

The Holton Parish Council virtual meeting (via Zoom) was held on Monday 11th May 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)

1. Apologies: none

1a. Declarations of interest: none

2. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Monday 14th April 2020 which had been circulated to all councillors before the meeting.

Proposed by Andy Murray

Seconded by Allan East

All agreed

2a Holton Coronavirus Village Support Up-date.

Prescription deliveries organised. It appears that everyone is finding support and help when needed. Not too many requests now coming through the Village Support system. Holton Coronavirus Village Support Facebook page being kept updated with news and photos of village life and the Nextdoor Holton website providing useful news and views.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

Website Accessibility checks and checklist. Allan East is in the process of checking the site and will be making recommendations and consulting with professionals in that field.

Bus Shelter Graffiti update – The interior to be painted in the next few days.

4. Traffic, Road and Highway Matters

Traffic Regulation Notice – Wheatley London Road and Old London Road resurfacing works. Road closure nightly between 19.30 and 06.00 from 26 May – 30 May 2020.

5. Financial Matters

a. Accounts submitted for payment

Clerk's Salary May	396.00
Clive Laman April village maintenance	60.00

R. Taylor Landscapes Orchard	144.00
R. Taylor Landscapes Churchyard	171.43

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

Deposit	£20,431.06
Current	£974.25

It was proposed by Andy Murray and seconded by Allan East that the Clerk's Report be accepted and the accounts paid.

All Agreed

6. District/County Councillors.

Tim Bearder (County Councillor) reported on the opening of the County Waste Recycling Centres due to be operational from 18th May.

7. Churchyard

Richard Hunt has cleared the land and is in agreement that the Parish Council can start the transfer process and submit a change of use planning application. We will then proceed to the next stage when the change of use is agreed.

Holton Parish Council agreed to assist the PCC in the acquisition of extra land for a Churchyard. A Parish Council has the power to provide or contribute towards the provision of a cemetery. The land is being offered to the Church and the Parish Council has agreed to contribute towards the legal costs, walling, fencing and necessary ground works.

8. Neighbourhood Plan:

Doug Lamont (Wheatley Parish Council Chairman) copied Holton in his letter to Robyn Tobutt SODC who had requested WP Council's view regarding how the OBU appeal decision impacts upon the Parish Council's aspirations to allocate land for mixed use development through a review of the Wheatley Neighbourhood Plan. Once the emerging local plan 2034 has been confirmed WNP intend to reinstate the Wheatley village enhancement proposals. Letter circulated.

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:

None

12. Planning Decisions (South Oxfordshire District Council):

P20/SO776/HH. Shielings, Holton. OX33 1PZ

Removal of condition 3 (retention of north east and south east hedges) on planning application P90/NO247. **Granted**

Planning Appeal: APP/Q3115/W/19/3230827Oxford Brookes University, Wheatley Campus, Holton. P17/S4254/0

Appeal Allowed

The Parish Councillors discussed the various scenarios and the implications in the Section 106 Agreement that the decision to build up to 500 homes on the Brookes site meant for the village of Holton and agreed to prepare a vision for the future setting out the various options and consequences.

Brian Pridmore and Allan East agreed to produce a document for discussion to be circulated to Parish Councillors before the next meeting.

The prime aim being to achieve the greatest benefit and mitigate any future problems which might affect both Holton and Wheatley and also consider the identity of the new community and how it will connect with the villages of Holton and Wheatley and how this may or may not change the existing villages.

It was stressed that all efforts will be made to ensure that the two Parish Councils work together and agree the way forward in a collective and meaningful way and develop a purposeful dialogue in relation to all aspects of the development and clarity on the matters covered by the Section 106 Agreement.

A virtual joint meeting of representatives from local interested parties was held on Friday 1st May mainly to decide on what joint response should be given to SODC regarding the Brookes decision and whether the decision should be challenged. It was agreed that there were no legal grounds to challenge the decision of the Secretary of State and the Planning Inspector and the way forward was to engage with all parties involved in this development and work together.

Holton Parish Council wish to develop this working group and bring all parties together to focus, examine the facts and achieve the best possible result.

The Chairman to contact the interested parties to set up a meeting.

13. Reports

Orchard mowing has started – leaving three areas to re-wild as a feature in the Orchard. Re-assess this action at the end of the summer. The large field gate into the Orchard is locked and checked regularly. Travellers have been reported in the area.

14. Publications/Letters and forthcoming events

None

15. Items for discussion and/or referral to a future meeting:

It was agreed that the Clerk should make contact with the owners of 'Bulmers' field regarding the possible acquisition of a strip of land to provide a footpath access to the Brookes development and proposed sporting facilities.

16. Date of next meeting. The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **Monday 8th June 2020** starting at 7.30 pm. Virtual format or in the village hall depending on circumstances.

There being no further business the virtual meeting closed at 9.00 pm.