

Holbeton Parish Council Climate Change Subcommittee update

Devon County Council's pension fund portfolio

Following an initiative by Dartington Parish Council, Holbeton Parish Council has passed the following resolution: *“Holbeton Parish Council urges Devon County Council to ensure that its pension scheme divests itself of fossil fuel investments as a matter of urgency, with special emphasis on investing in truly carbon neutral and carbon positive investments. These must align with the County Council's declaration of a Climate and Ecological Emergency, its commitments to the Devon Carbon Plan and to being carbon neutral by 2030.”*

This has been sent to the assistant finance officer at Devon County Council with responsibility for their pension fund.

Government consultation on the Glover Landscapes Review

This is an opportunity to stop ‘off-roading’ our green lanes in our Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), with the consequent damage to these ancient byways. Holbeton Parish Council will be responding to the consultation, open until the 9th April. If individuals wish to respond, it can be found by Googling “defra landscapes review consultation”. It covers quite a lot of other natural landscape issues.

The wildflower area outside the Reading Rooms

This had a good first year, with plenty of diversity among wild flowers during the summer months.

As it will take longer for such a variety to be maintained naturally we will be re-seeding the area this spring with local wild flowers to encourage its diversity to continue. Keep an eye on the area when passing in the coming months!

Electric vehicle charge points. After researching the idea of getting a public electric car (EV) charge point established in the village, the parish council have decided not to pursue the idea at the moment.

This would typically be a 22 kilowatt charger, which could charge a car 3 times as fast as the typical car charger installed for domestic recharging of an electric car.

A public charger does have a significant cost to run, maintain and repair. This is offset by the company owning it charging a higher price than a domestic charger, typically twice as much.

It would be very unlikely that anyone thinking of buying an electric car would want to pay such a large premium by using a public charge point.



It is likewise very unlikely that a commercial car charging company would wish to install one in a small village. If they or the parish council did install one in Holbeton village there would be a significant risk that it would not be used enough to cover costs.

At some time in the future, as electric car ownership increases, it seems very likely that there will be many more EV chargers in the village.

Harry Baumer, 01752 830274,
harryluson@gmail.com