

**Minutes of the Meeting of Holt Parish Council 16th March 2022 at 7:15pm
HOLT PARISH HALL**

<p>188</p>	<p>Attendance & Apologies</p> <p>Cllr Jonathan Cutts Cllr Jackie Egan Cllr Peter Finney Cllr Celia Moore (Chairman) Cllr Guy Reynolds Cllr Janet Wallace Cllr Richard Walsh Cllr Andrew Wilson</p> <p>Lisa Goodwin (Clerk) 11 members of public present.</p> <p>Apologies received from:</p> <p>Cllr Wrettham Ladbroke-Chartres Cllr Robin Cook (Dorset Councillor Stour & Allen Vale Ward)</p>
<p>189</p>	<p>Declarations of Interest & Requests for Dispensation</p> <p>Cllr Celia Moore does not have a pecuniary interest to declare but as the applicant is known to her, does not wish to take part in the decision on Planning Application P/FUL/2022/00922 and will abstain.</p>
<p>190</p>	<p>Dorset Councillors Report - See Appendix A for Cllr Robin Cook's report.</p>
<p>191</p>	<p>Confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held 16th February 2022</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held <u>16th February 2022</u> were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.</p>
<p>192</p>	<p>Matters Arising (not included on the agenda) from the meeting held 16th February 2022</p> <p>None.</p>
<p>193</p>	<p>Public Open Session</p> <p>Information was provided by the applicant for PA P/FUL/2022/00922 Little Orchard, Gaunts Common on the site and regarding advice received from Dorset Council and Planning Consultants for the proposal to erect a single dwelling on the plot. The applicants feel they have addressed the objections of the neighbours (which has been submitted in writing to the Parish Council) and therefore the proposal should be looked upon favourably.</p> <p>Members heard a number of comments from neighbours in objection to the proposal (which have been submitted in writing to the Parish Council). There is concern at the loss of the hedge, trees and shrubs to provide access to the new dwelling; a Flood Risk Assessment would address the concern with</p>

	<p>flooding to lower lying properties, Yew Tree Cottage already suffers when the ditches become overwhelmed; there will be a loss of outlook and privacy for neighbours; the proposal is detrimental to the special character area of the village; it sets a precedent for future developments; the proposal does not include plans for the garage; ensure the proposal meets criteria for development.</p> <p>A resident of Furzehill thanked the Parish Council for its support of the incorporation of the Furzehill 'lobe' into Holt in the recent Community Governance Review and can celebrate the draft recommendation by Dorset Council. The resident hopes members will write in response to the current consultation in support of the recommendation.</p>
<p>194</p>	<p>Community Governance Review</p> <p>Following the consultation held last year, Dorset Council has now prepared the draft proposals for further consultation and subsequent adoption. Dorset Council supports the proposal to incorporate Furzehill into Holt Parish. The final decision will be made by Full Council on 14th July 2022 and if finally adopted, the change would come into effect for the 2024 elections.</p> <p>Members resolved to respond to the current consultation as follows:</p> <p>Holt Parish Council welcomes recommendation 14 of the Community Governance Review which proposes to move the 'lobe' of Furzehill from Colehill Parish into Holt Parish. This supports the wishes of the residents of the Furzehill 'lobe' to unite the two parts of the hamlet of Furzehill wholly within Holt Parish enhancing the cohesion of the community.</p>
<p>195</p>	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>P/FUL/2022/00922 ADJ. LITTLE ORCHARD, GAUNTS COMMON, BH21 4JR Proposal: Demolition of existing double garage and erection of a single dwelling. It was proposed by Cllr Janet Wallace and seconded by Cllr Peter Finney to object to the proposal. Members voted 6 in favour with 2 abstentions by Cllrs Celia Moore and Guy Reynolds. It was therefore resolved to OBJECT to the proposal due to the size of the dwelling which would result in densification and the introduction of back land development which is inappropriate in this Special Character Area of the village. Members are concerned at the loss of amenity and privacy to the neighbours and the overall loss of character to Gaunts Common. Members will request this application is referred to the Planning Committee if Dorset Council's recommendation is at variance to the above.</p> <p>P/PAED/2022/00981 RONOAKE, LOWER ROWE, HOLT, BH21 7DZ Proposal: Additional store to existing dwelling to increase the height from 4.35 metres to 7 metres. It is our understanding condition (3) of Planning Permission granted in 2009 (3/09/0979) means this application must fail under permitted development. Notwithstanding this, members OBJECT to the proposal in this isolated location close to Holt Heath & Holt Forest (SSSI). The existing dwelling is already highly visible in the landscape and the proposal will make it even more prominent in its elevated position. The proposal has none of the characteristics of older properties in the area and is out of character due to its size and design and will have a detrimental impact on the openness of the Green Belt and the street scene.</p> <p>P/FUL/2021/05696 LAND EAST OF UDDENS DRIVE, REDBRIDGE, BH21 7BH Proposal: Hanging of door on open fronted building. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the addition of a door on the existing open fronted building.</p>

	<p>P/HOU/2022/01344 1 STOCKS CORNER, SMUGGLERS LANE, FURZEHILL, BH21 4HB Proposal: Single storey extension with rear access stair and internal alterations. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p>P/HOU/2022/01289 MARENDA, HOLT LANE, HOLT, BH21 7DH Proposal: Raise existing roof ridge height and erect side, front and rear single and two storey extensions – revised application 3/21/0451/HOU Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p>P/HOU/2022/00656 BANKSIDE, HOLTWOOD, BH21 7DX Proposal: Erect side infill extension, creation of a new upper floor and new garage. Members agreed they are unable to comment as the description of the proposal does not seem to agree with the drawings provided online.</p> <p>P/PALH/2022/01220 ORCHARD HOUSE, PIG OAK, HOLT, BH21 7DG Proposal: Erect a single storey rear extension; to extend 6.9 metres beyond the rear wall of the original dwelling house; maximum height 3.93 metres; height to eaves 2.56 metres. Members have NO COMMENT to make on this application which is not a planning application but a request for a legal determination of Dorset Council as to whether prior approval is required for the proposal.</p>
196	<p>Planning Enforcement Matters</p> <p>Report from Working Group Meeting (CM/JW/AW/PF/JE) held Monday 21st February 2022</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr Jackie Egan. Members agreed there have been failings by Dorset Council Planning and Enforcement Departments which have led to deep dissatisfaction by local residents in a number of areas in the Parish. Members are encouraged however by the Enforcement Notice placed on ‘The Croft’, Burts Lane for the creation of a new dwelling with attached triple car port for residential occupation which does not have planning permission. It was agreed to write to Councillor Spencer Flower, Leader of Dorset Council. The Working Group will meet again on Tuesday 22nd March 7:15pm to agree the content of the letter.</p> <p>Members discussed the caravan sited on land beside Springfields cul-de-sac which is becoming more established. <i>Clerk to advise Planning Enforcement.</i></p>
197	<p>Cemetery Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members completed the annual review of the Burial Fees which were increased in 2021. It was resolved unanimously to maintain the current prices and review next year. This year there have been 8 full burials (2 were non-parishioners) and 4 cremated remains interred. • The Clerk advised there will be a burial on Thursday March 24th at 1pm. • There is a broken branch at the entrance, Clerk to ask C. Hiscock to remove. • Clerk to ask Limecove to remove safety fencing to cemetery extension area. • The hedge in the extension area will need cutting in the Autumn.

198	<p>Parish Hall Matters</p> <p>Members considered the Annual Maintenance Schedule of the Parish Hall which was noted without any comments. <i>Clerk to thank the Chairman of the Management Committee for the report.</i></p>
199	<p>Highways</p> <p><u>Highways Working Group</u></p> <p>The Working Group has prepared a letter to Cllr Ray Bryan, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Highways, Travel and Environment with supporting data and maps to identify specific locations and measures to address the volume and movement of traffic through Holt parish which was approved last meeting. Cllr Jonathan Cutts reported that the letter will be tweaked slightly to emphasise the data evidence.</p> <p><u>BT Kiosks</u></p> <p>Holtwood – members discussed the options for replacing the stolen BT box. Members resolved unanimously to purchase a ‘project’ box @ £1750.00 + extras, delivery and VAT. Holtwood Community Farm volunteers are still willing to refurbish over the winter months. Framptons Builders have kindly given advice on how the replacement box can be installed to ensure it could not be stolen again. <i>Clerk to contact Frampton’s Builders for an estimate of the cost of this.</i></p> <p>A resident has suggested seeking Lottery Funding for the renovation of the BT Boxes at Holtwood and Broomhill. Members felt the Parish Council has sufficient funds for the paint and materials to enable the renovations.</p> <p>Clerk to ask M. Clifford to quote to remove the turf and prepare soil beside the BT Box at Broomhill ready for wild flower seeding. Members viewed a photograph of the Box with planters installed.</p> <p>1190689 Long Lane pot holes and edges breaking up reported to Dorset Council Highways.</p> <p>1190690 Holt Road large pot hole close to the Mannington Sub-station reported to Dorset Council Highways.</p> <p>1190701 Fingerpost needs reinstating Horton Road, Three Legged Cross at junction with Holt Road.</p>
200	<p>Rights of Way Matters</p> <p>Three volunteers have come forward to help with keeping the footpaths and bridleways in Holt Parish accessible. A training session has yet to be arranged with the Dorset Council Ranger.</p> <p>MNT55519 Trees need cutting back on footpath between Priors Corner and Bakers Lane reported to Dorset Council.</p>
201	<p>Woodland at Queens Copse Lane - Rolling Lease to Christchurch Angling Club</p> <p>Members discussed offering a 5 year rolling lease for the Woodland area at Queens Copse Lane to the Angling Club but following advice from the Dorset Council Solicitor, this presents some difficulty with the wording of the arrangement in the form of either a Licence or a Lease.</p>

	Members agreed that the legal costs involved in preparing a document to satisfy both the Angling Club and Dorset Council would be too significant and requested the Clerk advise the Angling Club that members therefore wish to retain the Woodland and will continue to maintain the trees.						
202	<p>Trees for Residents to celebrate the Queens Jubilee</p> <p>Clerk to contact Stewarts Garden Centre for advice on appropriate trees and to inquire if they would like to get involved with idea to provide free trees to residents to celebrate the Queens Jubilee.</p>						
203	<p>Correspondence – circulated to members prior to the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dorset Council School Transport Consultation open until Sunday 3rd April 2022. Details are available to view at: https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/school-transport/consultation-on-school-transport-policies Members were invited to attend the Dorset Prepared Community Resilience on-line Event 7-11 March 2022. 						
204	<p>Financial Matters & Expenditure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Clerk provided members with up to date bank balances. Members reviewed and approved the Asset Register. Members reviewed and approved End of Year Reserves. Members accepted the quotation from Limecove to maintain the grass at the Village Green and Cemetery Extension for 2022: Topping Village Green £120 per cut; Topping Cemetery Extension £25 per cut; Cut around the trees on Village Green £55: Cut verge £30 + VAT. Members agreed to make a donation of £100.00 toward the East Dorset Museum for kindly attending the Annual Parish Meeting on 18th March 2022 as Guest Speaker. Members approved the following items for payment including Clerks Salary: <table> <tr> <td>ONLINE Clerk</td> <td>Reimbursement of Expenses</td> <td>£139.12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ONLINE Evans Above</td> <td>Clear fallen Willow Tree at Woodland, Queens Copse Lane</td> <td>£120.00</td> </tr> </table>	ONLINE Clerk	Reimbursement of Expenses	£139.12	ONLINE Evans Above	Clear fallen Willow Tree at Woodland, Queens Copse Lane	£120.00
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	<p>Information for Report only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The next meeting of the Parish Council will be in Holt Parish Hall, <u>13th April 2022 at 7:15pm</u> 						

Meeting Closed 21:25

These minutes are to be signed by the Chairman after approval at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Signed: 13th April 2022

Appendix A

Response to Ukrainian crisis

I have been approached by a number of residents and groups asking what Dorset Council are doing to support Ukraine displaced persons. The latest information I have is that *we don't know yet what the role of local authorities will be. Any updates will be posted [on our website](#). As you might expect, we have already been inundated with offers of help from Dorset's residents. Details of the sponsorship scheme have now been published; they can be found on gov.uk website <https://homesforukraine.campaign.gov.uk/>*

The Dorset Together workgroup, which was instrumental in the pandemic, leading on shielding and then food security, have re-coordinated to support this resettlement and refugee programme. We are also working very closely with our colleagues across Dorset Council, at BCP Council, and in the voluntary and community sector to ensure our response is planned and we are able to give timely and accurate advice to individuals and organisations.

Council Tax rebate

If you live in a property in council tax bands A to D, you are likely to receive a £150 rebate from the Government to help with the cost of living. For those that pay council tax by direct debit, in most cases, the rebate will go directly into bank accounts. If you don't pay by direct debit the council will confirm how the rebate will be paid to you. Two important points:

- the rebate will not need to be repaid
- the £150 will not be shown as a reduction on your council tax bill

Land searches

The number of working days to respond to land search requests shot up during the pandemic due to a variety of reasons including a massive increase in the number requested and a major shortage of skilled staff who were also being poached from local government. The response rate is now down to 28 days from 63 last October. It is still some way off the target of 10 days, but we hope to achieve that soon.

Enforcement

There is little publicity given to enforcement. An East Dorset resident was recently successfully prosecuted for ignoring Planning Enforcement Notice for putting a building on the Green Belt at Henbury, Sturminster Marshall. This followed repeated requests to remove it and was only done as a last resort. Hopefully this will dispel the myth that the Council do not prosecute people who break planning laws.

Dorset to host first ever Tour of Britain stage in 2022

Dorset will play a starring role when the Tour of Britain, the UK's most prestigious cycle race, heads there for the first time in 2022. The historic county will host the penultimate stage of the race on Saturday 10 September, as the eight-stage event works its way down from Aberdeenshire to the Isle of Wight. Over 100 of the world's best riders will compete in the 18th edition of the race, with a large crowd comprising both residents and cycling fans expected to turn out for this unforgettable, free-to-watch spectacle. While it may be the modern race's first visit to Dorset, the county welcomed the Milk Race – a semi-professional forerunner of the Tour of Britain – on multiple occasions during the 1970s and 1980s. The full route for stage seven, including the start and finish locations, will be revealed in due course

So please put September 10th in your diaries and expect some roads to be closed. More information as and when it becomes available.

Maintenance of highway verges

Maintenance of highway verges is an important but costly undertaking for Local Authorities. It is necessary for safety as well as aesthetic reasons. With the squeeze on public finance, we have much less money to satisfy this demand. Dorset Council are taking an innovative ecological approach to managing our verges, reducing soil fertility through the collection of grass cuttings, introducing species of flowering plant which restrict grass growth and ensuring low nutrient soils are used in road construction. The result, slow growing, beautiful wildflower verges which attract and sustain pollinating insects, and lower costs as the need to cut verges is reduced.

Climate Change

Dorset Council is delighted to welcome Steven Ford as our new Corporate Director for Climate and Ecological Sustainability. Steven has over 18 years' experience of working in public policy related fields and joins us from Cornwall Council where he is currently Head of Environmental Growth, Climate Change and Heritage. In this role, he was tasked with delivering their carbon neutral action plan as well as the wider environmental growth and landscape management agenda, working with a multitude of partners.

Steven's primary objective at Dorset Council will be the successful delivery of our vital Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) Strategy, ensuring that ecology and sustainability are placed at the centre of shaping and influencing the climate debate. He will play a leading role in developing natural solutions to address climate change and ensure our ambitious plans for reducing our carbon footprint are fully developed and kept on track by working closely with councillors, senior officers, and services across the entire organisation.

I hope that residents see the creation of this role and Steven's appointment as further proof of how seriously we are taking our commitment to tackling the CEE, which will help secure a better future for everyone, especially younger people, in Dorset.

Dorset Tourism Award - Moors Valley

Moors Valley in Ashley Heath won the Dorset Tourism Awards Large Visitor Attraction of the Year. This is a fantastic achievement for the team and great recognition for the work Dorset Council have undertaken with regards to large open spaces / visitor provisions throughout the pandemic. One of our daytime cleaners, Christine, also won the Unsung Hero Award for her efforts throughout the pandemic in ensuring our facilities were clean and hygienic. Christine isn't employed by Dorset Council and works for Churchills, who are contracted for our cleaning provisions, but was nominated by our ranger team for her exceptional efforts and attitude over the last 2 years.

Capital Leverage Fund

Dorset Council has recently launched a new grant fund for voluntary and community groups who are looking to secure funding towards the development, improvement or refurbishment of their facilities, spaces, and community buildings. The Capital Leverage Fund will look to provide successful applicants with a grant of up to 20% of their total project costs up to a maximum of £25,000. Not for profit organisations both small and large who meet the funds criteria are welcome to apply. Applicants will need to demonstrate clearly when applying how they plan to secure the remaining project costs and ensure that if awarded a grant that they can secure the remaining funds within two years of any grant offer. Grants will not be released until all funding is in place.

Full details of the fund's priorities, criteria; eligibility and guidance on how to complete the online application form are provided on the Dorset Council webpage. Furthermore, there is also comprehensive information on what questions applicants can expect to be asked when completing their application form along with details of the assessment dates. The Capital Leverage Fund is an 'open access' fund for organisations in the Dorset Council area and applicants can submit their application at any time between 10th January 2022 and early January 2023. There will be three separate assessment dates throughout the year so please ensure you read the guidance fully and understand what supporting information you will be required to provide when applying. Applications will only be accepted on the council's online application form.

The fund is open to a range of different organisations including Cultural themed organisations such as arts, heritage, and accredited museums. Village halls can also apply to the fund to help with capital projects that might include hall repairs, addressing climate change, new build projects, landscaping or improvements to existing facilities including play areas, multi-use games areas and parking. Sports clubs wishing to improve their club facilities can also apply to the fund. For more details on other projects that are eligible click on the link above.

Places of worship (church buildings) are not eligible to apply. However, the panel will consider 'distinct buildings' used for community activities i.e., a community hall but it must be a separate charity or trust and you must be able to demonstrate extensive community use.

We expect interest for this new grant to be very high, so please can you circulate to any local groups you think might be interested.

Council Meetings

From February 15th 2022 we returned to in-person committee meetings. One of the successes from virtual meetings was the increase in the number of people viewing the committee meetings live or via the recording. To enable this to continue, webcasting equipment has been installed in the council chamber and meetings will continue to be webcasted. Portable webcasting equipment is also available to live stream our meetings which take place at other venues e.g., for planning area committee meetings.

Work is ongoing to allow members of the public who wish to address a committee will also have the option to attend remotely or in-person using the same process.

CLlr Robin Cook

16th March 2022