

The Holton Parish Council virtual meeting (via Zoom) was held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2020 starting at 7.30 pm

**Present:**

Chairman Robert Barter  
Councillor Allan East  
Councillor Andy Murray  
Councillor Brian Pridmore  
Councillor Roger Farrow  
Parish Clerk Sonja Barter

**Also present:** Tim Bearder (County Councillor) Sarah Gray (District Councillor)

**1. Apologies:** none

**1a. Declarations of interest:** none

**2** To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 which had been circulated to all councillors before the meeting.

Proposed by Allan East  
Seconded by Brian Pridmore

**All agreed**

**2a Holton Coronavirus Village Support Up-date.**

44 volunteers registered with the Parish Council helpline. 15 instances of help with shopping and prescription pick ups as well as checks on those living alone and self-isolating. The system seems to be working effectively and providing benefit and reassurance to villagers. Important to acknowledge the volunteers and keep them involved – general update in the May village magazine.

Holton Facebook Page to be kept updated with photos and news (Andy and Flora Murray).

**3. Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

Village maintenance tenders for 2020-2022 received. Clive Laman was awarded the tender for the two year period.

Proposed by Andy Murray and seconded by Roger Farrow.

**All agreed**

**4. Traffic, Road and Highway Matters**

SODC deep clean scheduled for 23-27 April cancelled due to Coronavirus restrictions.

**5. Financial Matters****a. Accounts submitted for payment**

|                                       |        |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| Clerk's Salary April                  | 396.00 |
| Clive Laman March village maintenance | 162.00 |
| Ann. Sub. Oxford Green Belt Network   | 15.00  |
| R. Taylor Landscapes Orchard          | 72.00  |
| R. Taylor Landscapes Churchyard       | 85.72  |
| BHIB Parish Council Insurance         | 288.18 |
| OALC Annual Sub. 2020/21              | 140.42 |
| Holton Village Hall February          | 13.00  |
| Holton Village Hall March             | 13.00  |

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| <b>Precept 2020/2021 1<sup>st</sup> half received 6/4/2020</b> | <b>£9,520.00</b> |
| <b>VAT claim 2019/20 received March 2020</b>                   | <b>£681.77</b>   |

**b. Bank balances after paying above cheques and money received.**

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Deposit</b> | <b>£20,431.06</b> |
| <b>Current</b> | <b>£1,771.68</b>  |

**It was proposed by Andy Murray and seconded by Brian Pridmore that the Clerk's Report be accepted and the accounts paid.**

**All Agreed**

**c. Adoption of Holton Parish Council Annual Accounts y/e 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 and Certificate of Exemption and Annual Governance Statement completed.**

The 2019/20 Annual Accounts were adopted and signed.

The Annual Governance Statement was completed and approved.

The Certificate of exemption was completed and approved.

**Proposed by Andy Murray and seconded by Allan East.**

**All Agreed**

**6. District/County Councillors.**

Tim Bearder (County Councillor) The County has gone into a command and control structure with the officers running the operation in close cooperation with the leader of the council. Every parish in the Wheatley Division has risen to the challenge of supporting vulnerable members of the community by quickly establishing local Coronavirus groups. It has been extremely impressive.

Sarah Gray (District Councillor) SODC also in command and control structure with the officers mainly working from home. No planning committee meetings so not sure of decisions on planning matters which would previously have gone to committee. Each District Councillor has a Coronavirus support fund of £2000 available to help parishes in each ward.

**7. Churchyard**

Richard Hunt is still in the process of clearing the potential churchyard extension site and will be in contact when completed.

**8. Neighbourhood Plan:** Passed by the NP Examiner after some modifications were made and then on 2 April accepted, approved by SODC Cabinet. The Plan to now go forward to a Referendum in Holton and Wheatley. Concern was raised about reference 19 of the SODC report – however, it refers to the necessity to extend only the referendum area to include the Parish of Holton.

*Post meeting on further examination of the SODC report it was noted that under Examiner's recommendations Page 46-Policy SPOBU-WHE25 under 'replace the policy with' bullet point 5 – 'the development of the site should address opportunities to incorporate safe, convenient and attractive pedestrian and cycling access to and from Wheatley'. Disappointing to see no provision for providing pedestrian and cycling access to Holton.*

**9. Local Plan:** SODC have now progressed the plan through examination to be adopted by December of this year.

**10. Oxford/Cambridge Expressway:** Decision awaited.

**11. Planning Applications:**

P20/S0529/FUL. Church Farm Bungalow, Holton. OX33 1PR.

Subdivision of existing dwelling into 3 x 2 bed dwellings.

**No objection**

P20/S0776/HH. Shielings, Holton. OX33 1PZ

Removal of condition 3 (retention of north east and south east hedges) on planning application P90/N0247.

**No objection**

**12. Planning Decisions (South Oxfordshire District Council):**

None

**13. Reports****14. Publications/Letters and Forthcoming Events.****15. Items for discussion and/or referral to a future meeting:**

Bus Shelter - Two of the four individuals responsible for the damaging graffiti on the outside brickwork and inside surfaces have undertaken work to remove the damage. There is still more work to do to remove all traces of the spray paint and that will be undertaken during the next few weeks. Allan East is in discussion with the persons involved. The Parish Councillors considered the options for the inside to either paint over the graffiti or to remove all traces of the paint back to the original brick. It was

agreed that Allan East as the main contact with the youths would use his judgement and deal with the situation as appropriate.

Brian Pridmore requested that a note be included in the minutes to the effect that he objected to allowing the inside of the bus shelter to be painted and did not believe that this was the right decision for the following reasons:

1. The damage had not been remedied appropriately.
2. Painting the inside of the building creates a maintenance burden on the Parish for the upkeep of the décor.
3. He did not believe that the majority of the parishioners would agree with this approach.

**16. Date of next meeting.** The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020** starting at 7.30 pm. Virtual format or in the village hall depending on circumstances regarding self-isolation and if and when the Village Hall will be able to open.

There being no further business the virtual meeting closed at 8.15 pm.