

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HOLYWELL-CUM-NEEDINGWORTH PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 7th JANUARY 2025 AT 7.00PM AT MILLFIELDS PAVILION**

PRESENT:

Cllr A Whyte (Chairman)
Cllr N Dyne
Cllr R Fountain
Cllr D Jackson
Cllr E MacPherson
Cllr E McNeill
Cllr S Mortlock
Cllr C Norman
Cllr G Norman
Cllr C Pearce
Cllr M Williamson

IN ATTENDANCE:

Miss J Bowd (Parish Clerk)
Mrs A Jackson (Assistant to the Parish Clerk)

There was no members of the public present.

The Chairman wished all a Happy New Year and welcomed Cllr C Norman & Cllr G Norman back to the Parish Council.

129. Apologies.

To receive and accept Apologies for Absence.

Cllr J Neish – Personal
CCC Cllr K Reynolds - Personal
DC P Hodgson-Jones - Personal

130. Declarations of Interest.

To receive Declarations of Disclosable and/or Non-Disclosable Pecuniary Interests as set out in Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011 and the nature of those interests relating to any Agenda item.

Item 136.7 & 137 (i) – Cllr R Fountain – Pecuniary – Village Hall Trustee

131. Minutes.

(i) To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd December 2024.

Cllr S Mortlock advised that there was a typo on item 123 (iv) – 'Morlock' should be Mortlock

Resolved: That with the above amendment the minutes be signed as a true and correct record (Prop Cllr C Pearce, 2nd Cllr M Williamson) 5 in favour, 6 abstentions

132. Public Forum.

To allow any member of the public to address the council on matters on the agenda.

Time Allowed 10 minutes.

None

133. Policing

133.1 Neighbourhood Policing Team – Any Issues and Concerns.

Cllr S Mortlock noted that one of the barriers on the roundabout has been removed.

134. District and County Councillor Reports.

To receive verbal reports from district and county councillors.

None

135. Clerk's Report.

To receive written report.

7th January 2025 Meeting Dates: –
Full Council – 4th February 2025

Committees – 21st January 2025 Environment, Planning & Finance, Consultation.

Items to report.

- WEE bin from HDC. V3 size cannot be supplied.” (the demand is too small and the cost too high)” so I have accepted the offer of 2x V1 size on trial.
- Message from HDC 11/12/24. The implementation of Civil Parking Enforcement in Huntingdonshire will see on-street enforcement for a number of parking offences transition from the Police to District Council in 2025.
To enable this to take place, on-street sign and line corrective works will be taking place over the coming months. As these highway work packages are approved by the County Council and dates scheduled, we will provide further updates to those Town and Parish Councils impacted by works; this will include details of which roads will be affected.
- Snowman & Parcels installed under the Christmas tree 18/12/24 by Clerk & Assistant.
- Old Ferryboat AED reported by The Circuit as used 18/12/24.
- Boat moored Holywell Front and covered. Reported to the EA 19/12/25.



31/12/24 – no update from EA but Clerk noted that the boat was moved weekend before Christmas

- 19/12/24 CCC have delayed decision on disposal of assets until the January Council meeting, hence the delay in hearing about the Parish Council request to purchase Falklands Walk, Engineers wood.
- CCC Gully cleaning team in Parish Friday 20th December 2024.
- Clerk took NO2 cannisters to Bluntisham Tip 19/12/24 but they would not accept them. 8 cannisters now held in office with no known means of disposal.

Cllr S Mortlock thanked the Clerk for putting the snowman and parcels under the Christmas tree and Cllr A Whyte & Sonia for decorating the planters and replacing the batteries on the lights over the Christmas period. She further advised that the NO2 canisters can be disposed of at a scrap metal yard.

136. Finance and Risk.

136.1 To approve payments made within the Clerks delegated powers.

None

136.2 To approve accounts for payment made for the period 4th December 2024 – 7th January 2025.

Resolved: That the accounts for payment made for the period 4th December 2024 – 7th January 2025 totalling £7480.66 be approved (Prop Cllr S Mortlock, 2nd Cllr M Williamson) All in favour.

136.3 To approve accounts for payment to be made on 9th January 2025

Resolved: That the following payments be: Stark Building Materials UK Limited (Jewson), Sealant gun & silicone, Inv. No. 3402/01288734 - £15.89, ESPO, Clock, Folders, toilet cleaner, Inv. No. 7565487 - £83.64, SLCC, Membership 2025, Inv. No. MEM252050-1 - £355.00, ESPO, Cable ties, batteries & soap, Inv. No. 7572436 - £79.86, My Post Shop, 2nd class stamps, Inv. No. LC80133 - £45.79, Function 28, Website fees, Invoice No. 16445 - £36.00, Cambridgeshire ACRE membership 2025 – £72.00, Scribe renewal 2025, Inv. No. INV-8087 - £675.12, KTS, Monthly Maintenance

charges January 2025, Invoice No. 241144 - £94.89 totalling £1458.19 be approved.
(Prop Cllr E MacPherson, 2nd C Pearce) All in favour.

136.4 To note the budget report as at 31st December 2024.

Noted

136.5 To note the bank reconciliation as at 29th November 2024.

Noted

136.6 To consider proposal from HDC to install an electric vehicle charging point at Needingworth Village Hall.

Members discussed the need for an electric charging point, proposed location, the ability to lock the car park and the potential legal costs involved.

Resolved: That the Clerk investigate the legal fee costs and bring back to Planning & Finance Committee on 21st January 2025. (Prop Cllr E McNeill, 2nd Cllr E MacPherson) 10 in favour, 1 abstention.

Cllr R Fountain left the meeting 7.25pm

136.7 To receive a report regarding the landlord inspection of Needingworth village hall 11th December 2024 and agree actions.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the concerns raised in the landlord inspection report.

Resolved: That the Clerk write to the VHT stating that they must address all of the issues raised within 2 months and that the Parish Council will reinspect the Village Hall in April 2025. (Prop Cllr E MacPherson, 2nd Cllr C Pearce) 10 in favour.

Cllr R Fountain returned to the meeting 7.36pm

136.8 To note email advising Coventry Building Society has officially completed its Purchase of the Co-operative Bank.

Noted

136.9 To approve Eltisley Parish Council rent for financial year 2025/26

Resolved: That the rental charges for use of Office for Eltisley Parish Council for financial year 2025/26 be increased by inflation (3.2%) and be set at £934.58. (Prop Cllr S Mortlock, 2nd Cllr E MacPherson) 10 in favour, 1 against.

136.10 To consider quotes for the servicing of the aerial cableway.

Resolved: That the quote from OLP totalling £656.20 plus VAT (this does not include any replacement parts) be accepted. (Prop Cllr E McNeill, 2nd Cllr S Mortlock) All in favour.

137. Village Hall.

(i) To consider plans for extension as provided by Village Hall Trust.

Cllr R Fountain spoke as a representative of the VHT giving members a background of why the plans have been amended from the original plans previously approved by the VHT, Parish Council and HDC. Whilst the footprint remains the same amendments to accommodate a fixed stage will hopefully result in increased bookings to offset the current decline of approximately a third. Bright Architecture Solutions have had access to the original documents drawn up by S Ward. The VHT have approved the proposed plans in principle once the Parish Council also approves the VHT will pay for full plans, a structural survey and resubmit any necessary planning application.

Cllr R Fountain left the meeting at 7.59pm

A lengthy discussion took place including comments regarding:

- Lack of consultation with the wider community.
- Lack of evidence of demand for a stage.

- Concern of allocation of space specifically for the Tennis Club.
- Proposal will result in further loss of revenue whilst building works take place.

Resolved: That a consultation with the residents of the Parish be undertaken to establish future needs and potential support for a village hall extension. Plans will remain on hold until VHT has addressed concerns raised in the landlord inspection report and results of the consultation are received and collated. (Prop E McNeill, 2nd Cllr S Mortlock) All in favour.

Cllr R Fountain returned to the meeting 8.19pm

138. Planning.

138.1 To consider the following application(s) **received**.

- (i) Application Reference 24/02320/LBC Repair/replace a road frontage low brick wall with access steps to the above property

Goodyers Farm Holywell Front Holywell St Ives PE27 4TG.

Resolved: That the application be supported. (Prop E McNeill, 2nd Cllr S Mortlock) All in favour.

- (ii) Application ref: 24/02275/FUL Development of Use Class C2 Residential Accommodation with Care comprising of apartments for people aged 65 and over, communal facilities, associated landscaping, car parking, services and access from Meadow Lane St.Ives

Resolved: That the application be objected to with the following comments: localised flooding, potential run off from the proposed application, design not in keeping with local area, access concerns, increase in traffic with impact to Harrison Way. (Prop Cllr E MacPherson, 2nd Cllr E McNeill) 10 in favour, 1 against.

138.2 To note the following applications that have been **refused**:

- (i) Application ref: 24/00594/FUL Demolition of existing agricultural barn and erection of a self-build dwelling.

Land North West Of The Pastures Conger Lane Holywell

Noted

139. To receive a verbal report from Cllr Dyne on NALC training session “empowering the young Councillors of tomorrow”

Members received a written report.

140. Community engagement

- (i) To receive an update from working party re VE Day 2025.
Nothing to report.

- (ii) To consider commissioning a housing need survey.

Resolved: That the housing survey is not commissioned at this time. (Prop Cllr E McNeill, 2nd Cllr D Jackson) 8 in favour, 2 against, 1 abstention.

- (iii) To note the award from Anglia in Bloom in the “In Your Neighbourhood” category.
The Chairman thanked all involved.

Noted

- (iv) To consider supporting petition asking Environment Agency to “carry out basic maintenance on the Great Ouse “

Resolved: That the petition asking Environment Agency to carry out basic maintenance on the Great Ouse be supported. (Prop Cllr A Whyte, 2nd Cllr E McNeill) All in favour.

- (v) To review comments from residents on MAVS sign for Back Lane Holywell and agree actions.

Resolved: That based on the comments from residents the proposal for a MAVS sign for Back Lane Holywell be rejected. (Prop Cllr E MacPherson, 2nd Cllr R Fountain) 10 in favour, 1 abstention.

141. Policy

To review and approve the following policy documents: -

- (i) Investment policy
- (ii) Management of transferable data policy
- (iii) Dignity at work
- (iv) CCTV policy
- (v) Public speaking at council and committee meetings
- (vi) Portable appliance inspection and test policy.
- (vii) Paper light

Resolved: That the Investment Policy, Management of transferable data policy, Dignity at work, CCTV Policy, Public speaking at Council and Committee meetings, Portable appliance inspection and test policy and Paper Light Policy be approved. (Prop Cllr E MacPherson, 2nd Cllr E McNeill) 10 in favour, 1 against.

142. Correspondence.

To receive correspondence and agree any actions:

- (i) To note CCC email regarding the installation of EV charging points.
Noted
- (ii) To note the reports from the Ouse Valley Way Management and the next Group Meeting via Zoom January 14th, 2025.
Noted
- (iii) To note the launch of Net Zero Villages by HDC, details have been shared with Village hall Trust.
Noted
- (iv) To consider correspondence from Needingworth Colts regarding parking at Millfield's.
Resolved: That the Clerk write to Hunts Football Association advising of the parking issue and request that when there are multiple Colts matches that these have staggered kick off times. (Prop Cllr C Pearce, 2nd Cllr E MacPherson) All in favour.
- (v) To consider email from resident regarding parking and In Post locker, One Stop Needingworth.
Resolved: That the Clerk reply to resident stating this is not a Parish Council matter and that their comments have been noted.
- (vi) To consider request from Holywell school for funding to assist with playground improvements.
The Clerk advised members that she has contacted CCC K Reynolds to ask who is dealing with this at the Local Authority and has checked CIL criteria.
Resolved: That a contribution of £10,000 plus VAT be offered but to ensure that the Parish Council are able to claim the VAT back. To be paid in line with Parish Council financial regulations. (Prop Cllr C Pearce, 2nd Cllr E McNeill) 9 in favour, 2 abstentions.
- (vii) To note the Fens reservoir December update.
Noted

143. Items to report (for information only and not for resolution.

- Cllr M Williamson advised there was a Parish Council surgery on 8th May 2025, VE Day. Cllr E MacPherson confirmed Chatters will be open on that day, the event will start at 6pm.
- Cllr E McNeill commented that it was reported in the Hunts Post that the Ferry Boat is due to close, unsure whether this was for refurbishment.
- Cllr E McNeill further advised that there has been donutting taking place at Millfield's and may need to do an extension on the speed humps.
- The Clerk advised that the defibrillator at the Shop has gone missing sometime between 18th December 2024 and 4th January 2025 and is currently trying to locate the defibrillator.
- The Clerk further advised that the electricity at Millfield's is expected to be high this month due to the fan heaters being left on in the changing rooms between 20th December – 24th December 2024.

Being no further business the meeting closed 9.09pm

Chairman
Date