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HOLCOMBE BURNELL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Annual Parish Meeting of Holcombe Burnell and Annual General Meeting of Holcombe Burnell Parish Council held virtually (online) on **Monday 10th May 2021** at 7pm.

PRESENT

Cllr Bob Shipley	Cllr Charles Eden
Cllr Marion Bulley	Cllr Chloe Bickley
Cllr Louise Brind	Cllr Judith Betney
Cllr Kate Morley	
Cllr Sir Harry Studholme (<i>joined at 7:18pm</i>)	

IN ATTENDANCE: Jim Roberts (Clerk and RFO)

Holcombe Burnell Annual Parish Meeting

A Minutes – The meeting noted that the minutes of the previous APM (2019) had been signed at June 2019’s Parish Council meeting.

B Chairman’s report

Good evening ladies and gentlemen.

No report was issued last year due to the disruption caused by Covid-19, so this one covers two years. Two years full of events .

April 2019 began quietly enough with play area resurfacing and repairs to the war memorial. Earlier we had completed electrical installation of the defibrillator, thanks to Warren Wood. Unfortunately, the attendance at the first familiarisation session was poor. The later one was much better.

Louise Brind , Chloe Buckley and Cassie Ludlum joined the council , and the positive effect of fresh minds was clear.

Concern continues regarding traffic speed, but satisfactory resolution eludes us.

In February 2020 Coronavirus reared its ugly head. By the end of March the village hall closed because of Covid 19 and we had no place to meet. The matter was now very serious for all to see. I was pleased and proud to see how the councillors and others responded, almost falling over each other in eagerness to help. A heart-warming display.

At first, we had “non meetings “ by email to conduct essential business. Then Zoom meetings were organised thanks to Mark Lang. This helped a lot. We then had to contend with information and misinformation which changed regularly .

In May we learned the sad news that Tom Turner had died. Tom was vice-chairman, and always ready to step forward and help when the need arose. He will be missed.

In August our Clerk Debbie suffered a bad fall from her horse and was hospitalised. She suffered serious injuries. Fortunately, but only after many weeks, she made a full recovery.

In the meantime, we had no clerk. We already knew Debbie wanted to resign at the end of March but the accident changed the situation. Luckily Lynne Ogden, who is clerk for Dunsford, offered to help on a temporary basis. Despite having no handover, Debbie being in hospital, and initially no records at all, Lynne performed excellently. However, although prepared to help us through a difficult patch , she said she had enough on her plate.

We advertised for a new full time clerk and were fortunate to secure the services of James (Jim) Roberts. Jim is experienced clerk and has already shown he will be a valuable addition to our team.

We received an “infrastructure payment” of £7,700 from Teignbridge. It will be for the council to decide how to invest it (there are rules concerning how it may be

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Chair
Initials

used) and parishioners are being consulted.

Everybody has worked hard during this difficult period. Naming individuals seems unfair as I am bound to omit someone. However, I wish to thank Mike Long our footpaths co-ordinator carrying on his excellent work despite sadly losing his wife Pat to cancer and all that that entails. Kate Morley for taking on the nature warden position, and Mark Lang for his invaluable help particularly when Covid hit us.

My position as chairman ended as of March 31,2021and this is my last report. I thank you all for the support you have given me . I am sure you will do the same for your next chairman.

My best wishes Charles, and thank you for your support as deputy and, effectively, as chairman in the recent months.

R J Shipley

Cllr Eden responded to the report on behalf of the Parish to express how grateful everyone was for all Cllr Shipley's work and that he would be a hard act to follow.

C Matters Raised by Members of the Public

The meeting congratulated Lady Lucy Studholme on her appointment as High Sheriff of Devon. It is an honour for the Parish.

The Annual Parish Meeting closed at 7:09pm.

Holcombe Burnell Parish Council Annual General Meeting

1 Election of Chairman

Cllr Charles Eden was elected as Chairman (nom. Cllr Shipley, sec. Cllr Morley, all Cllrs voting in favour except Cllr Eden who abstained)

2 Declaration of Acceptance of Office by Chairman

This will take place when the clerk & Chairman next meet in person.

3 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Wood due to a personal appointment. The Council resolved to accept this apology.

4 Election of Vice-Chairman

This item was completed when Cllr Studholme joined the meeting. Cllr Brind was elected Vice-Chair (nom. Cllr Shipley, sec. Cllr Betney – all Cllrs voting in favour except Cllr Brind who abstained). Cllr Studholme offered to stand in whenever necessary.

5 Election to Committees

a) **Planning Sub Committee:** To be drawn as and when necessary from any of the Councillors for the purpose of site visits and meetings with TDC, etc. It was be agreed that a minimum of three Councillors must be present and should there not be unanimous agreement, the planning matter would be brought back to the Council for discussion. Any Cllr may attend.

b) **Footpath Warden[s]:** Mike Long was nominated as Footpath Warden with the unanimous support of the Council (nom. Cllr Morley, sec. Cllr Bulley).
[Mr Long accepted the post at the monthly Council meeting which followed immediately after the AGM.]

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c) **Village Hall Committee Representative:** Cllr Eden will continue as the VH committee rep. with the unanimous support of the Council (nom. Cllr Shipley, sec. Cllr Bickley).

d) **Finance Committee:** To be drawn as and when necessary. It was agreed that a minimum of three Councillors must be present, one of which must be either the Chairman or Vice Chairman. Any Cllr can attend.

6 Minutes – The meeting noted that the minutes of the previous AGM (2019) had been signed at June 2019’s Parish Council meeting.

7 Review of Rules & Policies

- Councillor’s Declarations of Interests and changes to Registers of Interests
- [Standing Orders including Financial Regulations & Procedures and Code of Conduct](#)
- The Land and Asset Register

Council agreed that these rules and policies were all in order.

The meeting was closed at 7:20pm

Signed
Cllr C Eden, Chairman

Date