



HOLFORD PARISH COUNCIL – Extraordinary Meeting

Meeting Date, Time and Location: 29 May 2018, 19:30 @ Holford & District Village Hall, Holford.

Holford Parish Council	Initials (XX)	Attendance
Chris Hayes Chairman	CH	
Debbie Salvidge Vice Chairman	DS	✓
Hema Stanley Clerk/RFO	HS	✓
Emma Cavendish	EC	✓
Emma Prince	EP	
Gareth Weed	GW	✓
Maureen Young	MY	✓
Terry Ayre	TA	✓
West Somerset District Councillors		
Susan Goss	SG	
Chris Morgan	CM	
Somerset County Councillor		
Hugh Davies	HD	✓
Police Community Support Officers		
Peter Bolton	PB	
Sue Thompson	ST	
Public Path Liaison Officer		
Sue Edwards	SE	

Key Approvers (XX initials of member)

Proposed P:XX

Seconded S:XX



MINUTES

Table of contents:

1. Minute 067/18: Apologies for absence.	4
2. Minute 068/18: Have your say – Community issues/concerns.	4
3. Minute 069/18: Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations.	4
4. Minute 070/18: Planning applications.	4
4.1 Application 3/16/18/003 – Silk Mills.	4
Peter Grandfield.	4
Stewart Tavner.	4
Stephen Campbell.	4
Sarah Mason.	5
Pam Campbell.	5
Vanessa McDonald.	5
Sue Burns.	5
Tom Wise.	5
Penelope Aldridge.	5
Vanessa McDonald.	5
4.2 Application 3/16/18/006 – Strawberry Fields.	5
Peter Grandfield.	6
Stephen Campbell.	6
Anthony Salvidge.	6
Jenny Swash.	6
Parishioner.	6
Andrew Mew.	6
Stewart Tavner.	6
John Hughes – Applicant.	6
Anthony Salvidge.	6



Mark Kellaway	6
Penelope Aldridge.	7
Parishioner.....	7
4.3 Parish Council site visit comments	7
5. Minute 071/18: Finance matters - HS.	7
5.1 Approve Revised insurance figures.....	7
5.2 Review Dog pound quotes and select contractor.....	7
6. Minute 072/18: Any other business.	7



1. Minute 067/18: Apologies for absence.

20180529 – CH & EP sent apologies via DS.

2. Minute 068/18: Have your say – Community issues/concerns.

Public to speak under section 4.

3. Minute 069/18: Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations.

None reported.

4. Minute 070/18: Planning applications.

4.1 Application 3/16/18/003 – Silk Mills.

Silk Mills Cottage, Silk Mills, Holford, TA5 1RY

Change of use from woodland to residential with reinstatement of the original stone cottage.

Cllrs present @ site visit: DS, MY, EP.

20180529

Public comments:

Peter Grandfield.

- The application is, by assumption, calling the derelict store house and part dye house a cottage, it never has been a place of residence and calling it a cottage is presumptuous.
- Family history shows there was silk weaving in Holford Glen.
- Site is a place of historical importance much loved by local residents and visitors alike, and is in fact an integral feature of the village.
- The Silk Mills site has no services infrastructure, is part of the SSSI, Conservation Area and AONB, and has no substantial road access.
- Flora and fauna will be disrupted and in some cases, to a probable irreplaceable extent. High in the trees on the site is a magnificent Rookery, another feature of the village which will be disturbed by tree felling and building works.
- The fact that the Bryan Adams video and song “Everything I do, I do it for you” was produced on the site makes the place a visitor attraction in its own right and therefore a development as a possible “Holiday Let” would be attractive and the last thing that Holford Village needs.
- If this Application is granted, how long before development plans for the other ruins on the site are produced?

Stewart Tavner.

- Site was declared a community asset 5 years ago.
- Site was bought without planning permission.
- Site falls within AONB, SSSI, Community plan, Conservation area and has restricted access.
- Application should be rejected.

Stephen Campbell.

- Application is pure opportunism.
- Nothing justifies granting planning permission.



-
- Application does not recognise and is not respectful to history.

Sarah Mason.

- Already submitted comments to WSC.
- Site is within SSSI.
- Significance of site not being recognised. It is a key part of Holford and any development would change the character of the village.
- It is a dark environment and would require a significant number of trees to be cut down.

Pam Campbell.

- It won't be a healthy place to live in, it's dark and wet.
- Existing trees and wildlife is wonderful to look at and site be left as is.

Vanessa McDonald.

- Site has archaeological, historical & industrial interest, not been looked at adequately.
- Application does not have a proper archaeological assessment.
- Substantial ground works will be required.
- Site is special to Holford and any developments will change the character.
- Acknowledges application has been well put together.
- Any development will require natural light for safe residing.

Sue Burns.

- Village asset and people will lose everything mentioned.
- Phenomenal building work disruption.
- Access is difficult.
- Trees would be lost.

Tom Wise.

- Poetry of village.

Penelope Aldridge.

- Site should be left for enjoyment and cherished for future generations.

Vanessa McDonald.

- Applicants sought pre-app advice, no details in application to preserve ruins – soft capping.

4.2 Application 3/16/18/006 – Strawberry Fields.

Strawberry Fields, Combe Lane, Holford, Bridgwater, TA5 1RZ

Erection of an agricultural building with a twin wall flue pipe and associated earthworks (retention of works already undertaken).

Cllrs present @ site visit: DS, CH, MY.



20180529

Public comments:

Peter Grandfield.

- Applicant has built bigger than what was originally agreed.
- Earth closet has also been built.
- Revert back to agricultural storage barn.

Stephen Campbell.

- Prominent in landscape.
- Not an agricultural building.
- Not appropriate to grant retrospective planning permission.

Anthony Salvidge.

- Closet location has been moved recently?

Jenny Swash.

- No water supply up there.
- Hopes Natural England will take action soon.

Parishioner.

- No sympathy for Countryside.

Andrew Mew.

- Track on Woodlands Hill has been created using earth moving machinery. No respect for the surroundings.

Stewart Tavner.

- Owner's truck has devastated original track. Why has a new track been built?

John Hughes – Applicant.

- Toilet is in original location and 150m away from the path.
- Site is 10 miles from where he lives.
- Has permission from Natural England (Richard Penny) to remove gorse/beechn trees.
- Trespassing by public. Has mentioned to a few persons site is private.
- Discrepancy about height of the building. It was mentioned in original application.
- Infrastructure – Site has mains electricity; water has been collected.
- Stock going on site next year when applicant retires.

Anthony Salvidge.

- People should follow paths and not trespass.

Mark Kellaway.

- Asks applicant "Will you never live there?"

Applicant – Already has a place of residence not far from site.

Penelope Aldridge.

- Asked if there could be a show of hands.
DS – Could do;
HD – Commented on capacity of Village Hall and it wouldn't be a true reflection. No count taken.

Parishioner.

- Asked "Will the Parish Council make a decision?"
DS, GW - Parish Council will remain neutral and forward their concerns to West Somerset Council who is ultimately the responsible party that makes the decision.

4.3 Parish Council site visit comments.

Silk Mills:

- It is a dark environment with so many trees.
- A number of trees would need to be felled and more may interfere with building works, resulting in a complete change of landscape.
- A house and occupants would be at risk from remaining tall trees in stormy weather.
- River running through the Combe can be very fast flowing and much of the area would have to be fenced thus changing the visual aspect of the site.
- Site access is difficult.
- Services to the proposed site are non existent and need to be provided.
- Sewerage and drain levels are a concern.

Strawberry fields:

- The store resembled a two storey house. It has a flue and a large window.
- A new track from the access gate to the building has been driven through gorse and is rutted and unsightly.

5. Minute 071/18: Finance matters - HS.

5.1 Approve Revised insurance figures.

2018-2019 Norris Fisher £314.26
P: MY; S:EC; All Cllrs in favour.

5.2 Review Dog pound quotes and select contractor.

Finalise at the next meeting and select a contractor.

20180511 – A.Paterson £300
20180514 – T Hayes £380
20180518 – R Shephard Turned down the job

Selected A Paterson on cheapest cost basis.

P: MY; S:TA; All Cllrs in favour.

6. Minute 072/18: Any other business.

MY – Reported a parishioner had highlighted that the pedestrian gate at Woodlands Hill needs attention.

20180529 – DS taken issue on board and will contact relevant party.

Meeting closed @ 21:20