



Minutes of the Holmes Chapel Partnership Committee Meeting Monday, 28th July 2025

7.00pm - Massey Room, St. Luke's Church Hall

Present: Peter Whiers, Hazel Sutcliffe, Richard Garton, Gail Griggs, Chris Jackson, Mike Cooper, Gill Bradfield

Apologies: David Savage, Russell Chadwick, Rachel Nixon, Mandie Maddock, Karoline Peach, Sarah Archibald

JUNE MINUTES - PETER / ALL

- All updates included below.

PATHS AROUND VILLAGE - PETER / MIKE

- Went through history of HCPs involvement with Public Right of Way / Permissive Paths around village. This was first brought to our attention when some unlabelled permissive paths were assumed to be Public Rights of Way. Hazel has also shared historic HCP communications on access to public footpaths with Mike.
- Mike has researched information available online to be shared with Peter at separate meeting.
- Danger of routes being closed on whim of landowners and access denied to public.
- Mike to contact Ramblers Association for advice, and CE for copy of formal documentation confirming specific routes.

CHRISTMAS MARKET - GAIL

- Last year's stall holders will be emailed mid-August with general applications from September.
- Katy has agreed to keep Villages Mag costs as per 2024 and will redesign the front cover and other assets to match the design of the event map.
- David to confirm if stall costs need to be raised to cover event costs.

SPEEDWATCH - HAZEL

- SpeedWatch on Macclesfield Road has stopped for summer.
- SpeedWatch day was held on Friday 11th July with a car count and speeds recorded. Over 200 cars coming into village in half an hour is a significant number and just as important as speeds.
- Continue to work on plan to create a report for CE on need for crossing on Macclesfield Road. Will start collecting data and contacting the school in September.

HARRYS HOME VILLAGE TOUR (HHVT) - PETER / GAIL

- 200 station artwork postcards have been printed and 25 given to Station to sell at £2 each with 20p going to the Friends of the Station.
- Online Tour has been live for one month with 9 subscriptions sold.
- Gail has reactivated the HHVT Instagram and is updating regularly, along with information in the newsletter.
- Peter suggested an alternative poster at the Station with a QR code.

SUMMER FAIR - PETER

- David confirmed a £800 profit from stall fees.
- Suggested we meet with Alison and The Vic Club for a post-event de-brief.

SPONSORSHIP / ADVERTISING - PETER

- Hazel and Peter met with 3 employees at Bepak in July to discuss how they can get more involved in the community.
- They wanted to take part in World Conservation Day; Hazel has arranged to give them a tour of the Dane Meadow. Not mentioned at the meeting but Bepak have submitted a planning application to expand their facility into greenfield space.
- Bepak have agreed to be a Patron sponsor of HCP.
- Peter and Rachel to speak to local businesses about patron and xmas market sponsors, as well as potential financial support for the newsletter in form of paid advertising or 'Friends of the Partnership' scheme?

FINANCE - DAVID (VIA EMAIL)

- Current bank balance of £12,967
- Village Fair generated £1,225 revenue with £835 profit after expenses.

- Online Tours have generated £56.38 income so far.
- 200 postcards have been printed by The Print Room following signed agreements with artists. Now being sold at the Train Station.

HOLMES CHAPEL PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE - CHRIS

- Summer Celebration weekend: Friday weather was disappointing but well attended, although most people were inside. Village Fair presence is good for meeting people. Next year could have info on councillors on HCPC stall in advance of 2027 elections.
- HCCC: Works done on roof to accommodate new solar panels. Planning permission for Padel courts agreed and should be up and running by October.
- Improvements to extend the path by the Croco are complete. The robo-cutter has been out in the Dane Meadow cutting back plants from the paths.
- HCPC have met with HCP to discuss how to work together for mutual interest.
- Have reviewed CE proposals for mobile waste centres for places more than 20 minutes drive from a refuse site. HCPC have requested Holmes Chapel are included in this list.
- A new task group has been implemented which will look at how to make the village look better e.g. tidying up verges, cleaning signage etc.
- HCPC have responded to the CE Active Travel consultation with disappointment that Holmes Chapel has not been included. As a local service centre for smaller nearby villages and the need for safe routes to school and access to local businesses it should be considered.
- SIDS: New style SIDs have been in use and working well providing detailed data. Subject to funding all SIDs in village will be replaced with new style.
- Highways issues: Have been dealing with complaints over the safety of the mini roundabouts and their need for repainting; the sinking bridge approach on Station Road; overgrown hedges which block pavements, particularly on Station Road where HCPC are looking at costs of cutting these back with permission from houses who own them.
- Steve Allott stood down from HCPC and vacancy has been advertised. Alan Watkinson has been co-opted in his place.
- HCPC have objected to planning permission for an illuminated sign on the new dentist surgery by the mini roundabouts due to restrictions around it being in the conservation area.

AOB - ALL

- August Newsletter will be distributed on 1st August.
- Red Lion: Requested help with a charity event in August. Suggested we donate online Tours as raffle prizes.
- Julie Barker has been in touch offering a desktop display stand for £10. Agreed we should buy this.
- Santa Sleigh: Richard picked up the donation buckets from SibelCo. Adam Daniels, our main contact, has now left Sibelco but Richard or Peter will get in touch to thank him for the collection buckets and see whether he might continue his support and possibly get his new employer on board for sponsorship. Need to confirm if SibelCo will continue to sponsor Xmas market. Sleigh needs to be moved from Lowe's Farm to Sam Dale's who have offered temporary accommodation. Needs a more permanent home when not in use.
- Dane Meadow: Hazel is working with Rob Pilcher and HCPC to get quotes from three contractors who can install the coir matting around the pond. Gill would like to organise a Summer Picnic event at the Meadow in 2026. June was suggested as a suitable month as can promote alongside the Fun Run.

Date for next meeting is Monday 18th August, 7pm in the Massey Room.

Common acronyms:

CE = Cheshire East County Council

HCP = Holmes Chapel Partnership

HCCC = Holmes Chapel Community Centre

HCCS = Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School

HCHC = Holmes Chapel Health Centre

HCLC = Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre

HCPC = Holmes Chapel Parish Council