



Holme-next-the-Sea

Annual Parish Meeting

10 May 2022



Chair's Report on the Parish Council's Year
2021-22
Lynn Devereux



Overview

- Role of the Parish Council
- Financial Performance, Assets & Investment
- Planning & Development
- Traffic & Visitor Pressure
- Flooding, Sewage & Other Environmental Issues

HOLME NEXT-THE-SEA PARISH COUNCIL											
1st APRIL 2020 to 31st MARCH 2021 ACCOUNTS (FOURTH QUARTER SUMMARY)											
	ANNUAL BUDGET	April 20	May 20	June 20	July 20	Aug 20	Sep 20	Oct 20	Nov 20		
Balance b/f		81,785.62	79,312.35	77,259.22	86,226.01	85,490.89		84,754.68	90,844.22	88,246.67	
INCOME											
A.T. Refund	800.00				2,881.72						
Aravan Site	28,000.00				7,000.00			7,000.00			
A Networks Wayleave	50.00				51.28						
Beach Road	6,480.00	761.96	475.36	950.71	475.36			475.36	475.36	475.36	
Oppost A/C unit	346.00				18.40				9.48		
Huge Hall Electricity meters	300.00				146.00						
schonemart-Refund	0.00						497.98				
C.C. - Cllr Jamieson - Local Fund	0.00									81.30	
TOTAL INCOME	35,770.00	761.96	475.36	10,996.83	526.64		497.98	7,484.84	475.36	556.66	
EXPENDITURE											
Big Waste Removal	1,800.00		831.17								
On (Street Lighting)	325.00		85.64		85.64					86.59	
Street lighting maint.	525.00								104.40		
scriptions	238.00		102.84								
Beach Road	2,000.00		51.70								
Aravan Site	525.00										
Aravan Site	3,400.00		504.56	133.56	303.00			354.55	233.00	40.00	
											38.07
											1,158.62
											653.84
											91.96
											54.00
											43.77
											44.65



WELCOME TO HOLME-NEXT-THE-SEA
A special place in the Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

ABOUT HOLME-NEXT-THE-SEA

The parish of Holme-next-the-Sea is a beautiful coastal village with a rich history. It is situated on a peninsula, with the sea to the east and the Norfolk coast to the south. The village is known for its scenic views, sandy beaches, and historic buildings. The parish is a special place in the Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

VISITING HOLME: PROTECT, RESPECT, ENJOY

When you visit Holme-next-the-Sea, please remember that you are in a special place. We ask you to respect the environment and the local community. Please do not litter, and please do not feed the wildlife. We ask you to respect the local residents and their privacy. Please do not drink alcohol in public places, and please do not use mobile phones in public places. We ask you to respect the local businesses and their customers. Please do not use the public spaces for private events or parties. We ask you to respect the local history and heritage. Please do not remove any objects or plants from the parish. We ask you to respect the local culture and traditions. Please do not use the public spaces for any other purpose that may cause a nuisance or disturbance to the local community.

CHANGE ROUTE, COURTYARD & COMP WALK

The parish is planning to change the route of the main road through the village. This will involve closing the road to traffic for a period of time. We ask you to plan your journey accordingly. We also plan to create a new courtyard and a new walkway. We ask you to respect the new layout and to use the new facilities. We also plan to improve the waste management system. We ask you to use the new bins and to recycle your waste. We ask you to respect the local environment and to keep the village clean and tidy.

COMPLETE COAST & BIRCH BANK

The parish is planning to complete the coast path and to improve the birch bank. We ask you to respect the new path and to use the new facilities. We also plan to improve the birch bank and to create a new walkway. We ask you to respect the new layout and to use the new facilities. We also plan to improve the waste management system. We ask you to use the new bins and to recycle your waste. We ask you to respect the local environment and to keep the village clean and tidy.



Role of the Parish Council

PC is lowest tier of Local Government

- Seven Parish Councillors

PC's main role is threefold:

- To represent the views and interests of parishioners

- To manage finances and assets on behalf of the Parish

- To act as a channel for consultation and communication with our Borough & County Councils, our MP and other organisations





Management of Parish Assets & Services



Our day to day work involves looking after the Parish & providing services for the benefit of our community:

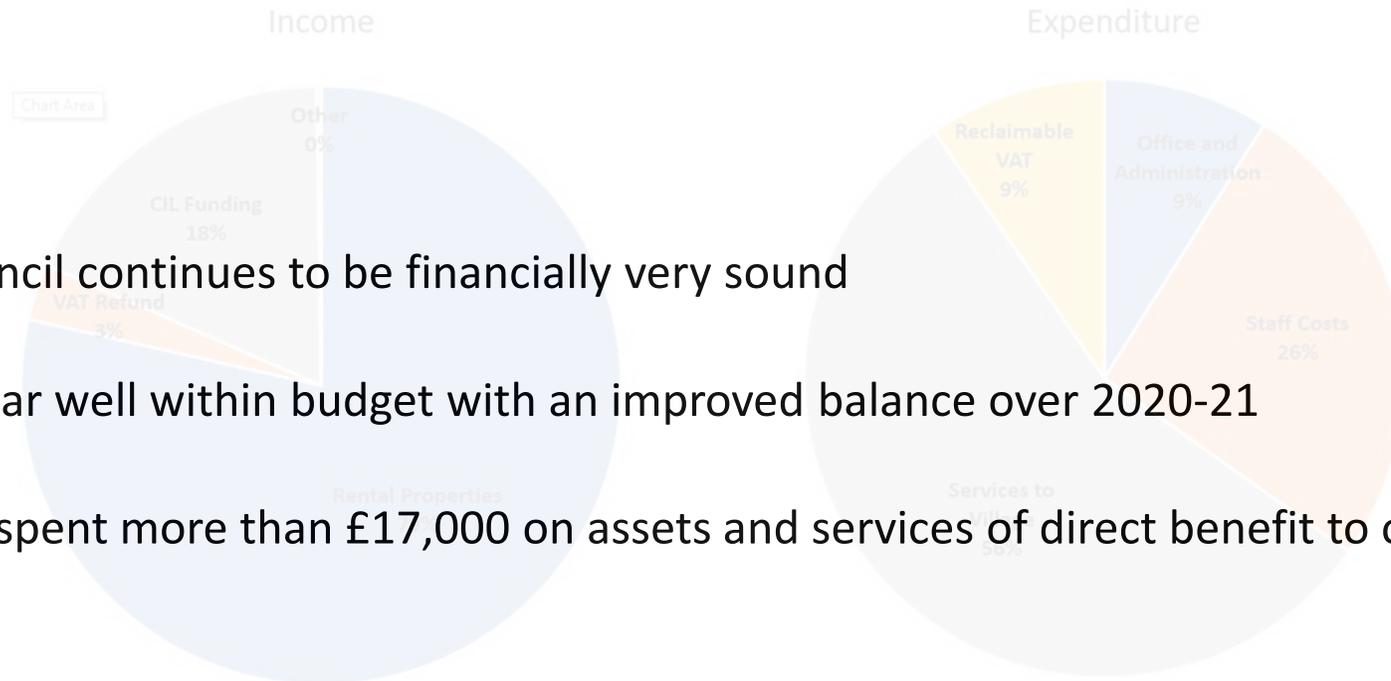
- Manage the Parish's income and expenditure
- Secure grants and other sources of funding to help improve parish
- Act as sole Trustee of the Village Hall
- Maintain the Parish Office and employ the services of a Parish Clerk
- Implemented the Neighbourhood Plan, comment on planning applications and help with enforcement issues
- Liaise on delivery of services with responsible authorities (eg highways, drainage, flood defences, footpaths, police)
- Maintain traffic monitors, street lighting, bus stops, defibrillator, emergency telephone and dog bins
- Care for the Parish environment – including four Local Green Spaces
- **The list continues to grow!**



Finance: Income and expenditure

- Four key points

- The Parish Council continues to be financially very sound
- Finished the year well within budget with an improved balance over 2020-21
- In 2021-22 we spent more than £17,000 on assets and services of direct benefit to our community



- **Our balance at bank continues to be healthy and there is no requirement for a precept**



New Investment – last year & this

- Ditch clearance works to improve the drainage on Beach Road (BC CIL co-funding)
- An outdoor terrace and wheelchair friendly table at the Village Hall (Platinum Jubilee celebrations)
- Two TRODS (low-cost footpaths) by the bus stops on north side of Main Road (NCC Highways co-funding)
- A fourth mobile speed warning sign/traffic monitor for use in the village (NCC Highways co-funding)
- Cycle racks & information boards at Beach Road & the Village Hall (NCP Co-funding)



Maintaining Quality of Life in the Parish

Focus is on three key areas

- **Planning & development pressures**
- **Traffic, parking & visitor pressures**
- **Drainage, flooding and sea defences**

Planning & Development

One of the biggest influences on our future





Neighbourhood Plan

- **Adopted after a long-awaited Referendum - July 2021 (90% support, 61% turnout)**
- **Encapsulates the wishes of the Community and provides a Blueprint for the future of the Parish**
- **Nominated for a RTPI Award for 'Excellence in Planning Practice' – and short listed**

Benefits

- **Has given Parish a strong voice in planning decisions**
- **Heavily used by the BC to help determine planning applications – using our policies**
- **Plays a key role in enforcement action and appeal (eg Beach Road development activities, Poplars Appeal)**
- **Fostered respect & closer working relationships with Planning Officers**
- **So far successfully helping to protect the Parish against inappropriate development**

Planning Applications, Enforcement & Appeals

Planning Applications 1 st Jan 2021 to 31 st Dec 2021		
Total notified		28
Tree applications		7
Initial Response		
Supported/OC		12
Objected		6
Not determined		3
% Final Agreement with BC post negotiation		94%

- Planning activity remains very high and uses a lot of PC resources.
- Tree work is a growing concern – loss of natives
- Several enforcement investigations - one leading to a High Court injunction to prevent camping
- 3 major development proposals with huge implications for traffic, visitor pressure & the AONB environment - successfully challenged
- Dismissed Poplars Appeal demanded large amounts of detailed evidence – hearing saw parishioners pitched against some of the UK’s leading planning consultants and lawyers.
- **Excellent example of what can be achieved when BC, PC and Community work together**



Traffic, Parking & visitor pressure – indirect impacts of development





Key Traffic Issues

- Speeds and safety
- Volumes
- Parking
- Damage to verges & property
- Noise & air pollution



What's the PC doing about it?

- Added a second warning device (SAM2) on Beach Road
- Installed speed and traffic count recording capability on the monitors
- Adding a third portable SAM2 to extend traffic monitoring to other parts of the village
- Built a traffic database for longer term analysis & future monitoring
- Liaising with NCC Highways on Holme's problems and possible solutions
- Raising awareness of Holme's position with key players (NCC, BC, Police, NWT, and Golf Club)
- Boards & Bikes Project designed to encourage use of 'slow modes' around the parish



Benefits from Traffic Monitoring

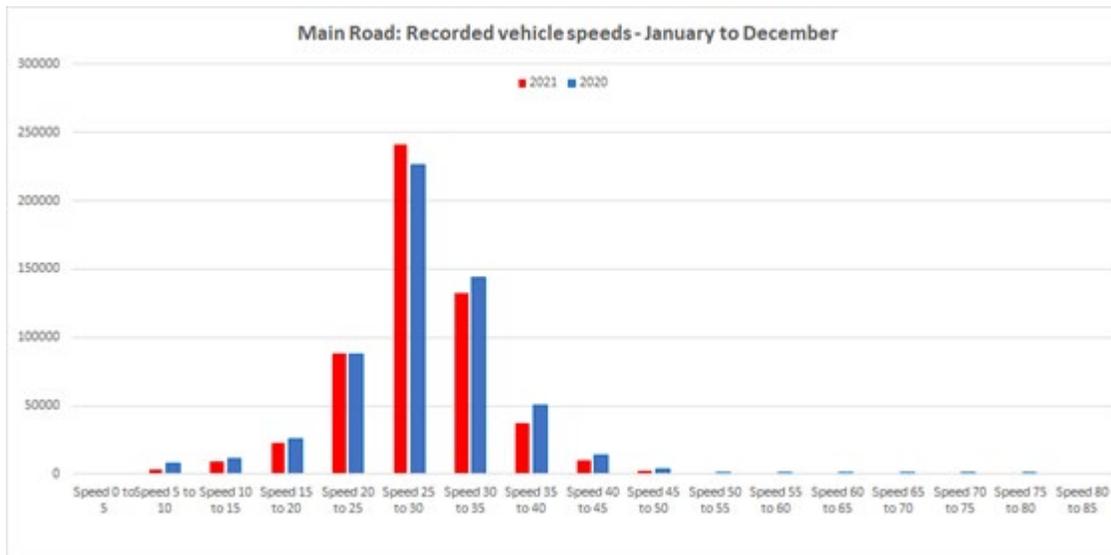
- **Vehicle Counts – 24/7 independent monitoring of traffic volumes / challenging previous surveys**
- **Speed data passed to police to support requests for speed checks on Main Road**
- **Beach Road traffic counts have forced key players to take a more realistic view of traffic volumes, parking and assessment of visitor pressure in Holme**
 - *Encouraged NWT and NCC to revise the basis for Holme Dunes Visitor Management Plan*
 - *Visitor numbers revised upwards from 40,000 pa to 250,000 + pa*
 - *Provided justification to trial a pre-booking system for cars entering / parking in the NNR at peak periods last summer – to be re-introduced this year*
- **Concrete evidence to support comments on traffic impacts on planning applications**



Current position: Main Road

Headline statistics	2021	2020
Total vehicles counted (one way)	548,498	573,081
Daily average	1793	1570
Maximum daily count	3449	3886
Days recorded	306	334

- Recording over 0.5 million vehicles pa – **one way**
- Daily average flow increased in 2021
- Maximum daily count reduced
- Traveller behaviour influenced by Covid & complicates comparisons - but doesn't change the reality
- Small % of vehicles exceeding speed limit but some at significant speeds (>60 mph)

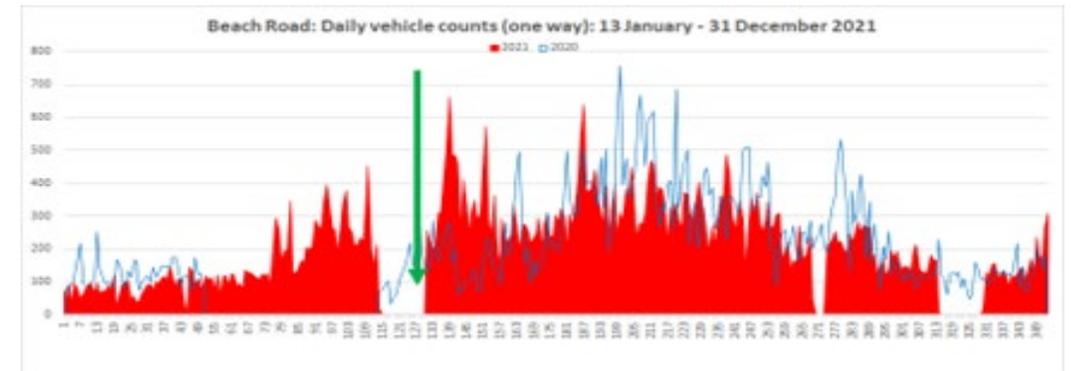
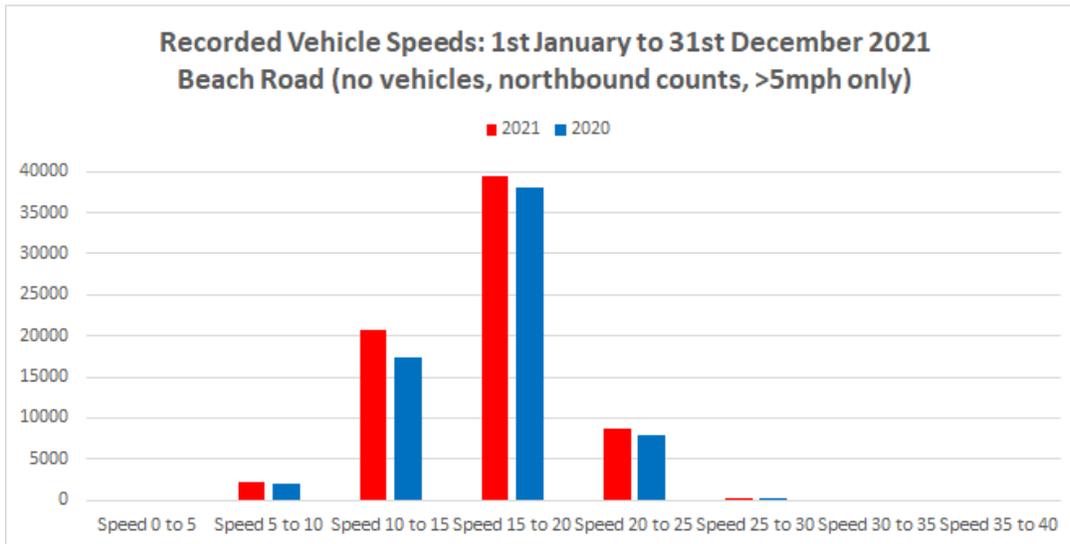




Current position: Beach Road

Headline statistics	2021	2020
Total vehicles counted (one way)	71,147	65,382
Daily average	220	225
Maximum daily count	662	755
Days recorded	324	290

- More vehicles counted in 2021
- More than 140,000 two-way trips on a very narrow country lane
- Small drop in daily average
- Significant reduction in daily maxima suggests NWT booking system impact
- No evidence of speeding





Flooding, Sewage and other Environmental Issues



Flooding

- Improvements to internal drainage network prevented a repeat of 2020 flooding on Beach Road this winter
- State of sea defences is a major concern – now considerably weakened by erosion & trampling
- Trying to get EA to address – now with support of IDB
- SMP review is due and PC will be fighting Holme's corner

Sewage

- Sewage spills are a growing problem due to failing infrastructure & growing development pressure
- Support from James Wild MP has facilitated an upcoming meeting with Anglian Water in Holme

Other Environmental Issues

- Invasive Species - with support from NOA an outbreak of *Crassula Helmsii* is being managed on Park Piece
- PC has also set up a working party to update plans for the development & management of Park Piece

THANK YOU

*To all those who work so hard to make Holme such a wonderful place to
live !*