

**Minutes of the Meeting of Holt Parish Council 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7pm  
HOLT PARISH HALL**

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| <b>36</b> | <p><b>Attendance &amp; Apologies</b></p> <p>Cllr Geoff Chopping<br/>Cllr Jonathan Cutts (Chairman)<br/>Cllr Jackie Egan<br/>Cllr Peter Finney<br/>Cllr Wrettham Ladbrooke-Chartres<br/>Cllr Guy Reynolds (Vice-Chairman)<br/>Cllr Janet Wallace<br/>Cllr Sarah Weaver</p> <p>Lisa Goodwin (Clerk)<br/>4 members of public present.</p> <p><b>Apologies received from:</b></p> <p>Cllr Celia Moore<br/>Cllr Robin Cook (Dorset Councillor Stour &amp; Allen Vale Ward)</p> |
| <b>37</b> | <p><b>Declarations of Interest &amp; Requests for Dispensation</b></p> <p>None.</p>   |
| <b>38</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.</p>  |
| <b>39</b> | <p><b>Confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held <u>28<sup>th</sup> June 2023</u> were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.</p>  |
| <b>40</b> | <p><b>Matters Arising (not included on the agenda) from the meeting held 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023</b></p> <p>None.</p>   |
| <b>41</b> | <p><b>Public Open Session</b></p> <p>The owner of Vicarage Farm attended the meeting to provide information on the application for a replacement dwelling and answered members queries on the proposal.</p> <p>3 residents attended to press for action at Burts Lane which suffers with large vehicles operating out of Jubilee Farm and for a 30mph speed limit.</p>  |

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| <p><b>42</b></p> | <p><b>Planning Applications &amp; Enforcement Matters</b></p> <p><b>P/FUL/20223/03319 VICARAGE FARM, HARTS LANE, HOLT, BH21 7DH</b> Proposal: Demolish existing asbestos barn and erect a new 1.5 storey dwelling house and attached 2 car garage barn. Members resolved unanimously to SUPPORT the proposal for its design which will be an asset to the village in this prominent location.</p> <p><b>P/VOC/2023/03595 BROOKLANDS FARM, HORTON, BH21 7JU</b> Proposal: Variation of condition to application 3/21/1389 – re-use of Barn A to form zero carbon dwelling. Formation of new access onto lane between Early’s Farm and Burts Lane. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p><b>P/VOC/2023/03209 PIG OAK FARM, HOLT LANE, HOLT, BH21 7DG</b> Proposal: Change of use of existing range of agricultural buildings to veterinary pharmaceutical offices, clean room, warehouse and residential accommodation for business visitors (with variation of condition 3 &amp; 7 of planning permission 3/21/0151) to enable the ancillary living accommodation to cover both floors of unit 2 and create an external private amenity area). Having considered the supporting letter dated 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023 with this application, members comments remain and still see no justification to vary the conditions. <i>Members request this application is considered by the Planning Committee if the officer’s recommendation is at variance to the above.</i></p> <p><b>P/FUL/2023/03831 DIDDY’S FIELD, WHITEMOOR, BH21 7DA</b> Proposal: To retain a boundary fence. Members resolved unanimously to OBJECT to this proposal as the fencing has an incongruous appearance which is harmful to the rural character of the locality.</p> <p><b>P/PABA/2023/04040 HG HAYTER &amp; SONS, ROWE HILL FARM, BH21 7EB</b> Proposal: Erect a new agricultural building to measure 13.72m x 13.62m; 3.76m height to eaves and 6.15m height to ridge. Members have been notified by Dorset Council of this request to determine whether or not prior approval is required. <i>Noted.</i></p> <p><b>P/NMA/2023/04204 THE BUNGALOWS, ROWE HILL, BH21 7EB</b> Proposal: Non-material amendment to approval P/FUL/2022/05956 to move lounge window on east elevation to centre. Members have been notified by Dorset Council of this application for information purposes only. <i>Noted.</i></p> <p><b>P/PAAC/2023/04199 BROOMDOWN BARN, BROOMHILL, BH21 7AR</b> Proposal: Change of use of agricultural building to dwelling house (use class C3) and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion. Members have been notified by Dorset Council of this request to determine whether or not prior approval is required. <i>Noted.</i></p> |
| <p><b>43</b></p> | <p><b>Highways</b></p> <p><b><u>Highways Working Group:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirmation from Dorset Council to complete 3 speed surveys as requested, which will be installed in September. The Parish Council will ask for priority on analysing the results and request to view the results of the Colehill Lane survey. (JC/PF)</li> </ul>   |

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|    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chairman asked residents of Burts Lane to bear with the Parish Council who are working in partnership with Dorset Council to address issues at a number of hot-spots across the parish. Residents are able to correspond directly with our Dorset Councillor Robin Cook with any concerns and also report any non-injury collisions or near-misses to Dorset Council at <a href="#">Road safety - Dorset Council</a> as evidence.</li> <li>• The Chairman will be meeting on site in August at Holtwood with the Community Highways Team Leader to discuss village 'gateways' and installing road markings.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public EV Charging Point:</b> Members agreed to approach The Old Inn, The Stocks Inn, The Cross Keys with a view to considering the installation of EV Charging Points in conjunction with Dorset Council.</p> <p><b>BT Box Holtwood:</b> the box requires some structural repairs before painting, Cllr Peter Finney will arrange survey and has a possible contact to repair. Local contractor has kindly offered to paint free of charge.</p> <p>The BT Box at Furzehill has been straightened and the Broomhill Box is looking lovely with flowers.</p> <p>The 40mph signs on Holt Heath have been removed by person unknown. The National Trust now have the signs and will arrange with Dorset Council to have them put back in place.</p> <p>Dorset Council notification of proposed temporary closure of Gods Blessing Lane, Holt on 24<sup>th</sup> August 09:30 – 15:30 to allow Openreach to carry out pole replacement works. <i>Noted, no comments.</i></p> |
| 44 | <p><b>Cemetery Matters</b></p> <p>Members re-assessed the headstones identified in the annual inspection for repair and with only very slight movement, agreed they were not deemed to be of sufficient risk necessary to repair at this time. Members agreed to place a sign for visitors to enter the cemetery at their own risk.</p> <p>Members resolved unanimously to accept quotation for grass cutting @ £1900.00 and hedge cutting @ £480.00 from C Hiscock for one year from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023.</p> <p>The Clerk is to discuss filling a number of ground holes that have appeared with local contractor.</p> <p>Cllr Sarah Weaver will remove the wasp nest found on one grave.</p>   |
| 45 | <p><b>Rights of Way Matters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Sarah Weaver reported 37 footpaths checked to date, 35 left to check; minor issues have been reported to Dorset Council with 3 access issues being monitored. Meeting scheduled Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> with the National Trust.</li> </ul>   |
| 46 | <p><b>Parish Hall Matters</b></p> <p>Members appointed Cllr Jackie Egan as the representative on the Parish Hall Committee, Clerk to notify the Parish Hall Chairman.</p>  |

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| 47     | <p><b>Emergency Response Policy</b></p> <p>In the event of an emergency effecting the Parish, members agreed a response policy whereby information can be cascaded out to residents.</p>  |                           |        |                           |        |
| 48     | <p><b>Correspondence – circulated to members in advance of the meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dorset Council’s Housing Strategy Consultation is now open and available to view at <a href="#">Housing strategy survey - Dorset Council</a> Residents who take part will have the opportunity to influence the council’s approach to housing over the next five years.</li> <li>• Dorset Council invites members to take part in a survey relating to the Voluntary and Community sector.</li> <li>• Correspondence received requesting use of Holt Green for a charity horse drive in August. The Clerk forwarded to the National Trust, as Landowners, for their permission.</li> </ul>  |                           |        |                           |        |
| 49     | <p><b>Financial Matters &amp; Expenditure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members approved the following items for payment including the Clerk’s salary:</li> </ul> <table data-bbox="319 952 1497 996"> <tr> <td data-bbox="319 952 510 996">ONLINE</td> <td data-bbox="510 952 606 996">Clerk</td> <td data-bbox="606 952 1388 996">Reimbursement of Expenses</td> <td data-bbox="1388 952 1497 996">£88.06</td> </tr> </table>  | ONLINE                    | Clerk  | Reimbursement of Expenses | £88.06 |
| ONLINE | Clerk   | Reimbursement of Expenses | £88.06 |                           |        |
| 50     | <p><b>Information for Report only</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Guy Reynolds reported that St James’ School have been provided with a defibrillator by the Government and wish to position it externally on The Cottage Nursery (as they already have a unit in the school) and have inquired if the Parish Council would consider funding a cabinet. Members agreed to include on next agenda for consideration.</li> <li>• Cllr Janet Wallace reported on attending the Local Government Conference in Bournemouth as the NALC representative. NALC is still pressing for remote meetings for Town and Parish Councils.</li> <li>• The next meeting of the Parish Council will be in Holt Parish Hall, <u>6<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7pm</u></li> </ul> |                           |        |                           |        |

Meeting closed 20:50

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

**Signed: ..... 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

## **Appendix A**

### **£121 million into Dorset since 2019**

Cllr Spencer Flower the leader of Dorset Council is constantly lobbying for a better deal for the residents of Dorset. He is aware that some have questioned the tangible benefits, so here is an outline the key financial achievements of this administration since becoming a unitary council and improved value for money for the local taxpayer.

One of the ways councils can make limited resources go further and reduce the burden on local taxation is through actively pursuing and applying for external funding opportunities. Everyone will appreciate these opportunities are often competitive processes requiring bidders to put forward ambitious ideas and demonstrate a commitment to delivery in accordance with the scheme criteria. Successful bidding helps to accelerate and unlock improved outcomes for those who live, work and invest in Dorset.

For the period 2020/21 to 2023/24 Dorset Council has secured £101.3m of grant funding, rising to £121.6m based on future year commitments and the life of the current grants.

Projects include:

- Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Safety Valve - £42m
- Levelling Up Fund (LUF) – Weymouth Regeneration - £19.5m
- Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme - Main Grant - £18.8m
- Department for Transport (DfT) Transforming Cities Fund - £14.2m
- And other smaller grants totalling - £6.8m.

### **Fairer funding for Dorset**

Cllr Flower also had an opportunity to meet with the Secretary of State for the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) again a few weeks ago and asked for a comprehensive review of fairer funding for Dorset.

Dorset Council receives very little revenue support grant (RSG) from government, which is why there continues to be far too much dependency on the local taxpayer. For example, he requested an RSG that reflects the increased costs and pressures of service delivery that gives parity with urban councils. RSG for Dorset Council represents 0.2 per cent of net income, equivalent to £0.7 million pa. Other unitary councils receive an average of 4 per cent which for Dorset would equate to £14 million pa.

Mention was made about the general issue of poor rural funding and what this means to shire councils such as Dorset. For example:

- Rural areas will still receive some 59.4 per cent (£111) LESS per head in Settlement Funding Assessment grant than their urban counterparts.
- Rural residents will pay, on average, 20.6 per cent (£110) MORE per head in council tax than their urban counterparts due to receiving less government grant.
- Rural residents will get 13 per cent LESS per head in social care support overall.

London is getting some £236 million a year more in government grant than the formula says it should (of which £166 million is received by only five boroughs) – this is at the expense of rural and non-London local authorities.

He also mentioned the impact of our older population in Dorset. The latest population data shows that 29.4 per cent of Dorset Council's population are over 65, in comparison with a figure for England of 18.5 per cent.

The demand for adult social care continues to rise dramatically. For example, in 2019, 624 people were discharged from hospital into council care, at a cost of £4.1 million. In 2022, the numbers of discharges have increased threefold to 1,675, at a cost of £15 million. Dorset Council receives no additional funding for this expenditure.

### **Housing Strategy Consultation**

On Monday 24th July we launched our housing strategy consultation. It is primarily a questionnaire, with some space for free text, and takes just minutes to complete. The aim is for as many people as possible to contribute with their views about what is important to them.

Key issues such as housing need, supply, and standards are some of the issues highlighted. The over-arching aim of the consultation is to hear what residents have to say and help us 'home in on housing'.

To complete the consultation please go to our home page, link here, [Dorset residents are encouraged to home in on housing as our Housing Strategy Consultation launches. - Dorset Council news](#) which we will be updating with videos featuring our Voices of Dorset. Please help us spread the word.

### **Awards for customer services**

Our Customer Services team are celebrating winning two awards at the 2023 South West Contact Centre Awards. Hosted by the South West Contact Centre Forum (SWCCF), the showcase event took place on Friday 23rd June in Bristol, the team won 'Best Customer Engagement' and 'Contact Centre of the Year'.

### **Help from Volunteers wanted**

If you work in the volunteer and community sector (VCS), we need your help to develop our new VCS strategy. We want to hear what you think about how we currently work with the voluntary and community sector. To have your say, please complete this survey by 16 August, it only takes 10 minutes! [Voluntary and Community Sector Strategy - Dorset Council - Citizen Space](#)

**CLlr Robin Cook**

**26<sup>th</sup> July 2023**