

**Minutes of the Meeting of Holt Parish Council 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 7pm**  
**HOLT PARISH HALL**

<b>229</b>	<p><b>Attendance &amp; Apologies</b></p> <p>Cllr Jackie Egan  Cllr Peter Finney  Cllr Wrettham Ladbrooke-Chartres  Cllr Geoff Pike  Cllr Guy Reynolds (Vice-Chair)  Cllr Sarah Weaver  Cllr Jane White</p> <p>Cllr Will Chakawhata (Dorset Councillor Stour &amp; Allen Vale Ward)  Lisa Goodwin (Clerk)  4 members of public present</p> <p>Apologies received from:</p> <p>Cllr Geoff Chopping  Cllr Jonathan Cutts (Chair)  Cllr Janet Wallace</p>
<b>230</b>	<p><b>Declaration of Interests &amp; Requests for Dispensation</b></p> <p>Cllr Geoff Pike advised the garden for Planning Application P/HOU/03299 Fox Cottage adjoins his garden, there is a property in-between. Cllr Geoff Pike does not believe the application impacts upon the value of his home positively or negatively and therefore is not declaring a pecuniary interest.</p>
<b>231</b>	<p><b>Confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held <u>19<sup>th</sup> June 2024</u> were confirmed and signed by the Vice- Chair.</p>
<b>232</b>	<p><b>Matters Arising (not included on the agenda) from the meeting held 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b></p> <p>None.</p>
<b>233</b>	<p><b>Dorset Councillors Report</b></p> <p>Please see <b><u>Appendix A</u></b> for Cllr Will Chakawhata's report which was circulated to members in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Peter Finney commented that whilst verge cutting is carried out as scheduled, dependent on growing conditions, Dorset Council should always ensure the visibility splays do not become overgrown to prevent incidents.</p>

234	<p><b>Public Open Session</b></p> <p>A neighbour of Planning Application P/HOU/03299 Fox Cottage is concerned the proposal will inhibit the enjoyment of own garden in respect of privacy and noise disturbance with residents in close proximity to the boundary.</p> <p>Three residents attended to provide information on the campaign to reinstate the QE Leisure Centre and are asking East Dorset Town and Parish Councils to write a joint letter of support to Dorset Council. The loss of this facility has greatly impacted on the immediate and rural community who now must travel further into the conurbations to access leisure services and a swimming pool – some of which do not have suitable disabled access and facilities. The population around Wimborne is growing dramatically with new homes and could be run profitably with a review of its pricing and marketing.</p> <p>Cllr Will Chakawhata advised that both the new Dorset Council administration and the school are keen to investigate alternatives to maintaining the facility to present to the Cabinet meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> September.</p>
235	<p><b>Planning Applications &amp; Enforcement Matters</b></p> <p><b>P/FUL/2024/03109 EMMERS FARM, HOLT ROAD, MANNINGTON, BH21 7JY</b> Proposal: Retain building in new position. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p><b>P/FUL/2024/03049 BROOMDOWN BARN, BROOMHILL, BH21 7AR</b> Proposal: Demolition of the existing building and construction of a replacement dwellinghouse. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p><b>P/HOU/03299 FOX COTTAGE, HOLT LANE, HOLT, BH21 7DQ</b> Proposal: Convert garage to ancillary living accommodation. Members resolved to make NO COMMENT on the proposal.</p> <p><b>P/FUL/2024/02980 PIG OAK FARM, HOLT LANE, HOLT, BH21 7DG</b> Proposal: Siting of solar panels on non-domestic property. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p><b>P/HOU/2024/03525: 2 HARRIETS GIFT, GRANGE, BH21 4HS</b> Proposal: Erect single storey rear extension and carry out internal alterations. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p><b>P/TRC/2024/03713 THE HORNS INN, BURTS HILL, BH21 7AA</b> Proposal: Fell T1 Arizona Cypress. <i>Noted, no comment.</i></p> <p><b>P/TRT/2024/03399 LAND ADJACENT TO PASTURES PLACE &amp; THRESHER WAY, WIMBORNE</b> Proposal: various tree works. <i>Noted, no comment.</i></p> <p>Notification of an <b>APPEAL</b> against refusal of Dorset Council at <b>DUNROMIN, UDDENS DRIVE, BH21 7BJ</b> for proposed alterations and extensions to dwelling and extension to domestic outbuilding.</p>

236	<p><b>Highways</b></p> <p><u><b>Working Group</b></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dorset Police have approved a new Community Speed Watch site at Furzehill.</li> <li>• The Clerk circulated correspondence from Cllr Geoff Chopping suggesting HGVs could only travel in one direction through Furzehill from the Stocks to the Cranborne Road and a change in priority at the crossroads so traffic on Furzehill must stop – <i>this will be considered by the Highway Working Group for discussion.</i></li> <li>• Still awaiting a quotation from Dorset Council to implement the 3 agreed speed restrictions, there is a high demand at the moment and our request will be processed in due course.</li> <li>• Auto Speed Watch Camera currently in place in Holt Lane, it is hoped the data from this will be available to the Parish Council.</li> <li>• Temporary closure of Colehill Lane for carriageway maintenance and resurfacing works on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2024 09:30 – 15:30. <i>Noted and shared on HOLT Together.</i></li> <li>• Temporary closure of Burts Lane to carry out a highway improvement scheme 5<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2024. <i>Noted and shared on HOLT Together.</i></li> <li>• Proposed temporary closure of Petersham Lane for carriageway maintenance works 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024. <i>Noted, no comments.</i></li> </ul>
237	<p><b>Cemetery Matters</b></p> <p>The Clerk updated members on progress with actions following the Annual Inspection last month. Members considered three quotations to repair two loose headstones and resolved unanimously not to proceed with the repairs as very costly but to lay the headstones flat for safety. <i>Cllr Guy Reynolds will action.</i></p>
238	<p><b>Rights of Way Matters</b></p> <p>Cllr Sarah Weaver Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no action has been taken by the National Trust to remove Himalayan Balsam and Dorset Council has now cut the verges where it has been identified.</li> <li>• Holt Forest bridleways still very overgrown and trees down, impassable in places. To be discussed with the National Trust and Dorset Council.</li> <li>• Faulty gates on Holt Heath reported to the National Trust.</li> <li>• Cllr Peter Finney commented that Ragwort is prolific this year, the National Trust have started to remove on Holt Heath.</li> </ul>
239	<p><b>Holt Parish Hall</b></p> <p>Cllr Jackie Egan reported she has offered to take up the post of Chairman of the Parish Hall Committee, this has yet to be formalised by the Committee. The party for the out-going Chairman was well attended and a plaque will be placed in the hall to recognise her contribution. All building work is now complete, the car park railings have been removed - parking by non-users of the hall still a problem however. The Committee are considering quotes to repaint the parking spaces possibly with disabled markings to deter non-users.</p>

240	<p><b>QE Leisure Centre</b></p> <p>Members support the reinstatement of the QE Leisure Centre if it is possible as it has been a great loss to the local community. Whilst members understand the complexity of financing the facility which must be addressed, it serves a large rural area and the increasing population of Wimborne. It is especially important that young people can access this type of leisure facility. <i>Members agreed to write to Dorset Council in support but not as part of a joint statement with other parishes, Clerk to action.</i></p>						
241	<p><b>Annual Review of Policies &amp; Documents</b></p> <p>Members reviewed the Standing Orders, Code of Conduct without change. The Clerk has updated contacts on the Emergency Policy. NALC has issued new model Financial Regulations which the Clerk will prepare for consideration next meeting.</p>						
242	<p><b>Correspondence – circulated to members in advance of the meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Rural Housing Enabling Officer will be attending the September meeting as requested to consider housing need and options for affordable housing in Holt Parish.</li> <li>• Members are invited to join ‘A Big Conversation’ with Dorset Council to discuss four main areas for a new Council Plan; growing our Economy; providing high quality housing; responding to the climate crisis; supporting communities for all. <i>Members to notify the Clerk if they wish to attend session in Wimborne (Leigh Park), Wednesday 21 August, 4.30pm to 6.30pm.</i></li> </ul>						
243	<p><b>Financial Matters &amp; Expenditure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members resolved unanimously to accept quotation from C. Hiscock of £1900.00 for grass maintenance and £580.00 for hedge cutting for one year from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024.</li> <li>• Members resolved unanimously to purchase a replacement Coronation bench @ £385.00 from Stewarts Garden Centre for Holt Cemetery. <i>Clerk to arrange.</i></li> <li>• Members have received an application for a grant from The Reef Youth &amp; Community Centre as children from both Holt and Furzehill attend. Members have had an opportunity to inspect the accounts and resolved unanimously to grant £500.00 to improve the facilities.</li> <li>• Members approved the following items for payment and the Clerk’s salary:</li> </ul> <table border="0" data-bbox="252 1597 1401 1657"> <tr> <td>ONLINE Clerk</td> <td>Reimbursement of Expenses Apr – June 2024</td> <td>£137.74</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ONLINE Dorset Council</td> <td>Logo Stickers for Furzehill Signs x 3</td> <td>£25.75</td> </tr> </table>	ONLINE Clerk	Reimbursement of Expenses Apr – June 2024	£137.74	ONLINE Dorset Council	Logo Stickers for Furzehill Signs x 3	£25.75
ONLINE Clerk	Reimbursement of Expenses Apr – June 2024	£137.74					
ONLINE Dorset Council	Logo Stickers for Furzehill Signs x 3	£25.75					
244	<p><b>Information for Report only</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next meeting of the Parish Council will be in Holt Parish Hall, <u>4<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 7pm</u></li> </ul>						

Meeting closed 20:40

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

**Signed: ..... 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Appendix A****Stour and Allen Vale Parishes July 2024 updates:****1. Elections concluded**

- Vikki Slade new MP for area

**2. Queen Elizabeth**

- 7000 signature petition regarding the closure of the QE leisure centre, debated at Full Council meeting on 18 July 2024, strong debate but referred to Cabinet. Initio disputed the council's assertion on the finances. Nick Ireland setting up an urgent meeting with Initio on site to get the talks started.

**3. Bibby Stockholm**

- Strong voices heard from the council and community that they don't want the barge in Portland and trying to engage with new government to be consulted

**4. Dorset Plan status**

- Email shared with parish council. Consultation by end of the year, formal engagement March 2026 and adoption May 2027. The government has announced planning changes but no detail for now.

**5. Rural verge cutting, fly tipping etc**

- Please go and register online for works to be done.

**6. Devolution**

- The new government/Chancellor is pushing for devolution arrangements with councils with a metro mayoral system, for better financial settlements.
- There are complications regarding powers, geographies and governance and what it means for local people.
- The government will publish a framework soon but encourages councils to start speaking about this.
- Discussed with Devon, BCP, Somerset, Wiltshire etc but need to reach out

**7. Enhanced DBS for Dorset Councillors**

- We are all being DBS checked due to the corporate parenting role and to give public confidence.

## 8. Nature Emergency

- Councillors of Dorset Council have voted to declare a nature emergency at the meeting of the full council on Thursday. The declaration will help strengthen the council's ambitions to create a carbon neutral, nature positive and resilient Dorset as outlined in its [Natural Environment, Climate and Ecology strategy](#).
- The motion, which was put forward by Cllr Nick Ireland, Leader of Dorset Council, urged council members to recognise that nature is in decline and that urgent action is needed to reverse this.
- The majority of councillors backed the declaration, with 54 voting to pass the motion, 20 voting against and 4 abstaining.

## Youth Justice Plan

- Fully adopted and voted by full council. It sets out the governance, plans to de-couple with BDCP, risks and priorities for the year ahead.
- Theresa Leavy for children services leaves in September 2024.