

## MINUTES OF HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 7.30 PM IN HOLBETON VILLAGE HALL

**Present:** Cllrs John Sherrell (Chairman), Mike Reece, Andrew Hollett, Trudie Timlin Brown, Carol Ackroyd  
Harry Baumer and Nirosha Gunatillake

County Councillor Daniel Thomas  
Teresa Drew - Parish Clerk

**Visitor(s)/Parishioner(s) present:** 3

Cllr Sherrell reported Cllr Pengelly has resigned as Parish Councillor. Councillors were sorry to receive his resignation, and wished to express their appreciation of his help over many years.

### 084/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from, District Councillor Keith Baldry, Parish Councillors Julie Fuller and Chris Flower.

### 085/21 REPORTS

#### (a) Question(s) from members of the public and Councillors

Cllr Baumer reported that some staff at the DCC Recycling depot at Ivybridge were recently unhelpful to a parishioner who asked for assistance. Why can't garden waste be placed in the grey bin? **ACTION: Cllr Thomas**

Cllr Ackroyd asked if grants were available for internet access at the Village Hall. Cllr Thomas and Baldry might consider locality grants.

#### (b) To receive County and District Councillor Daniel Thomas report:

##### Covid-19

The 'Bad' News - an Enhanced Response Area (ERA). On August 27th, DCC received the news that Devon (along with Plymouth, Torbay, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly) was now designated an ERA due to high numbers of Covid cases. This means that the government has prioritised the 'far' South West for additional support to reduce case rates. It doesn't mean another local lockdown, but it does mean that authorities across the south west have more flexibility to introduce additional public health measures if considered necessary, to those in other parts of the country.

The advice from County Hall is to:

- Limit your social contacts to stop the virus spreading
- meet others outside, because that's safer than meeting inside
- continue to wear face coverings when indoors in public places
- wash your hands properly and regularly
- have the jab if you are an adult and haven't yet had it. Please have both doses as soon as you can. If you're aged 16 to 18, please take up the vaccination when offered to you
- self-isolate if told to do so by NHS Test and Trace
- self-isolate and arranging a PCR test if you show any symptoms of having the virus - the high temperature, new and continuous cough, or change of your usual sense of taste or smell

## 085/21 REPORTS (continued)

### (b) To receive County and District Councillor Daniel Thomas report:

The good news:

- Uptake of the vaccine among 16/17-year-olds has been high.
- A study led by the University of Oxford has found the risk of a blood clot or stroke is much higher with a covid infection than following vaccination.
- More than 1.7m doses of the Covid-19 vaccine have been given in Devon.
- Between 8 December and 22 August **917,236** first doses have been given while **809,425** second doses have been given; a total of **1,726,661** doses.
- People who have both vaccine doses or are under 18 don't have to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of someone with Covid-19.
- You can book an appointment online or by calling 119.

### Vaccination data for Devon

- 926,555 people in Devon received a first vaccine dose between 8 December and 5 September, vaccination [data published](#) by NHS England and NHS Improvement shows, broken down as follows:

| Age group    | Number of 1st doses given | Number of 2nd doses given | Approx % of age group received at least one dose* | Approx % of age group received both doses |
|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|---|
| 80+          | 76,529                    | 74,979                    | 95% or above for people aged 50 and over          | 90% or above for people aged 50 and over  |
| 75-79        | 58,420                    | 57,946                    |   |   |
| 70-74        | 77,479                    | 76,747                    |   |   |
| 65-69        | 72,120                    | 71,185                    |   |   |
| 60-64        | 79,155                    | 76,587                    |   |   |
| 55-59        | 85,685                    | 83,484                    |   |   |
| 50-54        | 80,904                    | 78,729                    |   |   |
| 45-49        | 66,530                    | 63,641                    | 89.7%   | 85.8%                                     |
| 40-44        | 59,469                    | 55,882                    | 96.3%   | 90.5%                                     |
| 35-39        | 59,930                    | 53,785                    | 91.4%   | 82.0%                                     |
| 30-34        | 59,412                    | 50,332                    | 90.1%   | 76.3%                                     |
| 25-29        | 54,303                    | 41,597                    | 78.4%   | 60.0%                                     |
| 18-24        | 79,490                    | 55,743                    | 79.2%   | 55.5%                                     |
| All under 18 | 17,129                    | 3,293                     | 7.6%  | 1.5%                                      |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>926,555</b>            | <b>843,930</b>            | <b>92.7%</b>                                      | <b>84.5%</b>                              |

### Connecting Devon and Somerset

This scheme, to improve mobile phone coverage in rural parts of Devon and Somerset, is being expanded. Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) has announced that its Mobile Boost Programme, which aims to upgrade indoor 4G coverage in "not-spot" areas, now includes a greater choice of equipment. It's targeting small businesses and households in rural communities who currently have inadequate coverage or have access to only one provider and are currently struggling with connectivity. Businesses and households can apply for a voucher of up to £1,200 towards the cost of a mobile signal booster from a registered supplier. For a list of registered suppliers and an application form, visit

[www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/the-cds-mobile-booster-voucher-scheme-guide/](http://www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/the-cds-mobile-booster-voucher-scheme-guide/)

[Dartmoor National Park Authority](#)

[A consultation is about to begin on updating the Park's byelaws. Headlines include a restriction on the number of dogs a person may walk, camping policy, drones and use of fires/bbqs.](#)

Apologies for the ongoing problems with SHDC waste disposal, the whole system is very disappointing.

**(b) To receive County and District Councillor Daniel Thomas report: (continued)**

**To receive District Councillor Keith Baldry's emailed report:**

I wish to strongly disagree with the comment from Cllr Hollett reported in the draft minutes of the August meeting, that Cllr Thomas should not be both a District and County councillor. His comments relate in part to attendance at HPC meetings. Dan and I are both available between meetings. Please contact us. I venture to suggest that if an item is important, it should not be delayed to raise at a monthly meeting.

Across Devon the majority of County Councillors are both County and District Councillors. Many are also Town or Parish councillors. You may also recall that Dan's predecessor as your District Councillor, Ian Blackler rarely attended your meeting and left attendance to me.

Waste and Recycling

Residents in parts of the District including some of Holbeton, are not getting the service they have a right to expect. I have felt humiliated by the failures of FCC the South Hams contractor. The Council and I are using all means possible under the contract to get an improvement. I hold the Contractor entirely responsible for the poor service.

Further action on the contract is being discussed with lawyers and industry advisers.

After the garden waste service was suspended there was an improvement in the availability of drivers to return for missed collections. This was a temporary improvement. The lack of drivers got worse. You may have seen in the media that many other authorities have also suspended garden waste collections. I have approved the continued suspension. I am seeking a way to get a one off emptying of the brown bins. The problem is that if we do that using FCC resources, they will not be able to collect other waste streams.

Apologies for the poor performance by FCC. We are robustly pursuing all options.

**086/21 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

None.

**087/21 PAST SUBJECT MATTERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPORT ONLY**

*065/21 Village Play Park Safety Concerns - installation of the standard height of the cladding on slide. Two posts to be replaced under guarantee by Earth Wrights. Work to be completed 28 September 2021.*

*065/21 Hedge slip near Gibb*

*065/21 Holbeton Reading Rooms walls need waterproofing and repointing. Cllr Reece to discuss with Flete Estate. Awaiting a quote from Mike Rawlings for the necessary work. RESOLVED Cllr Reece to seek quotes from 1 or more specialist damp proof companies. ACTION: Cllr Reece. RESOLVED Cllr Ackroyd will assess if there are any grants available. ACTION: Cllr Ackroyd.*

*065/21 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 - the issues have been reported to DCC.*

*065/21 Parking on the corner of Garden Close and Fore Street*

*065/21 White lines urgently required at junction by Holbeton post office and Battisborough Cross at junction to Mothecombe - the issues have been reported to DCC.*

*065/21 Drains to be addressed opposite Church top gate, Vicarage Hill, outside the Dartmoor Union and Gibb - the issues have been reported to DCC.*

*065/21 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*

*065/21 Flooding at Alston - in progress*

## 088/21 APPROVAL OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

It was RESOLVED to approve and sign the Parish Council Meeting minutes of 10 August 2021 (as previously circulated). The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

## 089/21 EXTENSION TO THE 30MPH SPEED LIMIT AT BATTISBOROUGH CROSS - Cllr Gunatillake

Cllr Gunatillake - crowd funding could be considered to raise the money required to extended the 30 mph, or wait to when the new housing development S106 money is paid.

RESOLVED Cllr Gunatillake will investigate crowd funding. **ACTION: Cllr Gunatillake**

RESOLVED Clerk to look at increasing the precept by £4,000 to cover the cost of extending the speed limit of 30 mph.  
**ACTION: Clerk**

## 090/21 VANDALISM IN THE PARISH

Cllr Hollett raised concerned about the number of incidents of vandalism in the parish.

*Standing Order Stood Down 8.17 pm*

Parishioner raised concern about a neighbouring parishioner who recently started a fire near hedge of their property. The neighbouring parishioner is causing alarm and stress to neighbours.

Cllr Thomas suggested contacting Environmental Health who have officers who may be able to help and to liaise with him.

*Standing Order Reinstated 8.35 pm*

Cllrs Ackroyd reported there had been a fire on the parish bike track, the fire brigade attended.

## 091/21 DCC HEDGE TRIMMING IN THE PARISH

RESOLVED Cllr Thomas has received the information in connection with the damage by recent hedge trimming as well as the designation of special areas, improved communication and timing of cutting, and will investigate. See report under 098/21.

**ACTION: Cllr Thomas**

## 092/21 PLANNING

Reference: 3059/21/FUL

Proposal: Provision of agricultural/equestrian building (Resubmission of 4226/20/FUL)

Site Address: Keaton Farmhouse, Holbeton, PL8 1HL

Recommendation: No comment to make

### Planning Decisions

APPLICATION NUMBER: 2393/21/CLE - DECISION: Cert of Lawfulness (Existing) Certified

APPLICATION NUMBER: 1756/21/LBC - DECISION: Conditional Approval

APPLICATION NUMBER: 2762/21/HHO - DECISION: Conditional Approval

APPLICATION NUMBER: 2764/21/LBC - DECISION: Conditional Approval

APPLICATION NUMBER: 3845/20/FUL - DECISION: Conditional Approval

### Dismissal of Planning Appeal

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

Alston Hall, Henna Mill Cross to Alston Cross, Holbeton, Plymouth PL8 1HN

## 093/21 PURCHASE OF 9 X A4 NOTICEBOARD AT BATTISBOROUGH CROSS

RESOLVED Cllr Ackroyd to action. **ACTION: Cllr Ackroyd**

#### 094/21 YOUTH CLUB - Cllrs Gunatillake/Baumer

RESOLVED Cllr Baumer has arranged with a parishioner to hold a meeting in the village hall for two different age groups, 12 - 14 and 15 - 17, on 11 November 2021, to determine what the younger members of the parish would like. Agreed to include Cllr Gunatillake in the event. **ACTION: Cllrs Gunatillake/Baumer**

#### 095/21 HOLBETON SEWAGE WORKS

A parish council meeting has been arranged to take place on 23 September at 7.30 pm in Holbeton Village Hall with Rhidian Howells, Waste Water Services Operations Manager, South West Water and Sir Gary Streeter MP.

#### 096/21 UPDATE ON HOLBETON JOG TRACK - SCHOOL PLAYING FIELD

Cllr Sherrell reported the track has now been completed.

#### 097/21 FINANCE

RESOLVED to approve the following:

- (i) Bank balances - Business Account as at 9 August 2021 = £5,000.00  
Treasurers Account as at 13 August 2021 = £32,825.34
- (ii) Banked receipts for August noted as - Bank Interest (09.08.2021) = £0.04
- (iii) Grant Request: Battisborough Cross phone box - external refurbishment - RESOLVED to grant £50.00.
- (iv) RESOLVED to make the following payments: -

| Payee                       | Description  | Gross    | VAT      | Nett     |
|-----------------------------|--|----------|----------|----------|
| Mrs T Drew                  | Clerk - August 2021 Salary and working at home allowance   | £441.56  | -        | -        |
| HMRC                        | Parish Clerk   | £13.20   | -        | -        |
| Mrs M Venton                | Cleaning of Holbeton Public Toilets - August 2021  | £117.50  | -        | -        |
| Holbeton Village Hall       | Hire of main hall for Holbeton Climate Change Sub-Committee Meeting 3 August 2021 and Holbeton Parish Council Meeting - 10 August 2021 | £48.00   | -        | -        |
| EDF                         | Reading Rooms  | £19.37   | -        | -        |
| Source for Business         | Water - allotments - 28 May to 19 August 2021  | £65.73   | -        | -        |
| Mr W Scarlett               | Grass cutting at the Battisborough Cross playing fields on the following days: - 18 and 26 August 2021                                 | £50.00   | -        | -        |
| D J Curtis & Son Ltd        | Holbeton running track - supply of stone, Terram plant and labour  | £7062.60 | £1177.10 | £5885.50 |
| Earth Wrights               | Cladding on play tower   | £1149.60 | £191.60  | £958.00  |
| Joe Clarke                  | Purchase of brushcutter, visor, ear muffs, shears, lopper - maintenance of parish paths - P3   | £869.57  | -        | -        |
| South Hams District Council | Annual insurance and inspection fee for Brent Hill play area   | £252.00  | £42.00   | £210.00  |
| D J Curtis & Son Ltd        | Strimming bike track   | £160.00  | -        | -        |

(v) RESOLVED to approve Financial Statement and the budget to date was reviewed.

(vi) RESOLVED Internal Auditor for 2021/2022 = Penny Clapham

(vii) Update on points raised at Alison Marshall internal audit 2020/2021:  
To assess Lloyds Bank online banking. **ACTION: Councillors/Clerk**  
Parish Clerk Contract of Employment to be confirmed. **ACTION: Cllrs Sherrell and Fuller**

(viii) RESOLVED to purchase a Parish Council poppy wreath for Remembrance Day Service

## 098/21 HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL CLIMATE CHANGE SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE

The following report was received from Cllr Baumer:

The Holbeton Parish Council Climate Change subcommittee held its most recent meeting on Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> September in Holbeton Village Hall. The minutes of the August meeting were approved.

- **The parish wide LED survey.** We will be briefing volunteers shortly before the survey on Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> October at 7:30pm in the village hall. The plan is to deliver the leaflets in the week following that and to ask for them to be returned by the 17<sup>th</sup> October. The more volunteers that help the easier it will be for everyone.

Parish Councillors are asked to attend this briefing if planning to help with the survey.

- **The River Erme sewage pollution.** At the time of writing this we are awaiting a response from SWW to our invitation for their representative to attend a parish council meeting that Sir Gary Streeter can attend on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Once we know that this is going ahead the parish council meeting already scheduled for that date will be moved to Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

I have circulated a proposed list of supplementary questions for Rhidian Howells of SWW, and am now planning to forward these to Gary Streeter's secretary for onward transmission.

- A Parliamentary bill, **The Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill**, supported by 115 MPs and presented to parliament on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September by is being recommended to Holbeton Parish Council by the climate change subcommittee for endorsement.

**Why do we need the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill?** Drafted by scientists, legal experts, ecological economists and environmentalists, the CEE Bill is designed specifically to reverse the climate and ecological breakdown we're facing. The Bill requires the UK to take responsibility for its fair share of greenhouse gas emissions, to actively restore biodiverse habitats, and to stop damaging our natural world through the production, transportation and disposal of the goods we consume.

An executive summary of the bill is attached. The [CEE Bill website](#) gives more information, as does a [2 minute video](#).

**RESOLVED that Holbeton Parish Council:**

Support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill;

Write to our local MP urging him to support the Bill, or thanking him for doing so; and

Notify the [CEE Bill Alliance](#) of this motion.

- **The environmental tip of the month for October** will be on repairing belongings.
- **The book of the month for October** is Wilding -The return of nature to a British Farm, by Isabella Tree.
- **Hedge trimming.** Further update from Tom Whitlock, DCC Ecologist, is awaited. DCC has confirmed that the work was undertaken by a contractor at their request. Assurances have been sought that the various hedgerows in the parish will be designated as 'special', that these will be available to check by Holbeton Parish Council, and that agreement will be reached on the management of these areas, including the timing of hedge cutting.

**RESOLVED to endorse these requests, and also seek assurance that those undertaking these works on behalf of Devon County Council will be competent to undertake the work without undue damage.**

- **Peninsula Transport's "Shaping The Future of Transport Across the South West" consultation.** This is open for responses until the 17<sup>th</sup> September.

I have sought the comments from Transport Action Network on our draft response and given the fact that the next parish council meeting is after the deadline for responses I will seek email approval for our response.

- **A new graphic design** explaining the work of the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) has been approved to include on the parish council's Climate Emergency webpage with the approval of the artist together with a link to the artist's website.

**RESOLVED to approve this addition to the website.**

## 098/21 HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL CLIMATE CHANGE SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE (continued)

- **Application from the PCC for funding from the Creacombe solar farm S106 agreement to replace the existing lights in All Saints Church with low energy LED lights.** Sum requested £454. This was supported by the subcommittee as being consistent with the parish council's environmental action plan. The PCC was asked to confirm that the funding was confined to these low energy lights, which it has done. Also, it was pointed out to the PCC that this would be a good time to look at the placement of lights within the building in order to improve the lighting. However, the associated cost and bureaucracy involved makes this prohibitive. This was not seen as a reason to turn down the application.

**RESOLVED to support the application.**

- **South Hams District Council's planning Validation Checklist.** This was circulated to Holbeton Parish Council as part of a consultation, closing on the 14<sup>th</sup> September.

They have increased substantially the number of forms required to be completed by planning applicants. [Two forms](#) relate to the planning authority's DEV32 carbon reduction policy: one for minor requires a carbon reduction statement, and the other for major developments requires a carbon reduction plan.

[A separate toolkit](#) has been developed providing detailed explanations for those considering home developments. The Toolkit project was a response to queries received by the councils from small developers, architects, self-builders and householders. This is too large a file to attach to this briefing. Follow the link to access the document.

**RESOLVED to respond to this consultation by the deadline, supporting the new DEV32 forms and the adoption of the Net Zero Toolkit by SHDC.**

**RESOLVED to include a careful appraisal of any future applicant's completed DEV32 carbon reduction form, in line with the council's Environmental Policy, in its decision on whether to support future planning applications.**

The next meeting of the Holbeton Parish Council Climate Change subcommittee will be on Tuesday the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

## 099/21 HOLBETON PUBLIC TOILETS

Still awaiting the work required by the utility company in order to transfer of building to the Parish Council.

## 100/21 FEEDBACK FROM WEEKLY BIKE TRACK AND PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS INSPECTIONS - Cllr Reece

Cllr Reece raised no issues.

CPR training to be arranged in conjunction with the school. **ACTION: Reece**

## 101/21 REVIEW OF PARISH LENGTHSMAN ROLE

A previous Lengthsman is prepared to take on the role.

Review of Parish Lengthsman's role to be placed on October 2021 agenda. **ACTION: Clerk**

## 102/21 REVIEW OF HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE AND ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC SECTOR BODIES

Clerk to forward recent quote to Councillors. **ACTION: Clerk**

## 103/21 REVIEW GDPR POLICIES

The following documents were reviewed and no amendments were made:

Data Protection and Privacy Policy  
General Privacy Notice  
Privacy Notice For staff, Councillors and Role Holders

## 104/21 TRANSPORT ACTION NETWORK

No comments made.

## 105/21 GRASS CUTTING BATTISBOROUGH CROSS

Currently £25 per cut since 2011. Mr W Scarlett proposed cost per cut of £30 with effect from 2022.

RESOLVED to pay £30 per cut for 18 cuts per year.

## 106/21 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr Baumer reminded those present that it was the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. RESOLVED to place an article in the parish newsletter asking for ideas.

## 107/21 CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

Letter from Gary Streeter ref EV charging points. RESOLVED Cllr Baumer to respond.

Email from parishioner - Crime Warning = heating oil stolen at Nethcombe - noted.

Email for parishioner - Hire costs of Reading Rooms for the parish library / coffee morning weekly meeting, could possibly afford the annual cost of £320 but funds are extremely tight - Discussion ensued, it was RESOLVED as this is a parish group the annual cost will be £300.00 a year.

## 108/21 TO CONFIRM DATES FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was RESOLVED the next parish council meeting will take place on **Tuesday 12 October 2021** in Holbeton Village Hall at **7.30 pm**.

The meeting closed at 10.10 pm.

*John Sherrell*

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(Holbeton Parish Council Chairman)

Date: 12 October 2021

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.