

**Hemyock Parish Council Monthly Meeting**  
**held in the Forbes Lounge at 7.30pm on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2014**

Subject	Action
<p><b>1. <u>Present</u></b>  Mrs H Stallard (Chair), Mr I McCulloch, Mr S Major (from item 12), Mr R Calcraft, Mr R Hart, Mr T Barton, Mr L Povah, Mr S Clist, Mr J Edwards, Mr R Brooke, Mrs D Evans (Parish Clerk) and 14 members of the public.  <b><u>Apologies</u></b> Mr F Rosamond &amp; Mr R Radford</p>	
<p><b>2. <u>Public Questions</u></b></p> <p>2.1 A member of the public asked for an update on the hedge encroaching onto the road by the surgery.  <i>Clerk will ask Mr Radford for an update</i></p> <p>2.2 Damage to lamp post by post office was reported.  <i>Clerk to report</i></p> <p>2.3 Following last month's meeting a member of the public asked that the council reconsider its decision to replace the ground source heat pump at Longmead with an oil fired system. The member of public also raised planning issues reference bore hole.</p> <p>2.4 A member of the public submitted written questions about: the part 2 meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December regarding the potential sale of the parish council-owned land at the Old Station Yard site; whether the BMX track should remain at its current site; why the council chose to appoint the District Valuer when a cheaper quote had been received; and why CLT members disclose an interest under planning application 12/01498/OUT.  <i>Council will answer parishioner directly.</i></p> <p>2.5 Depth Markers have been erected at Culmbridges and Byes. Many thanks to Mr Brooke and Mr Calcraft for their time and effort in erecting these. The positioning of the depth markers was discussed and it was agreed that Mr Brooke and Mr Calcraft would adjust the positioning to allow drivers better visibility of the markers from all directions.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p><b>3. <u>Declarations of Interest/Dispensations</u></b>  The clerk declared that:-  Mrs Stallard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is a Director of Upper Culm Community Land Trust and there is a dispensation in place for her to participate in and vote on any matter relating to Planning Application 12/001498/OUT.</li> <li>• is the Chair of the Youth Garages Project Committee</li> <li>• is a member of the Parish Hall Committee</li> <li>• is a member of Longmead Management Committee</li> </ul> <p>Mr Calcraft</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is a Member of the Youth Garages Project Committee</li> </ul> <p>Mr Povah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is a Director of Upper Culm Community Land Trust and there is a dispensation in place for him to participate in and vote on any matter relating to Planning Application 12/001498/OUT.</li> </ul> <p>Mr Clist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is a Director of the Upper Culm Community Land Trust and there is a dispensation in place for him to participate in and vote on any matter relating to Planning Application 12/001498/OUT.</li> </ul> <p>Mr Brooke</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has a disclosable pecuniary interest in the Youth Garages Project. There is a dispensation in place to allow him to participate in but not vote on matters affecting the project.</li> <li>• is a member of the Upper Culm Community Land Trust</li> </ul> <p>Mr Major</p>	

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<p><b>4. <u>Minutes from Previous Meetings</u></b></p> <p>4.1 <b>PROPOSAL:</b> The Council minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> December meeting are approved.  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr Hart  <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr Barton  <b>DECISION:</b> passed (all in favour)</p> <p>4.2 <b>PROPOSAL:</b> The Council minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> December meeting are approved, subject to one amendment: Mr Brooke did not send his apologies, he was absent because of a disclosable interest.  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr McCulloch  <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr Calcraft  <b>DECISION:</b> passed (all in favour)</p> <p>4.3 <b>PROPOSAL:</b> The Council minutes of the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2014 meeting are approved.  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr Hart  <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr Edwards  <b>DECISION:</b> passed (all in favour)</p>	
<p><b>5. <u>Devon Remembers World War 1 Project</u></b>  <b>PROPOSAL:</b> This item is moved up the agenda.  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mrs Stallard  <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr Edwards  <b>DECISION:</b> passed (9 in favour, 1 against)</p> <p>Mike Cooper, History &amp; Archiving Association, updated the meeting on the project. He is keen that the planned events are community events and everyone gets behind them. Insurance will be covered by the group's special events insurance. A vote of thanks was made to Mike and Mark Balchin for the huge effort they have made so far in pulling together the information. It was suggested that the group could produce a flyer for all clubs in the village to promote the events, as well as using the Pump and local papers for PR and present at the Annual Parish Meeting.</p>	
<p><b>6. <u>Matters arising from previous minutes not on current agenda</u></b></p> <p>6.1 <u>Benches</u> – Nothing to report. Carry forward to next meeting.</p> <p>6.2 <u>Asset Register/Insurance Review</u> – Clerk will issue a draft updated list next month.</p> <p>6.3 <u>Map defining the Council's assets and maintenance responsibilities</u> – Mr Major will look into the costs of such a map and report back. Carry forward</p> <p>6.4 <u>Walls at Millhayes/Station Road</u>. Clerk has reported problems and awaits response.</p> <p>6.5 <u>Flood bridge adoption</u> – A discussion ensued reference DCC's reluctance to adopt the flood bridge. The flood bridge was built to certain standards to ensure DCC would adopt it and they are now renegeing on their verbal agreement. It was felt that in the present economic climate it was unlikely that DCC would adopt it and/or maintain it.</p>	<p>IM Clerk</p> <p>SM Clerk</p>
<p><b>7. <u>District Council Report</u></b>  Councillor Rosamond sent the following report:-</p>	

- For the first time you will be able to listen to MDDC debates from the comfort of your own home as all meetings are being recorded and will be available via the website. There will be teething problems but it is hoped people will find the facility useful
- The Cabinet will be reviewing the Climate Strategy and Action Plan. The Council's activities impact on the environment in a variety of ways including transport and fleet issues, enforcement of environmental legislation, planning policy, including renewable energy development, air quality monitoring, waste management reducing carbon emissions, and housing quality. As a large partner in the area it also can influence strategic decision making,
- There are significant changes proposed in the provision of sheltered housing, following withdrawal of DCC funding to non-statutory services. Support services will only be provided to people that have received a DCC Fairer Access to Care assessment. The Lifeline Alarm for Tenants will be available, subject to a charge. One interesting proposal is that following consultation, a Repairs Service for elderly people in the private sector may be introduced.
- Council House rents may rise by 4.7% as part of the process of rent convergence with the private sector.
- Leisure prices may be increased by 3%
- The Budget remains on target, partly helped by not having to call on the £200k bad debt provision for Council Tax Benefit as the Welfare Reforms have not yet impinged on MDDC. However there may be an increased level of rent arrears
- Council Tax is proposed to be frozen at the 2013/14 level. The Budget for next year is being set with no transfer from reserves.
- The grant from Government has been reduced from £6.1m in 2010/11 to £4.1m in 2014/15 an overall reduction of £2m or 32.8%. The bad news is that this will be followed by a further cut of £656k leaving the Grant at just under £3.5m- implying some difficult decisions about the shape and frequency of services in the future.

#### **8. County Council Report**

Councillor Radford sent the following report:-

Because of the really wet weather the highway teams are deployed in a clean-up operation. There were 7000 reports of flooded roads and the roads have taken a battering, therefore routine repairs has had to be put on hold while we are doing the clean-up operation.

Nevertheless, up until now at least, the damage has not been as bad as last year, when the damage was estimated to be £18m with a Government help towards this cost of just £3m. It would cost £62m of investment per year to maintain the roads in a suitable condition.

We are reviewing our foster care service and consultations with other partners have made some recommendations. One of which is specialised foster carers which may be a better solution than residential homes. We have to make sure we have the best possible care for the very vulnerable young people. We are reorganising our foster care service, so we have a greater range of foster carers able to look after children with the most challenging behaviour.

There has been an overspend on the adult and child protection budget and the people's budget. The people's budget covers all the social, child and adult services. John Clatworthy is confident that he will be able to balance the budget at the end of this year, ahead of cuts of £25m from next year's budget.

Because of next year's cuts in government grants, County most probably will have to make

<p>redundancies, hopefully they will be by natural wastage or voluntary and will be subject to consultations with the unions. Heads of service and their managers must ensure that they fully use the interventions already in place to reskill/redeploy employees and facilitate the movement of staff to meet organisational need.</p> <p>We are planning that the County budget will be agreed on 20<sup>th</sup> February.</p>	
<p><b>9. Planning</b> Applications received for:-</p> <p>9.1 13/01644/FULL – Erection of a detached shed/workshop. 6 Eastlands, Hemyock <b>PROPOSAL:</b> The Council supports the application. <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr McCulloch <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr Barton <b>DECISION:</b> passed. All in favour</p> <p>9.2 14/00039/FULL – Erection of single storey extensions to house to form garden room with balcony above/conservatory, porch, wet room and water treatment room and erection of separate overspill living accommodation following removal of stables and mobile home. Scotland Farm, Hemyock. The applicant confirmed at the meeting that the overspill accommodation has been withdrawn from the application. <b>PROPOSAL:</b> The Clerk to clarify with MDDC if revised plans with new dates will be issued and, if necessary, ask for a deferment until all information is provided. <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr McCulloch <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr Hart <b>DECISION:</b> passed. All in favour</p> <p><b>PROPOSAL:</b> Clerk to arrange a site visit. <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr Clist <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr McCulloch <b>DECISION:</b> passed. All in favour</p> <p>9.3 14/00045/FULL – Erection of balcony at first floor level and external staircase. Lower Mackham Farm, Hemyock <b>PROPOSAL:</b> The Council supports the application. <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr Clist <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr Edwards <b>DECISION:</b> passed. All in favour</p> <p>Approval noted for:-</p> <p>9.4 13/0941/FULL – Conversion of office/store to live/work unit, change of use of agricultural buildings to employment use, and siting of 2 office units in connection with existing business. Rodleigh Farm, Hemyock</p> <p>9.5 13/01283/FULL – Erection of an agricultural building for storage of machinery and dry fodder. Fairview, High Street, Hemyock</p> <p>9.6 13/01346/FULL – Erection of shed after demolition of existing. Culm Davy Chapel, Culm Davy</p> <p>9.7 13/01470/FULL – Erection of roof to provide cover to slurry pit. Collard Hill Farm, Blackborough</p> <p><b>Other Planning</b></p> <p>9.8 MDDC Local Plan Review – Options Stage Consultation. MDDC is holding a public meeting in Hemyock on 12<sup>th</sup> February between 10am -1pm in the Parish Hall. Mr Major has offered to host a further meeting the following week on 19<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm in the Forbes Lounge to go through the plan in more detail and to explain how it may impact on Hemyock.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>SM</p>

9.9 MDDC will no longer issue hard copies of its planning decision notices. Clerk will compile a list for each meeting.	Clerk																																																		
<p><b>10. Finance</b></p> <p>10.1 The meeting was updated on the following financial matters:</p> <p><u>Income</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="177 300 1299 512"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>£</th> <th>Reason</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td>.88</td> <td>Interest 14 day account</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.</td> <td>1,922.00</td> <td>MDDC TAP fund grant for use at Garages</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.</td> <td>8,612.00</td> <td>DCC remainder of Garages grant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.</td> <td>11.25</td> <td>Commonwealth War Graves</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5.</td> <td>.04</td> <td>Interest g/f account</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Expenditure</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="177 584 1299 763"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>£</th> <th>Payee</th> <th>Reason</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td>730.00</td> <td>Mr N Page</td> <td>P3 Footpath maintenance work</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.</td> <td>28.03</td> <td>South West Water</td> <td>Garages water bill</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.</td> <td>17.12</td> <td>South West Water</td> <td>Cemetery water bill</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.</td> <td>476.35</td> <td>Mrs D Evans</td> <td>Clerk's wages and expenses</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>BANK ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION*</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="196 864 876 1093"> <tbody> <tr> <td>COMMUNITY A/C</td> <td>60,004.57</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DEPOSIT A/C</td> <td>51,987.02</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G/F A/C</td> <td>704.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P3 A/C</td> <td>2519.23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LONGMEAD</td> <td>1.27</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td><b>£115,216.27</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>PROPOSAL:</b> that the first cheque has been issued and is ratified by the council.  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr McCulloch  <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr Povah  <b>DECISION:</b> passed. All agreed.</p> <p><b>PROPOSAL:</b> that all income is agreed and the above cheques/payments are paid/agreed  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr McCulloch  <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr Povah  <b>DECISION:</b> passed. All agreed.</p> <p><b>Other Finance</b></p> <p>10.2 To note Mr Pike has increased his hourly rate from £10 per hour to £10.50 per hour with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014.</p>		£	Reason	1.	.88	Interest 14 day account	2.	1,922.00	MDDC TAP fund grant for use at Garages	3.	8,612.00	DCC remainder of Garages grant	4.	11.25	Commonwealth War Graves	5.	.04	Interest g/f account		£	Payee	Reason	1.	730.00	Mr N Page	P3 Footpath maintenance work	2.	28.03	South West Water	Garages water bill	3.	17.12	South West Water	Cemetery water bill	4.	476.35	Mrs D Evans	Clerk's wages and expenses	COMMUNITY A/C	60,004.57	DEPOSIT A/C	51,987.02	G/F A/C	704.18	P3 A/C	2519.23	LONGMEAD	1.27	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£115,216.27</b>	
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<p><b>11. Clerk Update</b></p> <p>11.1 TAP Fund - the application was successful and £1,922.00 has been received. Clerk has advised Judith Major, Treasurer of Garages Youth Committee.</p> <p>11.2 Ashculme Road – the clerk has received some pictures and evidence from a resident at Ashculme which should help with building a case to DCC Highways reference the need for alternative signs at Ashculme. Clerk to follow up with Highways.</p> <p>11.3 Old Station Yard Site – 12/004198/OUT - The District Valuer (DV) has started negotiations with the developer.</p> <p>11.4 Standing Orders/Policy Committee – The Clerk has asked councillors to look at MDDC's code of conduct as well as NALC's code and decide if they are happy to continue with NALC or would prefer to adopt the MDDC code. Clerk will provide councillors with a summary of the differences.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>																																																		

<p>11.5 Freedom of Information/Complaints Procedure – The Clerk has received a request for a copy of the District Valuers Valuation Report under the Freedom of Information Act. As this information is currently deemed ‘commercially sensitive’, the clerk has refused the request. In accordance with the terms of the Act, the requester has been advised of the reasons for the refusal and the complaints procedure that will be followed in the event that he is dissatisfied with the decision.</p> <p>11.6 Public Conveniences – the Clerk and Chair met with MDDC. The budget has been agreed for 2014/2015 but MDDC’s budget has been cut thereafter. MDDC are under no legal obligation to provide public conveniences and it is likely that the Hemyock public conveniences will close unless the parish take over the responsibility of maintaining them. MDDC has agreed to review the state of the building and put forward a schedule of works it would be prepared to carry out together with a proposal ref a future strategy. Suggestions mooted include a charge of 20p per visit, a merger of the ladies and disabled toilet and retention of the mens.</p> <p>11.7 BHLC - Clerk has contacted council’s solicitors and has informed BHLC of advice received.</p> <p>11.8 Police Report as follows:-  <u>Crimes</u> - Overnight between 7<sup>th</sup> &amp; 8<sup>th</sup> January, a front number plate was stolen from a vehicle parked at the rear of a property in Hemyock. A previous incident occurred at the same property overnight between 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; 19<sup>th</sup> December 2013, although a different vehicle was targeted. During the evening of 26<sup>th</sup> January, minor damage was caused to vehicle parked in Hemyock. This is currently being investigated.  <u>Other Logs &amp; Incidents</u> - On 4<sup>th</sup> January police received an abandoned 999 call. On arrival at the property, it was discovered a child had been playing on the line. On 19<sup>th</sup> January a member of the public found some vehicle registration plates hidden in a hedgerow. These were handed into Wellington Police Station and the incident is under investigating the incident. On 24<sup>th</sup> January police were called ref the welfare of a resident. All was in order at the address. On 25<sup>th</sup> January a racing bicycle abandoned in a front garden. It is currently being held at Cullompton Police Station.</p> <p>11.9 Dedicated Council Telephone Line - the Clerk has looked into the possibility of installing a separate telephone line dedicated solely to council business. This would allow calls to be diverted, or directed to an answerphone in the event that the Clerk is unavailable. Clerk will bring full details to next meeting for consideration.</p>	Clerk
<p><b>12. <u>Standing Orders</u></b></p> <p>12.1 <b>PROPOSAL:</b> The council adopts the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Procurement Policy, Complaints Procedure and Freedom Of Information Publication Scheme.  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr Povah  <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr Barton  <b>DECISION:</b> passed. All agreed. (Mr Major abstained)</p> <p>The Clerk and committee were thanked for the work put into preparing the documentation.</p> <p>12.2 <b>PROPOSAL:</b> The council adopts the Parish Clerk Public Response Protocol  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr Povah  <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr Barton  <b>DECISION:</b> passed. All agreed.</p>	
<p><b>13. <u>Commons Management Group</u></b></p> <p>Summary of recommendations/actions:-</p> <p>13.1 <b>PROPOSAL:</b> The Clerk approaches Ed Hopkinson from Devon Wildlife Trust (DWT) to book a date for him to supervise the swaling and coppicing of a small area of Shuttleton Common.  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr Hart</p>	

<p><b>SECONDED:</b> Mr Barton  <b>DECISION:</b> passed. All agreed.</p>	
<p><b>14. <u>Longmead</u></b>  Nick Thompson from Longmead Committee will be writing a piece for the Parish Pump on the work that is taking place at Longmead with the primary school and local community including a safe pond and wildlife habitat.</p>	
<p><b>15. <u>Highways</u></b>  Mr Clist will liaise with Willy Pike (DCC Highways) about suggestions to solve problems of flooding at Culmbridge Road. Mr Dennis Gubb was thanked for the work he does keeping the drain clear.</p>	
<p><b>16. <u>Cemetery</u></b>  Clerk will determine specification for railings work.</p>	Clerk
<p><b>17. <u>Footpaths</u></b>  Mr Povah has completed the surveys and these will be submitted DCC. In turn, the parish council will receive a grant next year for the necessary works.</p>	
<p><b>18. <u>Garages Youth Project</u></b>  The official opening will be Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 4pm. Everyone welcome. Neil Parish, MP, and John Hart, leader of Devon County Council, will attend. It was suggested that councillors should wear name badges. Clerk to arrange.</p> <p>A general discussion then ensued reference insurance. The Clerk will arrange a meeting with the council's insurance agent to clarify matters.</p>	Clerk Clerk
<p><b>19. <u>CLT</u></b>  Neil Punnett, Secretary of UCCLT, sent the following report:-  It has been a busy period for the Upper Culm Community Land Trust Ltd. The construction of the affordable homes at Griffin Close, Hemyock is nearing completion. The allocation of the properties should be confirmed during February and it is hoped that the homes will be occupied by the end of March.</p> <p>The CLT's Retirement Homes Working Party placed an article in the Parish Pump magazine inviting expressions of interest in a housing development for the elderly in Hemyock. No replies were received.</p> <p>On 28th January we hosted a peer-to-peer learning visit for seven members of Powerstock Community Land Trust from Dorset. Powerstock are at an early stage of their development and had been sent by the National CLT Network to meet with the Upper Culm CLT as a successful example of what can be achieved.</p> <p>On 30th January CLT members met with a representative of Pico Energy from Uffculme in a pre-feasibility study into the installation of a micro hydro-electric power turbine on the River Culm. The turbine would be very small, generating up to 12 kWh of electricity. Should the plan prove feasible it will be launched with the community and an application made to the government's Rural Community Energy Fund for financial support.</p>	
<p><b>20. <u>Correspondence</u></b></p> <p>20.1 Healthwatch Devon Issue 3 noted</p> <p>20.2 Road Traffic Regulation – Closure of Culmstock Bridge (17-21 February) noted</p> <p>20.3 Thank you letter from Tiverton Ring &amp; Ride noted.</p> <p>20.4 DCC Highways email informing Parish Lengthsman work has been cancelled until further notice due to flooding noted.</p> <p>20.5 Letter from DCC informing of public enquiry on 25<sup>th</sup> March 10am ref footpath 48 Burleyhayes to Blackdown Common. Clerk to put up notices.</p>	

20.6	MDDC Local Plan Review meeting on 12 <sup>th</sup> February noted. See item 9.8 above.	
20.7	Request for donation from Citizens Advice Bureau referred to Finance Committee	
20.8	Request for donation from Uffculme Compost Magic referred to Finance Committee	
20.9	Request for donation from Victim Support referred to Finance Committee	
20.10	Letter from BHLC requesting parish council call a meeting to discuss parking problems. It was agreed that any meeting should be called by the BHLC and that the council would attend.	
20.11	Letter from Neil Parish MP asking for update on state of war memorials. Clerk to send photos and update.	Clerk
<b>21.</b>	<b><u>Items raised by Chairman</u></b>	
21.1	The Chair has been approached by a fishmonger who would like permission to sell fresh fish in the village once a week in the car park by the BHLC. Chair to ask fishmonger to write in to the council giving full details.	Chair
21.2	Annual Parish Meeting (APM) – The Chair asked for suggestions for topics/presenters for the APM. Some suggestions were:- Devon Remembers Project, Devon Wildlife Trust and Commons Management Group, Neighbourhood/Parish Plan.	
<b>22.</b>	<b><u>Items raised by Councillors</u></b>	
22.1	Mr Clist reported that 241mm of rain has fallen during January, compared to 142.9mm in January last year.	
22.2	Mr Barton reminded everyone to keep checking and clearing the drains.	
22.3	The laurel hedge by Castle Cottage is encroaching on to the road.	
<b>23.</b>	<b><u>PR</u></b>	
	The Council requested PR on the following topics:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Enquiry for footpath 48 Burleyhayes to Blackdown Common</li> <li>• MDDC Local Plan Review – public meetings on 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> February</li> </ul>	
<b>24.</b>	<b><u>Date of the Next Council Meeting.</u></b> Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2014 in the Forbes Lounge	

Meeting closed at 10.00pm

*Signed*.....*Date*.....