



HOLFORD PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date, Time and Location:

24 May 2021, 19:00 @ Holford & District Village Hall & Zoom, Holford

Holford Parish Council	Initials (XX)	Attendance
Emma Cavendish Chairman	EC	✓
David Talling Vice Chairman	DT	✓
Hema Stanley Clerk/RFO	HS	✓
Erl Plomgren	EP	✓
Michala Crossley	MC	
Stephen Campbell	SC	✓
Mike Copleston	MDC	✓
Vacancy		

Somerset West & Taunton Councillor	Initials (XX)	Attendance
Chris Morgan	CM	
Somerset County Council Councillor		
Hugh Davies	HD	
Police Community Support Officers		
Sue Thompson; Sue Marks	ST; SM	
Jamie Munro	JM	
Public Path Liaison Officer		
Sue Edwards	SE	

Key:

Proposed: P:XX

Seconded: S:XX

(XX initials of members)

9 members of the public present.

1 councillor and 2 members of the public joined the meeting online.

PARISH MEETING AGENDA

1. Minute 055/21: Previous meeting minutes – Approve and matters arising.
 - Minutes approved, no matters arising. P: EC; S: EP
2. Minute 056/21: Parish Council Chairman report – Emma Cavendish (EC).
 - See Chairman report.

<https://holford-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/20210504-Chairmans-annual-report.pdf>

Additional updates since our meeting:

Portway Play Area.

The PC requested that the planning enforcement officer at SCC send a letter to Falcon Housing reminding them of their requirement to provide a play area for the village as part of the planning consent for new housing. Since then Falcon has put in a comprehensive application to make the locked play areas accessible again. (See Somerset West online information ref : 3/16/21/007).

Speeding/traffic issues.

The Traffic Management department at SCC has agreed to provide (at no cost to the Parish) new improved signage on the A39 including high visibility 30mph signs (at both ends of the village) with a camera logo on them, renewal of the SLOW signs on the road surface and a 'No Through Road' sign at the village triangle.

Strawberry Field.

The Planning Department at SCC have sent an enforcement reminder with a 6 week deadline. A member of the public mentioned they had been told unofficially that bailiffs had been notified regarding the site.

3. Minute 057/21: Parish Path Liaison Officer report – Sue Edwards.

- See PPLO report.
<https://holford-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/2020-2021-PPLO-Report.pdf>

4. Minute 058/21: Road safety – Mike Copleston (MDC).

- Highlighted road safety as a concern in Holford on the A39 & in the Village. MDC re-iterated the on-going work by the Parish Council (PC) to slow the speed on the A39 with improved signage and possible speed monitoring devices which could be shared with other Parishes to reduce cost. MDC is working with Kilve and Stogursey PC on the potential use of SIDs (Speed Indicator Devices) and the possibility of grant funding from EDF for such devices.
- EP confirmed EDF required a traffic management committee proposal with details on surveys undertaken, time frames and joint interest from other Parishes.
- A member of the public mentioned the use of warning signs to slow traffic approaching the 30mph speed sign into the village. As has been provided by SCC in the past.
- A member of the public highlighted the speeding issue on the A39 by sharing the results of a quick survey past the Plough Pub on a Monday lunchtime showing 20-25% of vehicles driving over 36mph.
- MDC mentioned a straw poll was carried out by some parishioners early in the year. Positive responses received indicated that there was concern over road safety and that some action should be taken.
- MDC proposed that parishioners should be more involved to help identify all road safety issues and move towards the village becoming a much safer and pleasant place for all. All residents' views should be taken into account. EC responded that a questionnaire is being designed and will be sent to all parishioners not just a select few as was previously.
- DT highlighted the PC is a legal body and parishioner involvement in such activities would infringe on the ways of the PC workings. Anyone wanting to have a say in any PC decision making process should join the PC to have a democratic representation. DT also mentioned the topic on Quiet Lanes was not dismissed by the PC but at present other solutions were being considered.
- A member of the public objected to Quiet Lanes and to any Joint Committees of Parishioners and Parish Councillors.
- EC highlighted all work by the Parish Council is transparent and accountable. Past experience of such a group setup has excluded PC involvement and she is not in favour.
- MDC re-read his proposal:
Should the Parish Council form a sub-committee, comprising two councillors and at least five residents, to investigate measures that could be taken to improve road safety across the Parish for the benefit and enjoyment of all road users, taking into account the needs of walkers, riders, cyclists and visitors as well as motorised traffic, with a brief to carry out an official survey to enable all parishioners a chance to voice their opinions and take positive action to implement the findings?

A show of hands in the room was taken on whether or not the motion should be brought to the Parish Council. 6 in favour and 5 against. 3 online responses not recorded.

Proposal to be an agenda item for the Parish Council meeting in July.

5. Any other business. None.

Meeting closed: 20:00