

**Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL Meeting of Holt Parish Council
13th May 2026 at 7pm HOLT PARISH HALL**

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| 017 | Appointment of Chairman for 2026-2027 | |
| | It was proposed by Cllr Janet Wallace, seconded by Cllr Jane White and resolved unanimously to appoint Cllr Guy Reynolds as Chairman for the forthcoming year. Cllr Janet Wallace thanked Cllr Guy Reynolds on behalf of members for a splendid job as Chairman over the past year. | |
| 018 | Appointment of Vice-Chairman for 2026-2027 | |
| | It was proposed by Cllr Janet Wallace and seconded by Cllr Jane White and resolved unanimously to appoint Cllr Wrettham Ladbroke-Chartres as Vice-Chairman for 2026-2027. | |
| 019 | Declaration of Acceptance of Office Chairman & Vice-Chairman | |
| | The Chair and Vice-Chairman signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office for the forthcoming year. | |
| 020 | Attendance & Apologies | |
| | <p>Cllr Sue Barnes Cllr Geoff Chopping Cllr Jackie Egan Cllr Wrettham Ladbroke-Chartres (Vice-Chairman) 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) 3 members of public present</p> <p>Apologies received: Cllr Jonathan Cutts Cllr Peter Finney Cllr Geoff Pike</p> | |
| 021 | Declaration of Interests & Requests for Dispensation | |
| | None. | |
| 022 | Appointment of Representatives for the forthcoming year | |
| | DAPTC (JW) | PARISH HALL (JE) |
| | RIGHTS OF WAY (PF/SW/JE) | TREE OFFICER (JC) |
| | STAFFING (JC/WLC/PF) | HEALTH & SAFETY (WLC) |
| | HIGHWAY WORKING GROUP INC | ST MARGARETS & STONES (JC) |
| | SPEED WATCH (JC/PF/GP/SB) | EMERGENCY PLANNING (JC/PF/LG) |
| | | SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES (PF/JC/GC) |
| | | FLOODING (PF/GR) |
| | | NEIGHBOUR CARE TRANSPORT (AK/BW) |

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| | <p>Whilst not requiring a representative, members discussed it may be helpful to residents to place contact details regarding animal welfare concerns on the Parish Council website. <i>Clerk to action.</i></p> |
| 023 | <p>Annual Reports</p> <p>Reports were kindly provided by both St James School and Holt Neighbourcare Transport Scheme for members information.</p> |
| 024 | <p>Confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held 15th April 2026</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held <u>15th April 2026</u> were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.</p> |
| 025 | <p>Public Open Session</p> <p>3 residents attended with an interest in planning applications on the agenda – no representations made.</p> |
| 026 | <p>Dorset Councillors Report</p> <p>Cllr Will Chakawhata provided a brief round-up of on-going items: Residents are pleased with the introduction of 30mph speed limit at Holtwood but may wish to see it extended at a later date. Shady Glades Dog Exercise Park – a lot of public interest in the Planning Appeal for this site. The date to respond has been extended. Electoral Review of Dorset Council Wards – the Furzehill lobe of Holt Parish is currently split between two Dorset Council wards and Dorset Council is considering it is wholly included in the Stour & Allen Ward to represent its rural connection to Holt, this is unlikely to be contested. The number of Dorset Councillors may be increased from 82 to 84 with proposed boundary changes. The accumulating rubbish in a private field off Holt Road at 3X is being dealt with by the Environment Agency who will be speaking with the landowner. Clayford area Planning Enforcement issues - site visit by Enforcement Officer scheduled Friday 15th May. Holt United Football Club have today applied to be registered as an asset of Community Value.</p> <p>Cllr Sue Barnes took the opportunity to thank Cllr Will Chakawhata for his help with implementing improved security at the former East Dorset Council Offices which appear to be having the desired effect and no further incidents have been reported.</p> |
| 027 | <p>Planning & Tree Applications/Planning Enforcement Matters</p> <p>See Appendix A.</p> <p>Dorset Council have invited members to a Planning & Building Control Forum on Tuesday 16 June 10am-12:30pm in Dorchester which will include updates on the Dorset Local Plan, the Dorset Design Code, planning decision making, the Future Homes Standard and the Building Safety Levy.</p> <p>Members noted the Planning Enforcement Officers response to investigate an unlawful encroachment onto a parcel of land in Grange and the creation of a new access. It is not considered that a substantive</p> |

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| | <p>or materially harmful change of use has occurred that would warrant regularisation and therefore the case will be closed with no further action.</p> <p>Members discussed Rule 6 in respect of the Shady Glades Appeal to receive updates on any additional information submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and it was agreed that due to the Parish Council meeting schedule, members would be unable to react to any new information within the timescale and will therefore decline to be included.</p> <p><i>Members of public left the meeting.</i></p> |
| <p>028</p> | <p>Highway Matters</p> <p><u>The Highways Working Group update:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorset Council have now installed the 3 speed limits in the parish and will advise final costings. • The Highways Working Group are chasing a response from Dorset Council on various highway improvement suggestions in the Parish that were discussed at the meeting with the Community Highways Officer in February. • Concerns with visibility at Broomhill Crossroads have once again been raised by a resident following another accident. A request for a speed limit in Gods Blessing Lane will be considered by the HWG. • It has been reported by a resident that parked vehicles through Furzehill in narrow sections are causing some difficulty for larger farm vehicles to pass. <i>Noted, vehicles are permitted to park on the highway.</i> • Community Speed Watch: 2 sessions completed successfully at Smugglers Lane and Broomhill recording a high volume of traffic and speeding vehicles; forwarded to Dorset Police. Next sessions will be on the following dates with locations to be agreed. Friday 26th June 8.30am Tuesday 7th July 3pm • Dorset Council has confirmed that resurfacing is recommended at Gaunts Common and has been added to the 2027/2028 Capital programme. |
| <p>029</p> | <p>Rights of Way Matters</p> <p>Cllr Sarah Weaver reported that Dorset Council has a new system in place meaning that problems reported to the Rights of Way team go directly to their phones and should be solved more quickly.</p> <p>BW E45/15 has been cleared and is now suitable for horse riders along its entire length, from Uddens Water at Pilford to Lynmoor at West Moors. However, there is a slight glitch at Uddens Water (Parish boundary) because it continues as a Colehill Parish <i>footpath</i> to the road. This has been discussed with the Dorset Council RoW Team, who spoke with the landowner, across whose land the footpath runs. The situation will be reviewed in six months.</p> <p>There is an anomaly which has been reported to the DC RoW Team; FP E45/16 has a Holt Parish ID prefix but is allocated to Ferndown Town CP.</p> <p>There has been a recent up -grading of the surface of BW E45/15, plus associated significant ditch work, which now exists along the entire length of the gravel track to Clayford.</p> <p>In association with BW E45/15, BW E45/17 running from its junction with BW 15 towards the A31, has also been up graded.</p> |

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| | <p>Cllr Geoff Chopping has asked Dorset Council for a response on the issues with the footpath through the former East Dorset Council Offices and is unhappy that the matter is not being dealt with. This was raised with, and acknowledged by, the Leader of Dorset Council who attended the Holt Annual Parish Meeting in 2025.</p> |
| 030 | <p>Parish Hall Matters</p> <p>Cllr Jackie Egan reported that the outside seating area has been completed and looking fantastic. It is hoped to install French Doors to allow access to the area however works to repair the weatherboards may take priority. An outside tap has been installed and the benches secured. The car parking spaces will be repainted in yellow to differentiate from The Old Inn parking places.</p> |
| 031 | <p>Cemetery Matters</p> <p>The Clerk advised there are 3 burials scheduled in May. Members agreed to complete the cemetery inspection at <u>6pm on Wednesday 10th June</u>. Cllr Sarah will inspect the new hedge to establish if it has survived this very dry period of weather and possibly organise watering at the weekend.</p> |
| 032 | <p>LGBC Electoral Review of Dorset Council initial consultation</p> <p>Members approved the draft response to the review:</p> <p><i>In 2024, Furzehill {previously part of Colehill Parish} was incorporated into Holt Parish, because as a small settlement separated from the large, urbanised village of Colehill its character more closely aligned with the rural scattered hamlets and settlements of Holt Parish. However, it remained part of the East Colehill Ward, whilst the remainder of Holt Parish was part of Stour and Allen ward. Clearly incorporating the entirety of Furzehill and Holt into the Stour & Allen Ward would acknowledge the links this rural parish has with the adjacent communities of Gaunts Common, Hinton Martell and Horton. All three of these settlements have children at our school {St James}. Holt and Furzehill are also linked to this wider rural community through the use of the Village Halls in Holt and Holtwood as well as Horton. Other amenities such as the Holt Football Club and the Furzehill Village Shop and Post Office are widely used by residents from the surrounding rural area. The Holt and Furzehill communities are also interconnected with the wider Stour and Allen Ward by the local churches which also serve the rural communities of Pamphill, Hinton Martell, Witchampton and Horton. The 4 pubs within the parish {The Stocks, The Old Inn, The Cross Keys, The Horns} also serve the wider rural area. Holt is a vibrant parish with a strong sense of community and connections. Being part of the Stour & Allen Ward would best reflect the rural identity of Furzehill and Holt.</i></p> |
| 033 | <p>Correspondence for action – circulated to members in advance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSB Business Banking have advised it is to become part of Santander. Banking will continue normally. • The Clerk has received a letter of thanks to members for their work over the past year, in particular the success with speed limits, the response to the Heath fire and taking note of strong |

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| | <p>opposition to the Shady Glades proposal as just some of the examples. Thanks was also extended to Cllr Will Chakawhata for his strong advocacy on behalf of the parish.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Grid have advised of a large transformer delivery to the Mannington Sub-station on Saturday 23rd May which due to its size may cause some temporary inconvenience. Businesses and residents closest to the route will be contacted directly. • Inspector Adam Gill from the Dorset Police Rural Crime Unit has confirmed his attendance on 8th July 2026 meeting. • A resident has indicated he will be attending the next Parish Council meeting with a request to transfer ownership of the BT Box at Furzehill to the Furzehill Residents Association. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>034</p> | <p>Financial Matters & Expenditure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members resolved unanimously to support The Reef Youth Club with a grant of £500 toward the annual running costs. • It was proposed by Cllr Sarah Weaver, seconded by Cllr Jackie Egan and resolved unanimously to accept the quotation from D. Croombs to supply and fit two new benches on Holt Village Green @ £1500.00. <i>The Clerk will ask that the plaques are transferred.</i> • Members reviewed spend against budget for the financial year ending 31 March 2026. • It was recorded that members have no conflict of interests with the auditor, BDO LLP. • Members received and noted the Internal Audit Report for y/e 31 March 2026. • Members approved the Annual Governance Statement for y/e 31 March 2026. • Members approved the Accounting Statement for y/e 31 March 2026. • Members confirmed the dates for the Notice of Public Rights & Publication of Unaudited Accounts for y/e 31 March 2026. <i>Clerk to action.</i> • Members approved the Annual Insurance Renewal due 1st June 2026 @ £543.87 and discussed ‘cyber cover’. The Clerk advised this is not included in this policy and has asked for a separate quotation. • The following items were approved for payment including salary and the Clerk authorised to pay online: <table border="0" data-bbox="252 1422 1324 1550"> <tr> <td>ONLINE DAPTC</td> <td>Annual Subscription Fee</td> <td>£824.08</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ONLINE Wheeler Brown</td> <td>Payroll Services for 2026-2027</td> <td>£384.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ONLINE Dorset Council</td> <td>SID Deployment Service 2026-2027</td> <td>£1124.56</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ONLINE Vision ICT</td> <td>SSL Certificate Annual Fee & Clerks Email</td> <td>£99.00</td> </tr> </table> | ONLINE DAPTC | Annual Subscription Fee | £824.08 | ONLINE Wheeler Brown | Payroll Services for 2026-2027 | £384.00 | ONLINE Dorset Council | SID Deployment Service 2026-2027 | £1124.56 | ONLINE Vision ICT | SSL Certificate Annual Fee & Clerks Email | £99.00 |
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| ONLINE Vision ICT | SSL Certificate Annual Fee & Clerks Email | £99.00 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>The next meeting of the Parish Council will be in Holt Parish Hall; <u>10th June 2026 at 7pm</u></p> | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Meeting closed 21:21

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

Signed: 10th June 2026

Appendix A

| Application Number | Location | Description | Parish Council Comment |
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| P/HOU/2026/02164 | School House, Burts Lane, BH21 7JX | Construct games room building (demolish existing outbuildings). | No objection. |
| P/HOU/2026/02017 | The Barn Cottage, Bothenwood, BH21 4HU | Erect single storey rear extension. | No objection. |
| P/FUL/2026/01787 | The Horns Inn, Burts Hill, BH21 7AA | Proposed external trade area including hard-standing, dining sheds, festoon lighting and temporary stretch tent 10x6m. | Members support the proposal which enhances a local amenity for local residents. |
| P/VOC/2026/02385 | Oak Tree Paddock, Batchelors Lane, Holtwood, BH21 7DS | Convert existing building into dwelling house including part demolition and new build extensions (with variation of condition 2 of planning application P/FUL/2025/05349 to revise approved roof design, to allow for SIPS construction method. Extend approved building to create snug, bathroom & removal of outbuilding to frontage). | Members note the alterations to the original permission however, the dwelling now appears to be two adjoining dwellings given the facilities shown on the plan although it is consistently referred to as one dwelling. |
| P/CLE/2026/02399 | Mannington Heath Farm, Burts Lane, BH21 7JX | Use of land for open storage continuously for more than 10 years. <i>Please note this is not a Planning Application and in determining it, Dorset Council can only consider evidence that the claimed use or development is lawful or is not lawful. Normally, that is whether the claimed use has existed or not existed for a period of time. The Planning Officer can only consider evidence when determining this application. If you have evidence you wish to submit which demonstrates that the claimed use or development has or has not existed, then please respond to Dorset Council directly following the link. Please note evidence submitted either in support or against the application will in due course become available for inspection on the Dorset Council website in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.</i> | As a Parish Council we do have knowledge this site has been used continuously for more than 10 years for storage. Separately, members agreed to draw the officer's attention (having reviewed the application and photo's provided) to a new barn that has appeared on the site which is evident in the 2025 photo. |
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