

**Minutes of the Holme Hale Parish Council Meeting
Held at Holme Hale Village Hall in the Tony Evans Centre
on Monday 7th March 2022 at 7.30pm**

PRESENT: Councillors S. Broke (Chair), A. Lyndsay, N. McBrien, W. McNeil and Dr A. Scarlett (Vice Chair).
Cllr Wilkin (District councillor)
C. Prentice - Clerk to the Council.
6 members of the public

Chair welcomed all. Chair made all aware the recent recorded death of Janet Bowers, whilst never a parish councillor she was a long-lived Holme Hale resident, a trustee of the Holme Hale War memorial trust and helped with various projects throughout the parish. Chair asked everyone to stand and spare a few moments to remember Janet Bowers.

1. Council matters

1.1 Apologies, to receive and approve as required

None

1.2 Conflict of interests, to receive declarations if relating to any items to be discussed

None. *(Please note item 6.4)*

1.3 Dispensations, to grant any written requests if required

None

2. Approve minutes

- 3rd January 2022

Approved. Signed by chair.

Meeting adjourned at 7.36pm for public participation.

3. Public participation (max. 15 minutes)

A resident spoke regarding concern over speeding in and out of the village. He believed vehicles are travelling between 50-60mph at times, past the front of his and his neighbours' properties. He is travelling behind vehicles and is travelling at 30mph and other vehicles are accelerating away from him, even double decker buses. It was confirmed that the speeding issue was along Cook Road.

Another resident spoke regarding the speeding issue. Cars travelling this way towards Necton are coming up to the curb on Red Lion Close, seeing the stretch of road straight in front of them. Their foot is going down and are accelerating away. On that stretch there are five hidden exits. There are two on the bend itself. The issue is starting at the bridge, where people can see the straight bit of road.

The Norfolk speed management policy are recommending there is no one solution to this. They are recommending visible signs, enforcement through police and the signs that flash. Last summer there were police enforcement officers in Necton and in Ashill. The resident wrote to the police at that point asking why they were not in Holme Hale as well. The response was that there was nowhere sufficient for a police car to park, where they could pull cars over.

A resident raised the issue of the bright yellow grit bin and the village signs in Station Road, if the old one can be removed.

Cllr Scarlett responded in regard to the village signs and informed everyone that the original intention was to remove the old sign once the new one was installed.

Cllr McBrien confirmed the reason for the grit bin replacement was due to the poor state of the previous bins. Cllr Scarlett informed everyone that the colour of the bins was standard and is the same as those in North Pickenham. Whilst they are bright, they will fade and weather over time.

Another resident spoke in regard to the speeding issues. He appreciates that other parishes use a number of measures. He likes the idea of a defined boundary with village gates etc.

Cllr Scarlett highlighted that there is a potential issue with village gates as the verges are very narrow at that point as they have been eroded away by traffic over time. Also, if signs are being hit causing them to

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spin and/or dent then they are likely to have a short lifespan.

Another resident felt that the community speedwatch that was in place years ago was the most poignant. The flashing sign currently at Station Road may as well be switched on and left on as every car that passes it is on, which defeats the object of the exercise.

Cllr Scarlett spoke as a resident and agreed with three members of public in regard to speeding issues on Cook Road, in regard to there being as much an issue with cars accelerating going out of the village as there are coming in.

Meeting resumed at 7.50pm.

4. Reports and correspondence

Clerk report circulated to councillors prior to meeting, no further items.

Cllr Wilkin spoke regarding Vattenfall with the main item to be tree planting and screening etc. etc. They are not going to be fully involved with much else as far as decisions are concerned. However, he does have officers discussing, seeing if they are able to go a bit further, but it looks unlikely. So, it means looking at ideas and projects so it can be brought into the parishes and surrounding parishes.

Cllr Broke commented that one of the concerns from Holme Hale about mitigation is that Necton is lower than Holme Hale. Many of the residents in Necton will not see a thing. As soon as you cross the river and start to rise up you will see it, a lot of properties can see the existing substation let alone the next one which will be three times the size. So, it will be very visible to Holme Hale.

Cllr Mc Neil commented on the tree planting and that because of the size of the building it could not be screened. What Vattenfall have consistently not supplied is any kind of mitigation in terms of what the buildings are going to look like, what colour they will be, how they are actually going to look in the landscape.

Cllr Broke asked is there anything Breckland can do in regard to speeding matters. Cllr Wilkins replied that they can put pressure on highways and that personally he has been surprised by the speeding through the parish.

Cllr Wilkin takes all comments on board and will report them back.

Item 7.4 moved to follow item 4. at chairs discretion in consultation with the council.

5. Planning

5.1 For parish council consultation, following planning application to district council.

[3PL/2022/0197/HOU](#) - Tavern Cottage, Browns Lane IP25 7DU

Single storey side and rear pitched roof extension

No objections

[3PL/2022/0184/HOU](#) - Dunkery, 7 Church Lane IP25 7DS

Ground floor extension to the side and rear, roof remodelling, replacement windows and doors, front-facing porch, new external insulation and cladding. This is to include the new carport and solar panels.

No objections

5.2 Planning applications, district council decisions (for information only)

None

5.3 Other planning matters to include Vattenfall, to discuss and decide on any action to be taken.

No further discussion.

6. Finance

6.1 bank statements and reconciliations, for approval

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Current account

	Closing Balance as per bank statement 25 th Feb.2022		£11920.06
	<u>Less</u> unrepresented cheques:		
	Net Balance as at 25 th Feb.2022:		£11920.06
	The net balance reconciles to the receipts and payments account for the year as follows:-		
	Opening Balance 1st April 2021:		£12056.68
	Add receipts in year		£8000.00
	Less payments in year		£8136.62
	Closing balance as at 25 th Feb.2022:		£11920.06

Reserve account

	Closing Balance as per bank statement 25 th Feb.2022		£4807.04
	<u>Less</u> unrepresented cheques:		
			£4807.04
	The net balance reconciles to the receipts and payments account for the year as follows:-		
	Opening Balance 1st April 2021:		£4806.64
	Add receipts in year		£0.40
	Less payments in year		£0.00
	Closing balance as at 25 th Feb.2022:		££4807.04

All approved and Cllr McNeil to sign at next meeting.

Signed _____ Date _____

6.2 Payments, for approval

Date	Payee/ reason	Cheque No.	Amount	Signatories	Approval
07.03.22	Grit bin work	969	£350.00	S. Broke A. Scarlett	Approved
07.03.22	clerk salary + expenses	970	£615.30	S. Broke A. Scarlett	Approved
07.03.22	HMRC	971	£5.80	S. Broke A. Scarlett	Approved
07.03.22	Norfolk ALC subs.	972	£175.58	S. Broke A. Scarlett	Approved

6.3 Internal auditor, to discuss and decide on any action to be taken.

Robin Goreham appointed for 2021-22

6.4 Grants and donations, to discuss and decide on any action to be taken.

Cllr Scarlett declared a registered interest in St. Andrew's Church

St. Andrew's Church, Holme Hale awarded £600

(LGA 1972 s.214 – expenditure on the maintenance of the churchyard)

Cllr Scarlett confirmed the annual grounds cost as £1150 per annum.

Cllr McNeil declared a registered interest in HHPFT

Holme Hale Playing Field Trust awarded £450

(LGA 1972 s.133 – expenditure for the provision of community centres.)

Cllr McBrien declared a registered interest in CAB.

Citizens Advice Bureau awarded £50

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(LGA 1972 s.137 – expenditure for any charitable body in the U.K.)

Swaffham and Litcham home hospice support Ltd. Awarded £50

(LGA 1972 s.137 – expenditure for any charitable body in the U.K.)

East Anglian Air Ambulance awarded £50

(LGA 1972 s.137 – expenditure for any charitable body in the U.K.)

Clerk to inform above organisations that in future years written applications should be submitted (draft grant policy for inclusion)

Permissive paths grant to go on next agenda for approval.

6.5 Budget, consideration of additional items for inclusion of 2022-23 budget.

Gully/ drains discussed, to go to next meeting for further discussion, not just in regard to budget.

No other items put forward for discussion.

6.6 V.A.T. claim, to consider and approve amounts as deemed relevant.

Approved.

7. Matters to be addressed

7.1 Highways, to receive updates, discuss and decide on any further action as required.

Cllr Lyndsey has forwarded email to clerk for items that need addressing.

Cllr McBrien reported that the pipe/ ditch is partially blocked as the soil has been pushed into it where they have cut the ruts in.

Cllr McBrien reported a case of fly tipping in the ditch just opposite the Anglian water entrance.

Cllr Scarlett raised the issue still exists regarding the hole around the grating on Cook Road/ School and also, there is an increasing pothole across the who width of School Road. (Parishioner to send photo to clerk).

Sunken hole/ shrinkage to previous works outside Ivy Farm

7.2 Grit bin on Station Road in regard to the visibility, discuss and decide on any action.

No further action to be taken.

7.3 Removal of old village sign on Station Road, discuss and decide on any further action as required.

Cllr Scarlett to contact recent contractor to obtain quote for approval next meeting.

7.4 Speeding along Cook Road, to discuss and decide on any further action as required.

Council asked members of public to evidence and report speeding offenders.

Clerk to apply for 2 x VAS on the parish partnership application due out in October 2022.

Article to go in Moonraker calling for community speed watch members.

Cllr McNeil is still in receipt of bin stickers of children. She will pass them on.

Item to go to next agenda.

7.5 The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, to discuss and decide on any action for:-

- Tree planting on the playing field
- Forming a village working party to organise parish event at the village hall.

Article to go into Moonraker to call for everyone to attend a meeting at a set date.

7.6 WiFi to the Pavilion, to discuss and decide on any action.

No further action to be taken by the parish council.

7.7 Moonraker publication, to discuss and decide on any action.

No further action to be taken by the parish council. Moonraker will be published bi-monthly. Draft minutes to be submitted for publication.

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**Holme Hale Fuel Allotment Trust
Energy Hardship Grants**

Given the recent escalating cost of domestic energy and the risk of fuel hardship, the Holme Hale Fuel Allotment Trust would welcome applications from residents within Holme Hale who may be experiencing energy-related hardship.

If you wish to be considered for a grant, please apply in writing stating Name, Address and Telephone No. and/ or e-mail to: **The Secretary, HHFAT, Fern View, Cook Road, Holme Hale, Thetford. IP25 7DJ**

All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.
Closing date: 20th March 2022

8. Council operational matters

8.1 councillor vacancy, to discuss and decide on any action to be taken.

No expressions of interest.

To go into the Moonraker at a later date.

8.2 policies and procedures

- Asset register
- Publication scheme
- Complaints procedure
- Risk management scheme
- Grant policy
- Grant application
- Website accessibility statement.

Asset register approved, all other policies to go to next meeting. Amendments noted.

9. Employee matters

9.1 To consider the passing of a resolution under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

(as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for item 9.2-9.4 on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of private and confidential information).

Meeting remained open.

9.2 Appraisal, to discuss and decide on any action to be taken.

Chair to conduct appraisal at a time to be arranged.

9.3 Holiday request, to consider and approve as required.

Approved.

10. Confirm time and date of meetings

- **Annual parish meeting (meeting of electors) – Monday 11th April at 7.00pm**
- **Annual parish council meeting – Monday 9th May 7.00pm**
- **Ordinary parish council meeting – Monday 9th May to follow annual meeting.**

All approved

Meeting closed at 9.59pm

Signed _____ Date _____

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