

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF HOLTON LE CLAY
22nd APRIL 2024 AT 6pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL, PINFOLD LANE,
HOLTON LE CLAY. DN36 5DL

In attendance: Emma Portas

9 Members of the Public

Councillor Terry Aldridge – East Lindsey District Council

1. CHAIRMANS WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all those present and thanked them for their attendance.

2. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2023

The minutes of the annual parish meeting held on 13th March 2023 were approved as a true record.

3. INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman introduced himself and the clerk to members of the public. Guest introductions were made later in the meeting upon their arrival: East Lindsey District Council Home Energy Advice Team and Kimberley Pickett, East Lindsey Safer Together Co-ordinator.

4. CHAIRMANS ANNUAL REPORT 2023 TO 2024 AND LOOKING FORWARD TO 2024/25

The chairman delivered the following report: The council has continued to maintain the grass verges and both playing fields, as well as keeping the village litter free with the help of Paul Notley.

Over the course of the year the parish council has added a colourful touch to the village by planting more than 700 spring bulbs. We have also shown our dedication to the local wildlife by adding more items to the wildlife corner of the junior playing field such as bug hotels, hedgehog houses and bird boxes.

At the start of last year, the clerk was approached by a gentleman from New Waltham who had in his possession a piece of Holton le Clays history – a fragment from a Lancaster Bomber bomb bay door. Today, this significant piece rests where it belongs, installed at the A16 memorial with the help of Councillor Terry Aldridge and Blackrow Engineering. Alongside it stands an information table that details the journey of the piece and honouring the brave airmen who lost their lives in the crash.

Looking ahead to 2024/25. The parish council has made some tough decisions regarding our annual budget, necessitating an increase of 6% for the coming year. Despite this, we face a significant shortfall of £13,300 which we plan to cover through surplus funds and income generated, as well as refunds from grass cutting and weed spraying.

In our commitment to serving the community the parish council will continue to provide essential services such as clerking, cemetery maintenance and burials service, whilst enhancing the play parks and ensuring the upkeep of our villages green spaces. As always, we will continue to consult with developers in regard to planning applications, liaise with the Highways authority in regard to highways issues and continue the general maintenance of the village.

For anyone considering a more active role within the community we currently have one vacancy on the parish council. Becoming a parish councillor is a very rewarding position to take up within the community and can really make a difference to the area in which you live.

Thank you to our residents for their continued support and involvement in our wonderful community.

5. VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Parish Council chairman delivered the following report from the Chair of the Village Hall Committee:

The Village Hall has gone from strength to strength since reopening after Covid shut us down. All classes returned and seem to be thriving again.

Blood donors have also eventually returned and their sessions work well with other bookings as they are now at weekends.

The Summer Fayre and Christmas Market were both back to full attendance and it was refreshing to not have to put restrictions in place any more.

We now hold a Quiz Night quarterly which has proved very popular and the next one is booked for Saturday 27th April so please come along for a fun evening.

Our committee has grown and we now have a good age range which generates plenty of ideas when discussing plans for the future.

Talking of committee and volunteers, I have to say a huge thank you to them all for their hard work.

It has been commented how professionally we set to and get events set up and cleared away, with everybody getting involved.

I am also truly grateful for your continued support of the Village Hall. Your team spirit and commitment are a pleasure to be a part of.

Alison Moore has become the Editor of our monthly village magazine Holton News and continues to create an interesting edition each month with something for everyone.

You may not be aware that our committee collate the magazine and distribute it to deliverers, some having their own delivery routes too. This is another commitment that I am grateful for as it is very time-consuming. If anybody would like to get involved with either the collating or delivering, please let us know.

We are still looking for volunteers and manpower for some events, so if you know of anybody with a bit of spare time, some good ideas or simply willing to give a couple of hours a couple of times a year, please point them in our direction

We look forward to seeing you all at our forthcoming events for our community which we have all come to enjoy so much.

6. REPORT FROM EAST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL HOME ENERGY ADVICE TEAM

The rates of fuel poverty within East Lindsey are currently very high, mainly due to homes being poorly insulated. The Home Energy Advice Team aims to help residents to reduce their fuel bills whilst at the same time, making their homes become more energy efficient. They have a flagship energy vehicle that visits rural areas to give people in person advice and to allow them to access services they may not ordinarily use. The team assists residents with getting loft insulation, new central heating systems, boilers, and help with their fuel bills. The service is means tested but it can also help those who are outside of the income bracket. They also work in partnership with Anglian Water to help people with ways to reduce their bills and to ensure they are using water efficiently and in a cost-effective way.

7. PRESENTATION BY GINA CLARIDGE FROM CARERS FIRST

As Gina was absent from the meeting, Kimberley Pickett, Safer Together Co-Ordinator filled this agenda slot with a brief presentation.

Kimberley's role within the team is to gather data from residents to find out what makes people feel unsafe along with providing in depth support to victims of crime. She collects data on how people feel when they have accessed the police service and aims to find out how people feel they have been dealt with. This will help to improve the services delivered by the police to residents.

Victim Lincs is a service put in place by the Police and Crime Commissioner as part of their victims strategy. They help ensure that anyone living, working or studying in Lincolnshire gets the support they need if they have been the victim of crime. This can lead to referrals to specialist support such as domestic abuse services, restorative justice etc.

Kimberley also gives advice on dementia wristbands and the Herbert protocol. The dementia bands are a free tool that allows people with dementia to store their personal details and emergency contacts on a data base that can be accessed by the police in an emergency. The wristband is worn by the user and if they are lost or confused the police can scan the wristband to access the details.

8. PUBLIC FORUM

Members of the public asked questions regarding the current grass cutting contract.