

HOLNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting on 10 April 2018 in Holne Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present

Cllr B Owen (Chairman), Cllr J Bellamy, Cllr T Crook, Cllr D Higman, Cllr E Ross, Cllr Simpson, Cllr A Vince, Ross Gray (Tree Warden), Mark Simpson (DNPA Parish Link Member), 8 members of the public and the clerk (Suzanna Hughes)

The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 7.00pm.

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| APM100418.01 | Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• County Cllr R Hosking |
| APM100418.02 | Chairman's Report The Chairman gave the following report: 'I'd like to start by thanking my fellow councillors for their support over the last year. Cllrs Lis Ross, Gilly Simpson, David Higman, Tim Crook, John Bellamy and Annie Vince, our newest recruit. I'd also like to thank our councillors, for South Hams, Pete Smerdon, and for Devon County, Richard Hoskings and to Ross Gray as Tree Warden and Paul Arrowsmith as Snow Warden. Sadly, the Church House Inn remains closed. The Parish Council has endeavoured to keep lines of communication open with the trustees, but this hasn't always felt this to be easy. We understand the Pub is under offer, which has been the case for some months, with fine detail to be clarified. Playpark continues to flourish and the Parish Council supports the very active Playpark Committee. Their most recent maintenance to remove a large ash tree shading the play area and causing a lot of bird droppings on the play equipment below. It was felt as an ash it was not a particularly native tree. The next improvement will be a new road gate. The defibrillator was installed in November on the outside wall of the shop. Training was attended in Widecombe and there is to be a session arranged in Holne possibly in conjunction with Scoriton. The main message however is that no training is required. The machine talks you through the procedure and there is nothing to be frightened of. Never be concerned about doing something wrong - you can't make somebody more dead. The most important message is to ring 999 immediately. The perennial problem of road maintenance and potholes continues. There is an Asset map online where anyone can report blockages and potholes. We did investigate the possibility of a road warden, whose role would have been to deliver minor works such as to help keep buddle holes clear, or minor repair, however in order to be covered we have to use all DCC equipment stored in Ivybridge. This precluded any involvement, given at the very least, we have to travel to and from Ivybridge before carrying out any works |

The Parish Council has introduced "Walkabout". This usually is planned for June meeting where light and weather should be kind. It is useful to actually eyeball the parish rather than virtually within the walls of the hall. We try to focus on different areas of the Parish each time.

More thanks to Cllrs Ross, Crook and Bellamy along with Bo Hansen for the Christmas tree this year. This was donated by Cllr Ross and erected by Cllrs Crook, Bellamy and Bo Hansen with solar lights which worked really well and decorated by the community.

Finally, thank you to our clerk, Suzanna, for her efficient guidance, management and organising of the Council as always.

APM100418.03

Clerk's Finance Report

Balances held March 2018

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| Current Account | £ 2,484 |
| Savings Account | <u>£ 4,449</u> |
| Total | <u>£ 6,993</u> |

Grants Donated 2017/18

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| Parish Link | £ 60 |
| RBL | <u>£ 22</u> |
| | <u>£ 82</u> |

Major Sources of Income 2017/18

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| Precept & C. Tax support grant | £ 7,032 |
| VAT reclaimed | <u>£ 145</u> |
| | <u>£7,177</u> |

Grants received 2017/18

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| TAP fund (defibrillator) | £600 |
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The balance in the Parish Council's accounts at the end of this financial year will be just under £7,000 which is just over £1,000 more than at the end of last year. This means we have adequate reserves and there has been no need to increase the precept in the coming financial year. The rate for a band D property in this parish will therefore remain at around £50 per year.

The Parish Council's spending this year has very much mirrored the budget it set over 12 months ago with two exceptions. Firstly, it allocated £750 towards the development of a new website. Fortunately, we have not had to spend this as the Parish Council has piggy-backed the new village website which has been developed free of charge by Bo Hansen and Tim Crook for which we are very grateful. The other exception is grants to village organisations. Whilst the Parish Council has made its usual donations to the Parish Link and the Poppy Appeal, it has not received any applications for a small grant from village organisations this year and this pot of money, £400, has therefore not been spent.

The Parish Council is required to publish certain information on its website as part of the new audit framework. This includes the end of year accounts, annual governance statement and

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| | <p>internal audit report so anyone wishing to drill down further into the accounts can have a look under the finance section of the Parish Council's page on the village website. The accounts for 2017/18 will be published on the site once they have been approved by the Parish Council in May's meeting.</p> |
| APM100418.04 | <p>Public Open Forum and Questions</p> <p>Mark Simpson introduced himself to the meeting as Holne's appointed representative for the parish on the DNPA. He is happy to raise any policy or planning issue with DNPA on behalf of parishioners. He advised that the Dartmoor Local Plan and Management Plan are being reviewed and will be going out to consultation later this year.</p> <p>Ross Gray introduced himself to the meeting as the Tree Warden. He advised that ash trees are in great danger and any concerns should be reported to either him or his assistant, Alex Deuchers. The variegated holly in the church yard which was, regrettably, cut down a few years ago is now shooting. He also informed the meeting that the yew trees in the churchyard had grown again nearly to the ground. These have now been uplifted to about 8 foot.</p> |
| APM100418.05 | <p>Close</p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting before closing the meeting at 7.23pm.</p> |

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 Cllr Belinda Owen