

HOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 14th May 2025 at 7pm in Holton & Blyford Village Hall.

1. Parish Council Chairman welcomed 1 parishioner to meeting.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting held in 2024 had been published and were duly approved and signed.
3. **Chairman's Report:**

I am pleased to present a summary of Holton Parish Council's activities and achievements during the 2024/2025 financial year. It has been a productive year, with the council addressing various community needs and making responsible decisions for the benefit of our parish.

Support for Organisations

The Council has actively supported local organizations that contribute to the well-being of our community. This year, we engaged with the Halesworth Volunteer Centre to better understand their services to Holton residents. Financial support was also extended to:

- SARS
- Village Hall
- Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal
- Halesworth Airfield Museum
- East Anglian Air Ambulance
- Holton Pits CIC

Planning Applications

The council has carefully considered planning applications to ensure responsible development within our parish.

Other Initiatives

- The council has taken action to improve safety and infrastructure, including repairing the playground fence, addressing potholes on Fairview Road, and arranging for the future repainting of metal railings.
- We have also focused on enhancing communication and transparency by installing a new notice board and ensuring the website provides guidance on reporting speeding.
- We have also addressed governance matters, including reviewing and adopting a donations policy.

Conclusion

This year has seen Holton Parish Council actively working to enhance our community's facilities, support local organisations, and address important issues such as road safety and responsible planning. I would like to thank my fellow councillors, the clerk, and all the residents who have

contributed to our achievements. I also need to thank John Mendham for his service to the council and welcome his replacement Cllr Dinah Morley.

4. Financial Report of Parish Council to 31/03/2025:

I am pleased to provide a summary of the Parish Council's financial position at the end of financial year 2024/2025.

The Parish Council's finances remain in a healthy position and as a result the Parish precept has not been increased for the 3rd consecutive year.

Funds currently held by the Parish Council total £50,473 of which £17,646 relates to Community infrastructure funds received from East Suffolk Council. These have been provisionally earmarked for improvements to qualifying village projects which will benefit the community, we await specific details and costings of the proposed improvements prior to releasing funds. Remaining funds are held in reserves as follows:

£1,300 held in respect of Holton Post pending availability of volunteers to resurrect this.

£23,000 Specific Reserve for Playground repair/replacement of equipment.

£8,500 General reserve/emergency reserve.

Full accounting details are available on the Parish Council website together with summary of Parishioners' rights to inspect the records which are currently in the process of audit.

5. Open Forum/Questions:

A Parishioner requested financial support from the Parish Council towards the cost of funding evening activities at the Village Hall for young people during the school holidays.

It was agreed that this would be considered at the July meeting when full details of the request would be available.

Elaine Day
Clerk@holtonparishcouncil.gov.uk