

Hemyock Parish Council

6th April 2011

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held in the Forbes Lounge under the chairmanship of Mrs.H.Stallard.

Present – Mrs.H.Stallard, Mr.I.McCulloch, Mr.J.Edwards, Mr.R.Brooke, Mr.L.Povah, Mr.R.Hart, Mrs.S.Cartledge and Mrs.L.Clist. Also present was Mr.F.Rosamond – District Councillor, Mr.R.Radford – County Councillor and 7 members of the public.

Apologies were received from Pastor S. Reed.

It was proposed by Mr.R.Hart, seconded by Mr.L.Povah that **The Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd March** be signed as a correct record – all agreed.

It was proposed by Mr.I.McCulloch, seconded by Mr.J.Edwards, that **The Minutes of the Planning meeting held on 23rd March** be signed as a correct record – all agreed.

Matters Arising

- 1) Mrs.Stallard asked Mr.Radford what the outcome of the HATOC meeting had been with regards to the continuation of the pavement to the north of the Spar shop. Mr.Radford said that DCC representatives had said that they were waiting for the dedication agreements from the home-owners, if they can be arranged DCC will pay for the pavement. Mrs.Stallard said she had got it all sorted at one time but now some people had either moved or passed away; she said she would start again and get all the agreements signed. Mr.Brooke said we should get it in writing first from DCC that they are willing to pay for the pavement before we spend any more time on it. On Mr. Radford's recommendation clerk to write to Mr. Dave Huxham.
- 2) Mrs.Stallard thanked Mr.Rosamond for getting back to us so quickly after the March meeting about the imposed charges that are being made on our parishioners with regard to :
 - a) Archaeological digs – MDDC do not have a “validation” requirement for all applications in Hemyock to have an archaeological assessment. However, if they have pre-application discussions they advise everyone to consult with DCC Archaeology Dept. before making an application as Hemyock is known to have important archaeology potential.
 - b) Increased floodplain boundary – The flood maps are produced by the Environmental Agency so any “challenge” would need to be with them. Applicants can however draw up their own Flood Risk assessment with any application, this will be examined by the E.A. Most types of development in flood zone 3 will be unacceptable.
 - c) Air pollution charge for Cullompton – The Air Quality Supplementary Policy document is set out on the District Council's web site.
 - d) On-line planning applications – No decision has yet been taken on removing paper application consultations. Hemyock's view will be taken into account and reported to Planning Committee on 30th March when a decision will be taken on the method of future consultations; Mr.Rosamond said that 2 years notice will be given before changes are implemented.
- 3) Mr. Rosamond had also followed up a query about social housing; Catherine Simmonds had e.mailed a reply to Mrs.Stallard.
- 4) Mrs.Stallard reported that the Housing Surveys had gone out; she was very grateful to all the volunteers who had helped with the distribution. The report from the surveys should be

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with us in the next week or two.

- 5) Neroche Project – Gavin Saunders is coming to the Annual Parish meeting tomorrow night to give a short talk and to bring along copies of the book “Along the Wild Edge” which is being distributed free to all residents in the Parishes in the Blackdown Hills. Mrs.Stallard said there would also be copies at the next village market.
- 6) Mrs.Stallard reported that she had been to an interesting meeting on 15th March - “Making it Work Locally”, she said it was up to villages to help themselves.
- 7) Mr.Edwards said the water was still coming up through the road by Culm Davy Farm, Mrs.Stallard said nothing has been done either about the blocked Shutlake watercourse.
- 8) Mrs.Stallard said the Police network had been put to the test recently regarding a con man stealing credit cards from rural properties' outside post boxes.

District Council Report

Mr.Rosamond included the following in his report:

- 1) The District Council's budget has now been set.
- 2) There will be an election for District Councillors in this ward as 3 people have put up for the 2 places available.
- 3) Mr.Rosamond thanked all Hemyock Parish Councillors for all the work they have put in on local projects he said it was tremendous what had been achieved.
- 4) The Scrutiny Committee are looking at charging for recycling.
- 5) Pay and Display – looking to charge motorists for parking in the street.
- 6) Mrs.Stallard thanked Mr.Rosamond for all the work he has done on our behalf and wished him luck in the coming election.

County Council Report

Mr.Radford included the following in his report:

- 1) Mr.Radford said that Willie Pike was going to investigate the problem at Culm Davy Farm and he would ask him what action was going to be taken.
- 2) Grit bins will not be provided on primary routes.
- 3) SWH Competitive tendering complies with the European Tendering process. The current contract is for 2007 to 2012 then if the work is satisfactory will be renewed year on year till 2017
- 4) Mr. Radford's Locality Budget has been increased to £15,000; a grant has been made to the Bowling Club towards their refurbishments scheme.
- 5) Hemyock's Highways report has not been sent because Highways had heard that a Hemyock councillor had said “ is it really necessary?” - no one had said this so Mr.Radford said he would arrange to have it reinstated.
- 6) The man to write to in future with Highways complaints is a Mr. Dave Fergy.

Local Elections

District elections - Mrs.Stallard said she hoped Mr.Rosamond would be re-elected.

Parish Council – Mrs.Stallard reported that Mrs.Cartledge, Mr.Steed and Pastor Reed were not standing for election this time, also Mr.Brooke had accidentally missed the closing date for his application. Mr.Roy Calcraft and Mr.Simon Clist had stood for election; as only eight people had stood and we need ten councillors there will not be an election and we will need to co-opt two more councillors. Mrs.Stallard to ring the election office to check on the correct procedure for what happens next.

Mrs.Cartledge has said she is still willing to help with finance and spreadsheets, if needed, Pastor Reed is keen to be involved in any matters relating to Old School Court and Mr.Steed is will to help with IT.

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Planning

Approval

10/01873/FULL – Perry Brothers Developments Ltd – Hemyock Motors.

Withdrawn

11/00056/FULL – Castle View, Culmstock Road.

Garages Update

Mr. Brooke reported that the funding from RDPE has been withdrawn which is a big disappointment; there is only a small pot of money left and we have to get this project working with what we have left. Because the work done so far has been to a high standard Building Control wants this level of work continued. The music room and meeting room are virtually completed. The main hall can be made usable but without final floor surface and underfloor heating; as the back wall has been “tanked” it cannot be left as it is and this will have to be plastered.

The funding has been secured from Viridor for the gym equipment, but as yet nowhere to put it; Tone Leisure has had their funding cut.

Grants from “Making it Local” have been suspended till September.

Finance

Income

£80.70 – Fine Memorials – cemetery fees.

£86.00 – Manning & Knight – cemetery fees.

£123.04 – Redwood & Sons – cemetery fees.

£86.00 – Fine Memorials – cemetery fees.

£300.00 – DCC, P3 Grant for footpath maintenance.

£52.92 – Pring & Sons – cemetery fees.

£54.10 – Wayleaves.

Payments

It was proposed by Mr. Povah, seconded by Mr. Hart, and all were agreed that the following payments be made with the exception of the Brookridge invoice which was approved for payment at a later date; Mr. Brooke abstained from the vote of approval.

£12.00 – Devon Association of Local Councils – conference fees for 15th March.

£71.47 – MDDC – cemetery rates.

£35.00 – Devon Playing Fields Association – subscription.

£407.42 – DALC & National Association of Local Councils – affiliation fees.

£556.56 – Reimbursed to Mrs. Stallard for adverts for clerks position.

£1,212.75 – Clerks salary & expenses – January to March.

£72.00 – Mr. I. Pike – cemetery grass cutting.

£166.00 – Mr. N. Page – footpath maintenance.

£43,704.83 – Brookridge Timber (to be paid at a later date).

Hall Management Committee had sent a letter asking if the Parish Council would be willing to pay for mowing the outer perimeter grass on the Recreation Field and pay for some maintenance work on the trees. Mr. McCulloch said he felt that this was a big financial commitment for this council to make at this stage and should be left for the new council to make the decision. Mr. Povah mentioned that at the open meeting held recently there was public support for the Parish Council to help the Parish Hall.

Parish Clerk's position – 51 people had applied for information packs and 15 applications have been received; this has been short-listed to 3 with 2 reserves and interviews are planned for Wednesday 13th April. Mrs. Kingston is continuing as clerk until the new clerk is appointed.

Highways

- 1) The street light at the southern end of the floodplain footbridge is out.
- 2) Pothole at Ashculme near Lower Ashculme Farm.
- 3) Brookridge to Jewells Farm – potholes.
- 4) Road surface just past Crockers Farm in an appalling state – resembles a farm track.
- 5) Road surface poor on the lower third of Culm Pyne hill.

Cemetery

Additions, which had been approved and minuted years ago, but had been omitted from the policy were added, plus clarification about the width between graves following a telephone call to the clerk from Mr. Martin Pring. There are technically no footpaths between graves; the cemetery is marked out with plots measuring 4' from the centre of one to the centre of the next, each burial is, on average, 20" wide thereby leaving a space between the graves for maintenance.

Mr.I.Pike said this was O.K. once the graves had been levelled but it was sometimes difficult to get even a strimmer between the plots before they had been levelled.

Mrs.Clist to get the signs made up for the cemetery so that people are aware of the terms and conditions. Mrs.Clist said she also maintain the two large plant pots in the cemetery.

Footpaths

Mr.Povah said he had found two new contractors to help with the footpath maintenance when Mr. Risdon was too busy to help us.

DCC have made improvements to a bridleway at Wrangway.

Annual Parish Meeting

The APM is tomorrow night at 7pm; Mr.Edwards said he would get the display boards to the hall by 4.30 ready for people to put up their displays. The school have requested space for a display this year. Mrs.Stallard said she had got the cheese and wine etc. for the refreshments.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on 18th May, after the elections.

Correspondence

- 1) We have received an invitation to be one of 7 villages to take part in a year long project called "Exploring 50 years of Community Action".
- 2) MDDC – Charter between MDDC and Towns and Parishes in Mid Devon – to be left for new council.
- 3) MDDC – IT courses available.
- 4) DCC – The Tithe Map project – Mrs.Stallard to speak to Mr. Michael Cooper about this.
- 5) MDDC – Road closures for street parties to celebrate the Royal Wedding.
- 6) MDDC – Local Development framework – all current planning policies on a CD.
- 7) Waste Planning: Issues and Options (II) – have your say on waste planning in Somerset.
- 8) Glasdon catalogue.
- 9) Twentyfour Seven – SW Ambulance Service news.
- 10) Copies of "Village Green" passed to several councillors.
- 11) Good Councillors guide – clerk to enquire how much these cost.

P.R

It was decided to put in the press something about the Annual Parish Meeting.

Chairman's Business

- 1) The clerk had received a telephone call from a Millhayes Farm resident who was fed up with cars playing loud base music on the old station yard site below the Millhayes Farm homes. He said the music was so loud it wakes up all the children, the cars stay about 5 minutes then roar off out of the site; he said it had been reported to the police but felt the Parish Council should be aware of this anti social behaviour and what was happening on this site.
- 2) Mr. Taylor, who cuts the grass and keeps the BMX area tidy, is disgusted by the mess left on the BMX track, it spoils the fun of a lot of children who enjoy using the BMX track. Mr. Calcraft said several residents often help by picking up rubbish and putting it in the bin.
- 3) Mr. Povah said he had found a virtual pavement in a village called Meavy, near Tavistock and he would try to find out how long they had had it. The County Council has refused our request for a virtual pavement at the southern end of the new floodplain footbridge; to be pursued by the new council.

There being no further business the public part of the meeting closed at 9.15pm and it was proposed by Mr. McCulloch, seconded by Mrs. Stallard that the meeting go into a Section Two – the public left the hall.

Signed.....

Date.....