

HOLCOMBE ROGUS PARISH COUNCIL 7/25

Minutes of the July Meeting

Held in the King George V Memorial Hall on Thursday 24th July 2025

At 7.00pm

7.1 Present and Apologies

Councillors: Adam Pilgrim, Sally Barker, Frances Freeman, Nikki Orchard, Rupert Snook & Gordon Czapiewski.

Parish Clerk – Jackie Lyons

Guests: Cllr Gill Westcott, Cllr Simon Clist

Linda Wyeth – Trustee of King George V Memorial Hall

Apologies

Cllr Jane Lock

OPEN FORUM

7.2 Declaration of Interests - none

7.3 Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters arising

Signing minutes of June's meeting. Signed by Cllr Adam Pilgrim.

AP

7.4 Chairman's Report – Cllr Adam Pilgrim has to consider whether he will continue as Chair due to health issues. Cllr Adam Pilgrim will advise Councillors before the September meeting to allow time for Councillors to think of who will Chair the rest of the administrative year and, perhaps beyond.

AP

AP

7.5 Certificate of Exemption – AGAR – This has been signed by Cllr Adam Pilgrim and agreed by all Cllrs at the meeting.

7.6 Presentation by Linda Wyeth, Hall Trustee to ask for funds

There are currently 5 trustees. Richard Wiltshire (trustee for many years) Linda who joined in 2022 plus Jago Snook, Hilary Garnham and Polly Page who have all joined within the last 18 months.

The trustees meet 4 times a year. Without the Covid payment support, the hall would probably have closed by now.

Hall Finances

Year ended 31 March 2025

Total receipts £10,997

Total payments £16,961

Deposit account £20,000

Current account £4,210

There is a gradually eroding deposit amount which is held for emergency expenses, eg possible erosion and collapse of Frog Lane earth bank.

Big costs during 2024-25 – flat roof blew off, Frog Lane end of bank needed retaining wall and new gate post, half the cost of outside play area

Devon Communities Together (DCT) suggested that the trustees carry out a survey to find what the village wanted rather than the trustees providing what we think they need. Alex Fry summarised Jane Airey-Regardsoe's 2023 village survey. The village were not clamouring for lots of new facilities. The hall needs sprucing up, proper acoustics and the trustees need it to run more economically.

The 2018 office building survey was revisited by Rob & Annabel Steaggles (both retired building surveyors) who produced a hit list of jobs that should be done. This is currently being addressed by the trustees out of current monies. The roof is sound but there was little or no insulation.

The kitchen door is rotten and must be replaced by a quick release fire door. In addition the Frog Lane front door cannot be unlocked and must be replaced by push release doors.

DCT suggested that Linda read ACRE (Association for Communities of Rural England) Net Zero report and this led her to Knauf Insulation who had been recommended in a case study. Two local installers of Knauf came and quoted to install roof insulation

Linda had commissioned a 'gunshot' report on the acoustic condition of both hall and kitchen. There are a lot of hard flat surfaces and sound bounces. This is uncomfortable for both very young and elderly.

In 2022 Soundabsorba Accoustic Products stated that both rooms had very high Rti (reverberation times) and needed panels to absorb sound. Linda replaced the existing cotton curtains with theatre standard serge curtains to help absorb sound. She has also had a local company, The Woolly Shepherd, visit and quote to install panels and suspended woollen clouds.

Funding

The trustees are currently approaching National Lottery, Locality Fund, National Grid local community assistance and monitoring GRIN (national database of all grants available).

Required

Roof insulation	£9K
Accoustics panels	£6K
Kitchen & Frog Lane fire doors	£4K

It was agreed that Holcombe Rogus Parish Council would contribute £4,000 for the upgrade of the kitchen and Frog Lane fire doors.

7.7 Environment

7.7.1 PROW - Nothing to report

FF

7.7.2 Canal Report – The Canal Advisory Committee's annual Inspection Tour; looking at the site to be built on around Tidcombe Hall, adjacent to the offside of the Canal, followed by viewing the replacement two-level landing stage by Minnows Caravan site, designed by Mark Baker to better cater for canoeists and paddle-boarders.

AP

Also noted was the date of the next Grand Western Canal Joint Advisory Committee meeting; 6th October.

7.8 Highways

7.8.1 To report on work carried out by Highways Dept – Nothing to report

RS

7.8.2 To receive reports of repairs – Repairs are ongoing. It was noted that the road from Durley Moor Cross to Westleigh is now dangerous.

- 7.8.3** Update on Whitebrook – the road will be closed on 28th, 29th and 30th July, 12 hours a day for the delivery of a new house on four articulated lorries.
- 7.9** **Planning** **AP**
7.9.1 No applications to list.
- 7.9.1.2** MDDC Decisions:
7.9.1.3 25/00784/CAT - Notification of intention to cut back 1 Horse Chestnut by between 2.2m and 4.3m in a Conservation area. Golden Hill Holcombe Rogus. MDDC has no objections to the works described.
- 7.10** **The Mary Fewings Playpark** **JL**
7.10.1 June Monthly Inspections – Nothing to report.
 A big thank you to Tim McCabe for all his help in helping with repairs that arise in the playpark. All the work that Tim carries out in the playpark he does free of charge, including supply of any materials. Again a big thank you Tim.
- 7.11** **Clerk/Finance** **JL**
7.11.1 Income
 June Bank Interest £25.68
- 7.12.2.1** Expenditure to be approved:
 Nothing to approve
- 7.12.3** Expenditure paid out of Committee:
 Nothing to approve
- 7.12.4** Signing of monthly bank reconciliation
7.12.5 Approval of June's Summary of Accounts. Signed by Cllr Adam Pilgrim
- 7.13** **Matters brought forward for information or future agenda** **ALL**
7.10.1 Councillor vacancies – With the resignation of Cllr James Anderson we currently have two vacancies
7.10.2 SID – Update on Speed Indicator Device. Ongoing
7.10.3 A late planning application was noted:
 25/00950/FULL
Proposal: Erection of a commercial building following removal of existing portacabin
Location: Abacus Construction & Fencing Unit 6A Greenham Business Park
Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 308755 / 118840
Parish: Holcombe Rogus 29
 The Parish Council had no objections to this application.
 Cllr Nikki Orchard to arrange a meeting to be held at The Prince of Wales to discuss the recent email from MDDC which asks, via an online Survey, for our views on what we would like to see locally and what level of priority we give each of these aspirations
- Future Meeting**
 The next Meeting will be on Thursday 25th September 2025 at 7.00pm.

Jackie Lyons
Parish Clerk