

Hemyock Parish Council Monthly Meeting
held in the Forbes Lounge at 7.30pm on 6th March 2013

Subject	Action
<p>1. <u>Present</u> Mrs H Stallard (Chair), Mr I McCulloch, Mr R Brooke, Mr Barton, Mr Hart, Mr R Calcraft, Mr S Clist, Mr J Edwards, Mr S Major, Mr L Povah, Mr R Radford (County Councillor), Mr F Rosamond (District Councillor), Mrs D Evans (Parish Clerk), and 25 members of the public. <u>Apologies</u> None.</p>	
<p>2. <u>Blackdown Support Group (BSG)</u> David Corden (Chairman) and Barbara Starkiss informed the council of the key aims and objectives of the group. A summary is given below.</p> <p>The object of the Support Group is to relieve sickness and preserve and protect good health among persons permanently or temporarily resident in the area of benefit by providing or assisting in the provision of services not normally provided by the Statutory Authorities.</p> <p>The group offers a great many services but by far the largest is providing transport to clients on trips to the Doctors, Hospitals and other medical appointments. The BSG serves hospitals in Taunton, Exeter, Chard, Axminster and Wellington, to name but a few, as well as the occasional trip to Bristol when specialist treatment is required.</p> <p>The operating costs are approximately £36k per year, which roughly balances with the annual income. Of that income, approximately ½ comes from grant funding and donations such as that received from HPC.</p> <p>Over 22 years, the BSG has been fortunate to benefit from legacies, bequests and donations from grateful clients and their families, and the Trustees have placed these monies in mid to long term investments to hopefully secure its future. It is the long term aim of the Trustees to have sufficient in reserves to enable the BSG to be self-funding, but it should not be forgotten that there is a duty of care on all Statutory Authorities. The current estimate is that the BSG will need around £1m to enable this to happen and the group is proud to say that it is on its way towards achieving that aim, although it is some way off yet.</p> <p>The future of grant funding is unknown at the moment, and if it does suffer cuts the options are limited. The group could lay off staff, pass on the shortfall to the clients - which the Trustees would be reluctant to do, or draw down on the reserves. The view has been expressed that the BSG should stand on its own and not receive funding from Hemyock Parish Council. This view is understandable, but with the present level of reserves the future would be limited. The grant the group receives from Hemyock Parish Council is extremely important in helping the BSG to provide support to those Blackdown residents in need and the group hope that members will continue to look upon the BSG favourably in years to come.</p> <p>Councillors thanked the BSG representatives for their informative briefing.</p>	
<p>3. <u>Public Questions</u> 3.1 <u>Culmstock Road Development</u> A member of the public raised the issue of traffic calming outside the Culmstock Road development. As part of the Planning Consultee process the council has already suggested to MDDC the need to move the 20mph speed limit and install traffic calming plateaus similar to Station Road/Longmead. Clerk to reinforce these suggestions with MDDC.</p>	Clerk

<p>3.2 <u>Bus Shelter</u> The Parish Council requested a bus shelter for Station Road (by Castle Park) many years ago. DCC has approached the council about providing a bus shelter and the council is considering it. A member of the public has undertaken some research, monitoring the number of people waiting for buses on Station Road. He passed the information on to the council for its consideration, suggesting a bench seat may be more appropriate. The council thanked the member of public for the information.</p> <p>3.3 <u>Fence around the Castle</u> Is leaning out onto footpath towards the school. Clerk to contact the owners.</p> <p>3.4 <u>Footpath from Eastlands to the bungalows</u> It was suggested that the footpath is not wide enough for the elderly residents to use safely. Mr Rosamond to investigate.</p> <p>3.5 <u>Speeding</u> Various comments were made at the 'Have your Say' event in the village and the police are monitoring the situation.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>FR</p>
<p>4. <u>Declaration of Interest/Dispensations</u> The clerk declared that:-</p> <p>Mrs Stallard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is a Director of Upper Culm Community Land Trust – item 19 & 12. • is a Trustee of the Blackdown Support Group – item 2. • is a Member of the Parish Hall Committee – item 10.1. • is a Member of the Youth Garages Project Committee – item 18. <p>Mr Brooke</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is a Director of the Upper Culm Community Land Trust – item 19 & 12. • has a disclosable pecuniary interest in the Youth Garages Project item 18. and there is a dispensation in place to allow him to participate but not vote on matters affecting this project. <p>Mr Calcraft</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is a Member of the Parish Hall Committee – item 10.1 • is a Member of the Culm Valley Trail – item 17. <p>Mr Povah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is a Director of Upper Culm Community Land Trust - item 19 & 12. • is a Member of the Culm Valley Trail – item 17. • is a Member of the Youth Garages Project Committee – item 18. <p>Mr Clist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is a Director of the Upper Culm Community Land Trust and there is a dispensation in place for him to participate and vote on any matter relating to Planning Application 12/004198/OUT - item 19 & 12. <p>Mr Barton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is a Director of the Upper Culm Community Land Trust – item 19 & 12. <p>Mr Major</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is a member of the Upper Culm Community Land Trust – item 19 & 12. <p>Mr McCulloch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is a member of the Upper Culm Community Land Trust – item 19 & 12 <p>Dispensation requests:- PROPOSAL: Requests were received from Mr Povah, Mr Barton, Mr McCulloch and Mrs Stallard to vote and participate on matters in relation to Planning Application 12/001498/OUT Station Yard site, including the possible re-location of the BMX track.</p> <p>DECISION: passed. The council considers the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the council area. These dispensations will be valid until next election date May 2015.</p>	

Approval received for:-

9.2 12/01748/FULL - Erection of single storey extension at Beaufort Court Fore Street Hemyock

9.3 12/01601/FULL - Retention of residential building as built at Barnfield Madford Farm Hemyock

9.4 12/01778/FULL - Erection of porch at Rigglesfoot Hemyock

9.5 12/01682/FULL - Erection of first floor extension at Coombe Hill House Hemyock

Split decision received for:-

9.6 12/00460/FULL/NMA – Erection of extension following demolition of existing extension at 2 Cottlands Culm Davy Hemyock.

10. Finance

10.1 The meeting was updated on the following financial matters:

Income

1. £94.82 Fine Memorials Escott

2. £0.88 Interest 14 day a/c

3. £0.04 Interest g/f a/c

Expenditure

1. £6.60 Wasteology – cemetery green waste

2. £30.00 DALC New councillor training Mr Barton

3. £9.74 South West Water – cemetery water bill

4. £2,040.00 MDDC Election costs

5. £11.00 Hemyock Parish Hall – room hire

6. £419.77 Mrs D Evans – Clerk's wages & expenses for February

7. £30 Mr I Pike – Cemetery Maintenance.

Bank Reconciliation

Community Account	94577.94
Deposit a/c	51977.54
Griffiths Flay a/c	704.18
P3 a/c	1517.83
Longmead a/c	1.27
TOTAL	148778.76

PROPOSAL: that all income is agreed and the above cheques/payments are paid/agreed.

PROPOSED: Mr Major

SECONDED: Mr Calcraft

DECISION: passed.

11. Shooting on the Commons

The council and others met with Richard Thomas from Natural England on Tuesday 5th March 2013. He viewed the site and gathered information from the Gun Club representatives and the Rough Shoot Syndicate representatives. In summary, the landowner (Hemyock Parish Council) may grant permission to shoot on the Common without having to apply to Natural England for restrictions. However, if no restrictions are in place, members of the public might walk onto the Common whilst a shoot is taking place, causing danger to the public and disruption to the shoot. The landowner may exercise its Discretionary 28 Day restrictions but would need to apply for further restrictions to cover all Gun Club and the Rough Shoot Syndicate dates.

The following motions were put forward to be considered at the earliest opportunity.

11.1 Hemyock Parish Council agrees that written permission for shooting on its Commons may be granted, subject to such controls and agreements that may be required by The Council from time to time, to organisations or groups requesting this permission, by written application to The Council. (Those organisations or groups (e.g. Culm Vale Gun Club and Rough Shooting

<p>Syndicate - N. Moon) having existing permission for shooting whether verbal or written or access for shooting on the Commons over a substantial period of years are deemed to have priority in any application to the Council).</p> <p>11.2 That use of Discretionary Powers under S22, Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 is agreed by Council for 4 days in March and April 2013. This will allow Culm Vale Gun Club to use Hemyock Common (Turbary) for clay shooting on 16th & 30th March and 13th & 27th April 2013, prior to any restriction application to Natural England agreed by The Council.</p> <p>11.3 Hemyock Parish Council agrees to apply to Natural England for restrictions under the Act permitting continued use of Hemyock Common (Turbary) for clay shooting by Culm Vale Gun Club and prohibiting public access on grounds of public safety and disruption, when shooting is in progress on given dates. These dates to be published annually in advance x? months before commencement of shooting by Culm Vale Gun Club. (full details to be agreed with both parties subject to grant of restrictions by Natural England and in advance of commencement of shooting)</p> <p>11.4 Hemyock Parish Council agrees to apply to Natural England for restrictions under the Act permitting continued use for shooting on Hemyock Common (Turbary) by the Rough Shooting Syndicate and prohibiting public access on grounds of public safety and disruption. (Dates and times to be published annually in advance, x? months before commencement of shooting by the Rough Shooting Syndicate. (full details to be agreed with both parties subject to grant of restrictions by Natural England and in advance of commencement of shooting)</p> <p>11.5 Hemyock Parish Council agrees to apply to Natural England for restrictions under the Act permitting continued use for shooting on Shuttleton Common by the Rough Shooting Syndicate and prohibiting public access on grounds of public safety and disruption. (Dates and times to be published annually in advance, x? months before commencement of shooting by the Rough Shooting Syndicate). (full details to be agreed with both parties subject to grant of restrictions by Natural England and in advance of commencement of shooting)</p> <p>PROPOSED: Mr McCulloch SECONDED: Mr Clist DECISION: Agreed to meet on Monday 11th March at 7.30pm*. Mr Povah strongly disagreed with the speed of the proposal and felt it didn't give the council enough time for public consultation.</p> <p><i>*Please note post meeting it was discovered that meeting on Monday did not give the necessary 3 clear days' notice. Therefore a new meeting was arranged for Thursday 14th March, 6.30pm in the Forbes Lounge.</i></p> <p>11.6 Mr Major suggested the council form a group working with all interested parties to look at managing all of the commons in the parish.</p> <p>PROPOSAL: The council establish a Parish Council led 'Commons Management Group' with the aim of mitigating as far as possible the effects of all users of the commons.</p> <p>PROPOSED: Mr Major SECONDED: Mr McCulloch DECISION: passed.</p>	
<p>12. Use of Council Land at Old Station Yard The applicant's agent for Planning Application 12/00014989/OUT has approached the council and requested the council consider relocating the BMX track elsewhere in the village. Following a proposal, the council agreed to book a separate meeting to discuss this. Clerk to arrange.</p>	Clerk

<p>13. Clerk Update</p> <p>13.1 <u>TAP Fund</u> The joint application for Culmstock, Clayhidon and Hemyock has been submitted. The total amount available to the three parishes amounts to £3136.10: the application bid is for £8569.39 and we await a response.</p> <p>13.2 <u>Code of Conduct</u> DALC has issued an amendment to the Code of Conduct the council adopted in August. In summary, NALC's view is that the regulations are hard to follow and open to different interpretations. NALC had interpreted that some Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) only applied to the member and others applied to the member and the member's spouse/civil partner. The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has interpreted that all DPIs except sponsorship apply to the member and member's spouse/civil partner. Consequently NALC recommends members follow the DCLG interpretation and has therefore amended the Appendix A wording. In terms of the Register of Interests Form that all councillors have completed, these were produced by MDDC and already state that the declaration includes spouse/civil partner and therefore there is no further action necessary</p> <p>PROPOSAL: The council adopts the amended Appendix A as recommend by NALC.</p> <p>PROPOSED: Mr McCulloch SECONDED: Mr Major DECISION: passed. Mr Clist abstained from voting.</p> <p>13.3 <u>Email Addresses</u> At a recent DALC training event the subject of Freedom of Information and Data Protection was mentioned. It was suggested councillors may want to set up a completely different email address for council business, making it simpler and easier to keep the emails separate from their normal work/home emails. This will be considered as part of the standing orders work see 13.5 below.</p> <p>13.4 <u>Website</u> The council pages of the village website need reviewing and updating. Councillors to inform the clerk of any comments/ideas about what should and shouldn't be included on the web pages.</p> <p>13.5 <u>Standing Orders</u> Clerk has researched this subject extensively and has model standing orders to use. A working group needs to take this forward and agree specific orders. Mr McCulloch, Mr Barton, Mr Clist and Mr Povah will work with Clerk.</p> <p>13.6 <u>Police Update</u> Below is a report received from PCSO Tracey Peters for the last month:- Saturday 9th Feb – At around 2340hrs, an altercation occurred between two males at the village hall. As a result an 18 year old male received a small cut to his head, although he did not want to make a complaint against the offender. Sunday 17th Feb – At 2230hrs, a vehicle collided with a wall on Station Road. The male driver was arrested following a positive roadside breath test. Tuesday 19th Feb – At 0910hrs, police were called to a domestic assault. Wednesday 20th Feb – At around 1235hrs, two males entered the Spar shop. One male placed some sweets in his trouser pockets and left the store without paying. Offender has been identified and the case is currently being dealt with by our Crime Investigation Team.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>IM/TB/ SC/LP/ Clerk</p>
<p>14. Highways</p> <p>14.1 <u>Virtual Path</u> Mr Povah will get 2 quotes for the fencing and report back.</p> <p>14.2 <u>Dropped Kerbs</u> Clerk will chase DCC.</p> <p>14.3 <u>Road Markings by Surgery</u> DCC inspected the road markings and hedge near to surgery.</p>	<p>LP</p> <p>Clerk</p>

<p>They are now aware of the issues and are looking into ways of resolving the problem.</p> <p>14.4 <u>Leat behind Redwoods</u> – No further action necessary. This does not belong to Mr Ackland.</p> <p>14.5 <u>Flooding</u> – No further action. Residents need to check drains and be more aware of problems. The council would like to thank DCC for the ditch digging that has taken place in the parish.</p>	
<p>15. <u>Cemetery</u></p> <p>15.1 The seat has been taken away for refurbishment and will be located as agreed when it returns.</p> <p>15.2 <u>Levelling of Graves</u> Mr McCulloch and Clerk visited the cemetery and have made a note of all graves which need levelling. Clerk will contact the respective undertakers to ensure necessary action is taken. It was stated that relatives of those graves to be levelled may undertake the works themselves, if requested.</p>	Clerk
<p>16. <u>Footpaths</u> Nothing to report.</p>	
<p>17. <u>Culm Valley Trail</u> AGM will be 8th April 2013.</p>	
<p>18. <u>Garages Youth Project</u> Council representatives met with John Hart, leader of Devon Council, to ask him to progress the transfer of the original grant from the BHLC to the parish council. The council provided him with the information he requested and wait for a decision after a meeting on 15th March. Mr Povah and Mr Brooke have been working on specifications for the project. Mr Brooke will no longer play an active role in the construction side of this project and Mr Povah and Mr Major have agreed to take this forward. The Council thanked Mr Brooke for all his work on the project to date.</p>	
<p>19. <u>CLT</u></p> <p>19.1 The following report was received from Neil Punnett, CLT. Following the unanimous decision of Mid Devon District Council's Planning Committee to approve the Culmstock Road affordable homes planning application on 6th February, the CLT's main focus has been on working with Hastoe Housing Association and the District Council's planning and housing departments on the Section 106 Agreement including the Lettings Allocation Policy. The deadline for finalising the agreement is 18th March.</p> <p>We have also been involved in the application for grant funding from the Homes & Community Agency to support the affordable homes project. The SW Investment Review Group of the HCA approved our application on 6th March. The application now progresses to the National Housing Programme Board of the HCA in mid-April.</p>	
<p>20. <u>Devon Remembers WW 1 Memorials</u> Mr Barton attended a meeting with Mike Cooper (Hemyock History Association) at Devon Heritage Centre on 25th February. The aim of the initiative is to focus on the county's war memorials in time for the WW 1 Centenary next year to ensure that they are all in good order. It is hoped that various groups in communities will work together to discover the stories behind the names of the people inscribed on the war memorials (including WW 1 survivors) and the social changes that took place in rural communities during the WW 1 period. Grants of up to £10k may be available from the Heritage Lottery Fund for submissions which demonstrate good involvement within communities and leave a lasting legacy with the project. Mike Cooper has agreed to lead on the social aspects of the WW 1 and Mr Barton is happy to ensure that the physical aspects of Hemyock's war memorial are in order. If anyone has any particular war stories they wish to share with Mr Barton please let him know.</p>	All
<p>21. <u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>21.1 <u>DCC – Rural Connection Programme</u> – information on faster satellite broadband noted.</p> <p>21.2 <u>Cornish Mutual</u> – information on Community South West Campaign – passed to Mr Clist.</p> <p>21.3 <u>Littlethorpe</u> – brochure on wooden bus shelters noted.</p>	

21.4	<u>Devon Senior Voice</u> – joins forces with others to establish ‘Healthwatch’, noted.	
21.5	<u>Voluntary Support Scheme</u> – Notification of its closure noted.	
22.	<u>Chairman’s Business</u>	
22.1	<u>Annual Parish Meeting</u> It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Saturday 27 th April from 2.30pm until 6pm in the Parish Hall. There will be speakers covering a variety of subjects, including consideration of a Parish Plan. Mr Major will coordinate this aspect of the meeting and will arrange an experienced facilitator for this. Other ideas:- BH Transition Group, UCCLT, Hemyock Primary School, Litter Picking as well as the clubs in and around the village. More information to follow.	SM
23.	<u>PR</u> The Council requested PR on the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best kept village competition for next year (2014) • Litter picking: more volunteers required • Publicise Annual Parish Meeting 	
24.	<u>Date of the Next Full Council Meeting</u> . Wednesday 3 rd April 2013 at 7.30pm Forbes Lounge	

Meeting closed at 10.25pm

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