

**THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
OF
HOLCOMBE ROGUS**

**WILL TAKE PLACE ON
THURSDAY 27th APRIL 2017
AT 7.30pm
IN THE GEORGE V MEMORIAL HALL**

AGENDA

Welcome from the Chairman

Apologies

Approval of Minutes of previous meeting

Matters arising from the previous minutes

Reports from the Councillors

Reports from the Parish

Police Report

Any other Business – Play Area

Stephen Hasell

Chairman

Holcombe Rogus Parish Council

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Parish Council have had another busy year. Meeting once every month with a summer break in August, we also meet if needed to discuss planning issues that may arise in between scheduled meetings.

The finance committee have been pondering what to do for the community with monies coming in from a solar farm in the parish, there has been one grant to the Village Hall Committee to assist with payment for a new boiler and fire doors.

Thankfully snow wardens were not needed this year and we only had one flood that affected the roads for a few hours coming into the village. Andrew and David have been around the parish cleaning drains which have helped with any high rainfall we might get and the verges have been cleared to try and stop further dirt getting into the drains. This I am sure will help keep the village flooding to a minimum.

All parish councillors should be proud of what they have achieved during the year and feel that they are appreciated by the others in the community. We can make a difference in the village and need to encourage others to put themselves forward to take part. Young blood is needed to keep fresh ideas and enthusiasm in our council.

I would like to thank Leslie our clerk for all the hard work she puts into the job, we would not be the council we are without her.

CLERK/RFO REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

THURSDAY 27th APRIL 2017

With the website up and running and the new transparency code regulations implemented it has been a quieter year. The milder winter has ensured we have not had to deploy the Snow Warden or allocate funding for snow clearance. Instead the Council have had the verges ploughed and drains cleared which will hopefully alleviate the flooding issues that seem to occur on an annual basis.

The Parish Council received the following funding in this financial year:

	£
Precept	6102.52
Council Tax Grant	197.49
Interest	5.03
Lightsource Solar	5103.19
VAT reclaim	430.82

The Parish Council itself did not apply for a TAP fund grant this year, but it was utilised successfully by the Village Hall Committee.

The Financial Committee granted the Village Hall a grant of £3000 from the Solar Fund (which is specifically for community projects) to assist with the purchase of a boiler and front door for the George V Memorial Hall.

This year Mid Devon District Council have started to charge Parish Councils for grass cutting the verges in the village, with so many Government cuts it is inevitable that District Councils will look to Parish Councils to assist with these essential maintenance tasks. It was for this reason that the Precept was raised for 2017/18 from £6300 to £6685.

Leslie Findlay
Responsible Financial Officer/Parish Clerk

Holcombe Rogus Parish Council

Annual report on footpaths.

The presentation by Tania Weeks from Devon CC on the review of rights of way in the Parish in July last year was well attended by members of the public. A number of possible new (and indeed old historic suggested) routes were discussed. These were not progressed via support or recommendation and no new footpaths were proposed. Footpath 23 (Ford Farm to Lower Besley) was again discussed over the year. Final route was outlined and supported in the recent Parish Council meeting. Devon CC will be arranging signage in due course.

The Parish paths survey has yet to take place. This is a precursor to seeking maintenance grants for the upkeep and improvement of footpaths in the Parish under the Partnership Agreement with the County Council. The plan was to undertake the survey with the help of parishioners this summer. I personally have walked all the footpaths in the Parish recently. As far as I can ascertain, there are no major issues although one or two signs are missing. The major improvement would be the installation of stock proof gates instead of stiles, making accessibility for all a lot easier. A number of Parishioners have sought this improvement over the last few years.

Peter Davies

Parish Councillor

April 2017.

Holcombe Rogus Parish Council

Roads and Footpath report April 2017

We have called on Devon Highways through the web site several times for potholes to be repaired. The response for the main road has been good, apart from the missing manhole cover, which has now been replaced. However we still have two very poor roads which have not been tackled properly. The road running parallel to the canal up to the Somerset border and the road running up to Lower Besley and beyond. Some of these potholes have been attended to in a fairly random way which means there are still a lot of potholes

We also have potholes developing on the road to Sampford Peverell and out to Westleigh. These have all been noted on the Devon highways web site.

The parish team have attended to our edge ploughing and our ditches have been well serviced by our lengthsman.

The footpath issue at Ford Farm has been resolved but has yet to be finally sign posted.

The weather this year has been kind to our roads and footpaths so we have had little need of our emergency team of snow and frost wardens.

Councillor Rupert Snook

Grand Western Canal Report to the 2017 Holcombe Rogus Annual Parish Meeting

by

Councillor Adam Pilgrim

The first mile of the navigable Grand Western Canal Country Park is in our Parish. It is the tempting start of the beautiful countryside corridor through varied countryside and villages to Tiverton.

Councillor Adam Pilgrim has the Grand Western Canal as one of his Parish Council responsibilities. He attends the Grand Western Canal Joint Advisory Committee meetings representing this Parish Council. While these are only held in March and October, Adam maintains regular contact with the Canal Manager throughout the year.

He also checks Mid Devon District and Devon County Councils' weekly on-line listings of Planning Applications and Decisions and alerts members of the Grand Western Canal Joint Advisory Committee to those that may have an impact on the canal.

He is part of a group helping the Canal Manager, Mark Baker, modernise and rationalise the boating Terms and Conditions.

The canal towpath continues to be maintained to a very high standard in Holcombe Rogus and all the way to Tiverton. Adam's visits to many other waterways in the past year confirm that the Grand Western Canal towpath remains one of the best in the United Kingdom. However, the Beech Car Park near Fenacre Bridge is frequently blighted by litter.

The improved canal water level monitoring equipment that was installed in 2015 has been joined by an automatic levelling sluice just south of Burlescombe and a tipping weir on the outskirts of Tiverton. These measures provide greatly improved water level control throughout the year to reduce the risk of sudden weather changes threatening the integrity of the canal.

These continuing improvements to the Grand Western Canal and the willing communications between the Canal Managements and the Parishes have been key factors in the canal having been awarded its eighth consecutive Green Flag award in 2016!

Adam Pilgrim

Holcombe Rogus Parish Council
Planning Report by John Butler, Chair of Planning Committee
for Annual Parish Meeting
on Thursday 27th April 2017

1. Planning Applications considered in 2016-17

The Council and its planning committee considered some 18 applications for planning permission, listed building consent and notifications to carry out tree works in the Conservation Area during the year. In the main, these were small scale domestic residential works and works to trees. The decisions taken by Mid Devon District Council (MDDC) were largely consistent with views of the Council, as statutory consultee. The Council have also raised objections to proposals to site a waste recycling facility near Junction 27 of the M5 which is in the adjoining Parish of Burlescombe.

2. Planning Policy

- a. MDDC consulted on the review of the proposed MDDC Local Plan. The latest local plan proposes that Holcombe Rogus is classed as a village on the basis that it meets three criteria-
 - i. educational facility
 - ii. convenience store and
 - iii. transport service.
- b. The classification as a 'village' means that some limited infill development is permitted within the settlement limit. Land that falls outside the settlement limit is classed as 'countryside' which has a more restrictive planning regime.
- c. In response to the consultation on the local plan review the Council expressed concern about the impact of material retail development at Junction 27 on the towns of the Cullompton, Tiverton and Wellington.
- d. The local authorities East Devon, Exeter, Mid Devon, Teignbridge and Devon County Council are working together to prepare a new joint plan. The objective being pursued is the delivery the best possible outcomes for the provision of new homes, jobs and infrastructure whilst also protecting and enhancing the environment. A preliminary consultation has taken place in relation to the 'Greater Exeter Strategic Plan'.
- e. MDDC have the also issued a local enforcement plan for consultation. The proposed plan sets out the MDDC's priorities in relation to the enforcement of planning controls in order to enable MDDC to the use resources available more effectively.
- f. MDDC have issued a planning charter setting out what is to be expected of the local planning authority on the one hand and town and parish councils on the other hand.

3. Recent planning developments

- a. The Government has amended the Neighbourhood Planning Bill, currently before Parliament, to remove permitted development rights from pubs. The Government's proposals also include an additional measure designed to allow pubs to expand their food offering without falling foul of change of use rules. According to CAMRA, pubs are closing at the rate of more than 20 per week. *[Currently pubs come under the A4 use class and owners have permitted development rights to change this to restaurants, cafes and shops (A3, A2 and A1)]*
- b. The Government has said that its 'Great Repeal Bill' will ensure that the "whole body" of existing EU environmental law continues to have effect in the UK after Brexit but opposition politicians have expressed concern that the proposals would give ministers 'sweeping powers' to change regulations.
- c. Local planning authorities have until the end of the 2017 to prepare new registers of brownfield land suitable for housing development, the Government has confirmed.
- d. The Government is consulting on a new agricultural to residential use permitted development right. It says that this would allow conversion of a farm building of up to 750 m² for a maximum of five new dwellings each with a floor space up to 150 m². The Government is looking how to ensure that these properties meet local need.
- e. The Housing and Planning Act 2016 included proposals for a new type of automatic consent called 'permission in principle' (PIP). PIP is a form of upfront consent that can only be obtained in relation to housing-led development. A technical details consent would be considered after the grant of PIP. The Government has laid the draft regulations before Parliament.
- f. The Government's recent Housing White Paper acknowledges that the housing market in England is broken. The main focus of the White Paper consists of proposals to increase new housing by reforms to the planning system and changes to the role of local authorities and developers. There is also the prospect of further legislative changes to the residential leasehold system.
- g. The Housing White Paper also proposes introducing a standardised approach to assessing housing need.
- h. The Government is to consider options for reforming the system of developer contributions and will be responding to a review on the Community Infrastructure Levy and the relationship with Section 106 obligations.
- i. The Neighbourhood Planning Bill currently before Parliament aims to help to identify and free up more land to build homes and to speed up the time taken to get planning permission.

HOLCOMBE ROGUS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

I am pleased to represent you as your County Councillor for [Holcombe Rogus](#) for the last 12 years. This May sees County Council elections and the end my term and it is my intention to stand again to represent you for another term of 4 years.

This division is called Willand & Uffculme, you might wonder what [Burlescombe & Westleigh](#) has to do with Willand & Uffculme, why it was called this, I am not sure, it is not an appropriate name, because it also includes [Culmstock](#), [Hemyock](#), [Clayhidon](#), [Sampford Peverell](#), [Burlescombe & Westleigh](#), [Huntsham](#), [Hockworthy & Clayhanger](#). All of which have their own Parish Councils. I try and attend all these Parish Councils, as I find it the best way to pick up what is happening and needs to happen within their communities.

What do I do at County, well I am the Chairman of the Place Scrutiny, which deals with all Roads, Waste Deposal, On Street Parking, Minerals, Corporate Energy Savings, Libraries, these being some of our main activities. Devon County Cabinet will meet every month, to which I attend. Then bi-monthly we have our Full Council meeting to confirm or reject all decisions taken.

Besides this we then have more local committees, such as Highways and Traffic Orders (HATOC), we meet every three months and deal with small local traffic problems within the Mid Devon District Area. The Grand Western Canal Advisory committee which will include members from interested groups that have connections with the canal as well as Parish Councillors and MDDC members.

Even more locally, we have the Quarry Liaison Group, which is an advisory Group that Group consist of the Quarry Management, Highways, MDDC Environment, BEL and Parish Councillors. We have been for many, many years trying to make progress with improvements to HGV traffic improvements, you think the road coming out of [Burlescombe](#) is steep, that compares nothing to what we are trying to achieve, all up hill and the bottom line is money.

It is very difficult to please everyone, particularly as we have to operate with a 40% reduction in budget, brought about by Government funding cuts. £267million, it hurts, but we have managed to maintain services as well as we could with the funding available. I am hopeful that road improvement should show through, as we have been successful in applying to the Government and have been awarded a £7.1million grant for rural roads.

I will just touch on Schools funding, because Devon receives £290 per child less than the national average and all our MPs are making very strong representation to Government, that this is unacceptable. Because of our aging population, the Adult services over heated to the tune of £7m last year, therefore we are increasing the budget by £19m to cover this.

I have a small budget per year and have been pleased to have used this for the benefit of local groups, charities and organisations, this will continue.

Pleased to represent you in recent years and very much hope that I can do the same again.

Regards,

Ray Radford Devon County Councillor



Devon & Cornwall Police

Building safer communities together

Crimes Recorded - 01/04/2016 to 23/04/2017 - KU2D

Offence	Recorded Crime 01/04/2016 to 23/04/2017	Recorded Crime 01/04/2015 to 23/04/2016	Recorded Crime % Difference
Violence with Injury	2	2	0.0%
Burglary Non-Dwelling	2	1	100.0%
Vehicle Offences	1	1	0.0%
Other Theft	2	1	100.0%
Criminal Damage	3	2	50.0%
Possession of Drugs	2	0	-
Other Offences	1	0	-
Total	13	7	85.7%

Non Notifiable Offences	1	1	0.0%
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Devon & Cornwall Police

Building safer communities together

Incidents Recorded - 01/04/2016 to 23/04/2017 - KU2D

Incident Closing Category	Incidents - 01/04/2016 to 23/04/2017	Incidents - 01/04/2015 to 23/04/2016	Incidents % Difference
Anti Social Behaviour	2	1	100.0%
Crime Not Recorded	1	0	-
Crime Recorded	6	3	100.0%
Public Safety	20	33	-39.4%
Transport	3	0	-
Total	32	37	-13.5%



Devon & Cornwall Police

Building safer communities together

Public Survey Data for 12 months to - Exeter, East & Mid Devon LPA

In general, how good a job do you think the Police in your local area are doing?

How often do you see the Police on foot patrol in your local area?

No data to display

No data to display



Devon & Cornwall Police

Building safer communities together

Public Survey Data for 12 months to - Exeter, East & Mid Devon LPA

What do you see as the major crime and anti social behaviour problems in your area?

Problem	No. of Responses
No problems	4279
Drunk & rowdy behaviour	2866
Teenagers hanging around on the street	2774
Vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles	2611
Underage/teenage drinking	2243
People using or dealing drugs	1552
Burglary of peoples homes	1343
Traffic offences such as illegal parking	645
Noisy neighbours or loud parties	473
Theft of or from cars or other vehicles	460
The threat of violence or harassment	424
Rubbish or litter	383
Uncontrolled dogs and dog mess	164
Theft from shops	118
Hate crimes or harassment	59
Being robbed on the streets	39
Incidents involving knives	17

George V Memorial Hall Annual Report 2016-17

The George V Memorial Hall AGM was held in July, only the committee and one member of the public were present despite the usual publicity.

In May the tidy-up of the hall grounds was well attended and a great deal achieved, despite showery conditions. The Leylandii at Hollycroft have been removed by the owner and a new fence erected in their place.

The hall is in regular use 4 evenings a week plus the playgroup on Monday mornings. There have also been a good number of weekend bookings for both private and public events.

In November there was another Craft afternoon for children and this was even better attended than last year, another such event, arranged for Easter was also popular.

The Christmas Fair was a great success despite the fact that we had only a few weeks' notice that the previous organisers were not planning to arrange one for 2016.

A new heating boiler has been installed as have the new UPVC front doors. The signage at the gate and above the doors has been freshened up.

We now have TAP funding for a new fire alarm system and fire doors which were recommended at the fire inspection last year and arrangements are being made to have the work done shortly.

HOLCOMBE ROGUS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

REPORT FROM HOLCOMBE ROGUS UNDER 5'S

Holcombe Rogus Under 5's is a toddler group that happens Monday Mornings (term time only) in the village hall. At the moment it's a small group that attend and some of those will be off to school in September so we are hoping to find some new local parents/carers to keep playgroup going!!!

Playgroup is parent led group, so everyone takes it in turns to take charge for the week! They unlock for 9, bring milk (so everyone can have a cuppa) and start to get out the toys, when Others arrive they help out with this!!! Then everyone helps tidy away and the person in charge locks up!! Passing the key onto the following weeks charge!!!

Numbers are currently low enough that the continuation of the group is a concern! The hall is paid for the rest of the year and the equipment is all there, it's purely a lack of bodies and Volunteers so we're hoping a few people will step up to enable this group to continue.

Nikki Orchard

HOLCOMBE ROGUS BRIDGE CLUB

The group meet on the first and third Thursday of every month, taking it in turns to host the evening. We would very much welcome new members and if you are interested please contact Michael Lloyd Davies 01823 672275