

# HOLFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of HOLFORD PARISH COUNCIL held on MONDAY 9<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2017 at 7.30pm. in the Holford & District Village Hall.

PRESENT: Cty. Cllr. H. Davies ; Dist. Cllr. S. Goss

Cllrs. T. Ayre, P. Grandfield, C Hayes, E. Prince, D. Salvidge, G. Weed

Also present P. Brimson (Clerk) + 31 members of the public & Ms I. Sylvester  
Cllr. Salvidge took the Chair and welcomed those present.

APOLOGIES Dist. Cllr. C. Morgan, Cllr. S. Coleman

Minute 001/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST and REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS  
No declarations or requests were made.

Minute 002/17 FRACKING IN WEST SOMERSET

Cllr. Hayes asked leave of the Chairperson to introduce a proposal that item 13 of the published agenda be taken first, for the convenience of those members of the public who had come to the meeting on account of this subject. Cllr. Prince seconded and this was approved without dissent. Cllr. Grandfield said he welcomed the appearance of the subject on the agenda and suggested the Parish Council hosts an open meeting with speakers who are specialists in their field and who represent different aspects of it. This would provide an opportunity for both residents and councillors to hear informed opinion and ask questions. Guest speakers could include a geophysicist/engineer with knowledge of the fracking process, a representative of EDF who could give that company's view, a representative of an organisation opposed to fracking, eg. 'Frack-Free EQS'. Residents from the parishes of Kilve and Strington would be welcome at such a meeting. The aim could be to arrange such an evening within the next 4-5 weeks. These points formed the base of Cllr. Grandfield's proposal which was seconded by Cllr. Hayes and approved by the Council.

Minute 003/17 MATTERS OF INTEREST FROM SCC Cty. Cllr. Davies reported:

1. An 'OFSTED' report on the Children's Dept. of SCC indicated significant progress has been made.
2. Route 14 bus service. Discussions continue and there is a possibility that Crossville would sponsor a thrice weekly service to Cannington if local PC's could make a financial contribution.
3. Hospital bed provision in the area. Williton is currently busy though this is a temporary situation due to staff shortages at Minehead.

Minute 004/17 MATTERS OF INTEREST FROM WSC Dist. Cllr. Goss reported:

1. The Consultation relating to a new combined council for Taunton Deane and West Somerset has begun, with road shows organised across the region. A decision by the Secretary of State is due by the end of 2017 and, if the go-ahead is given, then arrangements would be planned on the basis of the new council being in place by 2019.
2. Hinkley Point 'C' project. Work on-site is progressing rapidly now with a drilling rig in place. Cliff strengthening work is expected to start soon.

Minute 005/17 HOLFORD VILLAGE AGENT

Ms Izzy Sylvester introduced herself referring to her background in voluntary work in the public health arena (eg. Age UK). Her job is to support community work, particularly in areas where small amounts of money or simple items of equipment can make a big difference to the lives of individuals. She works three days per week, receiving referrals via District Nurses, PCSO's etc. Councillors were impressed with her resourcefulness and energy, and thanked her for making time to come to Holford.

Public comments on agenda items only

1. The poor condition of the surface at the Bowling Green car park entrance was highlighted.

Minute 006/17 MINUTES

1. The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 were taken as read having been circulated to Cllrs., and were accepted as a correct record upon a proposal by Cllr. Ayre and seconded by Cllr. Weed.

Minute 007/17 MATTERS ARISING and not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

No such matters were raised.

Minute 008/17 CHAIRPERSON TO REPORT Cllr. Salvidge reported:

1. The Annual Children's Party held on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 5.00pm to 8.00pm. with around 30 children present. The event is currently financially stable and plans are being made to repeat it in 2017

Minute 009/17 PLANNING Report on applications received:

1. The re-application for works at Longstone will be inspected shortly.

Minute 010/17 FINANCE

1. the following payments were authorised:

Clerk	salary	Nov/Dec	£262-50	proposed by Cllr. Ayre seconded by Cllr. Grandfield
	expenses	Nov/Dec	£7-84	proposed by Cllr. Ayre seconded by Cllr. Hayes

2. The PC budget for 2017-18 was agreed by Cllrs. and the precept set at £5,400-00, upon a proposal by Cllr. Grandfield which was seconded by Cllr. Ayre and approved unanimously.

Minute 011/17 HIGHWAY and RIGHTS OF WAY MATTERS Cllr. Grandfield reporting:

1. Improvements to signage in Holford village as discussed at the September meeting will be implemented as requested before the end of this financial year.
2. Cllr. Ayre reported he had noticed the need for some minor repair work on the road to Crowcombe. Cllr. Grandfield undertook to inform Somerset Highways.
3. Gorse on A39 verge approaching Kilton Cross. Cllr. Grandfield has contacted PCSO Bolton and asked for his support in arguing the case to Somerset Highways for its removal to improve visibility.

Minute 012/17 MAINTENANCE MATTERS Cllr. Grandfield reporting:

1. Lengthsman project. Quotes for equipment are being assembled.
2. Dog Pound. Work is to start soon with a budget of £9,000-00. It will take 5 weeks to complete.

Minute 013/17 AONB REPORT Cllr. Grandfield reporting:

1. The JAC had failed to agree that bicycles are a major problem, with some members blaming dogs for damage to the landscape.
2. Cllr. Prince reported an abundance of litter near Dead Woman's Ditch. The wardens will be told.

Minute 014/17 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED - and not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda

1. Avon & Somerset Police Crime Commissioners Report had been received.

Minute 015/17 ITEMS TO REPORT

1. Appointment of replacement Clerk. Cllr. Grandfield reported he is in ongoing discussion with a local person who has expressed interest in the position.
2. The public telephone box has been scheduled for removal. Objections can be made until 30<sup>th</sup> Jan.

Open Discussion at the discretion of the Chairperson

No matters were raised.

The meeting was closed at 9.37pm.

Next meeting on **MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2017**

