MINUTES OF HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8 JUNE 2021 AT 7.30 PM IN HOLBETON VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs John Sherrell (Chairman), Mike Reece, Carol Ackroyd, Harry Baumer, Nirosha Gunatillake,

Andrew Hollett and James Pengelly

County Councillor Daniel Thomas - (from 8.15 pm until 8.40 pm) District Councillor Keith Baldry - (from 7.30 pm until 8.30 pm)

Teresa Drew - Parish Clerk

Visitor(s)/Parishioner(s) present: None

021/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Parish Councillors Trudie Timlin Brown, Julie Fuller and Chris Flower.

022/21 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Ackroyd declared a DPI - agenda item 6, Planning Reference: 1164/21/LBC.

023/21 REPORTS

(a) County Councillor Daniel Thomas

At the recent Devon County Council annual general meeting, Cllr Thomas new responsibilities include membership of Dartmoor National Park Authority, Public Rights of Way Committee and the Standard Advisory Council on Religious Education.

A meeting with Nick Colton DCC Highways will take place every two weeks.

(b) District Councillor Keith Baldry

SHDC is greatly involved in obtaining start up business grants.

SHDC is trying to deal with the new recycling waste service which is currently having issues in various areas. In some areas of the South Hams bins have not been collected and he apologised for the current situation. Cllr Baldry pointed out there is a national shortage of drivers, so it is difficult to recruit. Assisted collection is available to parishioners, please see SHDC website for further details.

(c) Questions from the public and Councillors

Cllr Hollett has noticed an increase of paper waste on the highway, which may be as a result of the paper coming from the SHDC recycling lorries.

Cllr Pengelly pointed out there are still parishioners in the village that are not having collections from the new recycling containers and are having to use the old waste collection system.

Cllr Baumer asked, what the extra cost is to SHDC? Cllr Baldry replied there is an additional cost of £200,000.

024/21 PAST SUBJECT MATTERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPORT ONLY

006/21 Pot holes on Brent Hill, Eastern Town and Holbeton Point need repairing. Verges need repairing in Ford area near Backlane footpath and at the turning into Fursdon Farm - no further progress, RESOLVED Cllrs Thomas and Sherrell will visit the areas.

006/21 Parking on the corner of Garden Close and Fore Street - no further progress, RESOLVED Cllrs Thomas and Sherrell will visit the area.

024/21 PAST SUBJECT MATTERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPORT ONLY (continued)

006/21 Battisborough Cross 30 mph speed limit extension - no further progress, RESOLVED Clirs Thomas and Sherrell will visit the area.

006/21 Village Play Park Safety Concerns - to install the standard height of the cladding on slide. Two posts to be replaced under guarantee by Earth Wrights - Clir Sherrell will contact Earth Wrights to ascertain when the work will be completed

006/21 White lines urgently required at junction by Holbeton post office and Battisborough Cross at junction to Mothecombe - no further Progress, RESOLVED Cllrs Thomas and Sherrell will visit the areas

006/21 Drains to be addressed opposite Church top gate, Vicarage Hill, outside the Dartmoor Union and Gibb - no further progress, RESOLVED Clirs Thomas and Sherrell will visit the areas

006/21 Hedge slip near Gibb - Devon County Council Solicitor to clarify who is responsible for dealing with the issue - no further progress, RESOLVED Cllrs Thomas and Sherrell will visit the area

012/21 Renewal of Insurance Contract - RESOLVED a three-year deal with BHIB Ltd

180/20 A379 to Bull and Bear, near area where the engineering work has recently been completed. Road surface is deteriorating. On the crest of the hill vehicles are encroaching into the bank, bollards required - no further progress, Cllr Sherrell will discuss with Nick Colton DCC Highways

025/21 APPROVAL OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

It was RESOLVED to approve and sign the Annual Parish Council Meeting minutes of 5 May 2021 and Planning Meeting minutes of 20 May 2021 (as previously circulated).

026/21 PLANNING

Cllr Ackroyd left the meeting at 7.57 pm

Reference: 1164/21/LBC

Proposal: Listed Building consent for replacement of casements within original frame of front bedroom window

Site Address: 48 The Square, Holbeton, PL8 1LR It was RESOLVED to support the application

Cllr Ackroyd returned to the meeting at 8.03 pm

Appeal Start Notification - Alston Hall

Appeal reference: APP/K1128/W/21/3269242

Proposal: Construction of six accessible holiday lodges and associated landscaping and biodiversity enhancements

Location: Alston Hall, Holbeton, Plymouth PL8 1HN

Appellant's name: Mr J Steven Appeal start date: 26th May 2021

It was RESOLVED to reiterate previous opposition and Cllr Ackroyd will write a response

PLANNING DECISIONS:

APPLICATION NUMBER: 1258/21/ARC Holbeton LOCATION: Lawnfield, Whitemoor Cross To Estuary Holbeton PL8 1JH

PROPOSAL: Application for approval of details reserved by condition 6 of Planning Permission 0610/19/FUL

DECISION: Discharge of condition Approved

APPLICATION NUMBER: 1115/21/HHO Holbeton LOCATION: 69 Ford Holbeton PL8 1LJ PROPOSAL: Householder application for proposed single storey rear extension, proposed

single storey front extension, proposed conversion of outbuilding to workshop

DECISION: Withdrawn

APPLICATION NUMBER: 1116/21/LBC Holbeton LOCATION: 69 Ford Holbeton PL8 1LJ PROPOSAL: Listed Building consent for proposed single storey rear extension, proposed single

storey front extension, proposed conversion of outbuilding to workshop

DECISION: Withdrawn

027/21 APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE FROM H.B. EVELYO LTD FOR HATTIERS RUM, THE DISTILLERY, HAYE FARM, HOLBETON, PLYMOUTH, PL8 1JZ.

The application is for:

- Sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises, Monday to Saturday from 8am to 7pm.
- There will be no public access to the premises.

The Council RESOLVED to support the application.

028/21 HOLBETON SEWAGE WORKS

Cllr Hollett suggested that the Parish Council request an upgrade of the Holbeton Sewage Works.

Cllr Baumer pointed out there is a national problem and when there is over capacity due to heavy rain discharge is often permitted in contracts.

Cllr Thomas suggested the Yealm Alliance link with local parishes to incorporate the River Erme.

RESOLVED Cllr Baumer to ask the Yealm Alliance to link with other parishes and circulate a letter to inform parishioners. A letter will be available in Holbeton Shop to sign. ACTION: Cllr Baumer

029/21 UPDATE ON HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL LOGO

The logo designs were circulated, a few minor amendments to be made. ACTION: Cllr Hollett

030/21 DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING COURSES

Cllr Reece reported that a training course will be arranged once the COVID restrictions have been lifted.

031/21 UPDATE ON HOLBETON JOG TRACK - SCHOOL PLAYING FIELD

The bid to South West Water community fund was not successful, however funding has been obtained from sports funding through the school.

The project will be funded as follows:

£2,000 from Holbeton School Association £500 from Holbeton Harriers £185 already fundraised £1000 from Locality Fund £2,200 from Holbeton School

The total cost = £5885 + vat

032/21 FINANCE

- (i) Bank balance the bank balances of Business Account as at 10 May 2021 was noted as being £5,000. The Treasurers Account was noted as being £33,702.20 as at 14 May 2021.
- (ii) Banked receipt for May noted as Bank Interest (10.05.2021) = £0.04

(iii) To RESOLVED to make the following payments: -

Payee	Description	Gross	VAT	Nett	
Mrs T Drew	Clerk - May 2021 Salary and working at home allowance	£441.56	-	-	
HMRC	Parish Clerk	£13.20	-	-	
Mrs M Venton	Cleaning of Holbeton Public Toilets - May 2021	£60.00	-	-	
Information Commissioner's Office	Renewal confirmation - registration as a data controller under the Data Protection Act 1998 paid by Direct Debit	£35.00	-	-	
Mr W J Wallis	Parish path work during April 2021 (P3)	£230.00	-	-	
Viking	Ink Cartridges & laminating pouches	£98.37	£16.40	£81.97	
Mythic Beasts Ltd	HPC Website - WordPress	£210.00	£35.00	£175.00	
Holbeton Village Hall	Hire of main hall for HPC Planning Meeting - 20 May 2021.	£34.00	-	-	
	Includes £10.00 deposit for new village hall key				
Andrew Hollett	Zoom monthly subscription – from HPC Climate and Environment Meeting	£14.39	-	-	
Alison Marshall	Internal Audit of accounts 2020 - 2021	£100.00	-	-	
BHIB Ltd	Insurance policy renewal a 3-year long term agreement	£367.76	-	-	
Mike Rawlings	Lengthsman Duties	£150.00	-	-	
EDF Business Electricity	Reading Rooms - 10 April - 25 May 2021	£5.88	-	-	
South West Water Business	Services at allotments - 10 February - 27 May 2021	£84.47	-	-	
Holbeton Primary School	Creacombe S106 payment	£333.34			
Yealmpton Primary School	Creacombe S106 payment	£333.34			
Newton Ferrers Primary School	Creacombe S106 payment	£333.34			

- (iv) Grant Request: None
- (v) Internal Audit RESOLVED to receive the Internal Auditor's Report and Cllrs Flower, Baumer and Parish Clerk will put an action plan together to deal with the action points. *ACTION: Cllrs Flower, Baumer, Clerk*

(vi) RESOLVED to approve the Financial Statement and Earmarked Reserves

Financial Statement				Earmarked Reserves
Lloyds Bank Business Account bank statement as at 10 May 2021 :	£5,000.00			Agreed at October 2020 meeting
Lloyds bank Treasurers Account bank statement as at 14 May 2021:	£33,702.20			
		£38,702.20		1. The Play park - expenditure will be needed to replace ageing equipment and general maintenance.
				Cost of replacing the swing set (like for like) including matting, delivery and fitting would be £6,500 exc VAT.
Less: any unpresented cheques	001460	-£72.00	2020/21 Invoice	
	001481	-£67.50		2. The public toilets - will become owned by the parish council and we have an aspiration to make them
	001479	-£441.76		unisex, disabled access and baby changing facilities.
	001481	-£1,481.00		
		-£2,062.26		3. The allotments - hopefully will not require large expenditures.
Plus: any un-banked cash/cheques	£0.00			4. The Reading Rooms - unlikely to require major expenditure by the council.
		£0.00		
	Total Funds =	£36,639.94		5. Maintenance and upkeep of:
				The community orchard
PRECEPT 2021/2022 = £14,375				Bike track in the recreation field
An increase of 14.2% or £5.82 on the 2020/21 Band D figure.				Playing field at Battisborough Cross.
				6. The village hall - an important local amenity, a charity. Lack of income due to COVID situation.
				The village hall may need some support for up-grading heating and insulation in the near future.
				7. Unexpected external events such as fire, flood, famine or pandemic.
				Apart from the last, these are relatively unlikely but could incur significant expenditure.
Total uncommitted funds =	£36,639.94	minus £6,500	= £30,139.94	
		earmarked reserve	e.	

033/21 HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL CLIMATE CHANGE SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE - Clir Baumer

The Holbeton Parish Council Climate Change subcommittee held its most recent meeting on Tuesday the 1^{st} June in Holbeton Village Hall.

It being half term there were just 4 members of the subcommittee present, plus 3 further parishioners. The meeting was quorate, consistent with the parish council's standing orders.

• It has recently become evident that there have been a large number of discharges of untreated sewage into the river Erme from Holbeton village's sewage treatment plant. Details are available on the Rivers Trust map covering the whole country.

There were 2 reports of sewage discharges from the treatment plant serving Holbeton village in 2020. The first reported "sewer storm overflow" spillages 112 times for a total of 969 hours, and a 2nd report of 63 times for a total of 142 hours, making a total of 175 spillages for a total of 1,111 hours.

Further up the river at Ermington in 2020 there were a total of 15 spillages totalling 58 hours from 2 locations. The sewage treatment works at Ivybridge had 164 spillages in 2020 totalling 2,908 hours.

On the other side of the river Erme Kingston's sewage has suffered significant spillages in 2020. However, the overflow is not discharged into the river Erme but into a small neighbouring stream that enters the sea at Westcombe Beach.

The Holbeton sewage treatment plant no longer treats raw sewage. The housing developments at Masons Yard and it is understood also at Easterntown have meant that it no longer has the capacity to treat the village's domestic sewage. Tankers remove the sewage each day to be treated elsewhere, presumably in Plymouth.

The problem of sewage discharges into rivers is by no means confined to the river Erme. This occurs nationwide and a recent Panorama television programme highlighted the problem. Water companies' contracts allow them to discharge untreated sewage into watercourses when their treatment works reach full capacity. However, information obtained by Panorama under the Freedom of Information Act relating to a number of rivers showed discharges to have occurred frequently well below capacity and therefore illegally.

A similar problem exists on the river Yealm, where as well as sewage discharges there have been problems with Tributyl tin (an antifouling agent), suspended solids from the china clay mining upstream, and sewage discharges resulting in faecal pathogens in the river water.

Brixton Parish Council is overseeing the River Yealm Water Quality Group representing the 4 parishes including Newton and Noss, Yealmpton and Wembury. This group have obtained help from the Westcountry Rivers Trust to assist them in their project. I have been given sight of a report from Tony Hawkins, a marine biologist, summarising what is already known from past monitoring on the Yealm.

The organisation responsible for managing the waterways in our region is South West Water (SWW). It is part of Pennon Group PLC, and took on the reservoirs, treatment works, water mains and sewers when the water industry was transferred out of public ownership in 1989.

Its main regulators are Ofwat (the office of water services), which sets their prices and agrees their programme of improvements. The Environment Agency (EA) is responsible for protecting the environment. It controls the water taken from rivers, streams and underground sources and monitors the water SWW returns to the environment. The Drinking Water Inspectorate (DWI) is responsible for setting and monitoring the standards of drinking water supplied by SWW.

The Westcountry Rivers Trust (WRT) was the first charitable organisation set up to protect, develop and improve the region's water environments. As the EA has reduced its monitoring of water quality, the WRT has taken on monitoring using volunteers. Although some monitoring of water quality on the river Erme by the WRT does take place, it is patchy and they would welcome further volunteers. They aim for monthly monitoring, for which the lowest point would be immediately downstream of Sequers bridge. If several people volunteered this would not be an onerous task. At the moment the WRT monitor heavy metals, phosphates and nitrates, but are considering broadening their monitoring.

It is understood that one parishioner has already written about this problem to the local MP, Sir Gary Streeter, who has responded that he has written to the chief executive of SWW. A response is awaited.

This is undoubtedly a serious local environmental problem that will not be easy to resolve.

It is proposed that:

1. Holbeton Parish Council discuss with our South Hams District Councillor(s) how best to proceed.

- 2. As there would be the possible option of legal action at some point, the best way forward would seem to be to contact potential partners including Ermington Parish Council, Ivybridge Town Council, and possibly Kingston Parish Council
- 3. There is at least some coordination with the RYWQG and Brixton Parish Council to discuss the best way of tackling the problem, if not actually joining forces with them.
- 4. The Holbeton News is used to inform parishioners of the council's agreed way forward. Perhaps if more parishioners &/or Holbeton Parish Council wrote to Sir Gary Streeter, it would help him appreciate the local strength of feeling.
- 5. WRT is asked whether they would welcome help monitoring the river Erme from volunteer Holbeton parishioners.
- 6. Holbeton Parish Council seek advice on what additional information to request from SWW to allow a judgement to be made about the legality of "sewer storm overflow" spillages.

RESOLVED to support as per item 028/21.

• A carbon footprint audit for local farmers has been discussed with Becky Willson, Project Manager, <u>AONB</u>
<u>Farm Carbon Cutting Toolkit</u>. This followed consultations with John Mildmay-White and John Sherrell. She would be happy to meet with the parish's 9 or 10 farmers and discuss helping them to undertake a baseline carbon audit of their farms. I would encourage you to watch the link to a talk she gives on the subject.

The purpose of such an audit would be twofold: to encourage local farmers to learn about the carbon emissions and sequestrations from their current farming practices, to compare with the others as appropriate, and thereby to consider what changes could be beneficial. Secondly, to provide summary information on the actual carbon footprint from agriculture within the parish.

Our parish is largely agricultural, with 37% of our carbon footprint down to agriculture according to the Impact Community Carbon Calculator. This amounts to 18.33 tons of CO_2 equivalent out of a parish total of 49.7 tons of CO_2 equivalent. This is simply an apportionment based on the amount of land that is used for agriculture, and does not represent any actual local farming practices. The contribution to the parish's carbon footprint is proportionately well above the average in the South Hams.

The proposal would be to approach local farmers (John Sherrell knows which ones are more likely to be interested), and suggest that as a one off we fund the necessary help to allow them to look at their carbon footprint without undue time and effort on their part, and with the benefit of help in understanding the significance.

Neither the Flete estate nor the parish council would have access to that data. If at least 3 farms took part we would like to have summary data on all participating farms combined, in order to make the findings anonymous and at the same time give us some idea of the actual carbon emissions/sequestrations from our local farms. The farmers would have all their own data to use and compare with others as they wished.

The proposal is to start the project in the autumn, using Becky Willson for support. Farmers would have the option of clerical assistance or to input their own information. A forum of local participating farmers would organise the project and use a grant to achieve the goals of the audit as they saw fit.

In view of the importance of agriculture and its carbon footprint in the parish, the subcommittee recommends a sum of up to £750 initially to get the project going. The farming forum would be expected to provide feedback in due course, either on completion or if further support was requested. The sum is affordable within this year's \$106\$ budget, which currently \$118\$ budget, which currently \$118\$ budget, approximately half of the total allocated to the parish council.

RESOLVED the parish council supports this expenditure:

- The **noticeboard accompanying the wildflower area** by the Reading Rooms is now in place. Cllr Gunatillake has undertaken to inform Chris Rickard, Holbeton Primary School Head, of the noticeboard and wildflower area.
- A shared electric car scheme for Holbeton village has been explored with the Devon based company Co Cars. They
 require an average of at least 6 hours per day usage for a shared car scheme. This has to be supported by a village
 survey in which 25 people would show commitment to using such a car. At the moment their focus is on adding new
 schemes in large urban areas.

South Hams District Council is undertaking a survey to establish the need for such schemes in villages, and Co Cars will be involved. It will be important to broadcast the survey to Holbeton village residents and assess the likely interest.

The survey of early purple orchids was initiated following the destruction of one flowering site at the entrance
to Scobbiscombe Farm. Parishioners were invited to email me with details of sightings along road verges within the
parish.

Eight parishioners reported sightings. I visited each reported site and counted the number, in some cases also photographing, the early purple orchids. The information was collected and the exact locations pinpointed on a My Maps using Google Maps. The sites were spread right across the parish, a few clusters being next to farm entrances, including some surviving small flower clusters adjacent to Scobbiscombe Farm entrance.

Overall, 187 early purple orchid spikes were counted at 10 different sites, 2 of which were on private land away from verges. The maximum number at any one site was 92 orchid flower spikes. Their appearance this year was 1 to 2 weeks later than usual, the first counts being conducted on the 9th May, when many were not yet fully in flower.

The early purple orchids at one site were in a vulnerable position close to the road. These orchids are not named on the wildflower protected species list. There was very little evidence of attempts to pick flowers (just 1 spike was missing its flowers) or dig up the plants. Nonetheless it seemed sensible not to broadcast the locations, though many parishioners are already aware of the 2 largest sites.

It should be emphasised that other verges also require sensitive management. As the main purpose was to inform those with responsibility for verge management, it was RESOLVED the following people receive a copy of the map: The Devon County Council Ecologist

John Mildmay-White (has already received a copy)

John Sherrell, Chair Holbeton Parish Council

The survey will serve as a baseline for a future survey.

• The parish wide LED survey should hopefully become feasible this autumn. This asks householders and businesses about their use of low energy lights, and whether they have switched electricity supplier recently.

RESOLVED to approve the leaflet (a double sided folded A4 sheet) which had been circulated to parish councillors prior to the meeting and the sum of £69 for printing them.

The environmental tip of the month for July is expected to be on the chemicals used for washing clothes.
 The next meeting of the Holbeton Parish Council Climate Change subcommittee will be on Tuesday the 6th July 2021. Cllr Harry Baumer 2nd June 2021.

034/21 HOLBETON PUBLIC TOILETS - TRANSFER OF BUILDING TO THE PARISH COUNCIL - update

SHDC still need to install a metered electricity connection.

035/21 REVIEW OF CURRENT HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL ALLOTMENT AGREEMENT

RESOLVED the allotment agreement will be discussed at July's meeting. ACTION: Clerk

036/21 PLAY PARK SIGNAGE AND WEEKLY CHECKS

Cllr Baumer reminded those present the play park is insured twice. Discussion ensued on the draft signage RESOLVED to adopt "Not all the equipment in this play park is suitable for all ages. Look carefully at which are okay for your children. Please ensure that they avoid the items that they are not capable of using safely."

The 2 of the 4 swings in the play park previously removed to comply with Covid restrictions are now restored and are serviceable.

037/21 FEEDBACK FROM WEEKLY BIKE TRACK AND PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS INSPECTIONS - Cllr Reece

Feedback from bike track inspections - Strimming is required. Signs have been replaced in the area.

The defibrillator at the Holbeton Parish Hall was damaged on 3 June 2021, the police were informed. Cllr Reece reported that the unit is okay but the pads and other leads etc. have been damaged. The defibrillator has been reset (4 June 2021) and is now operational.

038/21 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr Baumer - as a result of recent acts of vandalism, he suggested the parish council liaised with teenagers in the parish. Cllr Ackroyd suggested restarting a youth club. RESOLVED Cllr Baumer will produce a leaflet to be distributed with the LED survey advertising a meeting in the autumn with a suitably qualified individual for young people to propose what they would like. ACTION: Cllr Baumer

Cllr Gunatillake asked on behalf of a parishioner at Battisborough Cross, that the Battisborough Cross defibrillator could be placed in the telephone box at Battisborough Cross. Cllr Sherrell read out an email from a parishioner in connection with the use of the telephone box. Cllr Reece explained the issues, why the BT box could not be used. RESOLVED Cllr Sherrell will email a response to the parishioner. **ACTION:** Cllr Sherrell

Cllr Ackroyd has been looking after the pet garden area which was started 20 years ago by a parishioner who has subsequently died and had been maintained by a group of parishioners. Cllr Ackroyd is now not prepared to continue with maintaining the area, it was RESOLVED an article will be placed in the newsletter and FaceBook, to ask for volunteers to maintain the area. If there are no volunteers it was RESOLVED the plants will be removed. **ACTION: Cllr Ackroyd**

Cllr Pengelly - there is an area between the play park and a parishioner's home which is owned by Flete. The area needs to be tidied up. RESOLVED to ask a contractor to tidy up the area. **ACTION: Cllr Pengelly**

Cllr Sherrell - a parishioner has raised concerns about the lack of toilet facilities at Mothecombe.

039/21 CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

Returning to Physical Meetings, Delivering Covid 19 Secure Council Meetings from 7th May 2021 - information emailed to Parish Council by the Clerk

Email from Parishioner - Battisborough Cross Telephone Box

DCC -Information on Devon Climate Assembly

DCC- Tour of Britain Cycle Race Returns to Devon: Monday 6th Sept

SHDC - Appeal Start Notification - Alston Hall

040/21 TO CONFIRM DATES FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLVED the next parish council meeting will take place on Tuesday 13 July 2021 in the Holbeton Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

John Sherrell	
(Holbeton Parish Council Chairman)	Date:

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

Dementia Friendly Parishes Around The Yealm



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

To report highway issues - https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/

Devon County Council road works completed, current & future works - https://apps1.wdm.co.uk/Live/Devon/PBLC/PIP/Map.aspx?cg=sws

SHDC website: - https://apps.southhams.gov.uk/webreportit - click on what you would like to report, from the drop down menu.