



# Holkham Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Keith Leesmith  
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2017/10

## Minutes of meeting held at the Estate Office Tuesday 12 September 2017 at 1900

**Present** Jane Berwick, Paul Bloomfield, Harvey Gunhouse, John Hall, Derek Jarvis (Chairman), & Emma Sargent.  
Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Marie (& Mike) Strong (NCC)

- 1) **Apologies** Elisa Bray, Vincent FitzPatrick (NNDC)
- 2) **Declarations of Interest** None
- 3) **Minutes of the Meeting held 11 July 2017** Agreed and signed

#### 4) **Reports**

##### **a) Norfolk County Council**

Extra emergency highways crews are on duty in case of problems (fallen trees etc.) during *Storm Aileen*. Libraries are under pressure due to the current financial stringency. MS had attended an awards ceremony for young children who were using public libraries to improve/increase their reading. Local libraries are doing their best to increase use by holding special events including talks by authors. They are also being used to train people in IT skills. However, in future it may be that libraries will be open for periods without librarians to save money. County Education is able to advise young people who have not got the passes that they had hoped for from recent exams. This could include alternative learning venues where entry requirements are lower. With regard to local parking problems, these are normally dealt with by the West Norfolk parking wardens. However, they prioritise visits to areas that have had a lot of complaints – so complaints are needed to bring more-frequent visits from wardens. Holkham Village would benefit from yellow lines on the main road from the Victoria eastwards to the end of the houses. Wells Town Council is currently working on a scheme to revise parking restrictions throughout the town. This is because it costs a similar amount (£3000) to advertise one small scheme as several in the same area. KL would speak to the Wells Clerk to see if Wells would be prepared to add the Holkham Village scheme to their schedule. There are still several places locally that do not yet have superfast broadband capability, including New Holkham. MS will enquire as to what the intention is with regard to these areas.

[See also report on the website]

##### **b) North Norfolk District Council**

V.FP. had sent a report which KL read and which is appended to these minutes and appears on the website. The report mentions the *Big Society Fund*, the recent annual *Greenbuild* Exhibition, and a note that Council Tax Appeals are free – there are firms charging to assist in this matter.

**d) Parish Clerk**

The annual audit has been completed without problems. KL had received a complaint addressed to the Parish Council complaining about the cost of parking, and the lack of compensating facilities at Lady Ann's Drive. He had advised the writer to contact the Estate. KL appealed for more responses to planning applications; when these are received he asks Councillors for their opinions but is getting very few responses except from ES. KL pointed out that the date of the next meeting (last item on every agenda) was open to being moved from that proposed. This might prevent the situation that occurred last meeting when three Councillors were unable to attend as they were away on holiday.

**5) To discuss any planning matters to hand.**

There were no new applications to discuss.

**6) Financial Report and Accounts for Settlement**

A copy of the current bank statement and spreadsheet had been circulated and was approved.

The following cheques were agreed for payment:

Keith Leesmith	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter salary and contribution to expenses	466.33
HMRC	PAYE on above	111.60

**7) Minor Matters**

The road drain on the Wells Road (adjacent to the "old allotments" site) was still causing problems after rain, including possibly damaging the wall by splashing from lying water. This was despite the fact that KL had reported it to highways. He would speak to them again, and try to get a more-permanent solution.

**8) To confirm date of next meeting**

Tuesday 14 November 2017 – 1800 at The Estate Office.

**The meeting closed at 1850**