

Minutes of the Meeting of Holt Parish Council
8th July 2026 at 7pm
HOLT PARISH HALL

057	Attendance & Apologies Cllr Sue Barnes Cllr Jackie Egan Cllr Peter Finney Cllr Guy Reynolds (Chairman) Cllr Sarah Weaver Cllr Jane White Lisa Goodwin (Clerk) Cllr Will Chakawhata (Dorset Councillor Stour & Allen Vale Ward) Inspector Adam Gill (Dorset Police) No members of public present Apologies received: Cllr Geoff Chopping Cllr Jonathan Cutts Cllr Wrettham Ladbroke-Chartres (Vice-Chairman) Cllr Geoff Pike Cllr Janet Wallace
058	Declaration of Interests & Requests for Dispensation None.
059	Confirm the Minutes of the meeting held 10th June 2026 The minutes of the meeting held <u>10th June 2026</u> were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.
060	Guest, Inspector Adam Gill Dorset Police Inspector Adam Gill attended the meeting to discuss rural crime and a range of local policing matters. He provided interesting statistics and information specific to Holt Parish. His experience and insights in effective engagement of the Traveller community were enlightening and reassuring, particularly with reference to horse drives visiting Holt. Adam hosts bi-monthly update meetings and the Chairman will receive an invitation to attend.
061	Public Open Session No public in attendance.

062	Dorset Councillors Report CLlr Will Chakawhata provided members with a brief round-up of items he is currently working on including highways, rights of ways, outstanding enforcement matters and fly-tipping reports. An update for members on progress with Holtwood Community Farm and the Dorset Local Plan will be forwarded in due course.
063	Planning & Tree Applications/Planning Enforcement Matters P/HOU/2026/03351 The Cottage, Lower Rowe, BH21 7DZ Altered vehicular access to existing dwelling. Members resolved unanimously to make NO COMMENT on the proposal. Notification of Appeal against the decision by Dorset Council to refuse permission to retain a replacement dwelling at The Bothey, Clayford, BH21 7BJ.
064	Highway Matters <u>The Highways Working Group update:</u> - Members resolved unanimously to utilise the Community Infrastructure Levy funds toward the installation of speed limits in 3 areas of the parish totalling £5551.92 and request Vale of Allen Parish Council to contribute £1354.81 for 50% of the meterage in their parish. <i>Clerk to notify Dorset Council.</i> - The Community Speed Watch Team have run two successful sessions recently at Holt Lane and Furzehill. CLlr Sue Barnes will schedule further dates. Members discussed the speed of traffic across Holt Heath between 06:30 - 07:30 and 16:30 – 17:30. <i>The Clerk will ask the Road Safety Team to visit with the Speed Camera Van.</i> - An incident occurred at Furzehill on Friday 4th July believed to be a stolen car which damaged a resident's wall. <i>Police attended.</i> - CLlr Sue Barnes will draft a letter requesting a site meeting with the Dorset Highways Community Team Leader to discuss a number of areas of concern across the Parish including potential speed limits, dangerous junctions/accident hotspots, road markings/signage to alert people to pedestrians on the road, viability of mini roundabouts. - The Dorset Council CH Team Leader has written in response to a number of requests from residents in Furzehill requesting centre white lines on the newly resurfaced section of road. The Traffic Signs Manual was altered in 2019 and states that on rural roads of less than 5.5 metres, the centre line should be omitted for the following reason: Drivers may assume the road is wide enough for two opposing streams of traffic to pass comfortably. Whilst there are occasionally locations that are slightly more than 5.5 metres along this road, the majority of it measures less than 5.5 metres in width. <i>Noted.</i> - A resident has written requesting 30mph signage/roundels when approaching Holtwood from Horseshoe Crossroads as there is no signage for at least 1000 yards. <i>Members considered this request but felt, drivers are already in a 30mph zone when they arrive at Horseshoe Crossroads from all 3 directions and that it should be self-evident.</i>

	<u>Other matters:</u> • Cllr Sue Barnes will attend the opening of the Furzehill Phone Box on 18 July 2026 representing the Parish Council. • Four cars have been parked in two lay-bys on Holt Road for approximately 2 weeks. They are taxed and therefore not classified as abandoned and therefore Dorset Council will not pursue. Cllr Will Chakawhata offered to discuss with Dorset Police. <i>Clerk to send vehicle details/photos.</i> • Notification from Dorset Council of proposed 24-hour closure for highway maintenance works on Holt Lane between 27th July and 31st July. <i>Noted.</i>
065	Rights of Way Matters • Footpath E45/70 exiting onto a dangerous bend opposite Mannington Farm and concern at being able to safely navigate the bend to connect to E45/9. <i>The Chairman has made a site visit and is unable to identify an instant solution.</i> • A large amount of soil/aggregate has been tipped on verge along Paradise Lane. <i>Landowner to be made aware.</i> • Cllr Sarah Weaver has collected stray cow collars and will return them to the National Trust. • Dorset Council have written in relation to the Public Right of Way (PROW) application at the former Council offices. Dorset Council intends to dedicate the route before the formal application has been determined. This will provide reassurance to local residents that a continuous footpath connection between the woodland areas on either side of the site will be retained. It will also help give some certainty to prospective developers. Initially, the route will be fenced to clearly define the alignment, discourage the use of alternative routes across the wider site, and help identify any claims that may exist in respect of other rights of way. <i>Members agreed to respond thanking Dorset Council for confirmation and advise them of active badger setts on the site that must be considered.</i>
066	Parish Hall Matters Official opening of the Parish Hall Garden on 25 July at 3:30pm. Residents invited.
067	Cemetery Matters Actions from last month's inspection in hand with the Clerk and the Chairman. Cllr Jane White and Cllr Sarah Weaver will visit and check if the new hedge needs watering.
068	Annual Review of Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Code of Conduct No comments.

069	Correspondence for action Holt Village Hall is concerned by the use of the Village Hall Car Park by the traveller community on a recent Horse drive whilst the Hall was in use for a children’s party. The Committee would ideally like advance notice of future dates to pre-warn or re-book hirers. <i>Dorset Police will advise the Clerk if known.</i>			
070	Financial Matters & Expenditure - The Clerk provided members with up-to-date bank account balances. - Members resolved unanimously to accept the annual quotation from C. Hiscock to maintain Holt Cemetery grass @ £1950.00 and hedges @ £780.00 from 1st August 2026. - Members authorised the Clerk to pay the following items utilising online banking including Clerk’s Salary: <table><tr><td>ONLINE Clerk</td><td>Expenses Apr – June 2026</td><td>£64.28</td></tr></table>	ONLINE Clerk	Expenses Apr – June 2026	£64.28
ONLINE Clerk	Expenses Apr – June 2026	£64.28		
	The next meeting of the Parish Council will be <u>Wednesday 26th August 2026 at 7pm</u>			

Meeting closed 20:34

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

Signed: 26th August 2026