

## MINUTES OF HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 7.30 PM IN HOLBETON VILLAGE HALL

**Present:** Cllrs John Sherrell (Chairman), Harry Baumer, Tony Callcut, Mike Reece, Chris Flower, Carol Ackroyd, Julie Fuller and

County and District Councillor Dan Thomas (7.30 pm - 8.00 pm)  
Teresa Drew - Clerk

**Visitor(s)/Parishioner(s) present:** 2

### 134/22 ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received and accepted from District Councillor Keith Baldry, Cllrs Trudie Timlin Brown, Nirosha Gunatillake and Jim Melhuish.

**135/22 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** - Cllr Baumer - personal interest in the two planning applications - one is neighbour and the second is where the road he walks along.

### 136/22 REPORTS

**County and District Councillor Dan Thomas report:**

#### **Some positives, but not enough progress say Ofsted Inspectors**



Ofsted has published its latest monitoring report after inspectors visited our Children's Services. There has not been enough progress made in key areas since Ofsted's full inspection and some serious issues remain, but there are some positives highlighted in today's report. You can [read more about Ofsted's report, and our reaction to it, in the story on our news centre at www.devon.gov.uk/news/some-positives-but-not-enough-progress-for-children-in-devon-and-serious-issues-remain-say-inspectors/](http://www.devon.gov.uk/news/some-positives-but-not-enough-progress-for-children-in-devon-and-serious-issues-remain-say-inspectors/).

#### **Levelling up funding announced for projects in Devon**

Multi-million pound schemes to improve transport links in Exmouth and Okehampton are among more than 100 projects receiving a share of £2.1 billion through the Government's latest round of Levelling Up funding.

[We've been awarded £15.7 million to complete the Dinan Way link in Exmouth](#), and West Devon Borough Council has successfully received £13.4 million to develop a new railway station on the eastern edge of Okehampton.



The funding for the Destination Exmouth project will enable the completion of Dinan Way link road, helping to tackle congestion and remove traffic from the town centre. The project, which is also supported by East Devon District Council, will improve walking and cycling routes as well as enhancing the town's transport hub.

The West Devon Transport Hub will build on the successful reinstatement of the Dartmoor Line in November 2021. As well as a new station on the outskirts of Okehampton, the scheme will also include cycle facilities and electric vehicle charging points to promote active travel and green travel.

## County and District Councillor Dan Thomas report: (continued)

### Support for families as food poverty rises



The number of households in Devon unable to access or afford the food that they need to ensure that they and their families stay healthy has increased by 70 per cent in 18 months. And more than a third of households say that they plan to switch off their heating altogether this winter to help make ends meet. We're working with local partners, including local councils, the NHS and the voluntary and community sector, on ways to support communities, and there are a variety of schemes on offer depending on people's circumstances.

These include the [Household Support Fund](#), [Free School Meals](#) and [Free School Meals Holiday Voucher scheme](#), [The Holiday Activity and Food Programme](#) and [Citizens Advice Devon](#).

For more information you can [read the full story on the news page of our website](#), or visit our dedicated [Cost of Living webpages at \[www.devon.gov.uk/cost-of-living/\]\(http://www.devon.gov.uk/cost-of-living/\)](#).

SHDC will hold a meeting next week to discuss the budget prior to elections. Cllr Baldry will be standing down at this year's election.

### (b) Question(s)

Cllr Baumer had not heard from Tom Whitlock (Tom Whitlock, DCC's Ecologist in connection about change of rules for special verges) - **ACTION: Cllr Thomas**

### 137/22 PAST SUBJECT MATTERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPORT ONLY

*Youth Club - the following emailed report was received from Cllr Gunatillake*

*I have heard back from TRAYE - and they do remain very keen to start a service in Holbeton. At the moment, they are waiting for the official minutes from their Trustees meeting to confirm their plans for expansion and possible dates to start the services in Holbeton and Yealmpton. I can confirm that TRAYE would be operating a separate service in Holbeton and Yealmpton, so would require £2,500 for the year from each of the Parishes, and Dan T has confirmed that he will be able to provide £500 extra to HPC from the locality fund to top up the amount for TRAYE (he will do the same for Yealmpton). We will await to see how much extra TRAYE would need, and if there is fundraising to be done, I am happy to coordinate this.*

*Extension to the 30mph speed limit at Battsborough Cross - the following emailed report was received from Cllr Gunatillake. I am liaising with FutureClient in Kingsbridge to get the signs as soon as possible, but need a revised quote without the posts included.*

*Car parking on the Mothecombe road to the beach - Cllr Flower explained that due to the field used for parking at Mothecombe having restricted parking in the winter, people park their vehicles on the road. This is causing issues for access to those parishioners who live in Mothecombe village. Cllr Thomas will liaise with Highways and Traffic Orders Committee (HATOC) for consideration of double yellow lines on the road. **ACTION: Cllr Thomas***

*Grass cutting Battsborough - Cllr Sherrell has spoken to the parishioner who cuts the grass. On the southern side of the field the idea is to create a wild flower area. **RESOLVED** Cllr Sherrell will inform the parishioner that the parish council accepts the costs, for cutting the grass,. **ACTION: Cllr Sherrell***

### 138/22 APPROVAL OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**RESOLVED** to approve the Parish Council Meeting minutes of 10 January 2023 (as previously circulated).

### 139/22 DEFIBRILLATOR AT MOTHECOMBE

A parishioner explained the need for a defibrillator at Mothecombe. Fund raising ideas will be explored to help raise money. **RESOLVED** the parish council will support the project to £500.00.



- **A community compost facility in the parish**

The climate change subcommittee strongly supported the development of a community compost facility within the parish. Benefits include the reduced mileage in transporting garden waste with the ending of free garden waste disposal by SHDC. Membership of the community compost facility would include free bags of compost.

The first requirement is a suitable site within the parish. At this point the Flete Estate has not been able to identify a suitable location and has asked the parish council to suggest somewhere for this.

Without this there is no community compost facility.

Sites must be accessible by the relatively large equipment used to move the material. It needs to be secure to avoid unauthorised tipping of inappropriate items. It should not be sited in a place that requires vehicles to go through the village. The old Fountain Forestry site, now occupied by Life Space Cabins is considered worth further discussion with the Flete Estate. Although a relatively large space is required, much of this is for circulation, and the actual bins take up a small area.

The Shire Horse Centre was also put forward. However, it is out of this parish and is unlikely to be willing for the use of the site without paying a commercial rate.

RESOLVED Cllr Baumer will discuss utilising the old sawmill site with Flete Estate. **ACTION: Cllr Baumer**

- **An electric vehicle (EV) car charger for the village**

The proposal for an EV charger, based ideally next to the village hall, was supported. This would operate through an existing app (CoCharger) that allows sharing of a privately owned charger. The village hall has a 3 phase electricity supply, which would mean being able to deliver 22 kWatts rather than the usual 7kWatts from domestic electricity supplies. This would allow the full charge of an EV in 3 to 4 hours instead of around 9 hours.

The purpose and benefit of this charger would be to support those in the village who would like to change to an electric car but have no off road space. They would be able to book the charger through the app and maintain the car's charge using the public facility.

The actual charger has been offered free by a parishioner who is strongly committed to the transition to EV's. The proposed charger is a Tesla Wall Charger with a universal connection. We are led to understand that this is a particularly reliable charger.

The other set up costs would be the preparation of the dedicated space including an extension cable from the village hall. It is proposed that this is at least partly funded from section 106 money (item 6).

This proposal was supported by the meeting. It provides the best opportunity to allow those in the village who are otherwise constrained from doing so to invest in an EV.

A possible associated development would be for the fitting of solar panels and a battery system at the village hall, with additional financial benefits for the hall.

RESOLVED Cllr Baumer to approach the village hall trustees with the proposal. **ACTION: Cllr Baumer**

- **Follow up from the River Erme sewage public meeting Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November**

The following had previously been resolved by Holbeton parish Council:

- i) *A letter to go to Sir Gary Streeter asking SWW to join with the parish council in developing an agreed strategic plan for works to abolish the leaks from their Holbeton Treatment Plant. This was sent in January 2023, and the letter forwarded to SWW.*

Following a 30 minute telephone discussion with Vicky Garner, Community and Partnership Manager, a response to an agreed proposal is awaited and promised before the parish council's February meeting. This would commit SWW to collaborate in getting the most benefit from the planned extension to the existing surface water drain (currently this ends outside the school) up Vicarage Hill. Depending on the success of this collaboration SWW will undertake to commit to a strategic plan for Holbeton's waste water treatment plant.

- ii) *Support John Mildmay-White in his planned Citizens Science group to enhance monitoring in the estuary. He has around half a dozen volunteers, who now need training. With a further recruitment exercise, it could be possible to double this number.*

John Mildmay-White will liaise with the Westcountry Rivers Trust to take forward the training of local volunteers.

- iii) *Support the development of a whole river group, the River Erme Water Quality Group.*

At a meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> January in Modbury representatives from all relevant councils (Ivybridge, Ermington, Holbeton, Modbury, Kingston and Ugborough) agreed to the formation of a River Erme Water Quality Group, set up along the lines of the River Yealm group. This was led by Cllr Ann Turner of Modbury Parish Council and was supported by their parish clerk. It was agreed that a further meeting would be held around the end of March. This will be open also to those with a particular interest and or expertise. The Flete Estate will be represented, and possibly a local resident with a comprehensive dataset relating to the river Erme.

- **A stand at this year's Yealmpton Show**

The well established 5 parishes environmental and climate change alliance led by Cllr Matt Chown had agreed to a combined stand at the event on the 26 July. I have taken the liberty of booking a stand as these get booked well in advance of the event.

Towards the end of February there is to be a meeting of the 5 parishes representatives to start discussions on the intended benefits and how to achieve them.

The site will support a 10 foot square gazebo or tent with a similar space in front. The cost including free passes for 5 people was £146. Another £47 bought public liability insurance (a requirement of booking).

Assuming that these costs are shared between the 5 parishes that would mean each repaying £38.60.

RESOLVED the parish council will reimburse Cllr Baumer £38.60 towards the event from the section 106 funds.

**ACTION: Clerk**

- **Review of the section 106 grant application form**

A single change to the wording is highlighted in the accompanying draft form for 2023. This resolves difficulties with an application last year. RESOLVED to approve this change.

Next year's allocation of funding is due to have been distributed to the 3 parishes. Together with the residue of funding from 2022 there will be £5,500.42 to be allocated this year. A copy of the spreadsheet accompanies this report.

The next meeting of the Holbeton Parish Council Climate Change subcommittee will be on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

## **144/22 FINANCE**

RESOLVED to approve the following:

- (i) Bank balances of: - Business Account as at 9 January 2023 = £5,000.00  
Treasurers Account as at 13 January 2023 = £20,156.02
- (ii) Receipt for January 2023: - Bank Interest (09.01.2023) = £2.14  
Hire of Reading Rooms = £13.00
- (iii) Grant Request: - None

**144/22 FINANCE (continued)**

(iv) RESOLVED to make the following payments: -

Payee	Description	Gross	VAT	Net
Mrs T Drew	Clerk - January 2023 Salary	£515.80	-	-
HMRC	HMRC - January 2023	£31.60	-	-
HMRC	HMRC	£31.89	-	-
Amanda Coe	Cleaning of Holbeton Public Toilets - @ £13.00 per hour - December 2022	£52.00	-	-
Amanda Coe	Cleaning of Holbeton Public Toilets - @ £13.00 per hour - January 2023	£65.00	-	-
DB Computer Repairs	Monthly maintenance of Parish website - January 2023	£40.00	-	-
DB Computer Repairs	Governance Page - work to enable documents to be downloaded	£250.00	-	-
Mr Hollett	Sundries for Holbeton public toilets	£48.25	-	-
Source for Business	Water at the allotments 1 December 2022 - 3 February 2023 (estimated bill)	£50.59	-	-
Holbeton Village Hall	Hire of hall for February meetings - 7 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	£42.00	-	-

(v) RESOLVED to approve the Financial Statement

<b>Financial Statement</b>		
Lloyds Bank Business Account bank statement as at 9 January 2023 :	£5,000.00	
Lloyds bank Treasurers Account bank statement as at 13 January 2023:	£20,156.02	
	<b>Total =</b>	<b>£25,156.02</b>
Less: any unpresented cheques	001615	-£210.00
	001671	-£80.00
	001687	-£115.00
	001689	-£31.60
	001691	-£40.00
	001692	-£22.00
	001693	-£100.00
	001694	-£250.00
	001695	-£31.89
	<b>Total Funds =</b>	<b>£24,275.53</b>

(vi) RESOLVED to approve the Holbeton Parish Council expenditure and income 2022/2023 to date.

**145/22 QUOTATION FOR REMEDIAL WORKS AT HOLBETON PLAY PARK - £370**

RESOLVED the Clerk to inform the parishioner the parish council accepts the quotation. **ACTION: Clerk**

**146/22 REVIEW OF HOLBETON READING ROOMS HIRE COST**

RESOLVED the hire costs will increase to £20 for up to four hours.

**147/22 HOLBETON PUBLIC TOILETS**

- Transfer of building to the Parish Council - ongoing.

- Graffiti etc. in the public toilets - Cllr Sherrell reported on recent graffiti etc. which has been reported to the police. RESOLVED to pay the cleaner an additional £20 for the work required to clean the toilets after this incident. **ACTION: Clerk**

**148/22 REVISED ALLOTMENT AGREEMENT**

RESOLVED to approve the revised allotment agreement for new allotment tenants.

**149/22 FEEDBACK FROM WEEKLY BIKE TRACK & PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS INSPECTIONS - Cllrs Reece/Sherrell**

The defibs at Battisborough Cross and Holbeton have been activated.

**150/22 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Callcut - parishioner has asked me to report the following 3 things:

- Landslip near Gibb Cottages - is the Flete Estate responsible for repairs and if so, have they been contacted?
- Vicarage Hill hedge - this is creeping out into the road and the parishioner believes Flete should cut this back - can HPC ask the landowner to arrange this? RESOLVED Cllr Callcut will liaise with Flete Estate. **ACTION: Cllr Callcut**
- The new gates at Brownswell Farm - the gate post has gone through the sewer pipe and sewage is apparently leaking into the field. Can the PC contact Flete to repair? RESOLVED Cllr Flower will liaise with Flete Estate. **ACTION: Cllr Flower**

Cllr Reece is now a trustee on Holbeton Village Hall.

Cllr Ackroyd - has received queries from parishioners in connection with holiday accommodation at Scobbiscombe Farm, Holbeton. RESOLVED to be placed on the March 2023 parish council agenda. **ACTION: Clerk**

Cllr Sherrell - water leak at the allotment which has been rectified by Cllr Sherrell. RESOLVED to reimburse Cllr Sherrell for the new valve.

**151/22 CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE:** - eDF - monthly payments will change to £84.00 starting on 1 March 2023 (Holbeton Reading Rooms)

**152/22 TO CONFIRM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATE AND VENUE**

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **Tuesday 14 March 2023** in Holbeton Village Hall at **7.30 pm**.

The meeting closed at 9.32 pm.

*John Sherrell*

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(Holbeton Parish Council Chairman)

Date: 14 March 2023

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

**Dementia Friendly Parishes Around The Yealm**



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.