

**Hemyock Parish Council**  
**Commons Management Group Meeting**  
**held at Longmead, Hemyock at 7.30pm on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

Subject	Action
<p><b>1. <u>Present</u></b> Mr S Clist (Chair), Mr P Doble, Mr N Moon, Mr L Povah, Ms J Pritchard, Mrs D Evans (Parish Clerk) and 2 members of the public.</p>	
<p><b>2. <u>Declarations of Interest/Dispensations</u></b>            2.1 Mr S Clist declared a personal interest as he is a member of Devon Wildlife Trust (DWT). DWT provides advice on the management of the commons.            2.2 Mr S Clist declared a personal interest as he is a member of Devon Countryside Access Forum            2.3 Mr N Moon declared a personal interest as he is a member of the Rough Shoot syndicate which uses the commons.</p>	
<p><b>3. <u>Minutes of Last Meeting</u></b>  <b>PROPOSAL:</b> The minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> October are approved.  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr N Moon  <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr L Povah  <b>DECISION:</b> passed (all in favour).</p>	
<p><b>4. <u>Matters arising</u></b>            4.1 Website – a Commons Page is now included on the parish council section of the village website.</p>	
<p><b>5. <u>Hemyock Common</u></b>            5.1 The designer of the sign has confirmed that the pump would have to be off-centre in order to include a pheasant design. The group suggested the designer mock-up a new design with the pump in the centre and another wild bird added along with the fern.            5.2 Mr N Moon has a fallen oak tree suitable for making into a bench. Mr S Clist, Mr P Doble and Mr N Moon will liaise and arrange for bench to be made and installed on Hemyock Common.            5.3 Management Plan 2017 – the plan for this year was discussed and agreed with the gun club.  <b>PROPOSAL:</b> The gun club to keep the turbarry tidy. It will cut the middle section and leave approx. 20ft around the edge with a further mown circular path around. The areas of creeping thistle to be attacked hard and kept under control. Later in season the remaining areas of bracken to be topped, as in previous years.  <b>PROPOSED:</b> Mr P Doble  <b>SECONDED:</b> Mr L Povah  <b>DECISION:</b> passed (all in favour)</p>	<p>PD/NM /SC  Full council</p>
<p><b>6. <u>Shuttleton Common</u></b>            6.1 The chair suggested a volunteering Sunday in March. It was agreed that the focus this year should be on planting up 12 native trees with guards and posts (oak, beech, sycamore) in the central area of the common. Clerk to speak to Steven Ward for advice on size and price, etc.</p>	Clerk
<p><b>7. <u>Lickham &amp; Ashculme Turbarries</u></b>            The meeting discussed the correspondence from DWT's legal advisers and draft lease agreement. The clerk was asked to go back with some suggested amendments including:- a clause whereby the tenant must consult and gain prior approval of any management plan for the land, an annual report to be given each January to the Commons Management Group, and the term to be for 15 years.</p>	Clerk
<p><b>8. <u>Owleycombe Common</u></b>            Mr S Clist asked the clerk to remind James Maben, Natural Futures, to visit the site this year.</p>	Clerk
<p><b>9. <u>Community Land</u></b>            Mr S Clist led a discussion about the possible use of community land in the event that the council were to be gifted a parcel of land as part of a proposed development in the village. It was agreed to visit the potential site (subject to clerk getting permission from landowner). Possible ideas suggested were:- community orchard, allotments, dog walking area, skateboard park/flat area. It was agreed that the parish would need to be consulted about all of these suggestions.</p>	Clerk
<p><b>10. <u>Items raised by Chairman</u></b>            10.1 The meeting venue, Longmead, was uncomfortably cold. Clerk to report to chair of Longmead and request no charge is made for the use.</p>	Clerk

<b>11. <u>Items raised by Councillors/Clerk</u></b> nothing to report.	
<b>12. <u>Public Participation</u></b> Nothing to report.	
<b>13. <u>Summary of Recommendations/Information</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Management programme for gun club on Hemyock Turbary for next year discussed and agreed</li><li>• A new design of sign, including a wild bird and fern with pump in middle in blue, to be considered.</li><li>• DWT lease – suggested amendments to include prior approval of management plan, annual report to CMG and a 15-year term</li><li>• Volunteering Day at Shuttleton Common to be arranged and 12 trees planted.</li></ul>	
<b>14. <u>Next Meeting</u></b> 7.30pm on Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2017 at Longmead	

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

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