

Holbeton Parish Council Climate Change Subcommittee update

The first year's expenditure on environmental projects

In January 2020 the parish council was one of 3 councils that received £3,646 as part of an agreement between the owners of the land on which the Creacombe solar farm was built and South Hams District Council.

Holbeton Parish Council decided to earmark this money for environmental projects. In the last 12 months just over £3,000 has been spent or reserved for a number of projects including the environmental library currently held in the Reading Rooms; the wildflower area; a survey of Holbeton residents as to their energy suppliers and whether they had swapped to low energy lights; the conversion of All Saints Church to LED lights; and the bird box project.

The subcommittee is always interested to hear of local good environmental ideas that require funding, and will be glad to provide help in developing and funding them.

The environmental book of the month is:

***Entangled Life, How Fungi Make Our Worlds, Change Our Minds and Shape Our Futures*, by Merlin Sheldrake**, for which he won the £25,000 Royal Society Science Book Prize. Praised for its "scientific rigour" and for "illuminating an important but little understood topic".

As with the previous book of the month this book is not in the environmental library, but will shortly be donated to the environmental books held in the Reading Rooms.

The environmental tip of the month is about sustainable hairdressing, written by Jan Sellick.

Electric vehicle charge points. Sir Gary Streeter has written to South Hams District Council planning department supporting the parish council's request to have the infrastructure for electric vehicle (EV) charge points installed in the public car park as part of the Church Hill development. He concludes that "taking steps like these will enable existing and future residents of Holbeton to tackle climate change from within their own community."

Meantime, anyone wishing to explore the feasibility of installing a private EV charge point whilst their car is parked in the street outside their house should contact the subcommittee to get advice and help.

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