

# Holbeton Parish Council Climate Change Subcommittee update

## The October rise in electricity prices: how much will we be paying?

The reporting of the next UK ‘price cap’ in electricity charges is potentially confusing. It is reported as the “annual amount”, which is expected to rise from £1,970 to £2,800. This does not mean that these are the maximum costs that individual households will have to bear. It is an amount that an **average household** might expect to pay.

Our payments are calculated by our supplier as an **amount per kilowatt hour** (kWh) of electricity we consume, and a **daily standing charge** that will be levied every day irrespective of how much electricity is used. These two figures have not yet been published for October onwards.

Extrapolating from the current cap of 28 pence per kWh, and assuming both charges increase by the same percentage, the amount we all can expect to get charged from October would be around 40 pence per kWh.

The maximum standing charge, currently just under 50p a day (£182 a year) would also rise to 65 to 70 pence a day (a total of £237 to £255 a year, a rise of between £54 and £73 a year). The smaller the annual bill, the more the standing charge contributes to our electricity costs. It is possible that this daily standing charge might be reduced or kept the same.

In order to know what to expect you need to multiply the number of kilowatt hours of electricity you use (you should find this somewhere on your bill for the previous year) by the amount you pay (a guesstimate for October onwards is 40 pence), and it is this that will be the major factor that increases our bills.

**Life on the edge project**, led by South Devon AONB and involving lots of other organisations, aims to restore wildflower meadows along the South Devon Coast, a vital habitat for rare and endangered invertebrates. The Erme estuary is one of the 5 ‘hotspots’.

The project has received a grant of over £200,000 from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, with a further grant of around £2 million yet to come, to be spent over 5 years. The project plans to engage the whole community, from farmers, landowners, school children, and anyone with a love for the beautiful natural environment we live in. By getting involved you can make a real difference for the extraordinary and highly vulnerable invertebrates, helping to expand the habitats on which they depend.

If you want to learn more about this project there is [an inspiring short video](#) that you can watch on the AONB website. If you want to get involved do get in touch with Nicky Bailey ([nicky.bailey@southdevonaonb.org.uk](mailto:nicky.bailey@southdevonaonb.org.uk)) or myself.

**Holbeton’s sewage problems.** I am in communication with our MP, Sir Gary Streeter, on this matter. I have circulated my email correspondence to a number of people in Holbeton Parish. If you haven’t received this and wish to see what is happening, do contact me and I will forward a copy. I would also like to know if Sir Gary has been in email correspondence with you.

If you are a pet owner I hope you find this month’s **tip of the month** useful, which is on treatments for fleas and ticks. These are carefully put together and the previous ones will be available on the climate change page of Holbeton Parish Council website. Holbeton Parish Council supports these, but of course the content is the opinion of the writer, and not necessarily that of the council.