

**HOLCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET**

**[www.holcombepc.org.uk](http://www.holcombepc.org.uk)**

**Clerk: Vickie Watts, Gallant Hill Farm, Foxcote, Radstock, BA3 5YB**  
**[clerk@holcombepc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@holcombepc.org.uk) 07971 516916 / 01479 880428**

**Minutes from Holcombe Parish Council Meeting, which took place on**  
**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Jun 2022 at 7.30 pm at Holcombe Village Hall**

*Councillors Present*      Cllr Simon Brand (Chair)  
                                 Cllr Phil Gait  
                                 Cllr Helen Kerr  
                                 Cllr Simon Eade

*In attendance:*      County Cllr Edric Hobbs and District Cllr Alan Townsend  
                                 There were 2 members of the public.

**1. Public forum**

Cllr Edric Hobbs introduced himself as the new Somerset and Mendip Councillor for Holcombe and outlined his responsibilities. He stated that he was keen to work with the PCs in the future and that during canvassing he had been made aware that speeding in Holcombe was a priority.

Cllr Hobbs left the meeting at 19.55hrs

**2. Apologies for absence**

District Cllr Philip Ham and County Cllr Tony Robbins sent their apologies which were accepted by the Chair.

**3. Declaration of interests and dispensations**

There were none

**4. Approve Minutes of previous meeting held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

The Clerk had circulated the minutes prior to the meeting. Cllr Kerr proposed that they should be approved which was seconded by Cllr Gait. The Clerk to upload to the Parish website.

***Vote: 3 For, 0 Against and 1 Abstentions***

**5. Action updates from the last meeting**

All actions had been carried out or would be discussed later in the meeting as an agenda item.

**6. Planning Applications**

1. 2022/1147/VRC - Land South Of Budds Croft Brewery Lane, Holcombe  
Application to vary 2 (plans), pre-commencement 4 (schedule of materials), 10 (Mitigation Measures), 11 (Nesting Birds), 12 (Reptiles), 14 (Foul Sewer) of planning approval 2019/2466/FUL  
(Proposed erection of single storey 2 bed dwellinghouse and associated works) to plans 038-00-(P)00, 038-00-(P)100, 038-02-(P)00, 038-02-(P)01, 038-04-(P)01, 038-04-(P)02

All Councillors had had the opportunity to consider the plans prior to the meeting. Cllr Brand outlined that there were 8 points that they were seeking to vary. The main change was the orientation of the property to optimise the space on the site. The car port and living room are to be rotated, some windows to be moved as well as the driveway and soft landscaping being increased.

The size of the property remains the same and there are no comments either in support or against the application to vary.

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Cllr Gait asked why so many changes were allowed to be pursued by way of variation rather than a new application. District Cllr Townsend said that it remained unclear as to how Mendip Planning qualify that.

After consideration Cllr Brand proposed that the application be recommended for approval which was seconded by Cllr Gait.

***Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions***

2. 2022/1106/HSE – Manor Farm Barn, Stratton Road, Holcombe  
Conversion of existing attached store to two bedrooms.

All Councillors had had the opportunity to consider the plans prior to the meeting. Cllr Brand outlined that the application was straightforward and sees 2 bedrooms created within the existing store meaning that there are no changes to the external structure.

It was proposed by Cllr Brand and seconded by Cllr Gait that the application be recommended for approval.

***Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions***

3. 2022/0649/FUL – Kingscote, Stratton Road, Holcombe, Radstock  
Erection of two detached dwellings with associated access and parking

All Councillors had had the opportunity to consider the plans prior to the meeting. Cllr Brand outlined that the site to the rear of Kingscote already has planning permission approved for a large dwelling. This application seeks to build 2 smaller houses (1 x 3 bed and 1 x 4 bed) instead. The size of the plot is adequate for the proposed properties.

The applicant attended the meeting and said that the proposed dwellings were intended for both his family and for his parents to live in. The houses are in the style of dormer bungalows meaning that the roof height is considerably lower than a standard house and would therefore be less obtrusive than the property already approved. He confirmed that the access will be shared with Kingscote and there will be parking for a total of 7 vehicles for the 2 new properties. The hedge on the border of Kingscote has become overgrown and will be extensively cut back to improve the visibility for those exiting the properties.

Cllr Brand confirmed that there had been no public comments on the planning website and therefore recommended approval which was seconded by Cllr Eade.

***Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions***

**2. Planning Updates**

There were none.

**3. Consider whether to purchase Auto Speed Watch rather than a Speed Indicator Device**

The Clerk had circulated information relating to Auto Speed Watch which outlined how it worked, the cost and highlighted that Avon and Somerset Police force were going to acknowledge it as a tool to help reduce speeding in the coming weeks.

The Council had previously agreed that a Speed Indicator Device (SID) would be rented for a period of time to trial in the village to establish whether it would have a positive impact on reducing the speed that cars travel at. The Clerk said that progress had been made with Somerset Highways returning the required signed Memorandum of Understanding. The training to allow the 2 volunteers to work on the highway has been booked for the 5<sup>th</sup> July and the company supplying the unit is aware of the wish to pursue the rental and should be sending an agreement imminently.

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After discussion it was agreed that the Council should continue to pursue the rental of the SID but keep up to speed with any developments in the ASW system as it begins to installed in other parishes.

**Action: The Clerk to progress with installation of the SID**

**4. Invoices for payments**

The following invoices were presented for payment:

V Watts – Salary £295.06 and expenses £25.46	£295.06
A Mason – Internal Audit	£42.00
Mendip CAB – Donation	£500.00

It was proposed by Cllr Gait and seconded by Cllr Kerr that the payments should be made.

***Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions***

**5. Correspondence**

Dave Sprinks has very kindly offered to run defibrillator training free of charge on 13/08/22 at Holcombe Village Hall. There will be 6 x 1 hour session starting at 9am. Those that wish to attend should book in with the Clerk.

Email dated 22/06/22 – Somerset County Council shared prosperity consultation. It was agreed that Cllr Brand would review and complete on behalf of the Council

Email dated 15/06/22 – Smart communities – Community Planning. Cllr Brand and the Clerk to attend the virtual briefing on 30/06/22 at 7.30pm

Doulting Parish Council – A meeting to discuss LGR Unitary on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022 will take place at Doulting village hall at 7.30pm. Cllr Brand to attend.

**18 Next meetings:**

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2022

Meeting closed at 20.33hrs