Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in Holne Village Hall on Tuesday 6 October 2026 at 8.00pm

Present
Cllr B Owen, D Fisher, McLean, L Grun and M Arden from item 2.

Also present
Suzanna Hughes (Clerk), District Cllr Pannell, Ross Gray (Tree Warden) and two members of the public

The meeting was opened by Cllr Owen at 7.30pm.

061026.01	**Apologies for Absence** Apologies were received from: • Cllr Applegarth • County Cllr Thomas
061026.02	**Casual Vacancy** Members received an application from Maggie Arden to join the Parish Council as a co-opted member. Having confirmed her eligibility for office, Maggie signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the meeting.
061026.03	**Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation** There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.
061026.04	**Open Forum** A resident asked when the grass will be cut in playpark. The clerk advised that it is due to be done again imminently. A resident (not present at the meeting) raised through the Chair, the following points: - The scaffolding at Holne Bridge has been erected for some time. How much is this costing? It was noted that work on the bridge is due to take place week commencing 24 October. The scaffolding is also on the Ashburton side of the bridge. - Holne Bridge has been hit again - A pothole at Bearwood has been filled twice on consecutive days. It was agreed to feed this back to Highways as it seems such a waste of money. Ross Gray expressed his continued dismay about the ongoing damage of Holne Bridge. He has put forward proposals to Highways and DNPA, but is disappointed at the lack of parish consultation. He stressed that local knowledge and input was essential. The problem is the length of vehicles not the width. He has submitted a Freedom of Information request relating to costs. The Chair advised that photos of the signage have been sent to Highways and advice is being sought. The problems being created by parked cars needs to be resolved. On the Holne side, a parking area could be

	created on a piece of land further up the hill and this has been put forward as a suggestion to Highways. For information, Ross advised has also been pursuing DNPA to repair the clapper bridge on Footpath 2 and is waiting to hear back.
061026.05	**Minutes** Members received the minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2026. It was agreed unanimously that they be signed by the Chair as a true and correct record of the meeting.
061026.06	**Reports** 6.1 **County Council** No report 6.2 **District Council** Cllrs Pannell & Hancock sent a written report (attached). 6.3 **DNPA (District Cllr Pannell)** A public consultation on the draft partnership plan opens on 12th October should the Parish Council or residents wish to comment. 6.4 **DNPA (Rob Steemson)** Updates as follows: - The order for tree, vegetation & new stile at O Brook is with a contractor. - Stile on Michelcombe lane was replaced by our Assistant Ranger - The stile on path to river Dart will be replaced with an on order gate. - He will look at the gates at either end of Church Path
061026.07	**Finance and Governance** 7.1 **Payments for Approval** The following payments were approved: • EDF (DAAT mast – invoice 28) - £16.28 • SHDC (Annual insurance and inspection fee for Playpark) - £300 • Holne Village Hall (hire) - £84
061026.08	**Planning** 8.1 **New applications/appeals** None 8.2 **Decisions** None 8.3 **Other planning matters** 8.3.1 Glebe House, Holne It was agreed that a query is raised with planning enforcement about the materials being used to construct an agricultural building. It was thought that permission had been granted for a wooden structure but the building is being constructed using concrete blocks and clad with wood. 8.3.2 Langaford, Holne Various works have been carried out on land at Langaford. It was agreed to raise these with DNPA's planning enforcement officer to establish whether permission is required.

061026.09	**Playpark** The directional sign to the toilets at the tea rooms needs to be attached to the playpark gate. Cllr Fisher offered to do this. Members received the latest playpark inspection. Actions will be taken to make the equipment safe. Cllr Fisher reported that he has the information to enable the submission of a pre-application and would forward it to the clerk for onward submission to DNPA. An email was received from a resident regarding proposed updates to playpark. Members noted the matters raised and these will be taken into consideration in due course once DNPA has commented on the pre-application.
061026.10	**Service of Remembrance & Poppy Wreath** The Chair will collect the wreath from Buckfastleigh and will represent the Parish Council at this year's Service of Remembrance on 8 November in Holne.
061026.10	**Climate and Biodiversity Emergency** It was agreed that the National Emergency Briefing will be shown in the Holne Church on Friday 20th November at 7pm. This will be publicised in the parish.
061026.11	**Highways, Footpaths & Leats** *Residents are encouraged to report all potholes:* *https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/* 11.1 It was noted that Holne (Old) bridge and Newbridge will be closed from 24 October – 1 November. Holne bridge will be closed for 24 hours a day with no access through the site; Newbridge will be closed between 0800 and 1700 with permitted access to properties within the closed section between the bridges. 11.2 Members received an enquiry about the status of the undesignated footpath (Shuttaford Farm to Hembury South Gate). It was noted that because it was not on the definitive map, its maintenance does not fall into anyone's responsibility.
061026.12	**Chairman's urgent business for action by the clerk if covered by delegated powers or for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting** The clerk was asked to send an article to the Parish Link reminding landowners of their responsibility to maintain their roadside hedges. A resident informed members that he would like to organise a 'mystery nativity' around the village involving the community. There was general support for the idea.
061026.13	**Correspondence** Holne payphone has been reported as faulty by a non-resident. The clerk asked if someone could check whether it has been fixed.
061026.14	**Date of next meeting** The next meeting will be on Tuesday 3rd November at 7.30pm.

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Cllr B Owen
Chair

Parish report from your District Councillors
6th October 2026

Local Government Reorganisation

We will give an update at your meeting, following the Government's decision in September to halt and reconsider Local Government Reform in Devon.
Parish and District Council elections will now take place in May next year on existing boundaries.

Elected Mayor for Devon – have your say

A live consultation is under way on the proposal to have an Elected Mayor for the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority. Plymouth has indicated it now wishes to join the CCA, which would become a Mayoral Strategic Authority. The Elected Mayor would assume powers and funding currently exercised by the Government over areas such as strategic planning and transport. They would not replace any of the functions of existing Councils. The deadline for submissions is the end of October and views are sought from town and parish councils. There are more details on the link below: (Control&Click)

https://democracy.devonandtorbay-cca.gov.uk/documents/s868/260922%20DTCCA%20Board%20Report%20-%20Future%20Devolution%20Arrangements.pdf

CCTV cameras' success against fly-tipping

An experiment with CCTV cameras in areas prone to fly-tipping has been hugely successful so far, catching seven fly-tippers in the act – as well as an incident of arson and five incidents of littering.

- Their use will support our enforcement activity and help identify those responsible for illegally dumping waste.
- The Council will take all possible action against those caught fly tipping, including Fixed Penalty Notice on-the-spot fines up to £5,000, or taking those identified to court, which could lead to an unlimited fine.

We're also reminding our residents that household waste can be disposed of responsibly through local recycling centres, authorised waste carriers, or Council collection services. Anyone using a private waste contractor should ensure that they are properly licensed, as householders may still be held responsible if their waste is fly-tipped.

School children asked to create art for new waste and recycling vehicles

Primary school children living in the South Hams have the chance to have their artwork emblazoned on the district's waste and recycling vehicles thanks to a new competition celebrating the importance of recycling.

- We're inviting young artists to paint or draw a picture that shows either why recycling is important or how to recycle.

- The winning designs will be proudly displayed on the doors of one of the Council's waste and recycling vehicles – the winning artists will also get their names emblaz the vehicle for the next 12 months.
- Entries close on Friday 13 November 2026.

Information about ideas, entry criteria and how to enter can be found on the SHDC webs

Ongoing consultations

- Taxi Fares and Taxi Policy: Consultation on new taxi policy and fares - Open until October.
- Animal Licensing Policy: Consultation on the updated Animal Licensing Policy. Ope 30 October.