

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 / 01479 880428

**Minutes from Holcombe Parish Council Meeting, which took place on
Tuesday 1st November 2022 at 7.30 pm at Holcombe Village Hall**

Councillors Present Cllr Simon Brand
 Cllr Phil Gait
 Cllr Helen Kerr
 Cllr Simon Eade

In attendance: There was 1 member of the public.

1. Public forum

1. A member of the public had asked when the white lining was going to be redone and extended at the entrance to Scott's Close. The Clerk said that she had tried to contact the Somerset Highway engineers but had received no response but would seek the help of the District Councillors to expedite this matter.
2. An email had been received raising concern over the pending demise of On the Map and asking the Parish Council to consider providing support for it to continue.
3. It was also requested that rather than removing the discoloured panel at the Lychgate the Parish Council might consider having it painted by the Scouts or Guides with an abstract design to make it more attractive as it offers a valuable windbreak.

2. Apologies for absence

District Cllr Philip Ham, District Cllr Alan Townsend, County Cllr Tony Robbins and County Cllr Edric Hobbs 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 4th October 2022

The Clerk had circulated the minutes prior to the meeting. Cllr Kerr proposed that they were an accurate record of the meeting and should be approved which was seconded by Cllr Eade. The minutes were signed by Cllr Gait who was acting Chair for that meeting.

Vote: 3 For, 0 Against and 1 Abstentions

Action: Clerk to upload to the website

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 apart from:

1. Cllr Kerr would liaise with Holcombe Hive regarding the use of the car park for the 2023 Music Festival

Action: Cllr Kerr to liaise with the Holcombe Hive

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 / 01479 880428

6. Co-option of Councillors

David Roberts attended the meeting and had completed the consent to co-option form. He introduced himself and explained why he wished to join the parish council. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Brand and seconded by Cllr Kerr that Mr Roberts should be co-opted.

Vote: 4 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions

Action: Clerk to ensure that all paperwork is completed. Set up new email address and send the code of conduct to Cllr Roberts.

7. Reports

1. PCSO – A generic area newsletter had been received which highlighted what the neighbourhood policing team have been concentrating on during the last month. There was no mention of Holcombe within the report and no crime statistics given for the Mendip East area.
2. District Council report – District Cllrs Townsend and Ham did not attend but submitted the following report:

PLANNING - It was noted that Mendip have approved application ref 2021/2815 for the dwelling beyond The Mead on Brewery Lane. Despite being outside notional development limits, it would have been impossible for the Mendip Planners to refuse permission as there was no Significant and Demonstrable harm. This is the very high bar that is set as Mendip's Local Plan Part 2 which was adopted in December 2021 cannot demonstrate a forward 5-year housing land supply as required. Leigh on Mendip and Stoke St Michael are facing appeals against Mendip's refusal to grant permission for 2 developments of 40 plus houses outside of development limits. It is the same issue that the Planning Inspector relied on at Appeal to allow the development of 63 houses on the greenfield site outside development limits agreed by the Local Plan at Anchor Rd, Coleford.

Duke of Cumberland – the decision on the new car park is held pending resolution of issues raised by Highways and Natural England.

The Planning Board on 12th October approved the development of the site near Torr Works to provide concrete products for the track bed of HS2. The contract has already been awarded and will provide some 300 jobs.

HIGHWAYS

Brewery Lane - Highways have advised that the making good of the edges between Dark Lane and the bend is scheduled for late January and because of the road width they plan to close Brewery Lane for safety reasons. The District Councillors will request that the option of traffic lights be considered to avoid the inevitable difficult diversion.

3. County Council report – No report was received.
4. Update on Unitary – The Clerk submitted the response to the Community Network Consultation. The minutes from the recent Town and Parish Clerks Working Group, which are held fortnightly, were circulated to all Councillors.

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 / 01479 880428

8. Planning Applications

1. 2022/1897/HSE – Erection of static home in rear garden to be used as ancillary accommodation to the main dwelling. Shalimar Lane Off Holcombe Hill, Holcombe
All Councillors had considered the plans prior to the meeting. Cllr Brand outlined the details of the application and highlighted the impact the mobile home would have on the public visual amenity as well as the requirement to prune a number of trees to accommodate the home. He raised concern that no end date had been included in the application despite the home being temporary whilst building works at the main property were ongoing. He stated that he had visited the site to gain a better appreciation of the application and was surprised to find that the mobile home was already in situ and the trees already cut back. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Gait and seconded by Cllr Brand that the application be approved subject to the following points:

1. How long it is being proposed that it will be in situ.
2. The static home is already in situ.

Vote: 3 For, 1 Against and 0 Abstentions

Action: Clerk to notify the planning officer

9. Planning Updates

There were none.

10. Respond to Publication of Draft Supplementary Planning Document: Greenspace Consultation

Councillors had considered the consultation prior to the meeting. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would respond to say that Holcombe Parish Council has no comments.

Vote: 4 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions

Action: Clerk to respond to the consultation

11. Discuss the future of ‘On the Map’ and whether the Parish Council should take on the production.

Cllr Brand outlined that On the Map was started in 1975 with Rev'd Clarissa Cridland taking over as the editor in 2000 and after 22 years she wishes to stand down with next month being her final edition. Despite attempts to find a volunteer to take it on, no one has been forthcoming. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council is regrettably not able to take on the role.

Vote: 4 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions

12. Consider and agree location of Miner silhouette at the Lychgate.

The Miners Welfare have offered a metal miner silhouette free of charge to be displayed in the village to highlight the history of our mining heritage. It was agreed that a site meeting will be held to agree an appropriate location.

Vote: 4 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions

Action: Clerk to arrange a convenient time to meet

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 / 01479 880428

13. Consider request for work at Jubilee Garden – consider quotes for phase 1 removal of stumps, tree and shrubs.

The Clerk had received 4 quotes to complete the work specified for phase 1 of the project, which ranged from £320 to £1500. After discussion it was agreed that the quote received from Combe Garden Maintenance for £350 would be accepted to complete the work. The Clerk will notify all contractors of the decision and ensure that Julia is notified of when the work will commence so that she can be present at the start of the work.

Vote: 4 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions

Plans for Phase 2 were discussed and all agreed that this was a positive not only to reduce the health and safety risk to users, but it will also improve the appearance of the garden. Detailed plans of the proposed project will be submitted so that quotes can be sought and contractors selected at the December meeting

Action: Clerk to notify all Contractors of the decision on Phase 1. Phase 2 will be an agenda item for the December meeting.

14. Review new quotes to relocate the litter bin on Longleat Road.

As the original contractor, who was instructed to complete the work several months ago has not completed the work, further quotes were sought which ranged from £240 to £350. After discussion it was agreed that the quote received from Noel House for the total of £240 would be accepted.

Vote: 4 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions

Action: Clerk to notify all contractors of the decision made.

15. Discuss ways of celebrating the Coronation on 6th May 2023

Following the announcement that the Coronation of King Charles III will take place on the 6th May, Cllr Brand, after discussion with the Councillors, booked the same marquee, stage and lighting as supplied for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations earlier this year. Also booked are the Shepton Big Band and Tim Pitman to provide entertainment, Party Bench for seating and Mendip Medical services to provide first aid cover.

Cllr Brand suggested that the event should be run along similar lines as the Beacon Lighting ceremony and that the Parish Councillors should form the planning committee with some additional volunteers also supporting the process. The first planning meeting will take place in the new year.

Cllr Kerr proposed that the Parish Council underwrites the cost of the event to the sum of £2K which was seconded by Cllr Gait

Vote: 4 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions

16. Update on the Village Living room and whether there are sufficient volunteers to run it

Since the last meeting the application for funding from the Community Project Fund to provide a Village Living Room has been withdrawn.

17. Approve Safeguarding Policy and appoint a Designated Safeguarding Lead

The policy had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the Designated Safeguarding Lead would be the Chair. It was proposed by Cllr Gait and seconded by Cllr Brand that the policy should be adopted and all Councillors then signed the hard copy.

Action: Clerk to upload to the website

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 / 01479 880428

18. Finance

1. Bank reconciliation – Cllr Gait had checked the bank reconciliation and found it to be in order.
2. Second quarter budget review – The Clerk had circulated the 2nd quarter review which covered the period of 1st April to the 30th September. After discussion it was agreed that everything was in order with no concerns.
3. Invoices for payments -
The following invoices were presented for payment:

V Watts – Salary £387.55 and Expenses £23.91	£411.46
Nippers Tippers – Rainwater harvesting kit at Playing Field	£175.00

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

Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions

19. Highways

1. Update on the installation of speed indicator device
The Clerk has been informed that the installation should be possible imminently. The Clerk will continue to press for installation.

Action: Clerk to progress

2. Update existing issues already reported to Somerset Highways
The Clerk will continue to press Highway engineer Sara Davies to establish progress on:
 - The extension of the 30mph zone on Brewery Lane.
 - The request for white lining on the junction of Longleat Lane be extended into Scott's Close and the existing white lining be repainted.
 - Agree new locations for appropriate sites for SID posts on the other 3 main routes into the village.

Action: The Clerk to progress with the help of District Councillors

3. Report of new issues
There were no new issues reported.

20. Councillors reports/update including Playing Field, Village Hall, SALC etc

There were no reports

21. Meetings / Training to attend

01/11/22 @ 7pm Bus Service meeting – Ask for copy of the minutes
05/11/22 @ 10 – 16.30hrs SCOP II Climate Conference at Edgar Hall, Somerton – Cllr Gait to attend
10/11/22 @ 11am Parish Forum 'Planning' – Cllr Brand may be able to attend
11/11/22 @ 2pm Rights of Way meeting – Clerk to ask if Cllr Dyson wishes to attend.

22. Correspondence

1. Memorial request from Mr Barton. The Clerk to respond answering the questions raised and inform that the proposed design has been approved by the Councillors.
2. CPRE Newsletter & invite to the AGM on 04/11/22 @ 1pm. Passed to PG
3. New Somerset letter about funding & precept for 2023/24. No action required.
4. TQ Excel cards received for Cllr Eade and Cllr Roberts to show completion of working on the highways training which is valid for 10 years.

**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 / 01479 880428**

5. Next meetings:

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 6th December 2022

Meeting closed at 21.15hrs