

HOLCOMBE ROGUS PARISH COUNCIL 2/26

Minutes of the February Meeting

Held in the King George V Memorial Hall on Thursday 26th February at **7.00pm**

Members of the public are most welcome to attend to raise any issues or to sit in the meeting.

2.1 Present

Councillors: Adam Pilgrim, Sally Barker, Frances Freeman, Polly Page, Jane Lock, Gordon Czapiewski, Rupert Snook

In Attendance

Cllr Gill Westcott

Apologies

Cllr Nikki Orchard

OPEN FORUM

It was agreed that residents present would be permitted to offer their opinions during the agenda items.

2.2 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Gordon Czapiewski abstained from commenting on the planning application 26/00146/FULL after it was discussed on item 2.6.2

2.3 Minutes of Previous Meetings and Matters arising

Signing minutes of February's meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed by the Chair.

AP/JL

2.4 Environment

2.4.1

PROW

A dead tree on footpath 15 has caused concern for a resident. The Parish Council discussed the issue and at least one councillor agreed that a limb could fall off in high winds. Others were of the opinion that the public are unlikely to be affected. Cllr Frances Freeman will discuss this again with the landowner as the council has a duty to safeguard the public. The Council acknowledged the complainant's input, and will advise the landowner of the perceived risk to footpath users and will ask him to deal with it to reduce that risk by appropriate tree management.

FF/JL

2.4.2 Canal Report

It was noted that the water quality North of Burlescombe is better than normal. The sign at Limekilms is to be replaced.

AP

2.5 Highways

2.5.1 To report on work carried out by Highways Dept
Black Lane to be bladed. A company is willing to do this FOC – they will be acknowledged in the parish magazine. **GC/JL/SB**

Concerns were raised by a member of the public with regards to tractors and delivery vehicles driving on the banks and causing them to collapse and cause flooding. It was acknowledged that this happens everywhere, and there is little the council can do to prevent it. Cllr Frances Freeman has had a meeting with Rachel Gilmour MP to gather her support in bringing this issue to national prominence. **GC**

2.5.2 To receive reports of repairs
Nothing to report.

2.6 Planning

AP/JL

2.6.1 Applications to be discussed:

2.6.2 26/00146/FULL - Erection of a self build dwelling
29 Fore Street Holcombe Rogus Devon – 13 members of the public attended and commented on this application – all were objections
Cllrs : Adam Pilgrim, Sally Barker, Frances Freeman, Polly Page, Jane Lock and Rupert Snook all objected to this application and MDDC will be informed of this. More information on this application can be found on <https://planning.middevon.gov.uk/online-applications>

2.6.3 MDDC Decisions:
None to report

2.7 The Mary Fewings Playpark

2.7.1 January Monthly Inspections – Nothing to report.

2.8 Clerk/Finance

2.8.1 Income
January Bank Interest £16.58
P3 £660 received. **JL**

2.8.2 Expenditure to be approved:
Jackie Lyons – wages - £1989 - Approved

2.8.3 Expenditure paid out of Committee:
DALC – training - £126 - Approved

2.8.4 Signing of monthly bank reconciliation
Approval of January Summary of Accounts. Approved

2.9 Matters brought forward for information or future agenda

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| 2.9.1 | Councillor vacancies – there is one vacancy. | ALL |
| 2.9.2 | Dead tree adjacent to public footpath – As per section 2.4.1 above | |
| 2.9.3 | Emergency Planning – Cllrs Sally Barker and Polly Page are starting this process. Updates to follow. | PP/SB |
| 2.9.4 | Neighbourhood Plan – Cllrs Sally Barker, Polly Page and Frances Freeman attended training on this. Cllr Freeman will do some research on this to look at a ‘Neighbourhood Statement’ which could be used in place of a ‘Plan’. | FF |
| 2.9.5 | Any Other Business | |
| 2.9.5.1 | Cllr Page had undertaken another litter pick and suggested that the PC should organise a village-wide pick, possibly on Easter Sunday. Anyone taking part could be given an Easter Egg. | PP |
| 2.9.5.2 | Cllr Gordon Czapiewski abstained from planning 26/00146/FULL application | JL |
| 2.9.5.3 | Cllr Lock suggested that the village needs a Youth Club. This is to be put on the agenda for the next meeting. | AP |
| 2.9.5.4 | There was some discussion regarding the Solar Fund and whether it would be possible to change how the income is used. AP to investigate. | ALL |

Future Meeting

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

Jackie Lyons
Parish Clerk