

**HOLMESFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 December 2023**  
**At 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

Present: Councillors Mr B Wheat (Chairman), Mr B Hoare, Mr T Marples, Mr P Reaney, Mrs S Reaney, Mrs H Stuart-Bamford, Mr W Rosser

Also Present: PCSO Jonathan Flowers, Investigator Liz Mills, District Councillor Pam Jones (Holmesfield and Barlow), District Councillor William Jones (Dronfield South), Mrs E Boswell – Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer

**77/23-24 To receive apologies for absence**

Councillors Dr M Blagden and Mrs C Huckerby

**78/23-24 Declaration of members' interests on agenda items**

None

**Dispensations on member's interests on agenda items**

None

**79/23-24 Public Speaking**

(a) Members of the public

None

(b) Police Report / District Councillor / County Councillor

District Councillor Pam Jones attended the meeting, discussion took place on planning applications and that shortly the number of speakers allowed at Planning Committees would be reduced.

PCSO Jonathan Flowers and Investigator Liz Mills attended the meeting. There were four reported crimes during November 2023 including two thefts, one non-dwelling burglary and one incident of violence, these incidents are not of community concern.

A surgery was held at the village hall earlier this evening a number of issues were raised by residents including problem dogs in the village. There is a particular problem with dogs in the play area.

The concern with drugs in the village continues. To take action the Police require evidence, descriptions of people and vehicles, times and dates of alleged problems. Incident diaries can be provided, these can be delivered or by arrangement collected from the village hall or residents can anonymously contact the independent charity crime stoppers on 0800 555 111

A wildlife camera is to be put in the play area.

There has been agreement with Derbyshire County Council to put a no parking sign and double yellow lines on the top part of Cowley Lane due to the dangerous parking of vehicles – the double yellow lines make the enforcement not just on the road, but to the boundary wall.

A speed survey has been carried out for two consecutive days. The figures for speeding vehicles were appalling and these have been forwarded to Derbyshire County Council for action.

**80/23-24 Minutes**

Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 November 2023

**Resolved:** To approve the Minutes for signature by the Chairman.

**81/23-24 Planning**

**Applications Received**

(a) 23/00988/FL – Mr Hincliffe, Little Orchard, Horsleygate Lane, Holmesfield - Conversion and extension of stable building to form single dwelling (amendment to previously approved scheme 22/00477/FL) (private drainage system) (affecting a Public Right of Way)

**Resolved:** To support the view of NEDDC on this amendment

(b) 23/01021/CUPDMB – Mrs Woods, Gooseberry Farm, Holmesfield – Prior approval application for the change of use of agricultural barn to dwelling with associated landscaping works (Revised scheme of 23/00420/CUPDMB)

**Resolved:** The Parish Council is concerned by how the continuing conversion of agricultural buildings to residential units and holiday lets is changing the nature and culture of the village and there is a growth in inappropriate development throughout the Parish.

#### Appeals

NED/22/00574/FL – Land South of Little Chatsworth Cottages, Millthorpe Lane, Holmesfield – Appeal against refusal to grant permission for change of use from agriculture to dog exercise and training facility.

#### Other Planning Matters

Enforcement – Update from NEDDC Enforcement Officer

Brindwood House – An extension has been granted to dismantle rather than demolish the unauthorised buildings so that materials can be repurposed.

Cartref – Alternative schemes are being looked at to retain some of the alterations at the dwelling.

#### 82/23-24 Meeting Reports

(a) Staffing Update – the replacement Clerk found that the role was not for her. Liz Boswell has recommenced duties on a permanent basis.

(b) To receive quotes for wifi – quotes are awaited.

#### 83/23-24 Councillors' Reports

(a) Village Society – The Christmas Tree has been put up, the Council will reimburse the cost of the tree and a new cable to Holmesfield Village Society

(b) Road Safety Issues – Some of the gullies have been cleaned, but there are areas that have not and these are still prone to flooding.

The flashing school lights don't seem to be working properly

*Post meeting note: Checked on 14/12/23 and they are in working order*

(c) Footpaths – The dog waste bin at the junction Holmesfield Wood and Fanshawgate Lane has been damaged

**Resolved:** To replace at cost of £364.70

*Post meeting note NEDDC have replaced with a lidded plastic bin, so replacement is not necessary at present.*

(d) Newsletter & Website – To include an article about Sue Grocutt who passed away recently

(e) Transport – No report

(f) Playground – No report

Three quotes have been received for the benches at Millthorpe.

**Resolved:** To purchase two winawood benches at the cost of £415.00 plus vat each

(g) Football Pitch – No report

(h) Peak Park – Communications are continuing with regards to the development at Owler Bar.

(i) Neighbourhood Watch – No report

(j) Environment – No report

(k) Village Hall – Works on the heating system are complete, currently awaiting pipes to be boxed in.

#### 84/23-24 Finance

(a) Setting of level of wages 2024/25

Members discussed the level of wages for 2024/25, considering the rate of inflation and the rise in the living wage.

**Resolved:** To grant a 9% raise for Caretaking staff

**Resolved:** For the Clerk to be paid in accordance with NJC rates for 2024/25

(b) Setting Village Hall Rates for 2024/25

Members discussed the level of hall hire in 2024/25 and the increase in costs to the Council.

**Resolved:** To raise all rates by £.50pence per hour

**Resolved:** To set a new rate for parties to include hall and kitchen of £26.00per hour

(c) Budget and Precept Setting 2024/25

Members discussed the budgets for 2024/25 in conjunction with the level of wages, hall hire fees and the taking into consideration the very substantial rise in fuel costs.

**Resolved:** To raise the precept to £45,000 to cover increased costs

**Resolved:** To include an article in the newsletter explaining the reasons for the rise and that this will be approximately £6.64 per annum extra for a band D property.

(d) Balances at 30 November 2023

Business High Interest Account: £46,088.33; Bonus Saver Account: £15,399.05

(e) Income November 2023

Hall Hire £1243.95

(f) Expenditure December 2023

SSE – Electricity	DD	£224.71
Scottish Water – Waste Water	DD	£198.56
Pynot Publishing – Newsletter	BACS	£270.00
Whittington Moor Printing Works Ltd – Newsletter	BACS	£536.00
Holmesfield Village Society – Christmas Tree	BACS	£250.00
Holmesfield Village Society – Electric Cable	BACS	£47.59
Holmesfield PCC – Church yard lights and wreath	BACS	£135.00
SGS Garden Services – Grit Bin	BACS	£85.00
Hollinsend Fire – Fire Extinguisher Service	BACS	£192.07
Wages	BACS	£2014.32
HMRC – PAYE and NIC	BACS	£349.87
Nest Pensions – Pension	DD	£78.14

**Resolved:** To accept all the above accounts for payment

**85/23-24 Circulars and Notices**

Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

- Wage Settlement for April 2023
- December 2023 Newsletter

North East Derbyshire District Council

- Conference for Parish and Town Councillors - Friday, 23rd February 2024
- Chairman's Charity Event – Burns' Night in aid of Ashgate Hospice

Open Reach

- Millthorpe Land Enquiry - Proposed Installation of monitoring line to Sewage Pumping Station

Peak District National Park Authority

- Recent discoveries in Derbyshire and the Peak District to be revealed at the annual Archaeology Day
- Green businesses receive recognition at Peak District environmental award scheme's 20th anniversary event

Police and Crime Commissioner

- Proposal for Council Tax Discount for Special Constables
- Consultation on proposals for the policing part of the Council Tax precept for 2024-25

**86/23-24 Information**

None

**87/23-24 Date of Next Meeting**

Next Meeting 10 January 2024

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

Chairman.....10 January 2024