

HOLCOMBE ROGUS PARISH COUNCIL 01/26
Minutes of the January Meeting
Held in the King George V Memorial Hall on Thursday 22nd January 2026
At 7.00pm

1.1

Present

Councillors: Adam Pilgrim, Sally Barker (Minutes), Frances Freeman, Nikki Orchard, Gordon Czapiewski, Rupert Snook

In attendance: Hilary Corcoran, Chair, Hockworthy (Borden Gate) PC. Patricia Bainbridge, Clerk, Hockworthy (Borden Gate) PC. Emma Forward, Chair, Burlescombe PC, Lucy Elliss-Brookes, Vice Chair, Burlescombe PC.

Apologies

Cllr Jane Lock

Jackie Lyons, Clerk

OPEN FORUM

The meeting started with a presentation on Emergency Planning by Martin Rich of Devon Communities Together and Lewis Dyson, MDDC's Resilience Officer, followed by questions from attendees. This will be minuted in a separate report.

1.2 Declaration of Interests – None.

1.3 **Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters arising**

1.3.1 The minutes of the November 2025 meeting were agreed and signed by the Chair.

1.3.2 Community Transport – Cllr Czapiewski will send out a questionnaire to gather information regarding the need for, e.g., a village bus. GC

1.4 **Chairman's Report**

Nothing to report.

1.5 **Environment**

1.5.1 **PROW** - There has been some confusion regarding a request for a purchase order, but this has been resolved. Cllr Freeman will walk round to check rights of way, stiles etc. Cllr Freeman reported that Devon Highways have said that the damage to the hedge and bank at Dunns Court is not structural, therefore no further action required. FF

1.5.1.1 Cllr Freeman will be having a meeting with Rachel Gilmour MP, regarding contractors' tractors taking out the bases of hedges – 'over flailing' - which causes flooding. FF

1.5.2 **Canal Report** – NTR.

1.5.3 **Local Plan Consultation** – pending.

1.6 **Highways**

1.6.1 Cllr Snook reported that diggers have been around and cleared ditches around the village. They have not done Wiseburrow, as it is too big a job. There was a discussion regarding the lack of good manners/patience shown by drivers when attempting to navigate the potholes at Wiseburrow. Cllr Snook to write an article for the parish magazine.

RS

1.7 **Planning**

1.7.1 **Applications to be discussed:** 25/01461/CAT/The Vicarage – Reduction and maintenance of 7 trees.
No Objections raised.

1.7.2 MDDC Decisions:

- 1.7.2.1 25/01464/CAT – Reduction in height of 3 trees at Waterloo House. *Approved.*
- 1.7.2.2 25/01551/LBC – Listed building consent for replacement of windows, Annexe, 2 South St. *Approved.*

1.8 The Mary Fewings Playpark

- 1.8.1 Cllr Page undertook the January inspection – all was fine. She has also planted the Landmark tree, a rowan, on behalf of the Council – the Chair and Council expressed their thanks.
- 1.8.2 Tim McCabe has very kindly repaired the stile which was suffering from timber decay.

1.9 Clerk/Finance

1.9.1 Income

November bank Interest £18.34
December bank interest £18.27

1.9.2 Expenditure to be approved:

- 1.9.2.1 Village Hall hire - £180
- 1.9.2.2 Jackie Lyons – 6 x bin bag holders - £27.54

1.9.2.3 Expenditure paid out of Committee:

Nil.

1.9.3 Signing of monthly bank reconciliation

- 1.9.3.1 November and December Summary of Accounts were approved.
- 1.9.3.2 The Chair signed the monthly bank reconciliation.

1.10 Matters brought forward for information or future agenda

- 1.10.1 Councillor vacancies – There is now one vacancy. ALL
- 1.10.2 Cyber crime.
It has been confirmed that Mick Harrison of Devon & Cornwall Police will give a talk on cyber crime at 10.00 am on 15th July 2026 in the village hall. This will coincide with the Community Café so it is hoped for a good attendance from the village. He may need a screen. AP
- 1.10.3 Flooding at Whitebrook Terrace. There continues to be flooding into gardens at Whitebrook Terrace, in spite of the best efforts of residents to ameliorate the situation. It was noted that the Parish Council has no power to assist in this matter. The residents will be advised to contact the Environment Agency. NO
- 1.10.4 Defibrillator at Village Hall
It is reported that the defibrillator has been classed as decommissioned, because the monthly checks have not been registered each month as is required by the ambulance service. This is likely to be due to a breakdown in communications between the Village Hall Trust and the Parish Council. This will be addressed as a matter of urgency. NO/
JL
- 1.11 **AOB**
- 1.11.1 Mid Devon District Council's Annual Chairman's Civic Service on 31st May will be held in Holcombe Rogus at 3.00 pm. This will take place at All Saints Church and afterwards at the Village Hall. Thought must be given to the availability, or lack of, parking. ALL
- 1.11.2 The Parish Clerk will be on holiday from 14th – 21st February.

Future Meeting

The next Meeting will be on Thursday 26th February 2026 at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Sally Barker

pp Jackie Lyons

Parish Clerk