

## Clerk's Report – January 2025

### Training attended:

- Using the Cloud effectively for document storage etc. (Scribe)
- Employment Law (SALC)

**Meetings:** Attended Police Forum on 18<sup>th</sup> December at Stutton Village Hall. The key points arising from this meeting were that there had been a slight increase in rural burglaries and residents are encouraged to make sure sheds etc. are secured. There has also been an increase in car thefts or thefts of goods in cars and again residents were encouraged to ensure they kept their vehicles locked. The usual concerns were raised about speeding and statistics from the ANPR have recently been circulated to councillors.

**Noise Complaint:** I had the following email from Babergh and MidSuffolk

*“We have received a nuisance, noise complaint from someone who lives in Dovercourt, Essex. He believes that gas guns/shotguns are being discharged randomly from early morning to late afternoon, every day. It would appear that the sounds travel across the river, possibly from Holbrook, and can be heard clearly and loudly in Harwich and Mistley. Without more specific information our Environmental team are unable to investigate. Are you aware, or been contacted by residents, of the source of the noise?”*

I responded to say that I was aware of some organised shoots around the peninsula and fireworks (very loud!) on New Year's Eve/New Year's Day, but not aware of anything else. Are Councillors aware of any issues?

**Defibrillator:** 2 recent notifications were received via the Ambulance service that the defib may have been deployed. The defib is decommissioned until a site visit has been completed to confirm that everything is in order. In both cases the defibrillator was checked and appeared ready for use.

**Hedges:** The owner of The Spinney on Primrose Hill has confirmed that they cut their hedge back a few weeks ago. The hedge just past The Drift on the land owned by RHS has been cut back but the adjacent house has bought land from RHS and their hedge may need attention

**Pavilion:** following a query to the grants dept at Babergh, I received the following reply:

*As far as I'm aware two quotes are acceptable for applications from Community Grants as long as there is explanation as to why a third cannot be sourced. If the PC are also looking to apply for CIL for the project, the CIL Team can also accept two quotes as long as, similarly to above, there is some narrative about why the third **cannot be sourced.***

**Litter Picking at Holbrook Creek:** unfortunately the planned litter pick for Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January had to be postponed due to the weather conditions. Another date will be advertised soon.

**New Financial Regulations:** NALC provided a new model financial regulations template last year, following consultation with various bodies. I have adapted the new model for Holbrook Parish Council.

**RHS:** I received confirmation that the hedges which were considered overgrown on the opposite side of The Drift belonged to the home owner who had purchased land from the RHS. The RHS have trimmed back the hedges they are responsible for.

**Tree Work:** a request has been made to look at a tree on the Reade Field on the West side which is overhanging a garden. The request has been passed on to the Tree Warden.

**Community Speed Watch:** the current coordinator wishes to stand down, so we are looking for a new coordinator. A brief article in the Parish Papers has been requested.

**Bank Signatory:** the process to add Cllr Alec Wright as a bank signatory had to be re-started as the original application had expired. All parties have filled in the relevant forms and we are just waiting for confirmation.

Jo Hazlewood  
Clerk – HPC, January 2025