

## ***Hemyock Parish Council*** **7<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

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.P.Steed, Mr.J.Edwards, Mr.R.Brooke, Pastor S.Reed, Mrs.S.Cartledge, Mr.L.Povah and Mrs.L.Clist. Also present was 13 members of the public; Mr.F.Rosamond – District Councillor arrived during the meeting.

**Apologies** – were received from Mr.R.Hart and Mr.R.Radford – County Councillor.

It was proposed by Mr.J.Edwards, seconded by Mr.P.Steed that **The Minutes** of the March meeting be signed as a correct record; all agreed.

### **Matters Arising**

1) A letter had been received from Mr.H.Whittaker thanking the Parish Council for the opportunity to come along to our March meeting with information regarding the proposed federation of Hemyock with Sampford Peverell and Wilcombe Primary School in Tiverton.

2) Matters Arising No.1 – Blackdown Parishes Network – hope for working with Exeter University seems to have reached a dead end and a different way of moving things forward is now being looked at.

3) Response to be made regarding the Mobile Library Service survey.

4) Mrs.Stallard had attended the “State of the District Debate”.

5) Allotments – Mr.Povah had been in touch with the Environment Agency regarding the possible siting of allotments on the area of Longmead below the sewage treatment works, he will let us know which part can be used for allotments as part of this area is in the flood plain. Mrs.Stallard said that as this area is designated “open space” a change of use will probably have to be sought.

Mrs.Stallard said that she has made enquiries and we can go down the route of compulsory purchase for land for the allotments; however it will take up to two years and could cost £20,000 to £25,000.

Mr.Povah said that maybe someone would be willing to provide the land rather than go through compulsory purchase.

Mr.Brooke asked how many allotments we are bound to provide.

Mrs.Stallard said that there are twenty four people wanting an allotment and once six people have made a written request we are bound to provide some.

It was decided to look into the matter of exactly how many allotments we are bound to provide.

A parishioner asked what was happening to the old tennis courts; six allotments could be provided on that site thereby solving our problem.

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6) Mrs.P.Lowman said that if the council is short of money why is the heating being left on all the time at Millhayes Hall? Mr.Brooke replied that it is nothing to do with the Parish Council it is paid for by the Healthy Living Centre and the heating is on, very low, to dry the hall out as it has been left empty for so long. Mrs.Lowman said if our money was not required for the hall why was the precept put up again this year? - Mrs. Stallard replied that one of the things to come out of the questionnaire, carried out last year, was that an overwhelming majority wanted a walkway across the flood-plain. Mr.Povah said that it has not been a simple process, several services have had to be dealt with and money has to be obtained from the developer of the St.Ivel site; however the Parish Council is not responsible for administering this.

7) We still need more people to come forward to do the training to use the speed guns.

8) Mr.Brooke confirmed that the insurance for Millhayes Hall has been raised to £800,000.

### **County Council Report**

Mr.Radford was not able to be with us tonight but those present asked that we pass on the message that potholes around the parish are getting worse by the day.

### **Planning**

Approval – 09/01346/FULL – Installation of replacement windows at the Old School Court.

Refusal – 10/00066/CLU – Refusal of certificate of lawfulness at Burleyhayes Linhay.

### **Applications**

10/00447/Full – Change of use of land from agricultural to riding arena at Rodleigh Farm, Hemyock. Mrs.Clist declared an interest and left the room while the discussion took place. After careful consideration of the plans it was proposed by Pastor Reed, seconded by Mrs.Cartledge that approval be recommended – all agreed.

10/00234/FULL – erection of replacement porch at Prings Farm, Madford.

A site meeting was requested; 7pm on the 9<sup>th</sup> April was decided upon; clerk to check with Mr.Barton that this is convenient.

### **Flood-plain Footbridge**

Mr.Povah has been in contact with a representative from South West Water; there is a possibility that a 6” water main runs beneath the site of the proposed new raised flood-plain walkway. The exact position of the water main has to be confirmed as the foundations are to be augured and damage to the water main would affect a large part of the village. Mr.Povah has explained to the SWW representative that the bridge could be easily dismantled at any point if access to the pipe was required.

Mr.Povah to fix a date for a meeting with the SWW representative as soon as possible.

Western Power has agreed to move the electric pole that will be in the way of the proposed new walkway; they are redesigning the area.

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### **Millhayes Update**

Mr. Brooke reported that the hall will be in use from the first week in May. The Hall lease has been signed and The Garages lease is being checked before being signed.

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 7.0pm. Three speakers have been invited, Dr. J. Meads on Millhayes Hall, A representative from the Tiverton & District Community Transport Association on the services they have to offer and a representative from the A.O.N.B. on "Making it Local"; although as yet none have confirmed. There will also be displays around the hall from various groups; and refreshments of cheese and wine to round off the evening.

### **S106 Funding**

Mrs. Stallard reported that we have some S106 money being held at MDDC which must be used for public open spaces. To get this money we now have to work with the Forward Planning Department at the District Council.

There is still some work to do on Longmead, the main football pitch needs some more drainage work carried out as do the junior football pitches also the trim trail has yet to be constructed. The play area by the Parish Hall needs refurbishing, a wooden play house and play tractor were suggested and a new safety surface throughout.

Mrs. Stallard said after all this work has been carried there would still be a small amount of money left which could be used for some more landscaping that needs to be carried out on Longmead.

The councillors were in agreement that all these projects be taken forward.

### **Finance**

#### **Income**

£475.00 – DCC – P3 Scheme grant – for maintaining our footpaths.

£52.31 – Western Power Distribution – wayleaves.

It was proposed by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Povah that the following payments be made:

£35.00 – Devon Playing Fields Association subscription

£126.98 – MDDC – cemetery rates

£1,073.07 – Clerks salary and expenses

£10.99 – EDF Energy – Millhayes Hall

£39.00 – Stephens & Scown – solicitors – disbursements regarding the Millhayes Hall lease.

£63.00 – I. Pike, cemetery grass cutting.

It was agreed by all those present that Mrs. S. Aldworth carry out the internal audit again this year.

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A letter had been received from MDDC giving us a year's notice that as from next year our precept will be paid in two halves; the first half in April and the second half six months later. Councillors wondered if we would be paid the interest on the second half of the precept while the District Council was holding the money for us.

### **Highways**

Mrs.Stallard and Mr.Steed had met with Meg Booth, Amanda Pitchford from the County Council Highways Department and Ray Radford, County Councillor, on 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

They went through the list of things that we have been waiting several years to have done and visited the sites of some of the problems.

Mrs.Stallard has since received an e.mail listing the problems and when the work will be carried out.

A parishioner present said that the potholes through Whitehall still had not been repaired and were getting worse by the day.

### **Cemetery**

Nothing to report.

### **Footpaths**

Nothing to report.

### **Correspondence**

- 1) Draft Charter – MDDC, Town and Parish Councils - response needed by June.
- 2) Somerset County Council, Aggregates Consultation – passed to Mr.McCulloch.
- 3) Energy Saving Trust – join “Green Communities” – passed to Mr.Steed.
- 4) “Bago” catalogue of litter picking tools.
- 5) “Devon Talk” magazine.
- 6) Sheltered Housing leaflet.
- 7) LCR Magazine.
- 8) Glasdon catalogues.

### **PR**

- Annual Parish Meeting
- Clean up dog mess

### **Chairman's Business**

None.

### **District Council**

Mr.Rosamond – District Councillor, who had been to a meeting in Lapford arrived at this point.

Mr.Rosamond was questioned about a family who have moved into a council flat in Churchills; there was concern about anti-social behaviour and the amount of animals kept in the two bedroom flat also the fact that one of the youths from Downmead spends a lot

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of time at the flat; Mr.Rosamond said he would see what he could find out.

Mrs.Stallard asked Mr.Rosamond about the letter we had received from the District Council saying that next year the precept would be paid in two parts; she asked him if we needed the money all in one go for a special project whether we would be able to access it? Mr.Rosamond said if we had a special project we could apply for it to be paid all in one go.

Mrs.Stallard also asked if we would get the interest on our money that the District Council would be holding for 6 months; Mr.Rosamond said that we would not get the interest.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

*Signed*.....

*Date*.....

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