

## MINUTES OF HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11 APRIL 2023 AT 7.30 PM IN HOLBETON VILLAGE HALL

**Present:** Cllrs John Sherrell (Chairman), Harry Baumer, Tony Callcut, Mike Reece, Chris Flower,  
Nirosha Gunatillake, Julie Fuller and Trudie Timlin Brown

County and District Councillor Dan Thomas  
District Councillor Keith Baldry  
Teresa Drew - Clerk

**Visitor(s)/Parishioner(s) present:** 0

Cllr Sherrell wished to thank those Parish Councillors standing down at the Local Election 2023, for their support and help. In addition, the Parish Council wished to thank Cllr Keith Baldry, who was standing down as District Councillor, for all his help and advice.

### 170/22 ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Ackroyd and Jim Melhuish.

### 171/22 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Reece - committee member of the Holbeton Village Hall.

### 172/22 REPORTS

County and District Councillor Dan Thomas report:

#### News from County Hall, April 2023

#### **Devolution deal for Devon, Plymouth and Torbay moves a step closer**

A new deal that will transfer money and powers into the hands of local Leaders across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay, has moved a step closer with the backing of the Government's Levelling Up Minister, Dehenna Davison. Outline approval has been given for a Devon-wide devolution deal which could bring greater local control and allow partners to tap into additional resources to help tackle key local priorities, such as affordable housing, better public transport and connectivity, and providing for the skills that the local economy needs.

The deal wouldn't require a change to the established democratic structures across the area, or the need for an elected Mayor. Instead, new powers would be devolved to a partnership of existing local councils who would deliver on a joint programme working alongside a wide range of other local stakeholders. Local partners across Devon have now been invited to work together to prepare a final business case to present to Government for approval later in the year.

Any final deal would require local consent with the full agreement of all the constituent councils as well as Parliamentary approval.

#### **Every penny of the extra £9.4m will be spent making our roads more resilient**

Every penny of the extra £9.4 million for Devon, announced in the Chancellor's budget recently, will be spent on improving our roads and making them more resilient. Most of it will go towards the Local Area Capital Programmes, which will reflect local priorities identified through our elected members and Neighbourhood Highway Officers.

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

Using inspections and survey data, the remaining funding will be directed to preventative works to stop potholes forming in the first place. Prolonged spells of very wet weather and freezing road temperatures this winter have been hugely detrimental to the condition of our 8,000 mile road network. To tackle it, over the past few months, we doubled the number of pothole teams, introduced weekend working and extended working hours across the network. That resulted in up to 2,200 potholes being repaired each week.

**District Councillor Keith Baldry report:**

I have been District Councillor for 16 years and for this Parish for the past 8. Before that I was our County Councillor in the 1990's. I am not standing on 4 May. Throughout my time this Parish Council has been supportive. Thank you. I know that some of you are also not standing. I wish you well.

On Thursday I will be recommending to the South Hams Executive and to Full Council a further and improved change to the way we operate the waste and recycling service across the District. I am confident that the change will be agreed. The service has been back in house since October last year. Since then, the team have improved the service. In February for the first time in over 3 years we achieved the national industry performance standard. Having achieved this the team are now ready to make improvements.

At present about half of the District is not offered a full recycling service and food waste is not collected separately for nearly 40%. Instead, it goes for incineration. Not only is this not equitable for all residents, but it costs the District. We have to pay Chelson Meadow to separate the materials and they get the recycling credits.

The proposal is that from October 98% of households will get the full service, including weekly collection of food waste and recycling paper, card, plastics, metal, and glass. I would prefer to make the change earlier, but 10 additional vehicles need to be purchased and there is a lead in time for this. The change will bring revenue costs back to budget. The change will noticeably improve recycling rates.

You will have seen that we are once again street cleaning. This week we are litter picking on the A38.

**(b) Question(s)**

None

**173/22 PAST SUBJECT MATTERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPORT ONLY**

Youth Club - the following emailed report was received from Cllr Gunatillake - *RESOLVED to pay a financial contribution of £2,500 annual contribution for a Youth Service in Holbeton, which is planned to take place every fortnight by TRAYE (Totnes Rural Area Youth Engagement).* **ACTION: Clerk**

Extension to the 30mph speed limit at Battisborough Cross - *signs to be erected within a couple of weeks.* **ACTION: Cllr Sherrell**

**174/22 APPROVAL OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

RESOLVED to approve the Parish Council Meeting minutes of 14 March 2023 (as previously circulated).

## 175/22 SWIMMING POOL PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Cllr Baldry has spoken to a contact at SHDC but was informed currently there is no planning guidance for swimming pool applications. Any planning guidance would have to be incorporated into Supplement Planning Document in due course, for planning applications to be refused.

RESOLVED that Cllr Sherrell will email Mr Adam Williams the Climate Change Specialist at SHDC and point out that under existing policy, planning application(s) cannot be refused for swimming pools and/or hot tubs. Also, to send a copy of the river Yealm planning document adopted by the parish council to Mr Adam Williams. **ACTION: Cllr Sherrell**

## 176/22 PL:21 SUPPORTS 20'S PLENTY CAMPAIGN FOR DEVON

Cllr Baumer pointed out that there is a national campaign to reduce speed limits. As the parish is keen to reduce speed, he suggested that the Parish Council support the campaign. RESOLVED to support the campaign. **ACTION: Clerk**

## 177/22 PLANNING

Reference: 0482/23/HHO Site Address: 5 Westerley, Battisborough Cross, PL8 1JT

Proposal: Householder application for two store rear & side elevations, alterations to driveway entrance & provision of separate storage unit (resubmission of 1345/22/HHO)

Recommendation: Support

No insulation mentioned in planning application

Stone wall at the entrance of the property to be kept as a local style

### Planning Decision

APPLICATION NUMBER: 3839/22/HHO Holbeton

LOCATION: Luson House Luson Yealmpton PL8 2JD

DECISION: Conditional Approval

## 178/22 HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL CLIMATE CHANGE SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE - Cllr Baumer

The Holbeton Parish Council Climate Change subcommittee meeting took place on Tuesday 4 April 2023.

### • A community compost facility in the parish

Since last month's report Cllr Baumer has visited the location on the outskirts of Newton Ferrers with Chris d'Avray from Newton and Noss and other councillors from Newton & Noss and Yealmpton.

This is located in the large farmyard of Newton Down farm. Whilst there is plenty of space within the yard, the access is down a single road and is quite narrow. The shortest route from parts of Holbeton would be likely to include the country lane past the Bull & Bear that is used by walkers, cyclists and horse riders and is quite narrow in places. The farmyard at Newton Down is very busy at weekends with children and their ponies.

RESOLVED that Parish Councillors will continue to look for a suitable site for Holbeton residents to use as a community composting facility.

### • An electric vehicle (EV) car charger for the village

Last month the parish council received a representation from the Chair of the village hall committee. A number of issues were raised.

Following that meeting Cllr Baumer wrote down the questions that had been raised along with responses that were intended to reassure the village hall management as to the implications for them. Cllr Baumer sent this to the Chair asking how they wished us to take forward the proposal.

Following a meeting of the village hall committee Cllr Baumer received the following email:

*"We had our monthly meeting yesterday. Thank you for answering some of our question. We understand that most of the set up costs will be covered by the parish council but there are less obvious concerns. As you know our two main worries are the on going problems of parking in the village and an EV point adds an extra issue.*

*Firstly, it is not one space but nearer two that would be taken up, as extra space must be allowed either side of parking bay because of fire risk and disabled parking. It also has to be positioned 10 metres from any building therefore it would be the other side of the car park. Secondly there are major concerns relating to our insurance and an increase to our electricity bills as at the moment we enjoy domestic rates of VAT. It would be a very real cost to the hall if the EV charger pushed us over the threshold.*

## 178/22 HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL CLIMATE CHANGE SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE – Cllr Baumer (continued)

*I have attached our initial response from our insurers for your information.*

*At the moment it was felt unnecessary to meet as we would just be going over old ground. The trustees await with interest the results of the detailed feasibility study that the PC will undertake and we can then meet to discuss further."*

Cllr Baumer has been offered help with a feasibility study by the parishioner offering the charger.

RESOLVED Cllr Sherrell will clarify whether the trustees are prepared for the village hall car park to be used before a feasibility study is undertaken. **ACTION: Cllr Sherrell**

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

- i) *A meeting with representatives from South West Water to consider how to get the most from a proposed new surface water drain extending the existing from the school to part way up Vicarage Hill.*

At the last parish council meeting we were awaiting a meeting with South West Water representatives to take place on Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> March. John Sherrell, John Mildmay-White and Cllr Baumer attended the meeting. SWW included Pennon's Community and Partnerships Manager, 2 SWW representatives with knowledge of Holbeton's system, and someone to take notes.

The draft minutes have just been circulated to those present for approval on accuracy, and Cllr Baumer will send them round to the parish councillors.

On [SWW's website](#) is a page reporting a £1.2 million scheme up to 2025 to improve the water quality at Mothecombe beach. They intend to undertake a survey in Holbeton Village of the existing system to establish what if any faults need attention. They also undertook to establish the likely distribution of the funding they are setting aside for Mothecombe beach.

It was agreed that as plans were drawn up for the new surface water drain in Holbeton, SWW would look at the feasibility of attaching some domestic surface water pipes into the new drain.

It has been suggested to me that Cllr Baumer send another letter to Gary Streeter "with several objectives: to make him aware of our developing plans in Holbeton; to make him aware of the wider plans across the catchment; to let him know something of the stats we have been unearthing, (appalling!); and to ask him for his support in taking the campaign(s) further. Selaine Saxby, MP N. Devon, added her voice last week in the Commons - would Streeter do something similar?"

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

At the second meeting of the group on the 23 March in Modbury, led by Cllr Ann Turner of Modbury Parish Council, it was agreed that assistance would be sought to help establish the terms of reference and membership of the group. There are plenty of individuals interested in joining the group.

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

The 5 Parishes Environmental Alliance is having a combined stand at the event on the 26 July. A grant of £419 has been received for this stand from Matt Chown, District Councillor.

- **Application for a Meet The Bees event to be held in the parish in May**

Following the approval of funding of £423 for this event last month a second application has been received for an additional £200 as the organisers have had to extend the event to Sunday with a second practical session. The event has been opened to residents of Holbeton before outsiders as there is a lot of interest from Moors Meadows members. The Climate Change subcommittee supported the application.

RESOLVED to grant £200.

### **Holbeton Environmental library**

The library lacks a readily accessible home.

The Mildmay Colours has kindly agreed to hold around 6 books from the library at a time on the understanding that they will not be liable for any books that fail to return.

## 178/22 HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL CLIMATE CHANGE SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE – Cllr Baumer (continued)

The PCC has approved holding the main collection of books (approximately 45) in All Saints Church. They will be located at the rear of the church on the pew under the tapestry.

The library documentation will be updated to reflect this change and efforts to advertise it will be increased. This will include a request for a more prominent position in the climate change page of the website. All books will have bookplates inserted.

- Application for further funding from Holbeton Cricket club**

Previously the parish council has approved the payment of £600 towards a pair of solar panels and a battery for the pavilion at Flete. The cricket club now wishes to extend their investment in renewable energy with the purchase of 2 electrically powered lawn mowers at a total cost of £2,702.

They are requesting an additional sum of £500 from the s106 funds (application attached). The bulk of the funding is being requested from the ECB County Grants Fund under its Climate Change scheme. The club is proposing to contribute £202 towards the project. However, their 2022 accounts show that they hold £5,737 at the end of that year. Therefore, the climate change subcommittee considered that a grant of up to £500 with matched funding from the cricket club would be reasonable.

RESOLVED to grant £500 of matched funding.

The next meeting of the Holbeton Parish Council Climate Change subcommittee will be on Tuesday 2 May 2023.

## 179/22 FINANCE

RESOLVED to approve the following:

- (i) Bank balances of: - Business Account as at 9 March 2023 = £5,000.00  
Treasurers Account as at 9 March 2023 = £23,118.90
- (ii) Receipt for March 2023: - (09.03.2023) £2.36 Bank Interest  
£156.00 hire of Reading Rooms
- (iii) Grant Request: - Holbeton Cricket Club - electric lawnmowers purchase - see minute 178/22  
Mothecombe Gardens Wildlife Education Group - Meet the Bees tutorial - see minutes 178/22
- (iv) RESOLVED to make the following payments: -

Payee	Description	Gross	VAT	Net
Mrs T Drew	Clerk - March 2023 Salary	£515.80	-	-
HMRC	HMRC - March 2023	£31.60	-	-
Amanda Coe	Cleaning of Holbeton Public Toilets - @ £13.00 per hour - March 2023	£52.00	-	-
DB Computer Repairs	Monthly maintenance of Parish website - March 2023	£40.00	-	-
Parish Clerk	Reimbursement for a green lever arch file	£5.60	£0.73	£4.87
Holbeton Village Hall	Hire of function rooms - April 2023	£1bc	-	-
South Hams District Council	Providing 2022/23 Payroll Service for Parish Clerk	£120.00	£20.00	£100.00
J C Garden Services	Strimming bike ramps, cutting back laurel and hazel over hanging branches and strimming pathway in play park	£310.00	-	-
Devon Association of Local Councils	NALC Affiliation Fee 2023-2024 £37.09 No VAT DALC Service Charge 2023-2024 £7.48 Exempt. DALC Affiliation Fee 2023-2024 £99.43 205 VAT	£163.89	£19.89	£144.00
Mr A Hollett	Purchase of toilet rolls for the public toilet in the village	£20.00	-	-
Mr W Scarlett	Grass cutting at Battisborough Cross playing field	£124.00	-	-
Cllr Harry Baumer	Reimbursement to Cllr Baumer - Yealmpton Show Stands, insurance etc	£154.40	-	-

## 179/22 FINANCE (continued)

### (v) Approved Financial Statement

Financial Statement		
Lloyds Bank Business Account bank statement as at 9 March 2023 :	£5,000.00	
Lloyds bank Treasurers Account bank statement as at 9 March 2023:	£23,118.90	
	Total =	£28,118.90
Less: any unrepresented cheques	001615	-£210.00
	001691	-£40.00
	001700	-£40.00
	001706	-£489.60
	001706	-£26.00
	001707	-£31.80
	001708	-£65.00
	001709	-£40.00
	001710	-£38.60
	001711	-£7.79
	001712	-£62.00
	001713	-£100.00
	001714	-£100.00
	Total Funds =	£26,868.11

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

## 180/22 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

RESOLVED Cllr Timlin Brown verified the bank reconciliations.

## 181/22 REVIEW OPERATION LONDON BRIDGE PROTOCOL DOCUMENT

RESOLVED to approve the document.

## 182/22 HOLBETON PARISH- KING CHARLES III CORONATION BIG LUNCH

Application for the road closure to host the big lunch in the village, has been agreed by Devon County Council.

## 183/22 HOLBETON READING ROOMS - HEATING TIMER

RESOLVED not to replace the timer but to monitor the situation.

Cllr Reece explained there was a drainage problem, which is being investigated, as the toilet and sink is not useable. It was decided not to touch the slump in the Gibb Lane bank whilst it was stable, as to move it would make matters worse.

## 184/22 HOLBETON PUBLIC TOILETS

Transfer of building to the Parish Council - ongoing. RESOLVED Cllr Baldry will speak to a contact at SHDC to ascertain why progress has not been made. **ACTION: Cllr Baldry**

## 185/22 FEEDBACK FROM WEEKLY BIKE TRACK & PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS INSPECTIONS - Cllrs Reece/Sherrell

No issues raised.

## 186/22 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr Callcut reported that a parishioner has pointed out the drains on Church Hill are blocked and the road hedge on Vicarage Hill needs to be cut back. Also, the wall by "Stone Haven" needs to be addressed.

Cllr Baumer wished to pursue the idea of litter picking in the parish by Cllr Ackroyd. RESOLVED the Clerk to investigate how litter picking equipment can be purchased and passed to parishioners for litter picking within the parish. **ACTION: Clerk**

Cllr Ackroyd has informed the Clerk, she has sent an email to Cllr Dan Thomas to make him aware of a drainage issue when it rains on the approach to the new roundabout at Hollowcombe on the A379 direction coming from Holbeton.

## 187/22 CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE: -

- Email from parishioners - A plan for Battisborough Cross playing field = In consideration of the initiative to stimulate wildlife and meadowlands it is worthy of thought to use the field at Battisborough Cross to achieve a small amount towards this.

The southern periphery of the field is a bit of a mess currently and with not too much of work it could be transformed into a wildflower/meadow area.

To achieve this the area needs to be well prepared through scarification and to achieve good light the ash trees would need to be reduced to form a hedgerow similar to the rest of the field. This would provide a substantial habitat for nesting birds and indeed revert that stretch back to its original hedgerow state.

Flete Estate are aware of this initiative and are fully supportive of the plan. The Croquet Club are happy to manage the transformation.

Support from the Parish Council is sought as it is the holder of the lease of the field from the Flete Estate.

- DCC - TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC & PARKING NOTICE is hereby given that Devon County Council has made the above titled order. On SUNDAY 7 MAY 2023 for a maximum of 1 day Anticipated Finish SUNDAY 7 MAY 2023 Between the hours of 11:00 and 18:00 - Holbeton Coronation Celebration Street Party, Holbeton

RESOLVED the Cllr Sherrell/Clerk to respond stating that the trees do not need to be removed for a wildflower/meadow area. **ACTION:** Cllr Sherrell

Mr Hearn - Dementia Friendly Parishes Around the Yealm - one of the 3 charities sponsored by Tesco's blue disc scheme, which allows shoppers to choose which community cause it would like to support.

## 188/22 LOCAL ELECTION 2023

The local elections are on Thursday, 4 May 2023. All current councillors will stand down and elections will be held to replace them. The deadline of delivery by hand of nomination papers to the Returning Officer was 4pm on Tuesday 4 April 2023. Six nominations have been received for the parish council. Therefore, there will not be a parish council election, but there is a District Council election.

The deadline to register to vote was Monday 17 April 2023, for the local elections on 4th May 2023. The deadline to apply for a postal vote is 5pm on Tuesday 18 April 2023. You will need to be registered to vote, and this can be done on the government website: <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>.

You will also now need to show photo ID to vote, such as a passport or driving licence. You can check what ID is accepted on the electoral commission website: <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/iam-a/voter/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id>

If you don't have an accepted form of photo ID, you can apply for a free voter ID document, which is known as a Voter Authority Certificate: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate>

## 189/22 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Annual Parish Meeting will take place on **Tuesday 16 May 2023** at **8.00 pm** in Holbeton Village Hall the speaker will be Maxine from the Dementia Friendly Parishes around the Yealm.

## 190/22 ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Annual Parish Council Meeting will commence at 7.00 pm prior to the Annual Parish Meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

John Sherrell

(Holbeton Parish Council Chairman)

Date: 16 May 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.