

**MINUTES OF HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
TUESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2019 AT 7.30 PM IN THE READING ROOMS, HOLBETON**

Present: Cllrs John Sherrell, James Pengelly, Debbie Knight, Andrew Hollett,
Mike Reece, Harry Baumer, Carol Ackroyd and Chris Flower

Also present: County Councillor Richard Hosking (from 7.45 pm until 8.00 pm)
Teresa Drew - Parish Clerk

Visitor(s)/Parishioner(s)present: 1

108/19 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Police Community Support Officer Andy Potter, District Councillors Keith Baldry and Dan Thomas, Cllrs Julie Fuller and Trudie Timlin Brown.

109/19 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were invited to declare any personal, disclosable or pecuniary interests including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in items to be considered at this meeting.

None declared.

110/19 REPORTS

(a) The following November 2019 Police Report was read out by Cllr Sherrell:

8th, report of harassment, enquiries ongoing CR/101067/19

Cllr Baumer reported that in November, a tent and various other items for drug use were found next to the school forestry areas near the green gates. This had not been recorded on the police report.

(b) County Councillor and District Councillor's Reports

District Councillor Richard Hosking:

A request for the white lines within the village to be refreshed has been made to DCC Highways. Any yellow lines requests to be submitted by 6 January 2020 in order to get them on the programme.

Devon County Council has declared a climate emergency. DCC have committed to facilitating the reduction of Devon's carbon emissions to net-zero by 2050 at the latest and have collaborated with other organisations in Devon to implement a response to the Devon Climate Emergency. DCC reports its carbon footprint each year and has a target to reduce its own carbon emissions by 50% by 2030. DCC Climate Challenge is now available and comments can be made on the DCC web site - <https://www.devon.gov.uk/energyandclimatechange/>

Due to the wet weather in October, there is a lot of flood damage on the highways.

Grants are available through Community Grant Fund, Crowdfund Devon, and Making the Connection.

Devon County Council Libraries - more children than before took part in the Summer Reading Challenge in Devon during 2019, which has resulted in a 4% in lending of books on 2018 figures.

(b) County Councillor and District Councillor's Reports (continued)

Schools and communities can apply for free tree packs to plant trees in school grounds and community spaces. The Woodland Trust is giving away hundreds of thousands of trees that can be planted as copses, hedges, shelter-belts or in other creative ways.

Applications can be made by schools, colleges, nurseries and outdoor-education centres, as well as all kinds of different groups including sports clubs, parish councils, scouts and guides. Further information:

<http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/free-trees/>

(c) Questions from the public and Councillors

Cllr Ackroyd enquired if organisations who use the areas the Parish Council rent need to provide minutes, and financial reports. Discussion ensued and it was agreed to ask the various organisations to provide their minutes, risk assessments, evidence of insurance and accounts at the Annual Parish Meeting. **ACTION: Clerk**

Cllr Knight reported that the "Battisborough Cross" sign needs to be repaired and a pot hole on Brent Hill just above Easton Town. These items have also been reported on Devon County Council website, but no action had been taken. Verges in Ford area near the Backlane footpath have been damaged and require repairing and at the turning into Fursdon Farm. **ACTION: Cllr Hosking**

Cllr Pengelly reported that potholes at Holbeton Point require repairing, also at Wonwell Cross the "Give Way" sign needs replacing. Drains within the village need urgently clearing out. **ACTION: Cllr Hosking**

Cllr Ackroyd asked for a list of drains within the parish. **ACTION: Cllr Hosking**

Cllr Sherrell pointed out that just past the crest of the hill past the newly-repaired road, vehicles are encroaching into the bank and suggested bollards are placed. **ACTION: Cllr Hosking**

111/19 PAST SUBJECT MATTERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPORT ONLY

96/19 Holbeton Public Toilets - SHDC to remove vegetation from roof. **ACTION: Cllr Thomas**

100/19 Repairs to orchard steps, Lengthsman quote is £40.00 - agreed to pursue. James Curtis to provide a quote for trimming back the laurel in the area. **ACTION: Cllr Pengelly/Lengthsman**

100/19 Cllr Sherrell has spoken to a representative of the group of parishioners looking after the orchard to ascertain if they wish to take over the running of the area independently of the Parish Council. The group are not keen to take on the running of the area.

106/19 Damage to hedges by farm vehicles between Lawnfields and Whitemoor Cross. Cllr Sherrell has had a meeting with the landowner and action is being taken to keep as much farm traffic off the road as possible.

112/19 TO CONFIRM MINUTES

The minutes of Holbeton Parish Council meeting held on 12 November 2019 (previously circulated), were approved by the Chairman.

113/19 To consider the motion: Holbeton Parish Council resolves to declare a Climate, Environment and Biodiversity Emergency. To work with all partners, including environmental experts, other local authorities, businesses and residents, to produce an 'Environmental Action Plan' for the parish and report this back to council within six months. And lastly to call on higher levels of government (Westminster, Devon County Council and South Hams District Council) to implement swift appropriate actions and provide the powers, funding and resources to make carbon neutrality and environmental restoration possible.

Cllr Baumer had circulated the briefing paper to Councillors (see attached). Holbeton Parish Council are one of five which will receive dividends from the Yealm Community Energy Solar Farm.

It was proposed by Cllr Baumer and seconded by Cllr Flower for the motion to be agreed. All Councillors present were in agreement with the motion.

It was agreed that Cllr Baumer set up a Holbeton Parish Council Climate Change Sub-Committee, and to arrange a meeting on 21 February 2020 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, which will be open to the community. Cllrs Sherrell and Flower will also be involved in the project. **ACTION: Cllr Baumer**

Agreed there is a monthly agenda item in order to review progress. **ACTION: Clerk**

114/19 PLANNING:

Planning Decisions

APPLICATION NUMBER: 2874/19/HHO

LOCATION: 57 Gibb Holbeton Devon PL8 1JN

PROPOSAL: Householder application for replacement roof and frames to existing conservatory

DECISION: Conditional Approval

APPLICATION NUMBER: 2924/19/HHO

LOCATION: Alston Hall, The Carriage House Holbeton PL8 1HN

PROPOSAL: Householder application for proposed dormer extension at first floor & minor changes to external doors & windows

DECISION: Conditional Approval

APPLICATION NUMBER: 3298/19/ARC

LOCATION: Fursdon Farm Bungalow Dunstone Yealmpton PL8 2EN

PROPOSAL: Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3, 4 and 7 of planning consent 1435/19/FUL

DECISION: Discharge of condition Approved

Trees in Conservation Areas

Information sent to the Parish Tree Warden, of proposed works to tree(s) in Conservation Areas (TCA):

Reference: 3613/19/TCA

Proposal: T1 & T2: Beech - Crown height reduction by 1.5-2m and crown raise by 3.5m to decrease shading of property and garden.

Site Address: Ilbert Cottage, Church Hill, Holbeton, PL8 1LN

115/19 PARLIAMENTARY LOCAL ELECTRICITY BILL

An email received from Director of Power for People, in connection with the Parish Council joining 27 Parish, Town and Community Councils that have already resolved to support the Local Electricity Bill was discussed.

The Parliamentary Bill, if made law, would empower local communities to sell locally-generated clean energy directly to local customers by establishing a statutory Right to Local Supply. This is currently impossible because of the huge setup and running costs involved in doing so.

The ultimate result of this would be:

1. Local communities and businesses could buy their electricity from a local energy company.
2. Building more local renewable energy would be financially viable.
3. Communities would benefit from the revenues that new local energy supply companies would generate, such as more local skilled jobs, energy efficiency schemes and investment in local facilities.

It was agreed to formally to support this proposed Parliamentary Bill. **ACTION: Clerk**

116/19 HOLBETON PUBLIC TOILETS

The public toilets have been reopened by South Hams District Council. SHDC are now requesting a name of a solicitor for the conveyance of the building to Holbeton Parish Council. Agreed Cllr Sherrell will discuss with Cllr Fuller. **ACTION: Cllr Sherrell**

When the building is owned by the Parish Council an environmental audit to be undertaken.

117/19 A3121 SAFER ROADS WORKS

When construction commences the speed limit will be reduced to 30 mph from 40 mph for safety reasons. This will remain for the duration of works at the site.

119/19 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The following payments were agreed:

Payee	Description	Gross	VAT	Nett
Mrs T Drew	Clerk - November 2019 Salary	£403.09	-	-
HMRC	PAYE	£3.60	-	-
Mr W Scarlett	Grass cutting Battisborough Cross x 2	£50.00	-	-
Reimbursement to Clerk	SLCC & ALCC Annual Membership	£100.50	-	-
Cllr D Knight	Paper Towels for Reading Rooms	£16.99	-	-
Mr M Rawlings - Lengthsman	Grass cutting, drain and buddle hole clearances	£100.00	-	-
South West Water Business	Services at the allotments, Holbeton -7 August to 26 November 2019 (meter read on 26 November 2019)	£35.55	-	-
EDF Customers Ltd	Reading Rooms - Electricity	£89.62	-	-

RECEIPT(S) - Bank Interest (11.11.19) - 0.23
Hire of Reading Rooms - £45.00

GRANT REQUEST(S) - South Hams Citizens Advice - agreed £50.00 (cheque number 0013440
Clerk to ascertain if Holbeton parishioners have access to South Hams Citizens Advice.

124/19 DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next **Parish Council Meeting** will take place on **Tuesday 14 January 2020 at 7.30 pm** in the **Reading Rooms, Holbeton**.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

John Sherrell

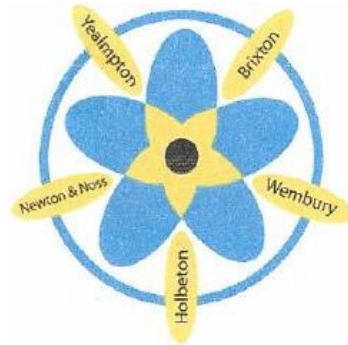
(Holbeton Parish Council Chairman)

Date: 14 January 2020

Dates of future Parish Council Meetings - 11 February and 10 March 2020

Holbeton Parish Council website- <https://www.holbeton-pc.gov.uk>

Dementia Friendly Parishes Around The Yealm



Holbeton Parish Council climate change declaration briefing paper

Before the parish council is the motion: *“Holbeton Parish Council resolves to declare a Climate, Environment and Biodiversity Emergency. To work with all partners, including environmental experts, other local authorities, businesses and residents, to produce an ‘Environmental Action Plan’ for the parish and report this back to council within six months. And lastly to call on higher levels of government (Westminster, Devon County Council and South Hams District Council) to implement swift appropriate actions and provide the powers, funding and resources to make carbon neutrality and environmental restoration possible.”*

We are elected councillors at a turning point in history. We represent our local area, our communities, our families and friends, at a time when the scientific evidence on climate change has become overwhelming and undeniable. At a time when 11,000 scientists, from 153 nations have declared unequivocally that planet Earth is facing a climate emergency. When global warming is at a tipping point. When the loss of species is estimated to be 10,000 times higher than the natural extinction rate. When the tidal-wave of global public opinion on taking environmental action has shifted. When children are speaking out about their fears for the future.

What is the point of making a declaration of climate change emergency? It gives the message that we attach great importance to addressing the problem, and that we need effective action now. Similar declarations have been made by Devon County Council, South Hams District Council, and two nearby Parish Councils, Wembury and Brixton. Making the declaration adds to the number of local councils nationally that are doing so.

There are 3 cogent reasons for Holbeton Parish Council to become proactive in contributing to and encouraging efforts to reduce our carbon footprint, to improve the environment and encourage biodiversity:

1. Early in 2020 the second community owned (YCE, Yealm Community Energy) solar farm at Creacombe should start to make electricity, providing a renewable and cheap source of energy contributing to the national grid. The five parishes of Brixton, Holbeton, Newton & Noss, Wembury and Yealmpton will benefit from the annual local dividend, currently £20,000 and rising to £40,000 shared between them. Their intention is to use this to support local carbon reduction and environmental initiatives. We can ensure that our share is used effectively.
2. Following Wembury Parish Council’s declaration one of their parish councillors, Matt Chown, has set up a 5 parishes initiative to support the parish councils in making climate and environmental issues their priority. Their aims are appended: he asks that each parish council approves the overall aims & purpose. This group can help us to learn from others’ initiatives.
3. Most importantly, we can make a difference at a local level. We can facilitate the implementation of regional and national policies. We can also better harness people’s enthusiasm by a ‘bottom up’ approach, supporting and facilitating our parishioners’ ideas. At the last meeting of Holbeton Parish Council a number of ideas quickly emerged including substituting low energy bulbs in people’s homes, public buildings and street lights. Some have already made this change, others have yet to do so for many reasons. We could help to make this change universal in the parish. Other possible initiatives include:
 - planting trees;
 - improving building insulation (private and public);
 - creating local charging points for electric cars;
 - managing and maintaining our gardens, hedgerows and public spaces to encourage biodiversity;
 - better construction methods and standards for new houses;
 - solar panels on public buildings;
 - educating and enthusing our primary school children;
 - reducing energy use and using green energy sources by the parish council;
 - looking for local food sources where possible;
 - develop lower carbon and more efficient and effective transport arrangements for the parish.

There is only any point in making a declaration if it is followed by action. What should the parish council consider doing after having made the declaration?

- Publicise our declaration to ensure that we are added to the growing list of local councils who have done likewise.
- Publicise our intention to facilitate change in our community. Arrange a public meeting with one or two speakers, at which we would hope to hear about what parishioners are already doing, what they consider important, and what they would like their parish council to do.
- Review our own parish council practices and consider the parish's priorities
- Create a parish council led group including key parishioners to produce an environmental action plan both for the parish council and the parish within 6 months, and to identify priorities for funding from the YCE.
- Continue to contribute to the development of the Yealm Climate Emergency and Environment Action Alliance. This will be a forum of parish council representatives from the 5 parishes, each with a deputy to cover absence.
- Consider having a 'climate emergency' section in all parish council meetings and being required to consider any environmental and climate change implications of all decisions.
- Develop and implement a parish council environment policy for Holbeton.

Appendix: Yealm Climate Emergency and Environment Action Alliance

Name

The Yealm Climate Emergency and Environment Action Alliance

Members

The alliance is led by the Parish Councils of Brixton, Holbeton, Newton and Noss, Wembury and Yealmpton.

Partners

TBC (examples include: South Dartmoor Community Energy, Yealm Community Energy, Life on the Yealm, National Trust, Flete Estate, Prof Depledge etc)

Aim

To positively address the climate emergency by reducing carbon emissions, and to improve the environment and biodiversity in the five parishes of Brixton, Holbeton, Newton and Noss, Wembury and Yealmpton.

Values

We believe that:

- The Climate Emergency should form the basis of every decision we make, and every action we take.
- We should do everything within our power to restore the natural environment and the biodiversity that supports it; providing stability to the ecosystem and maintaining ecological balance.
- We should support everyone within our parishes (residents, businesses and organisations) to positively address the Climate Emergency.
- We should collaborate with all available partners (locally, nationally and internationally) to positively address the Climate Emergency.
- Higher levels of government should provide the funding and resources required to positively address the Climate Emergency.

Cllr J H Baumer Nov 2019