

**Minutes of the Meeting of Holt Parish Council 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7pm  
HOLT PARISH HALL**

<b>338</b>	<p><b>Attendance &amp; Apologies</b></p> <p>Cllr Geoff Chopping Cllr Jonathan Cutts (Vice Chairman) Cllr Jackie Egan Cllr Peter Finney Cllr Wrettham Ladbrooke-Chartres Cllr Celia Moore (Chairman) Cllr Guy Reynolds Cllr Janet Wallace Cllr Robin Cook (Dorset Councillor Stour &amp; Allen Vale Ward Lisa Goodwin (Clerk)</p> <p>6 members of public present.</p> <p><b>Apologies received from:</b></p> <p>Cllr Andrew Wilson has tendered his resignation.</p>
<b>339</b>	<p><b>Declarations of Interest &amp; Requests for Dispensation</b></p> <p>None.</p>
<b>340</b>	<p><b>Dorset Councillors Report</b> – Please see <b>Appendix A</b> for Cllr Robin Cook’s report which was circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Cllr Cook added that cabinet are due to consider at the end of March a proposal to utilise £2m of reserves to help families with the cost of living crisis.</p> <p><i>Cllr Robin Cook left the meeting.</i></p>
<b>341</b>	<p><b>Confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held <u>18<sup>th</sup> January 2023</u> were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.</p>
<b>342</b>	<p><b>Matters Arising (not included on the agenda) from the meeting held 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023</b></p> <p>Dorset Council has agreed the draft recommendations for the Community Governance Review and a public consultation will run from 20 February to 17 April. The Clerk will place notices and circulate on HOLT Together.</p>
<b>343</b>	<p><b>Public Open Session</b></p> <p>Two residents attended to raise their concerns with PA P/FUL/2023/00500 The Old Sawmills, Clayford to retain a log drying shed. The building has been there for less than 2 years and traffic movements have increased significantly for both deliveries and customers collecting logs using the Whitesheet bridleway.</p>

	<p>Three residents attended to listen to members discussion on two planning applications for Holtwood House and answer any questions.</p>
<p><b>344</b></p>	<p><b>Planning Applications &amp; Enforcement Matters</b></p> <p><b>P/HOU/2023/00327 THE TUSCANS, HOLTWOOD, BH21 7DX</b> Proposal: Front and side extensions with formation of rooms in a new roof. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p><b>P/VOC/2023/00448 4 SHEEPCROFT LANE, HOLT, BH21 7DA</b> Proposal: Minor material amendment to vary condition 2 of approved 3/20/0978 (proposed replacement of the existing domestic barn to a detached house with garden and division of plot) to revise the layout. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p><b>P/CLE/2023/00482 JUBILEE FARM, BURTS LANE, MANNINGTON, BH21 7JX</b> Proposal: Material change of use of land to B2; general industrial uses. Members agreed to submit photographic evidence that the use of the land for B2 general industries shows that the use has not existed continuously for the last 10 years.</p> <p><b>P/HOU/2022/07988 FARRIERS COTTAGE, HORSESHOE CROSSROADS, HOLTWOOD, BH21 7DR</b> Proposal: Addition of porch and single storey extension. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p><b>P/FUL/2023/00500 THE OLD SAWMILLS CLAYFORD WIMBORNE BH21 7BJ</b> Proposal: Retain log drying shed. Members resolved unanimously to OBJECT to the proposal. We continue to be concerned with the environmental impact on the protected Holt Heath, the detrimental impact on a SSSI and also on the amenities of the neighbours in this location. Local representation to the Parish Council suggests the site is used for retail not just storage, with a noticeable increase in traffic movements of both commercial vehicles and retail customers which is an additional concern. <i>Members will request this application is considered by the Planning Committee if the officers recommendation is at variance to the above.</i></p> <p><b>P/FUL/2023/00673 HOLTWOOD HOUSE HOLT WIMBORNE BH21 7DR</b> Proposal: Retain green house. <b>P/FUL/2023/00674 HOLTWOOD HOUSE HOLT WIMBORNE BH21 7DR</b> Proposal: Retain field shelter. Members agreed to defer both these applications until next meeting, as the applicant explained there are two further applications expected. Clarification is also required on boundaries and description of 00674.</p> <p><b>P/CLP/2023/00178 HUNTERS MOON, HOLT LANE, BH21 7DH</b> Certificate of Lawful Use Proposed for a single storey side extension and loft conversion including rear dormers and solar panels. <i>Noted.</i></p> <p><b>P/CLP/2023/00589 GODS BLESSING COTTAGE, GODS BLESSING LANE, BH21 7DE</b> Certificate of Lawful Use Proposed to install a temporary mobile accommodation unit. <i>Noted.</i></p> <p><b>P/NMA/2023/00696 THE BUNGALOWS, ROWE HILL, BH21 7EB</b> Non-material amendment to replace 2 proposed bedroom windows with 1 centrally located to gable end. <i>Noted.</i></p> <p><b>TPO/2022/0059 LITTLE ORCHARD, GAUNTS COMMON, BH21 4JR</b> Tree Preservation Order placed on 2 Oak trees and 1 Maple.</p>

345	<p><b>Consultation on Levelling Up &amp; Regeneration Bill including reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework</b></p> <p>Members discussed a response to the consultation. Cllrs Janet Wallace and Geoff Chopping will prepare a draft for members approval to meet the closing date of 2<sup>nd</sup> March. See <b><u>Appendix B</u></b>.</p>
346	<p><b>Highways</b></p> <p><b><u>Highways Working Group – update from Cllr J Cutts following discussions with Dorset Council:</u></b> Proposals have been submitted to Dorset Council. A traffic survey is awaited at the de-restricted section of Horseshoe Crossroads following Parish Council request to extend the 30mph.</p> <p><b><u>Community Speed Watch Holt &amp; Gaunts Common</u></b> Sessions scheduled for 22<sup>nd</sup> February and 1<sup>st</sup> March. Two additional volunteers have come forward.</p> <p><b><u>Other Highway matters</u></b> Grange has been resurfaced and a resident has written concerned there will be an increase in traffic speed and has suggested some form of traffic calming. Members agreed to forward to Colehill Parish Council as they operate the SID in this location which will collect data that can be shared with Holt PC.</p> <p>Members to consider purchasing a replacement SID, Clerk to include on next month’s agenda.</p> <p>Cllr J. Wallace attended a presentation on Dorset Council’s new 20mph policy, slides circulated for members information. Whilst Dorset Council has a limited budget, Parish Council’s have an option to pay for a scheme to be implemented if it meets criteria.</p>
347	<p><b>Cemetery Matters</b></p> <p>The clerk raised a query regarding ownership of plot C115 and members agreed the Clerk should check the original purchase certificate which may be in the archives in Dorchester.</p>
348	<p><b>Rights of Way Matters</b></p> <p>Public Path Diversion Order for part of Footpath 4 at Early’s Farm, Holt received from Dorset Council. The Parish Council had been consulted on this previously and had no objection to the proposal. Representations can be made about the order by writing to Dorset Council no later than 10 March 2023. <i>Clerk to circulate on HOLT Together.</i></p>
349	<p><b>Parish Hall Matters</b></p> <p>The committee is still investigating the extent of the structural repairs needed. No quotations yet for the works. Linwood Sawmills have kindly offered to supply timber free of charge.</p>
350	<p><b>Annual Parish Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023 &amp; Awards 2023</b></p> <p>Members approved the Agenda for the Annual Meeting and agreed the recipients for both Good Citizen and Youth Award 2023. Members also would like to offer a Special Recognition Award to two teenagers who alerted residents to a chimney fire in their cottage on Holt Green earlier this month.</p>

	The Clerk will invite all winners to the Annual Meeting to collect their certificates and vouchers.				
<b>351</b>	<p><b>Standing Orders</b></p> <p>Members considered Standing Orders item 6a which currently allows the Parish Council to reach a decision by electronic communication to meet a deadline which is before the next scheduled parish council meeting. The Clerk is awaiting a response from NALC for their guidance on this procedure. Defer until next meeting.</p>				
<b>352</b>	<p><b>Correspondence – circulated to members in advance of the meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DAPTC – Councillor’s Networking Event 9 March 2023. <i>Cllr J. Wallace to attend.</i></li> <li>• Scottish &amp; Southern Electricity – information circulated on HOLT Together about their free Priority Service Register for residents who are vulnerable in the event of a power cut. <i>Clerk to request leaflets for the APM.</i></li> <li>• National Grid Overhead Refurbishment meeting 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023, 6pm. Venue tbc. <i>Noted.</i></li> <li>• Invitation to make a nomination for the Chairman for the 2023 Royal Garden Party, members resolved unanimously to nominate Cllr Celia Moore.</li> <li>• DAPTC – guidance to members on contacting Dorset Council and dedicated telephone number.</li> <li>• Dorset Council – public information to raise awareness of the need for more foster carers for children in Dorset. Clerk has placed posters on the noticeboards and circulated on HOLT Together.</li> <li>• Furzehill Stores Post Office has been closed for some weeks due to 2 robberies which are currently under investigation. Members agreed the Clerk to write to the Post Office to ask them to re-open as soon as possible as it is an important facility for local residents.</li> </ul>				
<b>353</b>	<p><b>Financial Matters &amp; Expenditure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members were provided with account balances.</li> <li>• The Clerk has not yet received a response from the closed churches commission about cutting the hedge to the front of Holt St James. Members agreed the clerk should approach Wimborne PCC to see if they can arrange.</li> <li>• Members reviewed the effectiveness of the internal audit procedure and agreed that no additions or amendments are required.</li> <li>• Members approved the following items for payment including Clerks Salary:</li> </ul> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">ONLINE CLERK Reimbursement of Garden Waste Charge for Cemetery 2023/24</td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: right;">£65.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ONLINE DAPTC New Councillor Training (GC)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£54.00</td> </tr> </table>	ONLINE CLERK Reimbursement of Garden Waste Charge for Cemetery 2023/24	£65.00	ONLINE DAPTC New Councillor Training (GC)	£54.00
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<b>354</b>	<p><b>Information for Report only</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AGM of the Parish Council will be held 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023.</li> <li>• The next meeting of the Parish Council will be in Holt Parish Hall, <u>15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7pm</u></li> </ul>				

Meeting closed 21:29

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

Signed: ..... 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023**Appendix A****Budget for 2023/2024**

The full council meeting last night (14<sup>th</sup> February) debated the recommendations for the council's budget for the next financial year. The budget setting process has been through a rigorous process before reaching this stage. All members across all parties have had an opportunity to input and influence the outcome at various stages since October 2022.

A lot of the forecasting was based on assumption regarding things like inflation and salary increases. However a balanced budget has been achieved without any cuts to services. The government gave local authorities the green light to increase council tax by 3% without recourse to a referendum, and in addition to that a 2% social care levy. A report published yesterday stated that 75 % of local authorities in England will raise their council tax by the maximum allowed (5%).

Mindful of the current cost of living crisis members agreed across the chamber to support the recommendation to increase council tax by just under 2% plus the social care levy making our overall increase just under 4%. This equates to £1.41per week on a band D property.

**Council Tax and second homes**

A decision whether to recommend a 100% premium in council tax on second homes in the Dorset Council area (subject to Royal Assent on the bill currently at Westminster) was deferred by the cabinet at their meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> January. The decision was made to allow time for more councillors to comment on the proposals which, if agreed, would come into force from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024. This was debated further by the Place and Resources Overview Committee at their meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February.

The cabinet will consider committee responses at their next meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> February, and full council will vote on the recommendation on 30<sup>th</sup> March.

Dorset has 5,722 second homes. If this was extrapolated into a revenue uplift, it would equate to around £10m.

**Dorset Local Plan update**

A summary of comments from the consultation of the draft Dorset Council Local Plan is now published. All of the comments received from the 6,000 respondents have already been searchable on the council's website, but they have now been categorised against the draft policies and relevant areas of Dorset.

The consultation, which took place in early 2021, resulted in over 50,000 comments on the separate policies, more than all of the most recent former district and borough local plan consultations combined.

The summary can be viewed at

[www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/dorset-council-local-plan-consultation-2021-summary](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/dorset-council-local-plan-consultation-2021-summary)

Although the timescale for the development of the Dorset Council Local Plan has been extended, evidence gathering has continued. This supporting evidence is published on the council website. Once adopted, the plan will guide decisions on planning applications in Dorset for the next sixteen years.

**Family Hubs**

Dorset is now one of the leading authorities in the country for the development of Family Hubs – offering one-stop services for families.

Family Hubs use a whole family approach to provide a single access point for family support services for a wide range of issues, either online through an easy to access digital offer or in welcoming places and spaces, offering help from a variety of services and support groups. The aim of Family Hubs are to join up existing family help services for families with children of all ages.

The county has secured £875,000 from the Department for Education over two years as one of twelve national pilot sites. In addition, the council will add £342,000 to help develop and roll out a network of hubs.

Some of the centres will be building-based but the council is also anticipating experimenting with an online version and setting up pop-up, or mobile hubs, for more remote areas.

The initial hubs will be at Trickett's Cross Ferndown (already in operation), Leigh Park Wimborne, and Swanage.

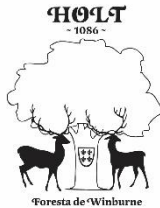
### **Social Tariffs for Broadband and Phone services**

Some broadband and phone providers including EE, BT, Sky and Virgin are offering social tariffs to people claiming Universal Credit, Pension Credit, and some other benefits. Details in the link below. Please share with your communities.

[https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-telecoms-and-internet/advice-for-consumers/costs-and-billing/social-tariffs?utm\\_source=Members%27+News&utm\\_campaign=c57d4f7ffd-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2020\\_03\\_17\\_03\\_03\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_bb2c164c5c-c57d4f7ffd-439343225](https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-telecoms-and-internet/advice-for-consumers/costs-and-billing/social-tariffs?utm_source=Members%27+News&utm_campaign=c57d4f7ffd-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_03_17_03_03_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_bb2c164c5c-c57d4f7ffd-439343225)

**CLlr Robin Cook**

**15<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

**Appendix B****Holt Parish Council**

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Lisa Goodwin 01258 840935  
 Stone Cottage, Hinton Martell, Wimborne, Dorset. BH21 7HE  
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**Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill: Reforms to National Planning Policy**

1<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Dear Sirs,

We are writing in response to the government's consultation on the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill: Reforms to National Planning Policy.

Holt Parish Council Dorset, represents approximately 1400 residents who live in a rural area of scattered settlements. The parish is within the Bournemouth and Poole Green Belt and is predominantly agricultural with substantial areas of Protected Forest and Heath.

As Holt Parish is totally within the Green Belt, Holt Parish Council is concerned that the existing Green Belt should not be reviewed or altered when making plans. Although new residential development should be provided with all the necessary infrastructure so as to support sustainable development and not detrimentally impact on the existing residents, inappropriate developments should not be in the Green Belt. However, as it is difficult to obtain planning permission within the greenbelt many developments occur without permission with the hope that regularisation may be eventually achieved, when time limits for enforcement have expired. Many farmyards, have gradually expanded over the years to become unofficial industrial estates, which can be not only eyesores, but often are accessed by roads, which are sometimes single track or even bridleways, that can be totally unsuitable for numbers of large commercial vehicles. Unfortunately, the current law seems to encourage such behaviour. Consequently, the lack of suitable infrastructure should be among justifiable reasons for not legalising usage after the statutory period has elapsed. Holt Parish Council thinks that not only should new housing be energy efficient but that there should be encouragement to make the existing housing stock, including listed dwellings, energy efficient. The Council supports the provision of more affordable housing, particularly for local people. However, it would not support an across-the-board extension of permitted development rights in the planning system nor National Development Management Policies (NDMPs) which would be imposed and override any local or neighbourhood plan policies which have been democratically determined. Also Holt Parish Council would not support any diminution of its statutory right to comment on planning issues at all stages of their evolution, whether they be development planning matters or spatial planning policies but would support changes to the planning system which strengthens the voice of democracy and local people.

### Consultation questions

Holt Parish Council's responses to the consultation questions which are applicable to ourselves are as follows:

- **Q.5: Do you have any views about the potential changes to paragraph 14 of the existing Framework and increasing the protection given to neighbourhood plans?**
- A.5: We welcome strengthening paragraph 14 from 2-5 years.
  
- **Q.6: Do you agree that the opening chapters of the Framework should be revised to be clearer about the importance of planning for the homes and other development our communities need?**
- A.6: Yes, particularly to emphasise the need for infrastructure to be provided for new development
  
- **Q.9: Do you agree that national policy should make clear that Green Belt does not need to be reviewed or altered when making plans, that building at densities significantly out-of-character with an existing area may be considered in assessing whether housing need can be met, and that past over-supply may be taken into account?**
- A.9. Yes. It has proved to be far too easy for Green Belt land to be released for development since the NPPF was introduced.
  
- **Q.29: Is there anything else national planning policy could do to support community-led developments?**
- A.29: It is unclear why Parish and Town Councils are excluded when they the lowest tier of democracy and are the elected voice of their communities
  
- **Q.30: Do you agree in principle that an applicant's past behaviour should be taken into account into decision making? If yes, what past behaviour should be in scope?**
- A.30: Yes, any past infringements of planning regulations or retrospective planning applications.
  
- **Q.33: Do you agree with making changes to emphasise the role of beauty and place making in strategic policies and to further encourage well-designed and beautiful development?**
- A.33: Yes. It is difficult to imagine that anyone would disagree with this aim. However, beauty is not just about the buildings themselves but about the layout, the sense of place, trees and open spaces as well as the infrastructure
  
- **Q.34: Do you agree to the proposed changes to the title of Chapter 12, existing paragraphs 84a and 124c to include the word 'beautiful' when referring to 'well-designed places' to further encourage well-designed and beautiful development?**
- A.34: Yes. It is difficult to imagine that anyone would disagree with this proposed change.



- **Q.40 Do you have any views on how planning policy could support climate change adaptation further, including through the use of nature-based solutions which provide multi-functional benefits?**
- A.40: Climate change is having varying effects in different parts of the UK and so help needed to enable Councils to understand the impacts of climate change and to build resilience for it.
  
- **Q.49 Do you agree with the suggested scope and principles for guiding National Development Management Policies?**
- A.49: No. Holt Parish Council strongly disagrees.  
 The Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill intends to give primacy to National Development Management Policies (NDMPs). This would overturn the principle set by The Town and Country Planning Act in 1990 – that locally set development management policies only need to be in general conformity with national policy. The Act gave the local development plans precedence. In future, if NDMPs are adopted, the locally-produced Development Plans would only be acceptable if their policies did not digress in any way from national ones, which could be subject to ongoing change. Local innovations and variations would not be welcome or possible.  
 And, as part of the change proposed, the Secretary of State would be awarded unilateral powers to change policies, make new ones or rescind existing ones – with or without consultation. This would be completely contrary to the government’s declared intention in both the introduction (para. 1) and the Policy Objectives chapter (point. No. 6, chapter 2) to this consultation to “empower communities” because it would have completely the opposite effect. If, for instance, there was a clash between a local policy and a national one, the national one would prevail – despite it not having been subject to the same level of public scrutiny. This would be an undemocratic state of affairs.
  
- **Q.50 What other principles, if any, do you believe should inform the scope of National Development Management Policies?**
- A.50: No. We do not support the coming into existence of National Development Management Policies. They are undemocratic and should be withdrawn from the Bill.
  
- **Q.55: Do you think that the government could go further in national policy, to increase development on brownfield land within city and town centres, with a view to facilitating gentle densification of our urban cores?**
- A.55: Yes.



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