



Holybrook Parish Council

Proudly serving the residents of Holybrook Parish since 2000

Clerk's Written Report:

Monday 13th April 2026

Beansheaf Centre/Parish Office:

Maintenance:

Centre:

- 11/03/2026 Defibrillator repair – low heat in box.
- 28/03/2026 Air conditioning service completed.
- 09/03/2026 Paint refresh of the lower wall in The Keep completed. New mirrors installed in ladies' and gentleman toilets plus a refresh of the sealant around the sinks.

Parish:

Playgrounds:

- 30/03/2026 RoSPA Reports received. No major findings. One old wooden bench requires removal from the Dave Prior Diddy Park. All other minor repairs are booked the GN Maintenance for the second week in April.

The Dave Prior Diddy Park overgrown foliage cutbacks are scheduled for the third week of April.

General:

- 10/03/2026 Report received of graffiti on some bus stops. Removal has been arranged.
- 11/03/2026 Following several recent road traffic accidents on the A4 Bath Road at the Sainsbury's Junction, the Clerk contacted West Berkshire Council's (WBC) Highways Safety Team. Following input, WBC has agreed that there are improvements that can be made. The Clerk will be updated when a plan has been agreed.
- 11/03/2026 New lock system has now been implemented at the Linear Park outside toilets.
- 12/03/2026 The bench plaque design suggested by West Berkshire Council has been withdrawn and WBC has opted for a simpler version.
- 13/03/2026 Report received from Cllr Veerati regarding the condition of a signpost outside of Calcot School which, despite being out of Parish, was onward reported to West Berkshire Council for urgent action.
- 23/03/2026 West Berkshire Council has agreed to include The Garage on new signage at the top of the Linear Park entrance driveway. Clerk waiting on the design and costings.

26/03/2026 Following a residential request, the Community Payback Team cleared a footpath between Goodwin Close and Orkney Close.

Finance:

- West Berkshire Council has now started charging the Council Rates. The value for 2026/27 is £800. Having paid £0 rates over, at least 7-years, the Council had not budgeted for this sum.
- O2 is increasing the cost of the mobile phone by £1.50 per month from April 2026.
- Tactical is increasing its prices from 1st May 2026. There is expected to be a minor impact on the budgeted sums.
- Relyon is increasing its prices from 1st April 2026. The Clerk has questioned the significant increases and awaits a response.
- Berkshire Pension Fund has confirmed that the employers' contribution rate for the next three years will be 24%.
- The Council's Insurance has been renewed with Zurich as agreed at the cost of £6,091.19 (no discount was available due to the higher level of cover for Public Liability).
- Moorepay is increasing its prices by 5% from 1st May 2026. This is above the rate of inflation. The Council's contract with Moorepay runs until 2029.
- Suez will be charging a fuel surcharge on all collections from 1st April 2026 of 3.02%. This will be charged in arrears.

Other:

- Holybrook Parish Council's Armed Forces Covenant has been accepted. This will be advertised on the Council's website.
- The Clerk cancelled her IOSH training. No monies were lost.
- The Garage stable door job was advertised on Check A Trade with no companies coming forward for the job.