



Clerk's Report –August 2026 Holbrook Parish Council

Training/Meetings attended:

Raising Local Resilience (SLCC)

Expenses & Benefits (HMRC)

Anglian Water: we received an email from Stutton Parish Council enquiring about water leaks in Holbrook and our views on trying to get Anglian Water to renew the mains water system for the Peninsula. The email was forwarded to Councillors. We replied that there had been several leaks locally, fortunately none recently requiring the closure of the B1080. However, they have invited Anglian Water to attend their next meeting in August and I have mentioned the proposed closure of the B1080 through Holbrook to Stutton past the RHS.-

Road closure on the B1080 for work by City Fibre we have had several people complaining about the road closure – mainly querying why the whole road had to be closed, rather than a traffic light system being in operation. We have also had concerns about the use of the back roads instead of the recommended diversion. We have passed these concerns onto Highways and Cllr Armstrong has been copied into some of the correspondence.

Invoice for Emptying Refuse and Dog Bins we received an invoice a few weeks ago for the annual charge for emptying the bins. Unfortunately they had forgotten that we were owed a refund for the double charging of Admirals Quarter and also included their bins in this invoice. They are re-issuing a corrected invoice.

NALC are reviewing the Standing Orders which, as you know, are the rules and regs by which Parish Councils operate. Unfortunately I was unable to attend, but will catch up with the outcome of their review.

SALC are holding a “super forum” on 17th September at 7.00 p.m. via Zoom. The invitation was forwarded to councillors by email. The forum will bring councils up to date with local government reorganisation, and in particular:

- Outline the expected timeline for public communication, enabling councils to cascade accurate information to their communities
- Provide insight into how councils can start to think about how they need to plan
- Support attendees understanding of how SALC is representing the sector as a key stakeholder in Suffolk's reorganisation

If anyone would like to attend this forum, let me know and I will book a place for you.

Nomination: John has been nominated for A Suffolk Community Award in the category: The Ian Campbell MBE Award for Outstanding Individual Contribution to their Community. Judging takes place in August.

Councillor Recruitment: as well as a dedicated article in the Parish Papers, flyers were added to Parish Papers delivered to Lower Holbrook as no representation from Lower Holbrook has been on the Council for a while. Follow up letters about the parking situation were also delivered to residents surrounding Alton Green at the same time.

Water leak: there has been a leak in Lower Holbrook from a small manhole near Foxgloves for weeks. I went online, assuming it had already been reported, there was no evidence on the site that it had been reported. Anglian Water responded quickly and came out to view the leak the

same day but then responded to me to say it was already being dealt with by one of their “specialist team”. The water is flowing down the road and has been for several weeks! I have sent them a review to suggest they ensure the leak is marked on their map to prevent other people reporting it again.

I received a report of a car illegally parked on the road in Abbotts Way (SORN status). I have passed this onto the community police who have promised to check.

A response has been received from the article in the Parish Papers inviting interest from potential new councillors. This has been followed up and will hopefully result in one of our vacancies being filled.

We also received an enquiry for one of the Freston allotments, which has been passed on to the relevant organisers.

Parish Papers: There was an error in the Parish Magazine in the editorial section which incorrectly identified the winner of the Men’s Doubles Wimbledon Championship. The winner was Henry Patten, not Jonathan Cash – Henry went to Stutton Primary School and played his first tennis there, representing the school from age 5. An amendment will be made in the next issue.

Grit Bins: We have had notification that the 7 Highways’ grit bins have been re-filled. We have one grit bin in Berners Field which is not filled by Highways as the road is not managed by them. I checked the bin the other day and there is a small amount of “salt” in an open bag and quite a lot of rubbish (which I have removed). We will need to replenish the grit in this bin before the winter.

Holbrook Village Hall As a regular hirer of Holbrook Village Hall, they have asked us to sign an agreement annually – this is as a result of them becoming a CIO. The agreement is straightforward and I have attached a copy to the supporting papers for the meeting.

SAAA (Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments): I have registered with SAAA, as requested by them, in readiness for the changeover to digital AGAR reporting

Jo Hazlewood – August 2026