

HOLCOMBE ROGUS PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the June Meeting
Held in the King George V Memorial Hall on Thursday 22nd June 2023
At 7pm

APPROVED

- 6.1** **Present:**
Councillors: Adam Pilgrim (Chairman), Nikki Orchard, Frances Freeman and Sally Barker
District Councillor Gill Westcott
Leslie Findlay Parish Clerk/RFO
Mr G Czapiewski (P3 Co-ordinator)
One Resident

**ACTION
TO BE
TAKEN**

- 6.2** **Apologies:**
County Councillor Ray Radford
Parish Councillor Jane Lock

- 6.3** **Declaration of Interests:** Cllr Barker declared a personal interest in item 6.9.5.4

OPEN FORUM

The considerable concern of the state of the road passing by Wardmoor, down towards Burrow Farm and up towards Freathingcott farm was raised again. The tractors continue to speed along these narrow roads and have destroyed the ancient banks with the wild flowers. The ditches have been filled up with the detritus left after the extremely heavy rains earlier in the year and will not function when the next heavy rain occurs. Councillors were concerned about this matter and have asked the Clerk to contact the Highways Officer and County Councillor.

LF

- 6.4** **Minutes of Previous Meetings and Matters arising**
The May Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record and unanimously approved by all Councillors.

- 6.4.1** **Matters arising:**
First Aid Training – no further details at present
Refurbishment of Telephone box – postponed to July Meeting

RS

- 6.5** **Environment**

- 6.5.1** **PROW:** Cllr Freeman reported that all the footpaths have now been walked and assessed. There will be a follow up meeting with the P3 Co-ordinator at DCC. Footpath 15 behind Whipcott Farm has been cut back for easier access.

- 6.5.2** **Canal Report:** Cllr Pilgrim will be attending the annual Canal Inspection on Wednesday 28th June. Cllrs may join this inspection as a guest.

- 6.5.3** **Quarry Liaison Meeting:** Cllr Lock attended the Quarry Liaison Group Meeting on Monday 19th June.
15000 lorry movements this quarter.
Night working will be taking place for the next 2 months from the asphalt works.
Shown plans of ponds and tree planting for when quarry closes in 2046. However, there will be a review of those plans in 2034 and they could possibly be amended at that point through the planning process.

40000 trees will be planted on a 2:1 basis. Discovery of bats have stopped any further extension of Westleigh quarry. There is about 20m of rock left to excavate here, which will take about 3 years.

Muckshift (top layer) removal finished on Fenacre and blasting is taking place, this quarry will be below road level at the end of its life.

6.6 Highways

Work carried out: Nothing to report

Repairs to be reported: Nothing to report.

6.7 Planning

6.7.1 Applications discussed:

6.7.1.1 22/00907/FULL Retention of disused quarry for use as two firing ranges at Devon & Cornwall Constabulary Pondground Quarry (further information) - Councillors agreed the following objection should be sent to MDDC

Holcombe Rogus Parish Council notes the recent Peregrine Survey submitted by the Applicant. While the Survey concludes that it is unlikely that there will be any disturbance to Peregrine nesting since none were observed in the quarry, it also noted that many other bird types are likely to be disturbed and displaced by the proposed firearms training. This appears to act against Planning policies that call for Developments to protect or enhance biodiversity at and around their sites.

Consequently, the Council's existing Objection to this Application stands.

Should permission be granted, our Council supports the recommendation that shooting should not start until after 1st August in 2023 to avoid disturbing nesting buzzards and suggests that there should be a Condition calling for the cessation of shooting during the nesting seasons in future years

6.7.1.2 23/00905/CAT Notification of intention to fell 2 Cypress trees within the Conservation area at Holcombe Court – *No objections*

6.7.1.3 23/00910/LBC Listed building consent for the retention of security gate and fence at Webbers Church of England Primary School – *No objections*

6.7.1.4 23/00909/FULL Retention of security gate and fence at Webbers Church of England Primary School - *No objections.*

6.7.2 Pondground Firing Range

District Councillors Gill Westcott and Jane Lock attended a meeting with Angharad Williams (Development Management Manager at MDDC) to discuss the Firing Range application. It is hoped that a new firing demonstration will take place in order that the new Councillors appointed in MDDC will have an opportunity to observe the noise prior to discussing the application. This would need to take place after the 1st August due to nesting birds. The decision on the application needs to take place by the end of August otherwise MDDC can be accused of non-determination and the Police can go straight to appeal. The last date it can be discussed is at the meeting on the 30th August unless a further extension is granted.

6.8 Mary Fewings Playpark

There is still £231 left in the playarea fund which can be used to purchase any capital items for the playpark. The option to have a basketball hoop is still being investigated.

NO

6.9 Clerk/Finance

6.9.1 The following income had been received: May interest £37.20

6.9.2 Expenditure agreed outside of Committee:

6.9.2.1 £18 for DALC Councillor Training (Cllr Freeman)

6.9.2.2 £75 New planning page for the HRPC website

6.9.3 Fingerposts - Clerk received the following two quotes from DCC:

1. The cost to replace the post and 4 signs at Durley Moor Cross is Approx. £750
2. The cost to replace the post and 3 signs in the Village is Approx. £750

The quotes were accepted and will be funded through the Solar Fund. Clerk to action.

6.9.4 Cllr Barker produced the breakdown of the costings for the Coronation party, approval had been previously given for this grant. Total cost was £638.92.

6.9.5	It was resolved that the following expenditure was approved for payment by the RFO:			
	Amount £	BACS/cheque	Payable to	Comments
6.9.5.1	120.00	BACS	Microshade VSM	DPO Service
6.9.5.2	35.00	Direct Debit	ICO	Annual membership
6.9.5.3	1500.00	BACS	DCC	For two Fingerposts
6.9.5.4	638.92	BACS	Cllr S Barker	Coronation party grant

6.9.6 The bank statements and bank reconciliation for May were checked and signed by the Chairman.

6.10 Training

Cllr Freeman attended the first DALC New Councillor Course.

6.11 Matters brought forward for information or future agenda.

6.11.1 There are three Councillor vacancies.

6.11.2 The Council had been approached by Faye Cross the Community Liaison Officer for the Airband Community Project to discuss the possibility of Airband fibre coming to the village. It was agreed this briefing should be at 6.30pm prior to the September Full Council Meeting. Clerk to action. **LF**

6.11.3 Councillors have been invited to attend a webinar highlighting the campaign for 20 is plenty in villages. **ALL**

6.11.4 Several residents had raised the possibility of having CCTV at the three entry points to the village. Councillors discussed this and unanimously agreed that it was not a good idea for the village.

It would not cover the areas that the intruders appear to be taking (across fields). The village is a rural area and residents can put up their own cameras or attached to doorbells. There would be considerable practicalities to consider with GDPR being foremost and overseeing the footage.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.05pm. The next Council Meeting will be on Thursday 27th July at 7pm. **ALL**

Adam Pilgrim
Chairman, Holcombe Rogus Parish Council