

**Minutes of the Meeting of Holt Parish Council**  
**10<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at 7pm**  
**HOLT PARISH HALL**

<b>039</b>	<p><b>Attendance &amp; Apologies</b></p> <p>Cllr Sue Barnes  Cllr Geoff Chopping  Cllr Jonathan Cutts  Cllr Jackie Egan  Cllr Peter Finney  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)</p> <p>3 members of public present</p> <p><b>Apologies received:</b></p> <p>Cllr Will Chakawhata (Dorset Councillor Stour &amp; Allen Vale Ward)</p>
<b>040</b>	<p><b>Declaration of Interests &amp; Requests for Dispensation</b></p> <p>None.</p>
<b>041</b>	<p><b>Confirm the Minutes of the AGM held 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held <u>13<sup>th</sup> May 2026</u> were amended on page 496, item 030; confirmed and signed by the Chairman.</p>
<b>042</b>	<p><b>Confirm the Minutes of the Special Meeting held 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held <u>21<sup>st</sup> May 2026</u> were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.</p>
<b>043</b>	<p><b>Guest, Stuart Tucker, Station Commander Wimborne Fire Station</b></p> <p>Stuart kindly visited the Parish Council last year to talk about fire safety and was pleased to be invited back this year.</p> <p>Following the Holt Heath Wild fire last August, lessons have been learned on how to tackle a fast-moving fire in challenging conditions; working with the National Trust &amp; The Forestry Commission and supporting their review of heathland maintenance (which has not yet been published), gate access points (fire engines require gate access, specialist vehicles can cross ditches), benefit of drones and providing lighter weight uniforms for fire-fighters have all been reviewed. Stuart explained that in addition to water bowsers and hydrants, water can be taken from lakes and private swimming pools if necessary, by</p>

	<p>connecting a high-volume pipe and pump. Stuart took this opportunity to thank residents for their support of over 100 fire-fighters during the emergency. A question was asked about tackling fire if it should spread to Holt Forest and emergency access, Stuart suggested a site visit with crews to evaluate (Cllr Sarah Weaver to action).</p> <p>Following the positive response to the public consultation on the potential closure of fire-stations due to finances, Stuart was pleased to report that it has been agreed that the service needs modernisation but there will not be any closures (of the more rural stations) to ensure resilience and prevent the loss of jobs. Infact, Wimborne Fire-station is currently recruiting and there is now not an age limit on who can apply. Currently fire-fighters must be within 2 miles of a station but for the more rural stations this may be extended to improve availability.</p> <p>Dorset &amp; Wiltshire Fire &amp; Rescue service offer free Home Fire Safety visits. Trained staff visit you in your home to discuss potential fire risks and if needed, install free smoke detectors. To see if you are eligible visit <a href="#">Dorset &amp; Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service   Home Fire Safety visits</a> or call 0800 038 2323.</p> <p>Cllr Geoff Chopping asked how the Fire Service would operate should there be a major power cut? Stuart explained that the Fire Station has a 48-hour battery back-up and Generators.</p>
<p><b>044</b></p>	<p><b>Public Open Session</b></p> <p>The applicants for Oak Tree Paddock attended to clarify that the proposal is a long-term plan for one, multi-generational property with only one plant room preventing it being separated into two in the future.</p> <p>A resident was in attendance to comment on the planning application at 4 Clayford Cottages in respect of the creation of a new entrance, limited parking for cars to serve a 4-bed property and to advise the property utilises an old brick cess pit.</p>
<p><b>045</b></p>	<p><b>Dorset Councillors Report</b></p> <p>No report this month.</p>
<p><b>046</b></p>	<p><b>Planning &amp; Tree Applications/Planning Enforcement Matters</b></p> <p>See Appendix A.</p>
<p><b>047</b></p>	<p><b>Highway Matters</b></p> <p><u>The Highways Working Group update:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dorset Council has now provided the final costings for the installation of speed limits in 3 areas of the parish. <i>Members to agree the Parish Council contribution toward these costs at next meeting.</i></li> <li>• The HWG are frustrated at the lack of response from Dorset Council following the site meeting with the Community Highways Officer in February to address various on-going highway issues. <i>Members agreed the Clerk is to write to the senior officer for a response and copy in Cllr Will Chakawhata and the Dorset Council Road Safety Manager.</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A request has been received to consider a 40mph speed limit at Petersham Lane from a resident who is concerned with the increasing speed of vehicles. This will be added to the HWG discussions. The resident also thanked members for implementing the 40mph on Holt Lane which is a marked improvement.</li> </ul> <p><u>Other matters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members agreed to purchase metalwork to strengthen the troughs on the Holtwood BT Box. <i>Clerk to action.</i></li> <li>Clerk to chase up Dorset Council to repair the road edge defect in Holt Forest and road-edge pot-hole on opposite side of road at the entrance to Meadow Cottage and The Coach House.</li> <li>Cllr Sue Barnes will report overgrown hedgerows from Furzehill to the Cranborne Road to Dorset Council.</li> </ul>
<b>048</b>	<p><b>Rights of Way Matters</b></p> <p>Cllr Sarah Weaver raised concern with Footpath E45/70 exiting onto a dangerous bend opposite Mannington Farm and being able to safely navigate the bend to connect to E45/9. <i>The Chairman will make a site visit with a view to identify any possible solution.</i></p> <p>Both Gate 24 and Gate 29 on Holt Heath are damaged and have been reported for repair to Dorset Council and the National Trust made aware as cattle are on the Heath.</p> <p>E45/74 Holt Wood to Gaunts Common reported to Dorset Council as very overgrown.</p> <p>Overhanging trees on wires at Bilberries cleared by the National Trust.</p> <p>The National Trust are aware of 2 'camps' on the Heath, most likely children.</p>
<b>049</b>	<p><b>Parish Hall Matters &amp; Annual Accounts</b></p> <p>Members provided with a copy of the Annual Accounts for inspection which were noted without comment.</p> <p>Events for the diary: Strawberry Picnic on the Village Green, 28 June at 3:30pm to 5:30pm and official opening of the Parish Hall Garden on 25 July at 3:30pm.</p>
<b>050</b>	<p><b>Cemetery Matters including Annual Inspection &amp; Risk Assessment</b></p> <p>The Annual Inspection and Risk Assessment completed 10<sup>th</sup> June and headstones requiring attention recorded and marked with flag. <i>Clerk to action notices to be placed on the headstones.</i></p> <p>The Chairman will visit to look at the path which is lifting by the Oak Tree and the top bench which requires cleaning. Also noted the hedge at the entrance could be cut back to improve visibility when exiting. <i>Clerk to arrange to be cut back.</i></p>
<b>051</b>	<p><b>Annual Review of Co-option Specification</b></p> <p>Members reviewed the specification, no amendments required.</p>

<b>052</b>	<p><b>Voting on Motions at the DAPTC AGM</b></p> <p>Members considered the 3 motions presented and resolved unanimously to support all three.          Motion 9A – From Corfe Castle Parish Council regarding rented properties.          Motion 9B – From Gillingham Town Council regarding maintenance of closed churchyards.          Motion 9C – From DAPTC and the proposed Statement of Reasonable Expectations.</p>
<b>053</b>	<p><b>DAPTC Survey Community Emergency Response Plans &amp; Review Emergency Policy</b></p> <p>Members considered the survey and declined to respond as the content was not relevant to Holt, however agreed to comment that it made no reference to the fundamental risk of a widespread power outage and how this will impact communication.</p> <p>Members reviewed the existing Emergency Response Policy and updated community contacts.</p>
<b>054</b>	<p><b>Correspondence for action – circulated to members in advance.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on the Mannington to Nursling Overhead Line Refurbishment. <i>Noted and published on Parish Council website for residents information.</i></li> <li>• Confirmation from Dorset Council of receipt of the nomination of the Holt Football Club Ground as an Asset of Community Value.</li> </ul>
<b>055</b>	<p><b>Register of Members Interests</b></p> <p>The Clerk reminded members to check their Register of Interests are up to date on the Dorset Council website.</p>
<b>056</b>	<p><b>Financial Matters &amp; Expenditure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Clerk provided members with up-to-date bank account balances.</li> <li>• The two new benches, as quoted for, have been supplied and installed on Holt Village Green and members approved the payment of £1500.00 to D Croombs. <i>Clerk authorised to make payment utilising on-line banking.</i></li> </ul>
	<p>The next meeting of the Parish Council will be the AGM in Holt Parish Hall; <u>8<sup>th</sup> July 2026 at 7pm</u></p>

Meeting closed 21:22

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

**Signed:** ..... **8<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

## Appendix A

Application Number	Location	Description	Parish Council Comment
<a href="#">P/FUL/2025/06754</a>	<b>Mannington Heath Farm, Burts Lane, BH21 7JX</b>	Retrospective change of use of buildings and yard to a waste transfer station.	OBJECTION: Holt Parish Council is concerned about the effect of current and future traffic volumes, and vehicle size, on what is a very minor and unsuitable rural road, including damage to road surface and verges/road boundary. The unsuitability of the junctions at either end of Burts Lane is also a safety concern. As previously raised, Holt Parish Council is also concerned about the multiple statements regarding no changes to the site, despite clear evidence of a new building in evidence. The continued cumulative development of the site over time is also noted and deemed excessive for its location.
<a href="#">P/HOU/2026/01644</a>	<b>Stocks Corner, Smugglers Lane, Furzehill, BH21 4HB</b>	Orangery extension with flat roof and lanterns to south-west elevation and detached garage with pitched roof to east boundary.	NO OBJECTION
<a href="#">P/HOU/2026/02819</a>	<b>4 Clayford Cottages, Clayford, BH21 7BJ</b>	Erect two storey rear extension.	COMMENT: We have concerns regarding inadequate provision of parking for a 4-bed property and potential encroachment onto the bridleway.
<a href="#">P/FUL/2026/02637</a>	<b>Oak Tree Paddock, Batchelors Lane, Holtwood, BH21 7DS</b>	Convert existing building into dwelling house, including part demolition and new build extensions. Revise approved roof design, to allow for SIPS construction method. Extend approved building to create snug, bathroom and removal of outbuilding to frontage.	NO OBJECTION
<a href="#">P/OUT/2025/05605</a>	<b>Alma, Harts Lane, Holt, BH21 7AR</b>	Notification of Appeal against the refusal by Dorset Council for the erection of 1 self-building dwelling to deal with access and layout (all other matters reserved)	NOTED.
<a href="#">P/PAAC/2025/06052</a>	<b>Barn on land at Bakers Lane, Holtwood, BH21 7BY</b>	Notification of Appeal against the refusal by Dorset Council for prior approval for change of use from agricultural barn to residential dwelling.	NOTED