... installation of 2x new SID posts & SIDs ... £1,005.92 (inc. vat)

20.3.7 Wicksteed ... annual playground inspection ... £72.00

RESOLVED: the above payments were noted.

21. PLAYING FIELD/PLAYGROUND

21.1 Sports Hut; members noted that the Clerk has arranged an electrical inspection.

21.2 Sports Hut; members noted the hut has been closed since March 20 and Ben Hince (HLFC) will carry out regular system flushes of the water pipes, as required to prevent legionella.

21.3 Annual Playground Inspection Report – members noted the report and the repairs required.

21.4 Playground Repairs – members received and considered 3 quotations for the playground repairs. The quotations varied in price, methodology and start time.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the playground has been closed for long enough and ideally the repairs should be completed by Christmas 2020. Two of the quotations considered were in excess of £10k, above the PC's budget for this work, and after careful consideration were discounted.

RESOLVED: that the PC approves the quotation from S.L.B Landscaping of £8,400 and that the work be completed by Christmas 2020. A donation of £3k from the Prynne's Trust will help towards the cost of the repairs.

Members agreed that the playground should remain closed to the public until the works have been completed. Notices are up to inform villagers of this closure and the Clerk will remind the parents at HLFC via Ben Hince.

22. SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE (SIDS) UPDATE

The Clerk gave the following update: the order for the two SID devices from Elan City has been placed and they are due to be delivered in early October. Payment for the new, stronger mounting posts has been made to BBLP. BBLP will install the SIDS at the same time as the posts and the Clerk is just waiting for a date for this.

23. HOLME LACY VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

23.1 Members noted that the Clerk has recently provided the VHMC with; spare hall keys, list of utility companies and £272.00 cash for previous hirer fees and advertisement payment from Holme Lacy House.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:25pm

SIGNED DATE