

Holt Town Council

The minutes of the Holt Town Council Meeting, held at 7pm on Monday 13th November 2023 at the Meeting Room of Holt Playing Fields Association, Woodfield Road, Holt.

Attendees: Cllr Tribe (Mayor), Phil Wright (Deputy Mayor), Cllr Martin Batey, Cllr Ray Moore, Cllr Maggie Prior, Cllr Sue Barham, Cllr Chris Bishop, Cllr Bryan Payne, Cllr Rodney Smith, Cllr Anita Jones, Cllr Sandy Roper, Cllr Simon Williams and Cllr Danny Doran.

5 Members of public present.

1. Welcome.

1.1 Cllr Tribe welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence:

2.1 Apologies have been received from Cllr Danny Doran, Town Clerk Gemma Harrison and County Cllr Eric Vardy.

2.2 Apologies were accepted.

3.To consider requests for dispensations from the restriction of operating in the discussion or voting on a matter in which a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

3.1 Cllr Batey stated that he had an interest in Item Number 12 (Planning).

3.2 Cllr Moore declared an interest in Item Number 11 (Holt Playing Fields).

4. Police Matters.

4.1 PC Graham Gower-Smith attended and gave an update, anti-social behaviour generally on the decline in Holt, nothing reported this month; Halloween and Bonfire night – no complaints received; for lighting up night five special constables plus Graham in town to keep order; Remembrance Day went well no problems known. There has been an arrest for anti- social behaviour in Cromer where the toilets of the Tourist Centre were set light. Peacock Lane parking - Graham to monitor the situation and act when and where he legally can. He suggested we contact the owner of the property and bypass the builders. Heath Farm roundabout Graham available for any meetings to be held. Clerk to contact the homeowner on Peacock Lane. GH

5. Announcements by Mayor.

5.1 Cllr Tribe stated that the defib training held had a good turnout and was well received by all, future training can be arranged if needed.

6. Agree the Minutes of the Previous Meeting (circulated prior to the meeting) dated Monday 9th October;

6.1 The minutes of the meeting dated Monday 9th October 2023 were circulated prior to the meeting. They were PROPOSED as accurate and correct by Cllr Batey and SECONDED by Cllr Prior and AGREED by all.

7. Matters Arising (for information and not included on the main Agenda).

- Post Box – no update available, Clerk to Chase. GH
- Bank Hub – Councillor Stephan Aquarrone updated HTC via email. It was AGREED that HTC still keep pushing for a Bank Hub in the town.
- Heath Farm Allotments – no update available, Clerk to chase. GH
- Parking on Peacock Lane – see response under item 4 Police Matters.
- Kings Road – overgrown areas reported to NCC, surfaces need redoing.
- Letheringsett Hill and Thornage Road lighting, no update available HTC to keep pushing. GH
- Thaxter's site – no update available
- Businesses who want to come to Holt – Gemma to chase Rob Young for an update if no update ask Senior Management or NNDC Leader Tim Adams. GH
- Parking on Kerridge Way – need yellow lines Gemma discussing with Parking enforcement.
- Larking & Gowen De-fib to be retained by new owners.
- Bus shelter clock still on BST to be changed. GH
- Fish Hill lighting, new light to be installed. GH
- Cemetery fencing update needed.
- Hempstead Road where it narrows request for priority signs for traffic has been declined by Highways.
- LDF – update requested. GH

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Limited to 15 Mins (3 Minutes per person)

- Two residents from the Heath Farm estate came to the meeting to report concerns after the recent accident on the Heath Farm roundabout. It was suggested it needs more lighting, more chevrons, to cut back hedging on left side as you approach from High Kelling, to reduce speed limit and the roundabout signs to be corrected as it is not a straight roundabout. Clerk to ask Eric Vardy to speak to Head of Highways. GH
- A local resident asked whether the speed limit can be reduced from the roundabout to 20 mph. Clerk to investigate and report back. GH

8. Reports; To be Circulated in advance of the meeting

- Norfolk County Council – Full report at Appendix A.
- North Norfolk District Council – District Cllr Batey gave his report, the Local Plan is now being inspected, no update on allocation of new building land, NNDC peer review received a good result, NNDC budget under threat from lack of social housing. There is a Community Transport fund which may be available for the Hopper Bus, Full fibre broadband in Holt should be up and running early 2024. Cllr Batey attended the Remembrance Sunday service and laid a wreath on behalf of the District Council.
- Love Holt – no report given.
- Greening Holt – circulated prior to the meeting, comment received from a resident who enjoys the HTC gym at Coronation Park.

9. Budget

9.1 Item deferred to December's meeting.

10. Heath Farm Roundabout

10.1 See notes from Public Question Time above.

11. Holt Playing Fields

11.1 Cllrs suggested adding in an additional line in the proposed budget for election expenses and for the Holt Playing Fields. GH

11.2 Cllrs discussed becoming trustees of Holt Playing Fields Association. Cllrs AGREED that HTC should become Trustees. Cllrs raised further questions, what

are the endowment monies invested in? The Solar Panel grant in the name of Holt Playing Fields, where would HTC stand if we took over from FIT regarding ownership of land and buildings and future grant applications? Clerk to investigate and report back. GH

12. Planning (Report circulated prior to the meeting)

12.1 Cllr Batey left the meeting at 20.02pm.

12.2 The planning report was PROPOSED by Cllr Prior and SECONDED by Cllr Barham and AGREED by all.

13. Finance (circulated prior to the meeting)

13.1 The payments for October (£43,875.72), receipts for October (£8,210.85) were PROPOSED by Cllr Roper and SECONDED by Cllr Jones and AGREED by everyone.

13.2 The Bank Reconciliation can be seen at Appendix B.

13.3 Accessible roundabout installation at George V playing field – decision deferred to next HTC meeting. GH

13.4 Approval of updated Financial Regulations, the amended Financial Regulations were circulated prior to the meeting, they were PROPOSED by Cllr Prior and SECONDED by Cllr Batey and AGREED by all. Clerk to add to the website. GH

13.5 Jubilee Slates – an update on funding owed to HTC by Holt Society, meeting to be held between Holt Society and HTC to discuss the outstanding monies and how it can be repaid.

14. Correspondence

14.1 Pedestrian Crossing outside Holt Surgery needs repainting, Cllr Batey advised this is to be repainted imminently.

14.2 Kerridge Way Parking enforcement, Budgens have increased school parking places from 20 to 40, no extra 30-minute places to be provided. HTC to reply to Bakers and Larners voicing HTC displeasure that residents have to pay to use the Cash Machine, Post Office and to shop for minor items from Budgens. GH

14.3 Star Plain – Old Carpet Shop – current ongoing situation is not acceptable, HTC to write to Owner/Builder to replace hoarding as it is an eyesore and not safe, HTC to follow up with NCC and NNDC ref parking and encroachment on parking spaces by present hoarding. GH

15. Public Toilets

15.1 Albert Street Toilets – report as issued by email, it was AGREED that any closure does not overlap with the Church Street refurbishment, Cllrs AGREED temporary toilets must be available at Albert Street during the rebuild period. Clerk to liaise with NNDC. GH

15.2 Church Street Toilets – on target, new roof complete, new entrances in place. Councillors asked for the estimated opening date. GH

16. Agree Items for the next Agenda

16.1 Skate Park, Local Plan, Heath Farm roundabout, Budget, Star Plain, Kerridge Way/ Peacock Lane parking issues, Pedestrian Crossing at the Surgery, agree 2024 meeting dates.

17 Agree date and time of next meeting.

17.1 Monday 11th December 2023 7pm at the Holt Playing Fields Association meeting room.

Meeting ended 08.32pm

Appendix A

Computer data helps target support to those at risk of a fall

New technology is being used in Norfolk to help prevent people from having falls, prevent hospital admissions and reduce demand on social care and the NHS.

Norfolk County Council is piloting the approach using a computer algorithm that helps to identify those at risk of falling. The council then writes to those people and offers them a range of support, such as assistive technology, help with their mobility or home fire safety checks.

So far, the council has sent out 700 letters and made 530 calls to people at risk, making referrals for 234 individual interventions.

The new technology brings the power to read and analyse millions of lines of social care records to find trends and patterns which it would take many months for any person to do manually. It learns as it goes and through this process it predicts which individuals are at most risk of a fall so the council can approach them and hopefully prevent this happening.

The council has ensured that it is fully compliant with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) in implementing the pilot.

We know that prevention is far more effective than cure and, as pressure on services continues to grow, we must look at new ways to support people and reduce demand on our services.

Our falls work is getting a lot of national interest and is a real opportunity to use new technology to improve the lives of our residents.

The support on offer to people includes chair based exercises from the council's Norfolk First Support Service, support from Active Now and help preventing social isolation from Voluntary Norfolk.

The pilot is still in its early stages and the impact of the interventions will be assessed in the coming months. It is hoped that it will be reduce falls, associated hospital admissions, people needing to move into residential care and the size of care packages. This will improve outcomes, support people to live independently for longer and reduce pressures on social care budgets.

One participant said they were very happy with the weekly fitness arranged through Active Now and felt they were getting stronger. Another said they were very pleased with the support provided as they would now be able to access their garden more freely.

The project is part of the £6m Connecting Communities programme, being delivered in Norfolk

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Household Support Fund

Norfolk County Council is offering extra support to households this winter.

Earlier this year, Norfolk County Council announced it would receive further funding from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to run the Household Support Fund until 31 March 2024. The council is receiving £13.4m from central government and adding an additional £400,000 to make the total programme of support worth £13.8m. It is working closely with district, borough, and city councils, VCSE and public sector partners to identify and implement a range of support measures to meet the needs of vulnerable households.

Since the fund began (October 2021) the impact on Norfolk communities of the fund so far has been significant:

- We have supported over 130,000 households throughout the life of the fund.

- We continue to provide food vouchers for over 30,000 eligible school children.
- We have provided over 17,000 awards through our application-based Client Hardship Service (formally the Norfolk Assistance Scheme) ranging from food support through to providing white goods and winter essentials.
- We have made over 546,000 awards in total through use of the fund across all rounds to date.
- Support has also been provided through our libraries (grab and go bags), the Nourishing Norfolk food hubs (store credit), our district council partners with a range of both proactive and reactive support and by working with our local VCSE community to directly support the most vulnerable Norfolk families.

The DWP's upcoming Household Support Fund Awareness Week (16--22 October) also coincides with the launch date for our Norfolk libraries winter campaign.

As part of the Household Support Fund, all 47 of Norfolk's libraries will be offering free winter support items until the end of March 2024 (while stocks last).

New teams launched to support families of children with special educational needs

Norfolk County Council has launched 15 new school and community teams, aimed at helping schools and families whose children need some extra support with their education.

The teams are part of a £100m of investment in special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Norfolk and will work with parents and all of the professionals supporting children's learning, to help make sure children get any extra support they need as early as possible.

It's part of the council's Local First Inclusion programme, which is building on improvements already made in education for children with SEND in Norfolk. The programme aims to get the right support to children and families earlier.

A key element of the programme is to make sure that mainstream schools and early years providers have the help they need to support children with SEND, so that more children can learn in mainstream education alongside other children their age.

The council is also investing in new specialist places for those with the highest needs, so that more children can learn closer to home.

Norfolk's schools and early years educators want to be inclusive and we want to give them and parents the help they need, so that children with SEND in our county can flourish."

Each of the teams will include an early help consultant, team manager, and family and education workers. They will work in a zone made up of about 26 schools and will link closely with schools, pre-schools, nurseries and childminders with termly consultations on the needs of children in their area.

Local First Inclusion is the county council's new six-year programme with more than £100 million of new investment attached to it.

It has working with, and supporting teachers, teaching assistants, and headteachers, at its heart.

Local First Inclusion runs until 2029 and is being funded jointly by the Department for Education and Norfolk County Council.

£2,500 grants available for community tree projects

Norfolk County Council in partnership with Busseys has today launched a grant scheme to help local communities plant new trees and create greener and cleaner areas to live. The scheme is part of the council's one million trees initiative and aims to support tree planting projects across the county and contribute to ambitious net-zero targets.

The Busseys Community Tree Grant has made £10,000 (maximum of £2,500 per application) available to community organisations in Norfolk who are passionate about tree planting.

Applications must be for planting trees that provide a tangible community benefit.

As the Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste, I commented "This collaboration represents a significant step towards enhancing the county's green spaces, nature recovery, and ecosystem. I am thrilled that we are working with the Busseys family and that together we can promote and support tree planting across our picturesque county through this initiative. We all know that money doesn't grow on trees – but this scheme will provide local communities with the money they need to make trees grow! I encourage local communities to develop their plans and apply for this fantastic scheme."

Busseys managing director, Paul Bussey, said: "We have a longstanding commitment to environmental sustainability. Our Tree Planting Initiative, which began in 2007, has allowed us to plant trees for every customer who purchases a vehicle from us or donating to Foodcycle for meals. We are excited to expand this initiative in partnership with Norfolk County Council to further promote greenery, cleaner air, and overall community well-being in Norfolk."

To ensure the success of this project, an application process has been put in place to guarantee that all trees are planted in suitable locations to maximise their survival and provide a meaningful community benefit.

This grant initiative is open to anyone in Norfolk who possesses the necessary land permissions and space to undertake tree planting projects.

Appendix B

Holt Town Council

11 November 2023 (2023-2024)

Prepared by:

Approved by: Date:

Date:

Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)

Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)

Bank Reconciliation at 18/10/2023

Cash in Hand 01/04/2023 195,662.55

ADD

Receipts 01/04/2023 - 18/10/2023 203,222.97

398,885.52

SUBTRACT

Payments 01/04/2023 - 18/10/2023 156,764.61

A Cash in Hand 18/10/2023 242,120.91

(per Cash Book)

Cash in hand per Bank Statements

Petty Cash 29/09/2023 0.00

Barclays Business Saver Account 29/09/2023 13,520.00

Barclays Business Tracker Account 29/09/2023 34,595.19

Barclays Community Account 18/10/2023 197,449.78

245,564.97

B

Less unrepresented payments

Plus unrepresented receipts

Adjusted Bank Balance 242,120.91

575.00

241,545.91

4,019.06

A = B Checks out OK