

HOLCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL
MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

www.holcombepc.org.uk

Clerk: Vickie Watts, Gallant Hill Farm, Foxcote, Radstock, BA3 5YB
clerk@holcombepc.org.uk 07971 516916 - 01749 880428

**Minutes from Holcombe Parish Council meeting, which took place on
Tuesday 4th June 2019 at 7.30 pm.**

Councillors Present Cllr Graham Crowe - Chairman
Cllr Simon Brand
Cllr Stephenie Chorley
Cllr Terry Dumbrell
Cllr Phil Gait
Cllr Sue Robinson
Cllr Russell Stokes

Also, Present: County Cllr Mike Pullin

In attendance: Clerk, Vickie Watts taking the minutes, 0 members of the public

1 Public forum.

Cllr Dumbrell had received a complaint regarding an overgrown fir tree at "Sans Souci", Stratton Road. It obstructs the footpath and needs trimming by the landowner. It was agreed that the Clerk would write requesting that the hedge be cut back.

VW

2 Apologies for absence

District Cllr Townsend, District Cllr Ham and PCSO Michael Storey had sent apologies which were accepted by the Chair.

3 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations

There were none.

4 Co-option of Councillors

It is understood that there is one member of the public that is interested in joining the Council and co-option can take place at the next meeting. The Clerk to advertise that there are currently 2 Councillor vacancies.

Ag
VW

5 Minutes of previous annual Parish meeting and the monthly meeting held on 2nd May 2019

The draft minutes for the abovementioned meetings had been circulated to all Councillors. It was suggested that an amendment be made at minute reference 5 to show that Cllr Chorley seconded the adoption of policies during the annual Parish meeting. This was agreed by all Councillors present. The start time stated in the same minutes was also amended to state 7pm rather than 7.30pm.

It was proposed by Cllr Dumbrell and seconded by Cllr Stokes that both sets of minutes (including the proposed amendments) were an accurate record and so were duly signed by the Chair. The Clerk to upload minutes to the website.

VW

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against & 0 Abstentions

6 Action points from last meeting and matters arising.

6.1 All actions have been completed or are to be discussed during the agenda apart from:

- The Clerk said that a response had been received from the Wells Vineyard which gave more details about the charity but clarified that they had not directly helped any residents from Holcombe. There was a discussion regarding the powers that the Council has and whether we could support the Church Foodbank or other charities like the Air Ambulance. The Clerk would look into this and report at the next meeting.

VW
Ag

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7 Planning Applications

2019/1112/HSE - Erection of single storey rear extension. Utara Holcombe Hill Holcombe Radstock Somerset

All Councillors had considered the plans prior to the meeting. It was noted that the planning website did not show a list of neighbours that had been consulted on this application. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Crowe and seconded by Cllr Stokes that the application be recommended for approval providing neighbours have been properly informed as the website does not show a list of neighbours that had been consulted.

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against & 0 Abstentions

It was agreed that Cllr Dumbrell would check each new application that came to the Council to be considered to establish if the plans and paperwork were complete and if not then he would question Mendip District Council as to their view on whether it was of the required standard.

8 Planning Updates

2019/0559/HSE – new roof design to accommodate loft conversion, creation of a wooden structured gable end to the front and to the rear of the property finished in wooden cladding. Shalimar Lane off Holcombe Hill, Holcombe, BA3 5DE
Mendip District Council approved with conditions

9 Reports

9.1 PCSO Reports

PCSO Mike Storey sent his apologies but no report was received.

9.2 District Council Report:

District Cllr Townsend and District Cllr Ham did not attend. Cllr Townsend emailed the following report:

This is a very busy period at Mendip with some 18 meetings and training sessions this month alone. As discussed at last week's Annual meeting of the parish I have written to Charlie Higgins at Highways to request a meeting to look at dropped kerbs for wheelchair access. Before we meet we need to agree a specific proposal to put to him. I have also written to Rebecca Davies at Highways to request a site meeting to look at the safety issues at the Charlton Rd junction with Charmborough Lane.

9.3 County Council Report

County Cllr Pullin attended the meeting and reported that Somerset County Council are progressing well with improved finances and reserves

He confirmed that additional funding had been provided to ensure that 90 Small Improvement Schemes were delivered. County Cllr Pullin will be taking the lead in this project.

Cllr Pullin agreed to call a meeting between Rebecca Davies of Somerset Highways and Parish Council representatives to consider options on how to slow the speed of traffic passing through the village. He confirmed that some rules had been relaxed and it was hoped that this would allow requests for lines and signage to be agreed and delivered more swiftly than in the past.

Cllr Pullin will request that the police enforcement bikes should attend and show a presence within the village.

10 Highways including:

- Update on meeting with Somerset Highways

As mentioned above County Cllr Pullin will arrange a meeting in the near future. If at that meeting Somerset Highways are unable to propose a scheme for implementation then the Parish Council can write to Parishioners to let them know why nothing has been done about the consistent speeding through the village. A public meeting may need to be held with the Parishioners to garner support for any scheme proposed.

VW

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- Charmborough Lane Junction with Coleford
A member of the public had asked the Council to consider whether anything could be done to make it less dangerous to pull out of Charmborough Road onto Charlton Road where there have been some accidents resulting from vehicles traveling at speed from Holcombe towards Radstock. This combined with poor visibility when pulling out of Charmborough Road is a dangerous situation. District Cllr Townsend had been notified and said that he would raise this with the Highways department. Councillors were encouraged to pass on information relating to any near misses to help support the application for improvements. ALL

- Discuss concerns for members of the Welcome Club parking on Charlton Road
At the recent meeting of the Parish, it was brought to the Council's attention that there had been verbal abuse of a senior citizen who had parked legally on Charlton Road when attending the Welcome Club, which had been an upsetting incident.

It was suggested that the incident should be reported to the Police. The Clerk to notify the PCSO of the dates that the group meet so that he can visit and help to educate the members on parking considerately but also to show residents that they have been informed and could discuss concerns if anyone should complain. VW

Council agreed that a plea would be placed in On the Map to encourage residents on Charlton Road to be neighbourly towards users of the Hall parking legally on the road. VW

- Discuss and decide whether to support a request for the installation of a mirror opposite Mendip Gardens to ease negotiating onto Charlton Road
After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Gait and seconded by Cllr Chorley that in light of Somerset Highways not supporting the installation of such mirrors that the Parish Council should not proceed with the request.

Vote: 6 For, 0 Against & 1 Abstentions

- Holcombe Hill overgrown hedge and road edging vegetation.
A request had been passed on through Cllr Chorley that the hedge and roadside vegetation on Holcombe Hill need to be cut back and cleared as it was starting to reduce the width of the road.

After consideration it was agreed that the Clerk would write:
 - To the home owner requesting that they cut back the hedge VW
 - To Somerset Highways requesting that they clear the road edge VW

- Auto Speed Watch
Information had been circulated to all Councillors regarding a new device which records speeding traffic. Information can be passed straight to Avon and Somerset Police who could then write to the most prolific offenders. After discussion it appears that the Police are not currently in a position to be able to process the huge amount of data which can be gleaned. It was therefore proposed that we write to the suppliers to say that we are interested but only at the time that the device is fully functioning and being fully utilised by the Police.

- Update on the replacement sign for Stratton Road
The Clerk had emailed a request to Mike Isherwood but had not as yet received a response. They will resend to ensure that the correct department receive the request. VW

10 Finance

10.1 Income - There was none.

10.2 Bank reconciliation – The Clerk had prepared the bank reconciliation which was then checked by Cllr Gait and found to be in order.

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10.3 Payments

The following payments were presented for payments:

Vickie Watts – Clerk Salary & expenses	£262.50
Steph Chorley – Refreshments for Annual Parish Meeting	£ 19.97

It was proposed by Cllr Stokes and seconded by Cllr Gait that the payments should be made. Cheques were signed by Cllr Robinson and Cllr Brand

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against & 0 Abstentions

11 Consider quote for the purchase and installation of a flag pole

Adjourn until the next meeting.

Ag

12 VE Day 75 – 8th May 2020

The Clerk had received an email which highlighted different activities which will take place in 2020 to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day. Councillors generally agreed that it would be good to mark the occasion but at this point agreed that the email be circulated to all village groups with a note to say that we intend to revisit this in November when we will decide what we might like to do.

VW

13 Approve recent use of the car park

A request was received to us the playing field car park on Saturday the 18th May for a coffee morning which was raising money for a homeless charity. It would be required from 9.45pm until 12.30. An email was sent to all Councillors by the Clerk to seek approval which was given by the majority. The event will be recorded in the car park diary by the Clerk.

VW

14 External meetings to attend and reports on meetings attended

18/06/19 10am to 1pm - Somerset Playing Field Association fundraising workshop.

13/06/19 at 6pm - Parish Forum

07/06/19 at 12 noon – Mendip District Council Market Place Event

SALC training for new Councillors – various dates provided. Councillors to notify the Clerk if they wish to attend.

15 Councillor reports and updates

15.1 Village Hall

There was nothing to report. The next meeting will take place on the 13th August 2019. The next breakfast event will take place on 08/06/19 at 9.30 until 11am.

15.2 Playing Field – Including jobs for the Community pay back team

Cllr Stokes confirmed that he was in the process of arranging a convenient date to meet the contractor Ryan Symes to mark-up the path and complete the survey. It is hoped this will be completed soon.

It was agreed that Bob Mitchell would purchase the materials for the pay back team prior to them attending. The Clerk will provide the refreshments.

VW

15.3 Cemetery – The Clerk had emailed Revd Clarissa Cridland to say that the Council was prepared to fund the building of the path but the Church should deal with securing the faculty and any planning permission that might be required. There has been no response. Clerk to follow up as it would be good to have the track installed before the winter.

VW

16 Correspondence

Parish Bulletin

Avon & Somerset Police newsletter

NHS Political briefing

17 Dates for next meetings

Tuesday 2nd July – 7.30pm for monthly Parish Council meeting

Meeting finished 21.40hrs