

HOLNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held in Holne Village Hall on Tuesday 9 January 2018 at 7.30pm

Present

Cllr B Owen (Chairman), J Bellamy, T Crook, D Higman and E Ross

Also present

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk) and Ross Gray (Tree Warden)

The meeting was opened at 7.30pm.

090118.01	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr G Simpson• Cllr A Vince• County Cllr Hosking• District Cllr P Smerdon
090118.02	Open Forum Ross Gray introduced himself to the newer members of the Council as the parish Tree Warden. His assistant, Alex Deuchers, also resides in the village. He reminded members that they were both available to help advise anybody in the parish with regard to issues they may have with trees, hedges and shrubs.
090118.03	District and County Councillors' Report Cllr Hosking was not present at the meeting but sent the following report: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sajid Javid has announced that we will have the flexibility to increase our Precept by a further 1% in 2018/19 to meet additional demands for Adult Health Services making the potential increase in Council Tax 5.99% without the need to hold a referendum. This will help to offset a reduction in Central Support Grant estimated at £23 million. The planned setting of the Devon County Council Budget for 2018/19 is in February 2018.• Devon is to be among the first 10 Counties to pilot 100% Uniform Business Rate retention. Early indications are that this will help our financial situation a little.• Another National Pothole Action Fund has been announced for 2017/18 with a total of £45 million to be distributed between Counties and Unitary Authorities. We are hopeful this will mean another £1.75 million to help repair the County's roads. <p>Local Issues – I have been asked the following questions to which full replies are awaited:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The blocked drain at Holne Chase Gate and Holne Cottage. Whilst Devon County Highways had attended to clean the ditch it was reported that a larger drain is required. This has been reported to the Neighbourhood Highways Officer.• Road through Hembury woods – Nick Colton has responded that the road through Hembury Woods is due to be patched this financial year ending March 2018. Do not worry about the faded markings as the person who measured the site will have produced what is known as change sheet with the location and size of each patch noted.• I have asked for a copy of an application form for Chapter 8 training to be forwarded and I will send this on as soon as it arrives.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Locality Fund application for a grant of £300 towards a Marquee for the Michaelmas Fair and other community events has now been submitted to County Hall for approval and processing.
090118.04	<p>Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation</p> <p>Councillors were reminded of their responsibility to continually update their Notice of Registerable Interests and to declare any disclosable interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they have in any items to be considered at this meeting. Unforeseen requests for a Dispensation to be considered at this point only if there was no way a Councillor would have been aware of such before the meeting.</p> <p>All members declared an interest in item 6.2 as council tax payers in this parish but it was noted that all members present, with the exception of Cllr Crook, had already granted a dispensation at a previous meeting. It was therefore agreed to grant Cllr Crook a dispensation to allow him to discuss and vote on, at this meeting and future meetings of Holne Parish Council, the budget and setting of the precept. This dispensation would be valid until the day before the next ordinary elections in May 2019.</p> <p>The Chairman declared an interest in item 9 as her husband had cut the playpark hedge.</p>
090118.05	<p>Ratification of Minutes</p> <p>Members present received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5 December 2017 and agreed unanimously that they be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.</p>
090118.06	<p>Finance and Governance</p> <p>6.1 Members approved the following payment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheque no 800 – HMRC (PAYE) - £150.80 <p>6.2 Members considered the budget for 2018/19. After discussion, the budget was agreed. The precept to be demanded would be £6,744 + £142 council tax support grant allocation which equates to a 0% increase/decrease on the parish's council tax. <i>[A reduction in Holne's council tax base means that to maintain a 0% increase, the cash which will be received by the Parish Council in 2018/19 from SHDC will reduce by £146, including the council tax support grant. The parish band D rate will therefore remain at £50.59].</i></p>
090118.07	<p>Planning</p> <p>7.1 New applications: 0626/17 – Retrospective change of use of farm milking parlour to accommodation ancillary to the main dwelling at Long Barn, Ingletts Farm, Holne</p> <p>Members agreed to support this application.</p> <p>7.2 Decisions: None.</p>
090118.08	<p>Annual Parish Meeting</p> <p>It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 10 April (subject to the hall being available). The format of the meeting would be agreed at a later date.</p>
090118.09	<p>Playpark</p> <p>9.1 Members discussed the grass cutting contract for 2018/19 and were advised that the cost per cut would be maintained by the current contractors at £45. It was agreed to renew the contract with Birbeck Landscapes for the year 1 April 2018 – 31 March 2019.</p> <p>9.2 The Chairman advised that the hedge has been cut.</p>

	9.2 Cllr Ross advised that the Playpark Committee met on 8 January. The new gate will be installed soon and David Best has cleared away the Elder. Monthly inspections of the play equipment are being carried out by members of the Committee. Cllr Bellamy reported that he is still clearing the sump and is happy to continue doing this. The Playpark AGM is next month and leat clearance has also been arranged.
090118.10	Leats No issues were reported.
090118.11	Potholes, highway maintenance reports and other highways issues Members discussed whether the Parish Council wished to join the Community Road Warden Scheme. There were some reservations and it was therefore agreed to find out more information about the scheme and how it operates with a view to discussing it again in February. It was noted that Chapter 8 training was still being offered free of charge to members wishing to take on the role of community road warden.
090118.12	Clerk's or Councillors' reports on matters authorised by the Council at previous meetings not otherwise on this agenda None
090118.13	Chairman's urgent business for action by the clerk if covered by delegated powers or for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting None.
090118.14	Correspondence Members received an item of correspondence. It was agreed to discuss this in Part II.
090118.15	Date of Next Meeting It was confirmed that the next Parish Council meeting would be held on 6 February 2018 at 7.30pm.
Part II	
<i>Contains items which may be taken in the absence of the public and press on grounds that exempt information may be disclosed</i>	
090118.16	Exclusion of the press and public Members resolved that the press and public are excluded from the meeting as the item under discussion contains information exempt under Local Government Act 1972 Section 100A Part 1 and Schedule 12A & Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 Section 2(1)
090118.17	Correspondence Members received and considered correspondence from Cllr Vince and a response was agreed.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm.

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Cllr B Owen
Chairman