

HOLFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES DRAFT**

Meeting Date, Time and Location:  
11 November, 19:00 Holford & District Village Hall, Holford

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

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)

3 members of the public present.

Nicola Hale from Sedgemoor County Council introduced herself as the new Community Safety Officer. The role is in place to be a point of contact for the community, to deal with any safety concerns they may have. She is working closely with the Police, EDF and other agencies to provide support to the local communities.

Email: [Nicola.Hale@sedgemoor.gov.uk](mailto:Nicola.Hale@sedgemoor.gov.uk)

Telephone: 01278 619636; 07464 981763

1. Minute 094/21: Apologies for absence – CM.
2. Minute 095/21: Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations – None.
3. Minute 096/21: Previous meeting minutes – Approve and matters arising.
  - P: EC; S: DT - All in agreement.
4. Minute 097/21: Chairman report – EC.  
<https://holford-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/20211108-Chairmans-report.pdf>
5. Minute 098/21: Somerset County Council report – HD.  
<https://holford-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/20211108-SCC-report.pdf>  
PG Asked when will be the purdah period with the whole unitary, HD unsure.  
PG Asked when the actual process was going to start, HD no decision had been made.  
HD advised smaller parishes to get together and come up with a plan.
6. Minute 099/21: Somerset West and Taunton Council report – CM.  
<https://holford-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/20211108-SWT-Report.pdf>
7. Minute 100/21: Police Community Support Officer report – ST/SM.  
<https://holford-pc.gov.uk/notices/avon-somerset-police/>
8. Minute 101/21: Planning applications.  
<https://www1.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk/online-applications/>
  - T/16/21/002 – No objections.

9. Minute 102/21: Parish maintenance.

- HS to inform contractor to cut triangle & verges.
- PG to contact owner of Wildlife Woodlands

10. Minute 103/21: Councillors – All.

**EC.**

Emergency provision in a disaster.

EC - Requested all councillors to think about a contingency plan in case of a disaster.

SC – Suggested Somerset County Council may be able to advise what can be done.

DT – A separate meeting was needed to discuss this issue. All in agreement

Responses to requests for FOI material and the cost process.

EC - These requests must be reasonable, not vexatious and should not be requested when all the information is available somewhere else e.g. online.

Requesting vast amounts of documentation is NOT reasonable and in future only specific requests will be agreed. A recent request has resulted in more than two days work for the Clerk and this has to be paid for from the Parish Precept at a cost of nearly £200 meaning council taxpayers money had to be used to supply information which is already available on the Parish Council website.

EC asked HS to invoice for the time taken (Total 18hrs to collate & pull together the requested information).

Local Government Reorganisation.

EC to organise a meeting with the chairs of local councils.

Business case: <https://holford-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Notice-One-Somerset-unitary-business-case-V1.0-July-2020.pdf>

LGR conference report: <https://holford-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/20211108-Chairman-report-from-the-LGR-conference-Oct-7th-2021.pdf>

Bus Back Better.

PG nominated representative.

PG – It is an ambitious project and will need to look at total infrastructure. Buses will have to be electric. Funding not clear.

SC – Digital timetables will need to be extended to rural areas.

MDC – Bid went to SCC. Bridgwater to Minehead route was recognised as important.

Playground.

EC – Work has started on the playground.

**MDC.**

Parish Council email system.

MDC – requested emails prior to September.

HS – To look into email storage options.

Hunt activity and map updating.

MDC - Rural Crime Squad much more helpful.

EP – Write an official letter of complaint to the police for their failure. EP to draft letter.

MDC – Raise awareness and inform local residents to call 999 if fire arm shots are heard in the village.

Mapping of village and purchase of Parish Online.

MDC – We do need an updated map that clearly shows areas where hunting is not permitted and possibly ownership of land. The subscription to Parish Online, £45, would make this much easier.

DT – Asked what other mapping tools are available on the market.

Village appearance and Signposting.

MDC – Fingerposts – now surveyed with GPS locations and letter sent to CPRE – awaiting reply but in contact. Parish online would help mapping.

Traffic survey & Speedwatch.

MDC – Speedwatch continuing through Winter. Chasing up to date reports from CSW HQ to support our SID applications. Our CSW team has been in operation since October 2020. To June this year a total of 6439 vehicles were observed travelling in one direction and 274 of these were travelling at 37mph or over, 632 were over 40mph in our 30mph zone.

Traffic speeds without the deterrent effect of CSW have been measured by team members and in September 15% of monitored traffic was travelling at over 36mph. Maximum speed 60mph. Residents, walkers, horses and users of the village hall have problems crossing the A39 safely.

#### Broadband

MDC – I have been asked to help their survey team when they eventually arrive but I suggest we invite Lynda Sudlow of Airband to talk to us at our March meeting.

#### A39 grant applications.

MDC – Deadlines for applications are:  
SIDs purchase Police Community Trust Fund 1 December  
Working with Erl to complete application for purchase  
SIDs installation EDF Community Fund - Deadline 3 December  
Application for installation costs  
In contact with Peter Stoize to confirm style of application

#### Post box collection times.

MDC – Write to Post Office about collection time change in village post box with no consultation.

#### **SC**

##### Hunt

SC – HS to circulate Hunt document to the Parish Council for feedback.

#### 11. Minute 104/21: Finance matters - HS.

- Approve outstanding invoices

<https://holford-pc.gov.uk/fiscal-year-accounts-2021-2022/>

P:EC; S:DT - All in agreement.

#### 12. Minute 105/21: Requests via email correspondence – HS.

- FOI – Already actioned.
- [20211105 CSW report.](#)

#### 13. Minute 106/21: Any other business for next agenda.

- Wildlife Trust – River Health.

Meeting closed: 21:05