

# HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL CLIMATE CHANGE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Held via Zoom on 6th April 2021

Present

Members: Cllr Harry Baumer (Sub-committee Chair), Diana Baumer (Hon Secretary), Andrew Hollett (Councillor), Caroline Howarth, Anna West, Tracy Ebrell (Parishioners)

Guests: Stephen Brown, Chris and Gilly Bray

1. **Welcome & Apologies** - Harry Baumer welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were apologies from John Sherrell, Chris Flower, and Nirosha Gunatillake
2. **Minutes** of the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 were accepted as correct. Stephen Brown raised the issue of EPCs. He stated that if a householder with an EPC carries out home insulation work this will not be apparent unless they renew their EPC. AH asked whether one was obliged to have an annual EPC if letting a property. CH said it was every 10 years but that holiday lets where the landlord pays the utility bills were exempt.
3. **Matters arising**
  - a) **Section 106 expenditure to date.** HB had provided the meeting with an excel spreadsheet showing spending to date. AH raised the issue of environmentally friendly loo rolls for the public lavatories and asked whether the S106 money managed by the subcommittee should be funding the extra costs involved. HB will propose this to Parish Council. **Action: HB**
  - b) **May Holbeton News “tip of the month”.** AH will do a piece about LED lighting in the home. **Action. AH** to circulate this to the sub- committee before sending it to Christine Tarrant for publication
  - c) **Yealm Community Energy Presentation on 23<sup>rd</sup> March.** HB reported that just over 20 people attended the zoom presentation. Chris Bray asked when the public would be able to invest in the Solar Farm. TE explained that due to the Covid pandemic and the economic situation there was currently a financial restructuring exercise being carried out, and so the opportunity to invest had been delayed. The opportunity to invest would probably not happen until early next year at the earliest.
  - d) **Proposed wildflower area by the Reading Rooms.** DB reported that the area has now been seeded. A small working group raked the area before seeding it a week ago. CB is awaiting a quote for the notice board from Colourbridge in Ivybridge. He said he was still waiting for OTM in Ermington to respond to a few queries he had raised with them. CB said the bottom panel (6 inches deep and 3ft wide ) will be a blackboard for recording on. **Actions: CB**
  - e) **HPC Climate Emergency webpage and new Facebook page.** AH has not yet met with Lance Howarth but will do so and report back at the next meeting. CH reported that Lance has started to strip out the news feeds from the webpage. **Actions: AH**
  - f) **Birdboxes project update.** HB reported that Joe Clarke was doing well with more than 20 people signed up to help. The boxes need to be completed by next week and put up in order to attract birds to the boxes for this year’s breeding season. Joe Clarke is awaiting a decision on his application to YCE for funding.
  - g) **Possible ways forward for sub-committee to support local agriculture** JS unable to attend the meeting so this will be reported on at the next meeting. **Action: JS**
  - h) **Funding for solar panel and battery for the cricket pavilion by Holbeton Cricket Club.** HB reported that Giles Ebbert is awaiting a decision from YCE re further funding.
  - i) **Identifying the locations of early purple orchids within the parish** This will be carried forward to the next meeting as the orchids are not yet out.
  - j) **Cross Park Survey** DB has met with Andy Byfield to discuss the way forward. He plans to look again at the end of April and then carry out a survey in June. **Action DB**
4. **Other Matters**
  - a) **Draft Resource and Waste Strategy for Devon and Torbay: to consider response to consultation** AH raised the issue of the “new bin service” which he stated had been implemented without consultation. CB suggested that plastic items such as bottles should be charged to the consumer with money back when they were returned. There was discussion about incinerators and their effect on the environment. HB said the contracts

for the incinerators operating in Plymouth and Exeter didn't run out until around 2040. HB said he would send round a resume of the document for approval before taking it to the Parish Council. Stephen Brown asked whether we could obtain information about the emissions from the incinerator in Plymouth. Is there an upper limit for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the incinerator? Could we make a Freedom of Information application? **Action: HB**

- b) Reviewing street lighting within the parish** AH reported that Devon County Council has an ongoing rolling programme of replacing street light bulbs across the county with the aim of reducing carbon emissions from street lights. AH has noticed that street lights in Holbeton don't go out until 2am. There was discussion about how this could be managed. This will need to be discussed at the Parish Council meeting. **Action: HB**
- c) Environmental and climate change books update** All but 6 books on the list have now been purchased. £333 has been spent on books. The storage cabinet and the books will be moved to the Reading Rooms next week. Sue Price has agreed to manage the book lending. **Action: HB.**
- d) Notices of relevant publications and meetings.** HB has circulated a separate information sheet with information about this.

**5. Date of next meeting, Tuesday 4th May 2021, 7.30pm**