

HOLNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held in Holne Village Hall on Tuesday 10 April 2018 at 7.30pm

Present

Cllr B Owen (Chairman), D Higman (Vice Chairman), J Bellamy, T Crook, E Ross, G Simpson and A Vince

Also present

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk), Mark Simpson (DNPA Parish Link member), Ross Gray (Tree Warden) and 10 members of the public

The meeting was opened by the Chairman, Cllr B Owen, at 7.30pm.

100418.01	<p>Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• County Cllr Hosking
100418.02	<p>Open Forum A parishioner spoke about the planning application at Michelcombe for the provision of 20 camping pitches and the siting of three shepherd huts (0116/18) which is to be discussed by the Parish Council at item 7.1.1. Three concerns were expressed relating to water supply, rubbish and traffic. Whilst two of these concerns have been addressed satisfactorily by the applicant, the issue of traffic is still unanswered. A possible solution would be to hardcore the three passing places in the lane.</p> <p>The applicant advised that the new application means that she will lose the 28 day development right which is how she is operating it at the moment. At the moment, she can currently site camper vans etc. Under the new application, however, camper vans would not be allowed. The application will limit the number of campers on the site to 20. At the moment she could have a lot more over a 28 day period. Residents will therefore have more reassurance with this application as the number of campers is limited.</p>
100418.03	<p>District and County Councillors' Report</p> <p>County Councillor Hosking was unable to attend the meeting but sent a written report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Broadband The rollout of Phase II of the Connecting Devon and Somerset programme continues with Gigaclear and Airband now providing details on their websites (please follow links below) of the areas they will be reaching by the end of 2019. https://www.airbank.co.uk/coverage/ https://www.gigaclear.com/postcode-checker/ Gigaclear have been awarded the contract for Lot 6 in Phase II of Broadband rollout (taking coverage to 95% of premises) in the Connecting Devon & Somerset area. Connecting Devon & Somerset continue to provide useful information regarding the rollout of Broadband on their website including a speed test on; https://www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/ <p>A second round for the Devon County Council voucher scheme is due to be announced this month. This is in addition to the National Voucher Scheme for fibre to the premises (£500 per residence and up to £3,000 for small businesses).</p>

The Government have announced the intention to make a minimum 10 Mb/s download speed available to all premises by 2020.

2. **Mobile Phones**

Good news for 4G Mobile phone coverage. The Local Enterprise Partnership allocated £2.5m of Growth Deal 1 funding to trial approaches to solving mobile “not spots” in the Heart of the South West (HotSW) area.

3. **Education**

Despite lower than average funding about 91% of Local Authority Maintained schools in Devon have an Ofsted rating of Good or Outstanding, well above the National average. Congratulations are due to our very able and dedicated teachers.

A strategic review of our provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities commenced in March 2018.

4. **Children’s Centres**

Action for Children have been awarded a contract worth approximately £29.5 million over 5 years (3 year term with an option to extend for up to a further 2 years) to provide Children’s Centres in Devon. We are pleased to have an experienced and well respected provider operating in Devon.

Devon’s Children’s Centres will in future accommodate services for children of 8 years old and under based on a Team around the Family service model. The objective of the Early Help system is to support families and prevent as far as possible the need for statutory intervention. An open door policy supports families and helps parents to improve their chances of returning to work, finding employment or access to training.

5. **Highways**

A spontaneous and timely announcement by Central Government will provide for the reinstatement of the A379 along the Slapton Line through a £2.5 million fund.

6. **Self Help**

Devon has over 8,000 miles of road to maintain in addition to the trunk roads maintained by Highways England. The County Council is once again grateful for all assistance provided by Towns and Parishes whether through Road Warden, Snow Warden, Parish Lengthsmen or other contributions that help us to stretch our budget through this period of austerity. A big thank you to your local volunteers who helped the community to cope in the recent snow storms.

I have volunteered for a Winter Service Task Group to look at the effectiveness of our existing service in the light of experience gained from Storm Emma and the Beast from the East. The gritting of Primary School Bus Routes and Insurance of Volunteer Road Wardens and their equipment are two areas that I have helped to include on the Agenda. I am hopeful that local community representatives will be invited to make their observations to the Task Group.

7. **Devolution of Budgets and Powers**

The Heart of the West proposal to assume responsibility for budgets in much of Devon and Somerset has revived in early 2018, only to be delayed by the weather. We look forward to further developments as we progress towards spring.

8. **The Brunel Pension Partnership (Brunel)**

The formation of Brunel brings together 10 Local Government Pension funds to create a fund with assets currently valued at about £28 billion. Brunel is one of eight national

	<p>pooled funds and will oversee the investment of the pension assets for the funds of Avon, Buckinghamshire, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Environment Agency, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Somerset, and Wiltshire.</p> <p>The objective of pooling pension funds is to benefit from economies of scale and reduce over the long term the level of fees and other outgoings.</p> <p>9. Locality and Invest in Devon Funds I am pleased to report that I have two funds to enable me to help modest projects in the twelve Parishes in the South Brent and Yealmpton Division in the 2018/19 year. Each fund has a total of £10,000 and I look forward to receiving applications for worthwhile projects in due course.</p> <p>10. Questions I will be pleased to answer any questions by e-mail.</p>
100418.04	<p>Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation 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>There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.</p>
100418.05	<p>Ratification of Minutes Members present received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6 March 2018 and agreed unanimously that they be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.</p>
100418.06	<p>Finance and Governance 6.1 Members approved the following payments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheque no 803 - HMRC (PAYE) - £150.80 • Cheque no 804 - Kenton Parish Council (GPDR training) - £8 • Cheque no 805 - DALC (annual subscription) - £67.79 • Cheque no 806 - Holne Village Hall (hire of village hall for PC meetings from July 2016 - March 2019) - £270
100418.07	<p>Planning 7.1 New applications 7.1.1 0116/18 – Provision of 20 camping pitches and the siting of three shepherd huts (only to be occupied between April and September inclusive each year), Higher Michelcombe Farm, Holne</p> <p>After discussion, and taking into account representations from the public and applicant, a majority of members agreed to support this application. However, it wished to convey its concerns to DNPA about traffic and it was agreed to suggest that should the application be approved, the issue of traffic is addressed in the conditions of approval. For example, the issue may be alleviated by improving the three passing places on Michelcombe Lane. Members also agreed that they would like to see strict conditions with regard to lighting.</p> <p>7.2 Decisions: 7.2.1 0032/18 – Construction of stone wall with double timber gates to front of property, Shuttaford Farm, Holne</p> <p>Members noted that DNPA has granted conditional listed building consent.</p>

	<p>7.3 Planning Workshop</p> <p>Cllr Vince informed members that she had attended the workshop at Parke on 27 March which she had found very useful. She advised that funding was available to develop a Neighbourhood Plan. It is her intention to give a more comprehensive report at a later meeting when DNPA have forwarded the presentation slides.</p>
100418.08	<p>Playpark</p> <p>Cllr Ross informed members that everything is going well with playpark. It was with regret that the ash tree was removed but the decision was taken after much discussion and consideration of advice. Ross Gray advised that some new fencing will need to be erected where the tree was removed. The new gate is to be installed shortly.</p>
100418.09	<p>Leats</p> <p>Following the issue raised in March's meeting regarding the water which is oozing out of 'no man's land' close to the granite slabs over the leat near the Church House Inn, it was reported that there is an open drain behind the pub into which the rainwater runs and then goes into the leat. It is thought that the drain may be blocked or collapsed which is thus causing water to ooze up out of the ground. Cllr Vince advised that Michael French has some historic plans and believes that the land is owned by the pub. However, depending on where the drain is blocked/collapsed, it may also be on a section of land which is 'no mans land'. It was agreed that it wasn't a major issue at present and therefore no further action was necessary.</p>
100418.10	<p>Potholes, highway maintenance reports and other highways issues</p> <p>10.1 The parish snow warden advised that he had distributed some bags of grit around the parish which he has now collected up and, if split, has emptied into the grit bins. There is currently a stock of around 35 single bags. He also found that doing a couple of laps of the village with the tractor created tracks for cars to drive in. With regard to equipment, he has one large shovel and a tabard.</p> <p>10.2 Members noted that potholes are starting to reappear particularly at the bottom of Hembury and at Gallant Le Bower.</p> <p>10.3 The Chairman had observed that a large part of the wall at Mill Leat Bridge has fallen into the river. This has been reported by Buckfastleigh West Parish Council, as it is in their parish.</p>
100418.11	<p>Clerk's or Councillors' reports on matters authorised by the Council at previous meetings not otherwise on this agenda</p> <p>None.</p>
100418.12	<p>Chairman's urgent business for action by the clerk if covered by delegated powers or for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting</p> <p>Cllr Higman asked whether there is any news on when the pub is opening. A Trustee advised that they were going through the legal process. Contracts have not yet been exchanged. The Chairman suggested that it would be useful for the Parish Council to be kept informed by the Trustees themselves rather than having to rely on hearsay. This information, whatever it might be, can then be formally communicated to concerned parishioners.</p> <p>Cllr Ross informed members that it had been observed that the recycling collection had been thrown into the back of a general dumping truck and asked that this is queried with District Cllr Smerdon.</p> <p>Cllr Higman informed members that he had noticed a pile of batteries dumped over the wall at Holne Chase. Having struggled to establish whose responsibility it was to clear them, he advised that they have now been moved.</p>

100418.13	Correspondence Members received and noted changes to the DNPA Team Ranger Service. Simon Lee is the new Ranger Team Manager. Bill Allen remains the sector manager for Holne.
100418.14	Date of Next Meeting The date of the next meeting is 1 May 2018 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm.

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Cllr B Owen
Chairman