

**HOLCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL
IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET**
www.holcombepc.org.uk

**Minutes from Holcombe Parish Council Meeting which took place on Tuesday 4 November 2025
at Holcombe Village Hall**

Councillors Present : Cllr Brand (Chairman)
Cllr Davies
Cllr Gait
Cllr Govier
Cllr Roberts
Cllr Stratford

Also Present : Deborah Douglas-Burke (Parish Clerk)

1. Public Forum:

There were no members of the public present.

2. Apologies for absence:

Cllr Eade, Cllr Emery and Cllr Kerr sent apologies and was accepted by the chairman.

3. Declaration of interests and dispensations:

There were no declarations of interests.

4. Approve Minutes of previous meeting held on 7 October:

The minutes had been circulated in advance to all councillors. As there were no amendments, the council RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 7 October.
(Proposed by Cllr Stratford, Seconded by Cllr Davies. The vote was unanimous)

5. Actions/matters arising from the previous meeting:

All actions had been completed and there were none to be brought forward.

6. Reports

- 6.1 PCSO: No report received at the time of meeting. Report for November has since been circulated.
- 6.2 Somerset Council: no report.

7. Planning Applications:

- 7.1 2025/0145/FUL - at Quercus Common Lane. The chairman thanked Cllr Gait for attending the SC Planning East Committee meeting on behalf of the parish council to support this application that afternoon. The Planning Committee approved the application.

8. Report on Planning Updates:

- 8.1 2025/0333/PAA - Prior Approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building – land at Stratton Road, Holcombe: An appeal against the decision by SC to refuse permission has been submitted by the applicant. The PC is notified for information purposes only. No action is required.

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9. Finance:

- 9.1 The bank statements for August and September were consolidated by Cllr Gait and checked by Cllr Emery in advance of the meeting.
- 9.2 The second quarter budget review was circulated in advance to all councillors for their consideration. There were no queries or concerns.
- 9.3 Parish Council Payments:
Hill & Hill Ground Maintenance Ltd £284.17 (Invoice 3942)

The council RESOLVED to approve the summary of receipt and payment shown above and the Chairman signed a cheque accordingly.

(Proposed by Cllr Govier and seconded by Cllr Stratford. The vote was unanimous)

10. Highways:

- 10.1 Update on Auto Speed Watch.
Cllr Roberts reported that the latest data showed that the number of vehicles recorded speeding is reducing although he cautioned that this could be caused by a number of factors other than greater compliance with the law
- 10.2 Update on existing issues already reported to Somerset Highways.
None.
- 10.3 Report of new issues.
None.

11. Councillor Reports/Updates including highways, playing field, village hall, SALC etc.:

- 11.1 Cllr Roberts gave an update on the inaugural meeting of the Safer Roads for HGVs Forum that he attended on 28 Oct 2025. The purpose of this forum is to consider how HGVs can be routed away from the villages in a safe and efficient manner. The meeting was chaired by Cllr Martin Lovell (chair of Highways LCN) and attended by representatives from local haulage companies plus town and parish councillors. The discussion centered around proposed changes to HGVs using local roads and the introduction of possible weight restrictions A follow-up meeting is to be scheduled in due course to progress these issues.

12. Meetings/Training to attend:

- 12.1 None.

13. Correspondence:

- 13.1 **Croft Road Access:** The chairman stated that he had received an email on 1 November from a resident drawing attention to a car that was parked opposite the entrance to Croft Road and thereby causing an obstruction. As a result, SWP lorries were unable to collect recycling and rubbish from the residents. The chairman had raised the issue with the PCSO and logged this as a road hazard on the SC website.

As the parish council remains concerned about this issue and the ongoing risks associated with essential services not being able to easily gain access to Croft Road, it was RESOLVED the parish council will monitor the position and take any action advised by the PCSO.

Action: Cllr Brand to liaise with the PCSO to get the matter resolved

(Proposed Cllr Stratford, seconded Cllr Davies. The vote was unanimous)

Post Mtg Note: The PCSO spoke with the registered keeper of the vehicle who subsequently moved it.

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13.2 **Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Service Precept Survey:** The clerk circulated the email on 30 Oct 2025 to all councillors. The chairman advised that any individual can complete the survey but there was no further action for the parish council to take in this regard.

14. Next Meeting

Parish Council Meeting on 2 December 2025 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at: 20.20pm