



Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of Holbeach Parish Council on Thursday 4th September 2025 at 18:00 at Methodist Church, Albert Street

Those present :

Chair : Cllr S Ball

Vice-Chair : Cllr S McKendry

Councillors : Cllr T Chinery, Cllr D Edwards, Cllr S Hutchinson, Cllr I Hutchinson, Cllr P Savory

* Attended remotely

Open meeting opened at:

18:00

Public Session

- 6.00pm to 6.15pm - Public session
- 6.15pm to 6.30pm - District & County Council Reports
- Report from Cllr Peter Savory - Voluntary Car Service

25/6-076 To Elect a Vice-Chair of the Council

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved:

Nomination 1:

Cllr S Ball proposed Cllr P Howden.

No seconder received; nomination not progressed.

Nomination 2:

Cllr I Hutchinson nominated Cllr S Hutchinson.

- Vote Outcome:
- 3 votes in favour
- 5 abstentions

Nomination 3:

Cllr D Edward proposed Cllr S McKendry; seconded by Cllr T Chinery.

- Vote Outcome:
- 3 votes in favour
- 5 abstentions
- Chair exercised casting vote in favour of Cllr S McKendry.

25/6-077 Apologies

Apologies have been received from Cllr P Howden, Cllr T Wiltshire, Cllr P Foyster were received and accepted under the delegated powers of the Clerk.

25/6-078 Declarations of Interest

To receive Declarations of Interest under the Localism Act 2011.
Cllr Donna Edwards Pecuniary Interest 25/6-081 Item 5.

25/6-079 Minutes

To approve as a correct record the notes of the meetings of the Council held on 1st August 2025 and 11th August 2025.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: That the official minutes of the meetings of the Full Council held on 1st August 2025 and 11th August 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

25/6-080 Clerk

1. To receive a report from the Clerk - No Report.

2. To receive an update on vacancies.

Town Ward - 2 (3 after 12th September 2025 after Notice of Vacancy)

Hurn Ward - 3

Drove Ward - 1

3. It was **resolved to agree** the co-options as submitted - None received.

25/6-081 Finance & Admin Committee

1. To **resolve to agree** to elect members to the Committee.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To elect Cllr S McKendry.

2. To note the Minutes/Draft Notes of the Committee.

3. To receive the report from the Chair of the Committee - No Report.

4. To note the bank balances as at 31st August 2025.

The bank balances as at 31st August 2025 were noted:

Account ending 4844 £3,522.73

Account ending 5394 £8,828.03

Account ending 0001PC £563,493.69

5. To **resolve to agree** the payments for August 2025 and to note the income for August 2025.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: That to the payments for August 2025 of £25,948.30 be authorised and the income received for August 2025 of £8,638.29 and Direct Debits for September 2025

of £2,631.96 be noted.

6. To **resolve to agree** grant application from Holbeach Hurn Village Hall.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To award £1,600.00 from the remaining grants budget. Cllr P Savory vote against to be recorded.

7. To **resolve to agree** for all access for devices and email access to install Microsoft Authenticator.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To approve installation of Microsoft Authenticator across all council devices and email accounts to enhance security and enable multi-factor authentication.

Actions:

Review existing IT policy to ensure compatibility and compliance with proposed changes.

Assess financial implications, including licensing, support, and potential training costs.

Report findings and recommendations to the Finance Committee for budget consideration.

25/6-082 Open Spaces Committee

1. To note the Committee Minutes/Draft Notes.
2. To receive a report from the Chair of the Committee.

The committee are working through several items that have been outstanding for some time notably the tree work identified in the last tree report. The quotes for these were agreed at the meeting and will now be carried out by the contractor. We have identified some issues with items of the play equipment and quotes are being sourced for repairs to be carried out after the summer holidays.

The use of Carters Park by a local bouncy castle company during the summer holidays has been well received by the public and we will be looking at building on this in the future. As part of this process we will look at the current procedure for using the park for events and activities and recommend any changes to full council.

The gates for the tennis courts supplied by LTA are due to be installed on 1st October which will mean there then be a booking system in place. Full details of how to book will be made available shortly, the courts will still be free to use.

Public consultation on the pump track project is now underway and the schools will be approached once they return.

3. To **resolve to agree** to elect members to the Committee - None received.

25/6-083 PPES Committee

1. To receive the report from the Chair of the Committee - No report.
2. To **resolve to agree** to elect members to the Committee.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To elect Cllrs S McKendry and I Hutchinson.

3. To **resolve to agree** to submit report regarding planning application H23-0313-25 - Land At Peartree Hill Road Whaplode Drove Spalding PE12 0SL - Provision of new poultry unit & associated works.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: Deputy Clerk to write report and submit.

Holbeach Parish Council – Objection to Planning Application H23-0313-25

Holbeach Parish Council strongly objects to application H23-0313-25, submitted by Holbeach Poultry Ltd. for twelve poultry houses and up to 552,120 birds (with permission for 690,000) at Pear Tree Hill Road, Whaplode Drove, Spalding PE12 0SL.

Although the applicant cites a lower-intensity customer contract, the site would be permitted to house up to 4.83 million birds annually. All impacts must be assessed on a worst-case basis.

Highways and Infrastructure

- Access Road Unsuitability: Pear Tree Hill Road is narrow and visibly degraded. It cannot support the weight and frequency of HGV traffic this proposal would generate.
- Network Fragility: Surrounding roads show subsidence and cracking. These routes were not built for sustained heavy goods movement.
- Incomplete Assessment: The applicant's transport report lacks key data, including California Bearing Ratio (CBR) tests, essential for evaluating road resilience.
- Traffic Volume: Estimated 2,884 HGV movements annually—likely conservative—would accelerate road damage and impose repair costs on local authorities.

Public Health and Environmental Risks

- Air Pollution: Increased traffic and operations will release dust, ammonia, and particulates, posing respiratory risks to workers and 4,400 residents—especially children and the elderly.
- Antibiotic Resistance: Intensive poultry farming contributes to antibiotic overuse. The UK sees over 2,000 deaths annually from resistant infections; globally, over one million. This facility risks worsening the crisis.
- Avian Flu Risk: The site lies just 1.8km from another poultry farm—within the 3km biosecurity zone required during outbreaks. Lincolnshire is already a hotspot, and pandemic risks are rising.
- Dietary Impact: High poultry consumption (over 300g/week) is linked to increased risks of gastrointestinal cancers, elevated cholesterol, and pathogen exposure. This facility may contribute to long-term public health burdens.

Cumulative Impact and Fiscal Responsibility

- Existing Operations: Several intensive poultry farms already operate nearby. Cumulative impacts on air quality, biosecurity, and infrastructure must be considered.
- Public Spending: Approving a proposal likely to incur substantial highway and healthcare costs would be fiscally irresponsible.
- Precautionary Principle: Where risks to health and biosecurity are credible and potentially severe, planning authorities must act to prevent harm.

SHDC Amendment Policy

Applications must be complete upon submission. South Holland District Council does not accept unsolicited amendments post-validation unless exceptional circumstances apply and statutory deadlines are maintained. Holbeach Parish Council expects any attempt to revise or dilute the scope of this application to be handled strictly in accordance with this policy.

We respectfully request that this application be refused in its current form. Holbeach Parish Council supports sustainable development that prioritises community wellbeing, environmental stewardship, and responsible infrastructure planning.

4. To **resolve to agree** to get quotes for works required from electrical installation condition reports for Cemetery Chapels and Band Hall.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To obtain quotations for the necessary works identified in the Electrical Installation Condition Reports (EICRs) for both the Cemetery Chapels and the Band Hall.

5. To **resolve to agree** quote for professional services in regard to council lease. It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To move agenda item into Closed Session.

6. To **resolve to agree** to advertise empty office and agree rent for Office 3 at Coubro Chambers.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To obtain current market rent comparisons for similar office spaces.

7. To **resolve to agree** to appoint an electrician to do the remaining EICR for Football Club, 2 High Street and 4 High Street.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: • To request quotes for EICR completion and Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) where applicable.

- Ensure reports are reviewed promptly and any urgent works are prioritised.
 - Advertise the opportunity for quotations via the council's Facebook page.
- Interested parties to contact the Deputy Clerk directly.

8. To **resolve to agree** the way forward with Park Bungalow.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To agree the need to determine a clear way forward for Park Bungalow, including consideration of its potential conversion to residential use and an EPC completed.

25/6-084 Events & PR Committee

1. To receive the report from the Chair of the Committee - No Report

2. To note the Minutes/Draft Notes of the Committee.

3. To **resolve to agree** to elect members to the Committee.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To elect Cllrs P Howden and T Chinery.

25/6-085 HR, H & S and Data Protection Committee

1. To receive a report from the Chair of the Committee - Update received from Cllr S Hutchinson.

2. To **resolve to agree** organisational structure.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To be moved to Closed Session

3. To **resolve to agree** appointment of Park Team Grounds Supervisor.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To be moved to Closed Session

4. To **resolve to agree** to extend Groundskeeper contract for a further 3 months to 14th February 2026.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To be moved to Closed Session

25/6-086 Meeting

1. To note the cancellation of the ordinary meeting of 8th September 2025.

2. The next meeting of the Council will be on Monday 13th October 2025 at Methodist Hall, Albert Walk, Holbeach at 18:30. Public Session will begin at 18:15.

Open meeting closed at:

19:33

Closed Session

It was resolved to agree to exclude the press and public under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meeting) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Closed meeting opened at:

19:37

25/6-087 HR, H & S and Data Protection Committee

1. To receive a report from the Chair of the Committee.

2. To **resolve to agree** organisational structure.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To extend the temporary contract for the third Park Team member by a further three months, with the intention to make the role permanent thereafter, subject to performance and operational need.

3. To **resolve to agree** appointment of Park Team Grounds Supervisor.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To appoint DT as Park Team Grounds Supervisor, following a successful interview process.

4. To **resolve to agree** to extend Groundskeeper contract for a further 3 months to

14th February 2026.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To extend the current Groundskeeper contract for a further three months, with a revised end date of 14th February 2026.

25/6-088 Open Spaces Committee

1. To **resolve to agree** to allow a Council tenant installments on rent.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To approve a rent instalment arrangement for Holbeach Football Club, allowing payments of £500.00 per quarter.

5. To **resolve to agree** quote for professional services in regard to council lease.

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved: To accept the quote for professional services in relation to the preparation of a new council lease. PLP (Top Floor tenant) to be formally notified that a new lease is being drafted by a professional advisor.

Closed meeting closed at:

20:15

Chair signature

Date