

REPORT ON HOLT TOWN COUNCILS MEETING 6th February 2017

Holt Town Council met on 6th February 2017 for its monthly Town Council meeting.

The Mayor, Cllr Baker, reported that there had been three resignations since the last meeting. He paid tribute to all the work the three Councillors had undertaken during their term of office and thanked them for their commitment to the Council. This now leaves three vacancies open for co-option. You will find an advert in this Chronicle and if you are interested in this role, apply now or indeed if you would like to know more about it, give the Clerk a ring for an informal chat.

Due to the resignations the position of Deputy Mayor was vacant and after a proposal by Cllr Batey, seconded by Cllr Hipperson Cllr Prior was elected to this position. We think that this might be a first for Holt, a female as Deputy Mayor.

Cllr Baker reported, he felt the Town Council was in a good place at an exciting time. He mentioned the many projects that the Council are involved with such as Holt in Bloom, the Owl Trail and hopefully the final realisation of the much waited and longed for Cley Road car park. He felt that as the Council goes forward a lot can be achieved for the town of Holt.

The Town Council was delighted to welcome Anastasia Twig from the Youth Advisory Board. Anastasia had read about the Town Council meeting, when a young person attended and wanted to enter into a dialogue with the Town Council. It appeared that no one had heard of the YAB and yet they seem very instrumental in involving the young people in determining what they would like to see and what they need. More can be read about them on

<http://benjaminfoundation.co.uk/youth-advisory-board-north-norfolk>

The Town Council are now getting into gear for their entry in Anglia in Bloom. It was fantastic to win an award the first year we had entered, after a long break, and the hope is we build on that foundation and continue to improve the town. If you are interested in helping in any way then please give the Clerk a ring on 01263 712149.

The Town Council reported it had received a letter from a resident regarding the state of Spouts Common. Our two maintenance men have been extremely busy getting everywhere in order, cutting back years of growth and making it tidy, this has meant the Kubota has been used extensively on Spouts. With this weather, the land obviously became muddy. We have addressed this and the maintenance team will not be using the bonfire site on Spouts and will restrict using the Kubota here, as much as they can, until the weather gets a little better. With other precautions in place the ground should begin to recover.

The Town Council, from April 2017, are going to be receiving electronic copies of planning applications. This will need to be discussed as to how we deal with it and residents need to be aware that the Town Council will no longer have paper copies to be perused.

Residents present at the meeting were very concerned about the state of the subways and the lack of maintenance. It was explained that this is the responsibility of NCC and they have agreed to look and see what can be done. It was felt that it may be beneficial to have our maintenance team working on that and the cutting of verges so that Holt can be kept looking good. It was agreed that there would have to be some financial recompense for this and it would be looked into and reported back at the next meeting.

There was good news from the Post Office regarding a replacement box near the old Post Office. They agree one is needed and are looking at suitable locations and then going through the process of funding etc but the good news is we should have a box at that end of town in the near future.

Lastly, NNDC are consulting on dog orders in the town. The ones that are proposed for a change is allowing dogs in the Memorial gardens and allowing dogs off the lead in the cemetery. The Town Council would like to see the ban on dogs upheld in the Memorial Gardens and the dogs on leads stand in the cemetery. If you feel strongly about this visit the website to register your choice. <https://www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/tasks/environmental-protection/pspo/>

The next Parish Council meeting will be on 13th March 2017, at 7.00pm, we look forward to seeing you there. The Annual Towns Meeting is due to be held on 27th March 2017, this date is still yet to be confirmed as we are waiting on availabilities of speakers. So keep your eyes on the website and the noticeboard.