

**Hemyock Parish Council**  
**Commons Management Group Meeting**  
**held at Longmead, Hemyock at 7.30pm on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2015**

Subject	Action
<p><b>1. <u>Present</u></b>            Mr S Clist (Chair), Mr L Povah, Mr N Moon, Ms J Pritchard, Mr P Doble, Mrs D Evans (Parish Clerk) and 2 members of the public.</p>	
<p><b>2. <u>To Elect a Chairman &amp; Vice-Chairman</u></b>  <b>PROPOSAL:</b> Mr S Clist is re-elected as Chairman of the Commons Management Group.  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr L Povah  <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr N Moon  <b>DECISION:</b> passed (all in favour).</p> <p><b>PROPOSAL:</b> Mr L Povah is elected as Vice-Chairman of the Commons Management Group.  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr N Moon  <b>SECONDED:</b> Ms J Pritchard  <b>DECISION:</b> passed (all in favour).</p>	
<p><b>3. <u>Declarations of Interest/Dispensations</u></b>            3.1 Mr S Clist declared he has a personal interest as he is a member of Devon Wildlife Trust (DWT). DWT provide advice on the management of the commons.            3.2 Mr N Moon declared he has a personal interest as he is a member of the rough shoot syndicate which uses Hemyock &amp; Shuttleton Commons.</p>	
<p><b>4. <u>Minutes of Last Meeting</u></b>  <b>PROPOSAL:</b> The Commons Management Group minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2015 meeting are approved.  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr N Moon  <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr L Povah  <b>DECISION:</b> passed (all in favour).</p>	
<p><b>5. <u>Matters arising</u></b>            Nothing to report</p>	
<p><b>6. <u>National Allotment Society</u></b>            Mr S Clist recommended agenda item 11 was moved up the agenda so that guest speaker, Mr Neil Dixon, from the National Allotment Society, did not have to stay for the whole meeting.  <b>PROPOSAL:</b> The National Allotment Society update is moved up the agenda.  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr N Moon  <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr L Povah  <b>DECISION:</b> passed (all in favour).</p> <p>Mr Neil Dixon, regional representative of the NAS, spoke to the group about the process of establishing local allotments. Mr Dixon has a wealth of experience regarding all matters pertaining to allotments and was able to give the group valuable tips and advice. His enthusiasm for allotments and community gardens/areas was infectious. He has offered to help and support the parish council if it decides to go ahead with some form of a community orchard/allotment of its own.</p>	
<p><b>7. <u>Hemyock, Shuttleton, Lickham &amp; Ashculme Turbaries/Commons</u></b>            The clerk gave an update from Ed Hopkinson (DWT). He confirmed he is happy to continue to give his help and support to the group and is delighted with the progress that has been made. There is no news ref the leases with DWT for Lickham and Ashculme which expire in November.</p> <p>The clerk has offered Owleycombe Common as a site for the Natural Futures project to survey. They will add it to their list to consider.</p> <p>Mr L Povah was asked about planned works to the footpaths on Ashculme Turbary so that this can be considered as part of any lease agreement with DWT.</p> <p>It is hoped that Devon Biodiversity Records Office will survey Hemyock and Shuttleton Commons in August.</p>	

<p><b>8. <u>Community orchard/environmental/allotment area</u></b>  Mr S Clist has been informally gathering information regarding the establishment of a community area. Before taking the concept any further he asked that it be considered by full council and, if support is forthcoming, then the Commons Management Group should formally explore the possibility of providing a community orchard/environmental area/allotments for the parish.  <b>PROPOSAL:</b> The Commons Management Group recommends to full council that the CMG should be charged with carrying out a formal investigation into the provision of a community orchard/environmental/allotment area for the parish.  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr N Moon  <b>SECONDED:</b> Ms J Pritchard  <b>DECISION:</b> passed (all in favour).</p>	Clerk
<p><b>9. <u>Items raised by Chairman</u></b>  9.1 The chair attended a Rough Grazing Association talk recently and received some useful botanical information from Gavin Saunders.  9.2 FWAG South West is holding an event on 24<sup>th</sup> June, 10.30-3pm Farming and the Environment in the Blackdown Hills. Chair to attend.  9.3 Neroche Botanicals is a one day course about plants and trees which grow in the Blackdown Hills. Ms J Pritchard and Mr S Clist to attend.</p>	Clerk Clerk
<p><b>10. <u>Items raised by Councillors/Clerk</u></b>  Nothing to report.</p>	
<p><b>11. <u>Public Participation</u></b>  11.1 Miss P Lawrence is attending a bat identification training session and will report back.  It was suggested that any bracken cut/bruised on the commons could be used as compost matter on any future parish allotments.</p>	
<p><b>12. <u>Summary of Recommendations/Information</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The full council considers asking the Commons Management Group to explore the possibility of providing a community orchard/environmental / allotment area for the parish.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>13. <u>Next Meeting</u></b> 7.30pm on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at Longmead</p>	

Meeting closed at 9.35pm

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