

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

DRAFT

**Minutes from Holcombe Parish Council Meeting, which took place on
Tuesday 7th September 2021 at 7.30 pm at Holcombe Village Hall.**

Councillors Present Cllr Simon Brand (Chair)
 Cllr Simon Eade
 Cllr Phil Gait
 Cllr Anne Golledge
 Cllr Sue Robinson

In attendance: District Cllr Alan Townsend
 There were no members of the public

1. Public forum

There were no points raised.

District Councillor Townsend gave the following report from Mendip District Council:

UNITARY - The next step is for the County to put forward to Central Government proposals for the numbers of new councillors. MHCLG are looking for well below 100, though it is argued that this would give a democratic deficit. The simple solution is to go for 110, i.e., putting 2 unitary councillors in each existing County ward. Proposals have to be submitted by mid-September.

HIGHWAYS - Good to see some progress. After a year of chasing Charlton Rd has been surface dressed along 2 sections to reduce the skid risk. Also along Stoke Bottom some repairs have been done, others are now marked up as requested.

PLANNING - The Gladman appeal on the 63 houses at Coleford was held virtually on 18th August. There was disappointment that the Inspector insisted on doing his site visit unaccompanied as we wanted to highlight the Highway issues to him on the ground. We can only hope he listened to and read all our representations. The result could take anything from 3 weeks to 3 months. Meanwhile there is some progress on the Local Plan Part 2; the Inspector's final report has been fact checked

PARISH FORUM - A virtual Parish Forum will be held on 14th September, featuring an update from the Leader, Mendip's Tourism Grant and the new Climate Change and Resilience Officer.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Dawe-Lane and the Clerk, which were accepted by the Chair.

3. Declaration of interests and dispensations

There were none.

4. Approve Minutes of previous meeting held on Tuesday 3rd August 2021

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

Vote: 5 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions

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5. Action points from last meeting and matters arising

- 5.1 A new sign for Common Lane has been ordered with Mendip District Council
- 5.2 The Clerk has written to land owners on Charlton Road between the Old School House and the junction for the Old Church asking them to cut back the hedges which border the road as they are encroaching over the highway.
- 5.3 The Clerk has notified Mendip District of Graham Crowe's resignation and has advertised the vacancy.
- 5.4 Cllr Brand wrote a letter to Graham Crowe thanking him for serving on the Council
- 5.5 The approved minutes from the previous meeting were uploaded to the Parish website
- 5.6 The Clerk asked the PCSO if they would provide a more detailed monthly report. They replied to say that this would only be possible on a quarterly basis
- 5.7 Cllr Golledge continues to progress the Somerset County Council Climate Emergency Fund application for a community orchard
- 5.8 The Clerk notified the applicant of the outcome on the Memorial Application for Mr R Ruston.
- 5.9 The Clerk submitted the request to OTM looking for land suitable for allotments
- 5.10 Cllr Golledge completed the feedback form as requested for the Bus Back Better scheme
- 5.11 Cllr Brand attended the Gladman Appeal
- 5.12 The Clerk booked Cllr Brand in for the Somerset Association of Local Councils Chairman training
- 5.13 Clerk to investigate information on Assets of Community Value – Outstanding

6. Planning Applications

6.1 2021/1908/VRC - Holcombe Playing Field, Brewery Lane, Holcombe, Radstock Application to vary condition 3 (hours of use of car park 08.00 - 20.00) of planning approval 2017/1743/VRC to extend hours of use of car park to midnight on Saturday 18th September 2021.

Cllr Brand stated that the application had been made on behalf of the Parish Council to extend the car park hours for an additional 4 hours on Sat 18 September to support the music event. After much consideration regarding the options for the parking of emergency and other vehicles in support of this event it was decided that this course of action represented the least disruptive to the residents who live around the Playing Field.

6.2 2021/1905/FUL - Land East Off Rose Farm, Charlton Road, Holcombe, Radstock Change of use of land from agricultural to facilitate the use as residential land with associated access and parking

Cllr Brand outlined the application and stated that no material considerations were breached by this request. He stressed that it would improve traffic flow on a dangerous stretch of Charlton Lane and enable the residents to manoeuvre their horse boxes and private vehicles more easily. He drew attention to the detailed report prepared by Della Valle architects in support of the applicant and said he agreed with their analysis.

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

7. Planning Updates

Cllr Brand briefed that the Parish Council had written to Mendip District Council regarding the application 2021/0506/FUL as there was a lengthy delay in making a decision and 3 more submissions amending the block plan had been submitted by the applicant during this time. Cllr Brand stated that the Parish Council sought clarification as to whether a material change had occurred thereby warranting a further discussion and also an explanation as to why this application had taken so long to process.

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8. Finance

8.1	Parish Council Payments	
	V Watts – Salary £327.69 and Expenses £37.07	£364.76
	Hillside Trees Ltd - Tree Survey	£120.00
	Citizens Advice Mendip – Annual Donation	£500.00
	V Watts – Wix annual subscription	£86.40

Cllr Gait proposed that all payments should be made which was seconded Cllr Robinson

- 8.2 Playing Field Payments
There were no payments

9. Next meetings

Parish Council meeting – Tuesday 5th October 2021

Meeting closed at 2020.

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