

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY THE 27TH MARCH 2006 AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICES, PEPPERCORN WALK, HOLTON LE CLAY UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF COUNCILLOR J. CLARKE.

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

2. MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON 14TH MARCH 2005.

(The Minutes of the meeting will be proposed as a true record by Mrs. B. Newby of Pinfold Lane, Holton le Clay and then signed by the Chairman.)

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The object of the Parish Meeting is to acquaint the parishioners of the happenings of the past year.

Councillors continue to be appointed to various committees and each committee has its own Chairman, which make recommendations to the Full Council. Although there will be no new projects this year, the Committees will stay in place to advise and guide the Full Council in their particular field for remedial work and repairs.

PRECEPT

The precept for the forthcoming year will be **£25,575**.

In setting this figure the Council have confirmed a "standstill budget" with no new projects during the forthcoming year. This figure is £3,614 short of the estimated requirement of the Council's expenditure but this shortfall will be made up from income to the Council from the Old Day School. This amount of money - £29,189 - will cover the continuation of the improvements to the street lighting throughout the village. (The Precept was **£24,830** last year).

ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

In April 2004 the Audit Commission introduced a new audit regime for local councils. Local Councils with annual income or expenditure up to £100,000 are subject to a basic audit comprising a desk-based review by the auditor. The Parish Council are now subject to internal audit together with an annual external audit. The Clerk has liaised with the External Auditor to ensure that the Council has continued to comply with the new Audit Regulations. The Annual Returns Certificate has been received in the office showing that the Parish Council continue to be efficient, economic and effective in managing its business affairs.

THE CODE OF CONDUCT

All councillors are obliged to abide by the new National Code of Local Government Conduct and to register their relevant interests with the monitoring officer of the District Council. The sanction for breaking the Code or failing to declare a declarable interest is to be reported to the Standards Board. These bodies have wide powers to investigate complaints about the conduct of councillors and can, as a last resort, suspend or disqualify a Councillor from office. Parish Councillors receive no financial remuneration for their work.

"QUALITY" PARISH COUNCILS

In November 2001, the Department for the Environmental, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) published a consultation document proposing a system for "Quality" Parish Councils. The aim of the system would be to enable quality parish councils to work in closer partnership with principal authorities and, through their enhanced role, to give their communities a better deal on local services and a stronger voice in local decision taking. Councils seeking quality status would have to meet certain performance indicators and submit these to an external assessor, and the Council's auditor, for accreditation. Parish Councils are able to apply for Quality Council status at any time. Holton le Clay Parish Council has always tried to adhere to the Best Value regulations and the Quality Council regime but to qualify for the status all Councillors have to be elected and at the moment this Council has co-opted members. Mrs. Hart, our Parish Clerk, has attained the Certificate in Local Council Administration and the Higher Certificate in Local Council Administration and has acquired the recognition of the Board of Assessors should the Parish Council decide to apply for Quality Council status in the future. The award of Quality Council lasts for four years and then a further application has to be made assessing the current position.

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

The Council continues to have its own Health and Safety Policy. Contractors to the Council sign that they have read it and understood it.

PROVISION OF AN APPROVED SUPPLIERS LIST FOR THE COUNCIL

The Council continues to have its own approved supplier's list.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 local councils are obliged to adopt a guide for the public on freedom of information. The Parish Council have adopted the model guide on freedom of information.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL - SECTION 137 EXPENDITURE

Under Section 137 (4) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972 (the so called "free resource") an increase has now been confirmed from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister that the Section 137 Expenditure limit for 2006/2007 is being creased to £5.44 per head of population in individual parishes for consideration of spending under the "free resource". Currently for 2005/2006 the figure is £5.30 with the new figures coming about by the percentage increase in the retail prices index between September 2004 and September 2005 in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.

PARISH GARDENS, NEW PADDOCK AND CEMETERY

The parish gardens are all taken and there are two names on the waiting list. The gardens continue to be let from December to December in order that any changes in tenancy are made prior to the "gardening year". The Cemetery Caretaking Five Year Contract commences its fourth year in May 2006 and the contractor continues to give us a very dedicated service.

WALL OF REMEMBRANCE

The "Wall of Remembrance" has now been created in the Cemetery on which to fix commemoration plaques at minimal cost to create an everlasting

and special memory to those who have strong connections with the village. The Wall was blessed by the Rev. C. Woadden earlier this year.

The Burial Board will now be taking burials in the new part of the Cemetery and a new roadway construction has been continued into the new section. An application for planning permission was made to the District Council for this construction.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Two wreaths on behalf of the parishioners of Holton le Clay were laid on Remembrance Sunday when the Rev. Woadden and his assistant Val Fazakerley conducted services within the village.

VILLAGE WAR MEMORIAL

A new plaque has been created on the village war memorial to record the lives lost in all conflicts. This new addition was blessed by the Rev. C. Woadden at the Remembrance Day Service.

PARISH MAGAZINE

The Parish magazine, printed and organised by the Church, continues to be delivered monthly to every home within the village. I would like to propose a vote of thanks to Councillor Readman for writing up the items of news for the magazine on behalf of the Parish Council.

OLD DAY SCHOOL

Busi Bodies Nursery School run by Mrs. Haller continued to hold the lease on the premises at an annual income of £6,000 up to the end of February. Mrs. Haller ceased to pay rent during the last financial year and the Parish Council put the matter in the hands of the Solicitors. All rent due to the Parish Council has been paid in full and costs paid. The Council will discuss at this meeting tonight the future of the building so that the feelings of the village can be discussed at a future meeting of the Parish Council.

THE JUNIOR SCHOOL AND THE INFANTS SCHOOL

The Parish Council strongly support both the Infants School and the Junior School and the members do attend the schools on several occasions throughout the year. There has been discussions at the Lincolnshire County Council to merge both the schools and we are awaiting the outcome as it is still in the appeal stage.

VILLAGE PLAYING FIELD (PICKSLEY CRESCENT) AND SPORTING FACILITIES

The Parish Council continue to take legal advice to try to resolve the problems left behind by SARAH within the two and a half acres on the western side of the field. During the last year the Parish Council have continued in their endeavour to bring together numerous formal bodies interested in the future funding for sport and leisure in the village. The Parish Council are continuing to explore all avenues for the future of this part of the playing field.

JUNIOR PLAYING FIELD REPORT

The Council have conformed to the Health and Safety regulations of the R.O.S.P.A. report.

Some further equipment has been removed as it does not comply with the British Standard Regulations and dogs have now been banned from the field.

The grass has been and will be regularly cut, the surrounds severely trimmed back and the bushes pruned. The field still attracts an undesirable element of youngsters who are determined to undertake acts of vandalism. The gate is opened first thing in the morning, and closed around teatime to help reduce this problem of vehicles going in to the field for improper purposes.

FACILITIES FOR THE YOUNGSTERS OF THE VILLAGE - "TEENAGE MEETING PLACE"
The Parish Council are considering the facilities for youngsters within the village and have been successful in obtaining some grant aid from Lincolnshire Police, Lincolnshire County Council and East Lindsey District Council towards a "Teenage Meeting Place".
The Teenage Meeting Place will be installed within the next few days.

THE RELAXED ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION ADVICE INFORMATION AND LEARNING BUS
The Real Learning Bus has been attending the village every two weeks up until Christmas and the support for the youngsters has been appreciated. We are hoping to make arrangements for the return of the bus for the summer months.

INTER VILLAGE GRASS CUTTING
The Parish Council continues to undertake the Inter-Village Grass cutting itself, so that we are in full control of this important service to our village. The Lincolnshire County Council subsidises the cost of the grass cutting by contractors. The contract now includes the two playing fields and this has worked very well. The contract will commence year three of its five year term this coming May.

THE COUNCIL OFFICES

ANNUAL INSPECTIONS AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES
The following inspections have been carried out at the Council Offices:
(a) Fire Safety and Fire Appliances
(b) Portable Appliances Inspection
(c) Central Heating and Boiler Service
A new central heating boiler has been installed this year.

VANDALISM AT THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICES
Following continued vandalism to the Parish Council Offices all of the windows overlooking Peppercorn Walk have been bricked up. A planning application was made to the District Council for the installation of roller shutters to cover the entire front of the building and these have now been installed.

EAST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

EAST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL FACILITIES DAY
The District Council come to the village on the second Wednesday of each month for the cash collection, housing interviews and general information service, including the purchase of all refuse sacks.

SATURDAY WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITY

This facility at Peppercorn Walk, Holton le Clay and Station Road, Tetney has been withdrawn by Lincolnshire County Council and the Parish Council are continuing to put forward your disgust at the way in which it was handled.

STREET OPERATIVE

The East Lindsey District Council continues to support us with our own village street operative. I am sure that the residents would wish me to express my sincere thanks to the team of cleaners who have tried to make our village a much cleaner place to be.

DOG WARDEN SCHEME

The District Council provides a Dog Warden Service for the enforcement of legislation, the collection of stray dogs and education of the public via schools and local organisations. If you loose your dog or find a dog then notify the Dog Warden, or out of hours the local police.

DOG DIRT BINS

The Dogs Fouling of Land Act has helped clean up the streets of the village but there are still some dog owners who are not complying with the law. Dog dirt bags are available at the Council Offices on the District Council Facilities Day and dog dirt bins have been placed around the village. The Parish Council have purchased three more dog bins during the last year.

TAXI TOKENS AND FREE BUS PASSES

The Taxi Tokens are still available from the District Council and Bus Passes have changed from half price travel to free travel. Each card bears a photograph of the pass holder to reduce acts of fraud. If you would like further details please contact the East Lindsey District Council staff at this office on the second Wednesday in the month.

VILLAGE WALKABOUT WITH EAST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

In November 2005 Officers and members of the District Council met with representatives of the Parish Council to have a conducted walk around the village. The aim of the morning was to provide general information and to show the delegates areas of future development and of main interest of the village. The tour included the Northfield Farm site, which the Parish Council had noted for future development for a mix of "first time" type housing and "private dwellings". The delegates were in favour of this type of planning as it fell in line with Government Regulations and pledged their support. The delegates also visited the Infants School and the Junior and Village Playing Fields and also the disused Grimsby to Louth Railway Line were work had been done in contravention of a planning agreement. The Parish Council were in favour of the site being cleared, but felt that a path should be incorporated in the plans to allow access to parishioners as a line of communication and leisure to other settlements and in the event of the Infants School closing, safe access to the Junior School.

LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE

The Lincolnshire Police endeavour to attend the monthly Parish Council meetings to liaise with the Parish Council. The Parish Council have tried very hard to press for additional Police Officers but to date this has not been possible. However, the Lincolnshire Police has appointed Community Beat Officers for the whole of the area.

LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE COMMUNITY PANELS

Lincolnshire Police are currently undertaking a programme to set up Community Panels in all local communities. The panels consist of between 6 and 12 members of the community who are able to represent the variety of public interests and concerns. The panel will meet at least every six months and will set objectives for the Community Team, review actions carried out by the team since the previous Panel Meeting, and validate the impact of the team's work on increasing feelings of safety and public confidence. The Community Panel will therefore act as a Strategic Tasking and Co-ordinating Group. The Community Panel have accepted Councillor Kaye as the representative for Holton le Clay.

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

STREET LIGHTING

The Parish Council are continuing the new street lighting upgrading scheme with the County and District Councils. The improvements are already very noticeable. The Council are continuing the programme this year with the main section of Louth Road, near the Post Office, and also Peppercorn Walk.

4. HOLTON LE CLAY COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION - REPORT FROM THE H.C.C.A. - FROM MR. N. NEWBY

5. JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT - REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR CLARKE AND COUNCILLOR LYONS

**6. OPEN FORUM
OLD DAY SCHOOL AND GENERAL QUESTIONS**

7. VOTE OF THANKS

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Councillor Newby and Councillor Mrs. Hart, our two East Lindsey District Councillors, for their part in representing the village in the District and to Councillor Mrs. Johnson, our representative on the Lincolnshire County Council.

I would also like to thank my Vice-Chairman, Councillor Readman, and all the Parish Councillors for their help and support during the year.

.....CHAIRMAN