

Minutes of the Meeting of Holt Parish Council
11th February 2026 at 7pm
HOLT PARISH HALL

485	<p>Attendance & Apologies</p> <p>Cllr Geoff Chopping Cllr Jackie Egan Cllr Wrettham Ladbrooke-Chartres (Vice-Chairman) Cllr Geoff Pike Cllr Guy Reynolds (Chairman) Cllr Janet Wallace Cllr Sarah Weaver Cllr Jane White Lisa Goodwin (Clerk) Cllr Will Chakawhata (Dorset Councillor Stour & Allen Vale Ward)</p> <p>4 members of public present</p> <p>Apologies received:</p> <p>Cllr Sue Barnes Cllr Jonathan Cutts Cllr Peter Finney</p>
486	<p>Declaration of Interests & Requests for Dispensation</p> <p>Cllr Will Chakawhata declared an interest in The Wimborne Folk Festival which is being considered under financial items on the agenda.</p>
487	<p>Confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held 14th January 2026</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held <u>14th January 2026</u> were amended on page 473 under item 475; page 474 under item 480; confirmed and signed by the Chairman.</p>
488	<p>Dorset Councillors Report</p> <p>Cllr Will Chakawhata provided members with a brief round-up of matters including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorset Council will be reviewing the impact of flooding across Dorset and how effective they were to respond and to improve resilience in the future. • Fly-tipping on the Cranborne Road has been reported for collection. • Due to the extreme wet weather, potholes have developed on the newly re-surfaced Furzehill Road and will be repaired. • Will be attending the meeting on 17th February with the Highways Working Group and a visit to the former Council Offices to discuss security with an Officer from Dorset Council. • A report will be provided on the causes of the fatal accident on the Cranborne Road. • Dorset Council has a budget of £482m of which 80% is allocated for Adult Social Care and SEN.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dorset Council will be reviewing the ward boundaries, including Furzehill.
489	<p>Public Open Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents of Whitemoor have been impacted by flooding during this persistent heavy rainfall and asked how to get landowners to clear ditches and waterways on their land. They are also concerned with the possibility of additional homes being built in the area exacerbating the problem. <i>Cllr Will Chakawhata offered to take this up directly with the residents and offered to visit. Dorset Council can write to landowners requesting they take action. The Chairman also advised that the Parish Council would be happy to write to landowners if specific problem locations are identified and currently the Parish Council is not aware of any formal application for additional homes in that area.</i> Two residents attended to listen to members decision on the Walston Poultry Farm planning application for 7 homes.
490	<p>Planning & Tree Applications/Planning Enforcement Matters</p> <p>See Appendix A.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dorset Council advises, the provisional Tree Preservation Order (TPO) at Sheepcroft Farm, Sheepcroft Lane, Holt, BH21 7DA for two Oak Trees was confirmed without modification under delegated powers on the 10 February 2026. The Clerk advised members Dorset Council has confirmed there are currently three open cases for enforcement concerning Clayford/Uddens Drive. Members discussed the area of land at Grange next to Primrose Cottage that appears to be developing into a garden and has installed a gate onto the highway. <i>It was agreed the Clerk will report to Planning Enforcement for investigation to ensure the development is not in breach of planning law.</i>
491	<p>Highway Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Highways Working Group update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with DC Community Highways Officer arranged for 17th February to discuss highway safety measures at Furzehill and potential 30mph extension on Colehill Lane, Broomhill. The Clerk advised the speed limit installations are now planned for delivery before Easter. Cllr Geoff Pike reported sunken drain at Peppercorn Cottage, Holt Lane was repaired quickly and various potholes become evident due to the rain and flooding. Notification of proposed closure of Dogdean to allow Wessex Water to carry out drainage survey from 08:30 – 16:00 on 9th March. The water erosion and undermining of the road edge at ditch in Holt Forest has been reported to Dorset Council and will be repaired. Clerk to report the 40mph sign outside the Cross Keys Inn needs reinstating and to suggest relocating to the green triangle to improve its visibility to drivers. 1311175

492	<p>Rights of Way Matters</p> <p>Cllr Sarah Weaver wished to thank Maryanne Pike for item re footpaths in the Village Voices and updated members on various rights of way matters. The issue of public access being restricted to the open land at Holt Wood is currently being discussed by the National Trust and Dorset Council who will decide if any action is to be taken.</p> <p>The Chairman advised that the National Trust has confirmed they will be clearing areas of gorse on Holt Heath by end of February. Details will be communicated to residents via HOLT Together in due course.</p>
493	<p>Fly Tipped Waste Holt Heath</p> <p>Members agreed to write to the resident who is fly-tipping garden waste onto Holt Heath as there is concern for both grazing animals and a potential fire risk.</p>
494	<p>Parish Hall Matters</p> <p>Cllr Jackie Egan reported, the Committee has appointed a new Chair, Treasurer and Committee Member.</p> <p>The committee will once again be showing the 'Portrait of Holt' Film on 13th March by popular demand.</p>
495	<p>Cemetery Matters</p> <p>Working party completed a general tidy up and planted the hedge around the waste area on 17th January.</p>
496	<p>Annual Parish Meeting Agenda 19th March 2026</p> <p>Members approved the agenda for the Annual Meeting for publication.</p> <p>Several nominations have been received for the Good Citizen Award 2026.</p>
497	<p>Correspondence for action – circulated to members in advance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A resident is concerned with accumulating rubbish in a field off Holt Lane at junction with Horton Road at Three Legged Cross. <i>This has been reported to Knowlton Parish Council as it is in their parish, it was agreed the Clerk will contact them again and report directly to Planning Enforcement for investigation.</i> • Letter of thanks from East Dorset & Purbeck Citizens Advice for the recent donation. • The Parish Council is invited to take part in the Remembrance on 11th November and light the Lamp of Peace.

498	<p>Financial Matters & Expenditure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Clerk provided members with up-to-date bank account balances. • <i>Cllr Will Chakawhata left the meeting for discussion of this item:</i> Members resolved unanimously not to support a grant for the Wimborne Folk Festival on this occasion. • Members resolved unanimously to go ahead with a website MOT @ £145.00 to ensure it meets current accessibility regulations. It was recommended by the Clerk, following attendance at the Clerks Conference, that members are provided with .gov email addresses for parish council business to ensure compliant with legislation. The cost is £18.00 per mailbox per annum. RESOLVED. • Members completed a review of the internal audit system for effectiveness. • Members approved moving £5000.00 from the Savings account to the Treasurers account. • The following items were approved for payment including the Clerk’s salary. <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">ONLINE Mrs E Marsh</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Replacement troughs for Holtwood BT Box</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">£74.97</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">ONLINE Dorset Council</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Installation of SID pole in Lodge Road</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">£621.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">ONLINE C. Hiscock</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Cemetery grass and hedge maintenance 2024/25</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">£2480.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">ONLINE DAPTC</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Clerks Conference 6 Feb 2026</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: right;">£30.00</td> </tr> </table>	ONLINE Mrs E Marsh	Replacement troughs for Holtwood BT Box	£74.97	ONLINE Dorset Council	Installation of SID pole in Lodge Road	£621.60	ONLINE C. Hiscock	Cemetery grass and hedge maintenance 2024/25	£2480.00	ONLINE DAPTC	Clerks Conference 6 Feb 2026	£30.00
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<p>The next meeting of the Parish Council will be in Holt Parish Hall; <u>11th March 2026 at 7pm</u></p> <p><u>Holt Annual Parish Meeting 19th March 2026 7:30pm Holt Village Hall</u></p>													

Meeting closed 20:58

These minutes are to be signed by the Chairman after approval at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Signed: 11th March 2026

Appendix A

Application Number	Location	Description	Parish Council Comment
P/TRT/2026/00144	Dumpton School, Deans Grove, BH21 7AF	To fell T1 Oak and T2 Sycamore trees.	No objection.
P/FUL/2025/07041	Walston Poultry Farm Ltd, Gaunts Common, BH21 4JR	Redevelopment of previously developed land and buildings for the erection of 7 new dwellings.	Whilst we have no objection to the residential development of the former chicken farm, we are concerned that the proposed number of houses is excessive and therefore overdevelopment of the site. The courtyard design is out of character in this setting. A more modest scale of development would be better suited to the location.