Dethick Lea and Holloway Parish Council

Chair 2014-15 Locum Clerk to the Council

Simon Oldham

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Minutes of Dethick, Lea and Holloway Parish Council Meeting held in the Florence Nightingale Hall, Holloway, on the 7th January, 2015

Present: Chairman: Councillor Ian Hooker

> Councillors: Steve Chambers, Pete

> > Robinson, Mike Taafe-Finn, Joan Ward, Mike Wiser and Barbara Wright

Also Present: Amber Valley Borough & Councillor David Taylor

Derbyshire County

Two members of the public present

In Attendance: Simon Oldham Locum Clerk

- 2242 **Apologies for absence** – Councillors Maggie Shields and Bert Sheppard.
- 2243 Variation of Order of business – None.
- 2244 **Declaration of member's interests –** Councillors Steve Chambers and Mike Wiser declared a non pecuniary interest in item 11 "Request by Lea Primary School for the Council to purchase a grit bin for use on the pavement outside the School" in their capacity as governors at the School and Councillor lan Hooker declared an interest in relation to "Financial Matters" in respect of the proposed cheque to re-imburse him for the purchase of the Armistice wreath and material for construction of a seat for the bus shelter. The Locum Clerk declared an interest in item 20 "Recommendation of the Employment Committee on 12th December, 2014 on the appointment of a new Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer and terms and conditions of employment " and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the item.

2245 Public speaking

The Proprietor of the Village shop spoke in relation to the proposed sale of the shop which had been on the market for around 18 months and whilst there had been some interest, a sale had not been forthcoming. He was now approaching the Parish Council to pose the prospect of leasing the shop area to the Village for the shop to be rented out whilst still intending to live above the premises himself. Whilst this concept was at a very early stage, he had undertaken some research and had been in contact with the Plunkett Foundation who had advised that the first step was to identify potential community interest and if this was demonstrated, the next stage would be to establish a Working Group to try to drive the proposal forward. Enquiries were also being made regarding the potential for attracting grants in this regard and the ultimate aim was to secure its potential future as a "Community Shop". Members of the Council questioned whether it was intended that the Post Office would continue to form part of the community shop and in addition, whether the lease of the shop floor might be put on the open market as opposed to limitation purely to the local village community. Confirmation was given that it was intended that the Post Office would remain and hence a new Postmaster would need to be sought and appropriately trained.

A member of the public expressed grave concerns about local flooding and had actively been attempting to get the grids along Leashaw working effectively. She had contact the local authorities for assistance with little response although DCC now appeared to be acknowledging the difficulty and hopefully would get to grips to address the risk identified. She outlined that prospect of recent flooding was averted as the rain stopped just in time. AVBC had not cleared the local drains in 6 years and in her view that there ought to be some form of Volunteer Body established that could be called upon to act in "emergency situations". The prospect of sandbags being supplied locally was raised although it was acknowledged that DCC can only supply empty sandbags and they needed to be stored at some appropriate location which was not particularly practicable as the Parish Council was a small Parish without its own offices. The Council suggested that the member of the public consider the prospect of lobbying herself for the "Volunteer Body" that she was seeking to be established.

Councillor David Taylor referring to AVBC's recent consultation on "Whole Council Elections" outlined that the Council earlier today had considered the proposal for a single tier Authority to be established across Derbyshire by merging with the County Council, which would need the agreement of each of the Districts. If ultimately supported, this would lead to the abolition of AVBC and would place more pressure on Parishes to support service provision at a local level. In addition, regarding the earlier member of the public's comments on potential flooding and drainage issues, he advised that AVBC had a responsibility for cleaning of the drains although any damage or repair/maintenance was DCC's responsibility, however as a newly elected County Councillor he undertook to look into the matters further as reported by the member of the public.

Councillor Mike Wiser outlined that two or three parishioners had commented on the lack of gritting by DCC over the Christmas period following the recent snowfall. The Locum Clerk agreed to contact DCC and express the Council's concerns and disappointment in this regard.

Councillor Barbara Wright similarly expressed concerns over the condition of various tree branches which were overhanging and causing a hazard at Leashaw and in need of clearing. This had resulted from either the recent snowfall or other adverse weather conditions experienced recently. The Locum Clerk agreed to contact DCC with a request for tidying up in this regard.

2246 To approve & sign the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 3rd December, 2014

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd December, 2014 be approved as a correct record subject to the word "footpath" being deleted from minute number 2230, the 4th from last bullet point now to read "Further work in the Memorial Garden".

2247 To determine which items, if any of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded.

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from item 20 "Recommendation of the Employment Committee on 12th December, 2014 on the appointment of a new Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer and terms and conditions of employment "as this related to confidential information relating to the terms of engagement for the proposed new Clerk and was prejudicial to the public interest.

2248 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman said that he had no announcements to make.

2249 AVBC Correspondence re Timeline for setting the Precept and convening the Finance Committee in order to make recommendations to the Council meeting on 4th, February, 2015

RESOLVED (1) to note the correspondence from AVBC regarding the precept setting requirements, timeline and their consent to the Parish Council setting its precept at next month's meeting on 4th February, 2015 and (2) to note that a Finance Committee meeting had been scheduled for 23rd January for the budget/precept proposal to be finalised for recommendation to the Council.

2250 Further consideration of potential projects and costings for utilisation of monies in reserves

RESOLVED (1) in relation to the proposed replacement of the football goalpost at the playground, to (a) note the quotes obtained by Councillor Mike Taafe-Finn, (b) approval be given to the replacement of the goalpost by a contractor that can supply and install and (c) to request that Councillor Taafe-Finn negotiates further with Proludic on their price quoted given that nets would not be required and feeds back to the next meeting together with a price on a further quote being pursued from another potential contractor.

(2) to note that the Cemetery Committee would be convened shortly to

undertake a site visit to examine the prospect of the clearance of brambles. In addition, it would also consider the request from a local parishioner regarding representations made about the scope for installing a further flight of steps in the cemetery to improve accessibility.

(3) further consideration be given at the next meeting to the potential barrier proposed for installation outside the Florence Nightingale Memorial Hall, to prevent children being at risk of easy/direct access on to the main road, in presence of Councillor Bert Sheppard.

2251 Response of the Internal Auditor on potential medium/long term investment opportunities

RESOLVED (1) to note the response of the Internal Auditor on the limited scope for investment opportunities and the oral reporting by the Clerk on the response from DALC suggesting contact be made with Unity Bank, who in turn recommended "CCLA" (Churches, Charities and Local Authorities) although having approached them, the Clerk had drawn a blank as they were only able to offer investment opportunities above £25k and (2) the Locum Clerk be requested to make enquiries about the scope for an investment bond perhaps for a period between 2-5 years and whether this was available in the form of a "Community Account" and if so, the terms and conditions be reported back to the next meeting.

2252 Request by Lea Primary School for the Council to purchase a grit bit for use on the pavement outside the School

RESOLVED (1) to note the reporting by the Locum Clerk of the cost of supplying and installing a grit bin inclusive of a fill of salt by DCC (£267.77 for a large one – 340 litre capacity or £202.82 for a small one – 196 litre capacity), (2) to note the School's request and Councillor Mike Wiser to canvass the Headteacher's views on a preferred location for siting a bin, should the Council agree to its purchase and (3) the Locum Clerk be asked to enquire with DCC on what "installation" comprises, whether this is a fixed installation and whether a bin can be erected on sloping ground.

(Having declared an interest, Councillors Steve Chambers and Mike Wiser refrained from voting on this item).

2253 Resident request for provision of a litter/dog bin for use at Chapel Street, Holloway

RESOLVED that the Locum Clerk be asked to request that AVBC site a general waste bin ideally at the far end of Chapel Lane, Holloway at the bottom of Cliff Path which was the Parish Council's preferred position for its siting or alternatively, if this was not possible, at the junction end of Chapel Lane where it joins the Hollow. The siting of a bin would address local resident concerns, there being no current bin provision in the vicinity and dog waste was being thrown in to neighbours gardens which was causing ongoing nuisance.

2254 PLANNING Committee or Tree Warden to give their recommendations

<u> </u>	milled of Tree Warden to give their recommendations
TRE/2014/0178	Various tree works adjacent to car park – John Smedley Ltd,
 No objection 	Lea Road, Lea Bridge
TRE/2014/0171-	Remove Leylandi and Norway Spruce, Poliard 2 apple trees
No objection	 Lea Brook House unnamed Road, from Lea Bridge to Lea
	Wood
Decision Notice	Prune three birch trees and one oak. Fell one birch tree -
TRE/2014/0167	Prospect House, 72 Church Street, Holloway, Matlock,
(GRANTED) -	Derbyshire, DE4 5AY
Noted	
Decision Notice	Remove two pear trees and crown lift three sycamore - Holt
TRE/2014/0168	House, Holt Lane, Lea, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 5GQ
(GRANTED) -	
Noted	

2255 <u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u> - Approve and sign the following cheques RESOLVED that approval be given to the following payments:-

Cheque No 2089	Mr I. Hooker – reimbursement re Armistice Day Wreath £25 & Materials for construction of seat	£69.95
	for bus shelter £44.95	
Cheque No 2090	KeptKleen – Toilet cleaning wk's 45,46,47 & 48	£96.00
Cheque No's 2091,2092 & 2093	Employee Costs including HMRC	£1454.98
Clerks Expenses		
Postage	Book 2nd Class stamps	£6.36
	Total	£6.36
Wardens		
Expenses		
Mileage	8 @ 0.469	£3.75
Texts	10 @ 10p	£1.00
Paint & Decorating		£15.58
Materials		
Auto gate latch		££2.29
	Total	£22.62
DD	BT Bill 4/12/14	£74.40
DD	AVBC Rates for toilets (Nov & Dec)	£80.00
	TOTAL	£1775.33

2256 Income - Cemetery Fees (i) Interment Applications 1@ £350 + 1@ £100 (ii) Memorial Applications 2@ £100 - Noted.

2257 Monthly bank reconciliation for November, 2014 – Noted.

2258 Derbyshire Association of Local Council's Circulars (previously circulated by E-mail)- Noted.

1	DALC 25/2014	ow much holiday pay should you pay? Payroll & HMRC Delivering differently in neighbourhoods
2	DALC 26/2014	2014-16 National Salary Award
3	DALC 27/2014	2014-16 NJC Pay award frequently asked questions, nternal Audit, Congratulations to Belper! - Great British High Street Awards 2014, Councillor Induction Training,

2259 Information Items/Correspondence (previously circulated by E-mail)

RESOLVED (1) to note that the Clerk had previously circulated:-

1	AVBC	Amber Voice Issue 32
2	AVBC	Code of Conduct Letter from Monitoring Officer
3	AVBC	"Have your Say" Event 14/1/15 - Heanor
4	AVBC	Review of Members Allowances
5	AVBC	Street Trading Draft Policy
6	DCC	Emergency Road Closure – High Lane, Holloway
7	DCC	Rail Survey – East Midlands
8	DCC	Temporary Road Closure, The Hollow, Holloway
9	DALC	Town & Parish Council Elections 7/5/15 - Timetable
10	Derbyshire	Publicity seeking volunteers to set up Neighbourhood
	Police	Watch Schemes
11	Keptkleen	Reply re light at Toilets at Church Street, Holloway
		being on 24/7

(2) in relation to item 11, the Locum Clerk be requested to contact Matlock Electrical Services for quotes in respect of a desire to have an improved "movement sensor" lighting for anyone entering the toilets/cubicle and including the Accesible toilet at any time of the day, secondly, sufficient external lighting again for both toilets when anyone approaches the building on a sensor mechanism and in addition, a quotation for necessary repairs to the emergency cord and the handryer which Keptkleen have reported not to be working. In addition, approval be given for settlement of the previous invoice for work undertaken by Matlock Electrical Services, at the toilets.

2260 Agenda Items for the meeting on the 4th February, 2015: Precept setting

Potential Investment Bond Opportunity

Update on issues re utilisation of spend on projects from use of reserves Lea Primary School – Potential Grit Bin Purchase Church Street Toilet Lighting Improvements- consideration of quote

2261 Confidential Item - Recommendation of the Employment Committee on 12th December, 2014 on the appointment of a new Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer and terms and conditions of employment

RESOLVED to accept the recommendation of the Employment Committee and approval be given to the appointment of Simon Oldham as Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer on NALC/SLCC Salary point SCP 30 and modular contract relating to terms and conditions of employment based on being engaged to provide 43.33 hours of support to the Council per calendar month.

2262 Date of next Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 4th February, 2015 at 7.00pm in the Florence Nightingale Memorial Hall

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm