



HOLYBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

Proudly serving the residents of Holybrook Parish since 2000

August 2026

Dear All,

In June, we welcomed Laura Norgate as our new Parish Operations Manager. Her role includes the statutory duties of Clerk to the Council, along with the day-to-day running of the Beansheaf Centre, community environmental work, and much more.



Laura Norgate

The parish is large and the number of Councillors few, so I thought it would be useful if we had a spotlight section – **Meet Your Councillors** – to help residents get to know the team. In this issue, we introduce Jagan Veerati who shares what it's like to be both a new Fairfields resident and a new member of the Council. If you're interested in supporting the community, we currently have a few vacant seats and would welcome enquiries from residents.

We have revisited the 2023 public consultation and compared the feedback with the Parish Plan.

Road safety and awareness remain key themes. Community Speed Watch still needs more volunteers, and installing Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) remains a popular option. However, this requires consultation on siting, insurance and management before it can move forward. The idea was paused, but it is now back on the agenda.

Another long-overdue project focuses on improving mobility access to the Beansheaf Centre, and a group is now working on this.

It is disappointing that, despite providing as many litter bins as we can site and afford to maintain, littering remains a significant problem. A huge thank you to everyone who litter picks and helps keep our parish looking great (even during summer's heat). Litter pick kits and waste sacks are available from the Parish Office. Sadly, bags of food waste continue to be dumped over the gate at Diddy Park on Underwood Road. If you have any information or 'door-cam' footage, please contact us.

Continuing our series of maps of Holybrook, you will find details of walks through the park on page 2, courtesy of Friends of Linear Park.

To end on a happy note, thank you for reporting things that don't seem quite right such as the condition of the toddler swings at Holymead. Whilst they weren't in a dangerous condition, they certainly had seen better days and so were taken out of use as a precaution and replaced.

Enjoy the remains of the summer.

Claire Tull, Chairman

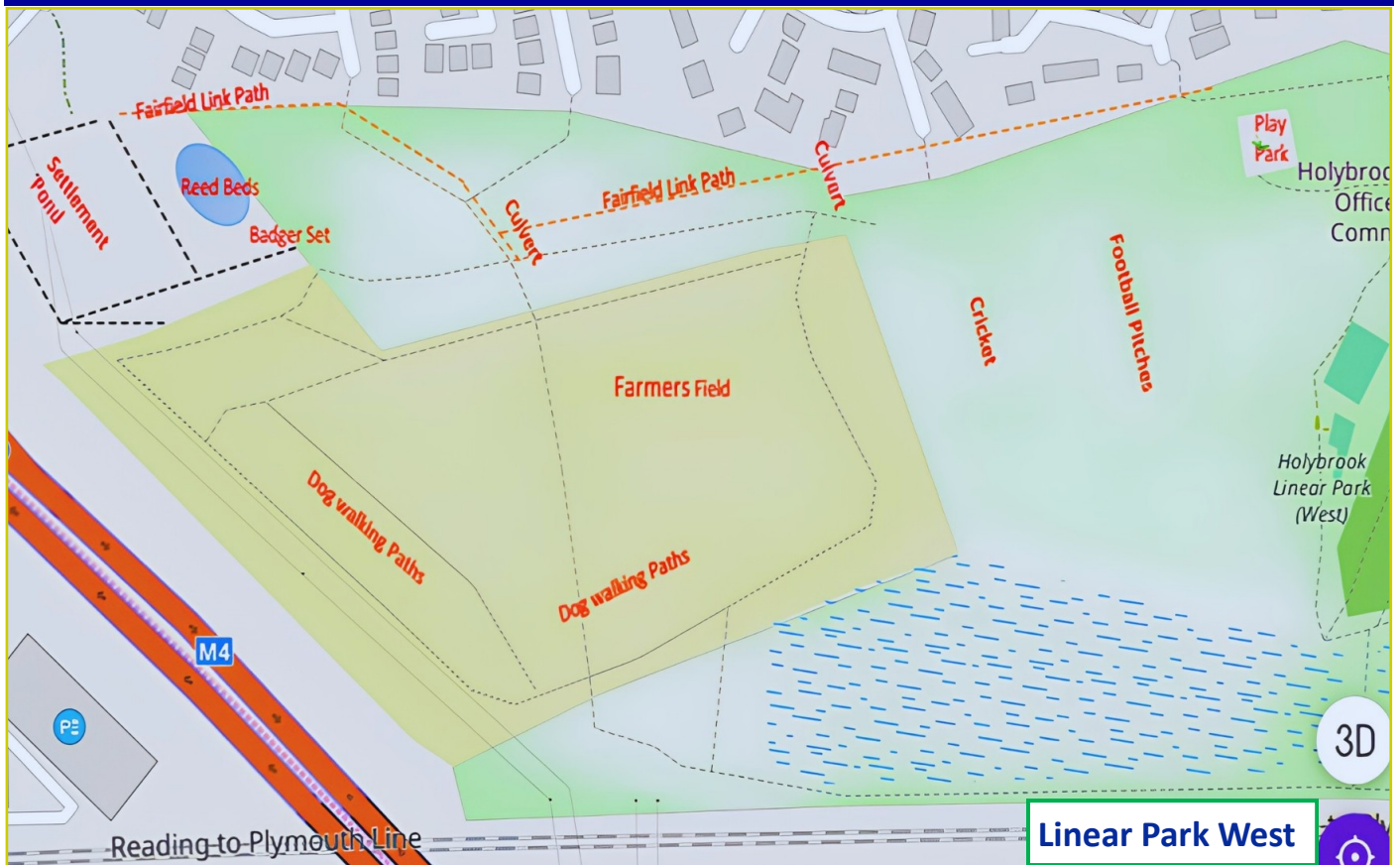
Contact Us

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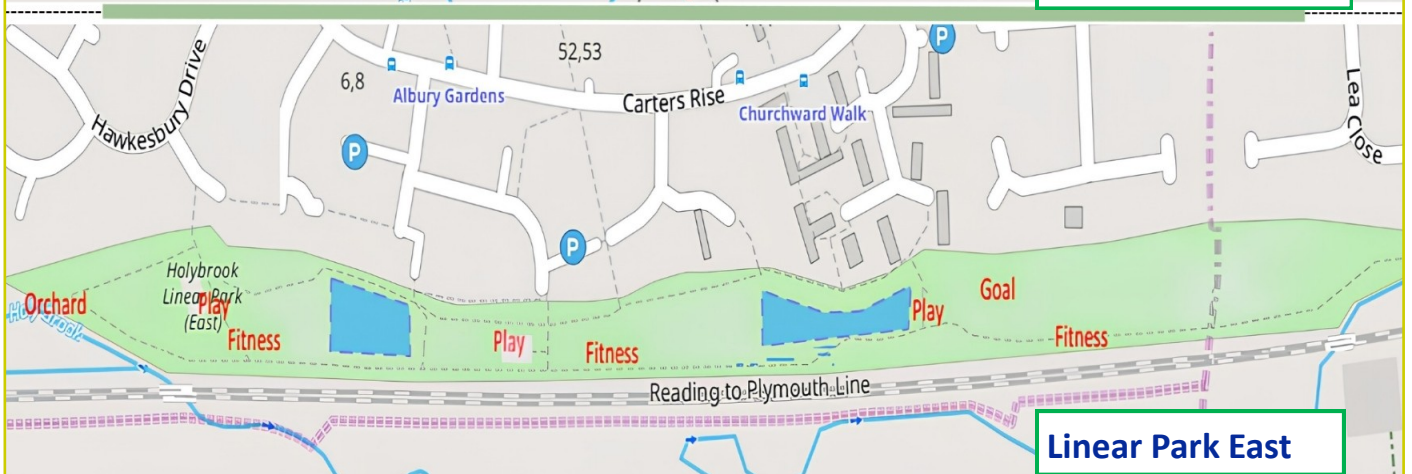
Facebook: @HolybrookParishCouncil



Linear Park West



Linear Park Central



Linear Park East

A Cleaner Community and a Changing Climate



Litter picking may seem like a small local activity, but it plays a part in caring for our environment. Litter can harm wildlife and pollute our waterways. Plastic waste especially has a wider environmental impact, as its production and disposal can contribute to green house gas emissions.

Climate Change is also affecting weather patterns, Here in the UK, many of us have experienced periods of unusually high temperatures and other weather extremes more often in recent years. Keeping our local environment clean, reducing waste and disposing of it responsibly are practical ways we can all contribute to environmental sustainability.

A big thank you to the residents who joined our latest Community Litter Pick on Saturday 10 July despite the unusually hot weather, and to those who regularly pick litter in their own time. We are also grateful to Kennet Valley Free Church and, more recently, Kennet Valley Primary School for supporting our litter picks by providing access to their premises for meeting and refreshments.



Meet Your Councillor

In this first edition of **Meet Your Councillor**, Holybrook Parish Council (HPC) speaks to one of its newest councillors, **Jagan Veerati**, about settling into Fairfields, their experience as a Councillor so far, and their hopes for the local community. Here are some excerpts from the interview:

HPC: What is it like to be a new resident at Fairfields?

JV : I'm enjoying it. Holybrook is a good area with very good amenities and transport to local areas.

HPC: How are you finding being a Councillor so far?

JV: I'm enjoying it as I'm always happy to help and the issues in the area are being raised to me and I can take these issues to Full Council to help source a resolution; very happy with the new dog bins, and the majority of the grass cutting.

HPC: Thoughts for the future community projects and development

JV: At the moment, I would love to look into a small play area for the children at Fairfields, as well the continuation of volunteers for speed watch and litter picking.



Jagan Veerati

Your Parish Councillors

CLAIRE TULL: 0118 941 8203

(Chairman)

MARY BEDWELL: 0118 942 0196

(Vice Chairman)

CHARLIE CROAL: 07855 749 876

OLA SALAU: 07737 820 017

RICHARD SOMNER : 07836 208 382

MAURICE MOORE: 0118 941 0027

VIVEK SHARMA: 07500 921 236

KAREN ALBANESE: 07854 804 616

JAGAN VEERATI: 07885 993 085

HARISH MISTRY: 0118 945 5830

ANDREW GRIFFIN: 07367 586 515

Meetings

Parish Council meetings are open to the public*. All meeting dates are published on the Council's website: www.holybrook-pc.gov.uk and in the Council's noticeboards.

**subject to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meeting) Act 1960.*

Friends of Linear Park – Summer's here

With temperatures rising to 30 degrees and above, the Friends have been



working in the shade of the garden and woodland footpaths, tidying and trimming the edges of nettles, brambles and overhang, and clearing the entrances of branches and brambles.



Watering the recently planted whips and fruit trees has been a challenge as we are retrieving water from the Holybrook, which is very low at the moment- do you remember the floods?

We want you to enjoy the park, but please take your litter home.

For the youngsters, please look at the 'Children's Corner' on our website - www.folp.uk.

We can also be contacted by email- hello@folp.uk.

News from Calcot School

As we look back on another busy and exciting term at Calcot Schools, we are proud of the many wonderful experiences our children enjoyed.

Highlights included Sports Week, Creative Arts Week and our whole-school Carnival, alongside trips to Cotswold Wildlife Park, Paultons Park, Rushall Farm and Englefield Estate. We also enjoyed end-of-year productions from our Year 2 and Year 6 pupils.

During Sports Week, children tried a range of activities, with the cave experience proving especially popular. Creative Arts Week included drama, music and dance workshops with visiting professionals and a live session with the Royal Ballet and Opera. The week ended with a colourful Carnival celebrating our children's creativity and talents.

Thank you to all the providers, performers and coaches who made these experiences memorable.

Finally, we said goodbye to our Year 6 pupils with their fantastic performance of *The Circle of Life*. We wish them every success at secondary school.



Contact Us- Infants: 0118 941 8189 | office@c-inf.w-berks.sch.uk

Juniors: 0118 942 8727 | office@c-jun.w-berks.sch.uk

Term	Dates	*You can find a list of UK Bank Holidays on GOV.UK
Autumn Term (2026)	Starts: Wednesday 2nd September 2026 (a fixed inset day). Half term: Friday 23rd October to Friday 30 October 2026. Ends: Friday 18th December 2026. Christmas holiday: Monday 21st December 2026 to Thursday 31 December 2026.	
Spring Term (2027)	Starts: Monday, 4th January 2027. Half term: Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2027. Ends: Thursday 25th March 2027. Easter holiday: Friday 26th March to Friday 9th April 2027.	
Summer Term (2027)	Starts: Monday, 12th April 2027. Half term: Monday, 31st May to Friday, 4th June 2027. Ends: Friday, 23rd July 2027.	