Hemyock Parish Council Commons Management Group held at Longmead at 7.30pm on 20th June 2013

Subject		Action
Evan	Present Clist (Chair), Mr J Edwards, Mr S Major (Vice-Chair), Mr McCulloch, Mr L Povah, Mrs D s (Parish Clerk), and 6 members of the public ogies none	
2. None	<u>Declaration of Interest/dispensations</u> declared.	
PRO SEC	Minutes of Last Meeting POSAL: The minutes of the 23 rd May are approved. POSED: Mr Major ONDED: Mr McCulloch ISION: passed	
4.	Matters arising from previous minutes not on current agenda	
4.1	Devon Wildlife Trust – Clerk is waiting for Lynne Kenderline to confirm date for visit. Provisional date is Tuesday 13 th August.	Clerk
4.2	Water Quality – Mrs Moon will email Clerk her latest certificate.	Mr Moon
4.3	Dog Bins & Signs - Clerk has made initial enquiries with MDDC ref dog bins and will	Clark
4.4	pursue this. Lease agreements - Clerk to check with DALC for any Commons information, speak to council legal advisers.	Clerk Clerk
4.5	Lickham Common – Clerk has requested a copy of the Devon Wildlife Trust's report and is waiting to receive it.	
4.6	Insurance – The Clerk confirmed that the Council's public liability insurance provides cover in respect of all assets that are either owned by the Parish Council or for which the Parish Council has accepted responsibility. However, the insurance company has advised that as the clay pigeon shooting club has erected the structures and remain responsible for their maintenance, the club rather than the Parish Council are responsible for their safety and any relevant Public Liability Insurance. Mr Allen to provide Clerk with copy of insurance documentation.	DA
4.7	Gavin Brake – Mr Clist & Mr Major met with Mr Gavin Brake for an informal chat about commons management. Mr Brake is one of 4 trustees responsible for the 640 acres of Luppitt Common. He was able to give the councillors some useful advice, information and contact details.	
5. 5.1	<u>Terms & Conditions</u> Toilet Facilities - The Clerk has made initial enquiries with both the Environment Agency and Environmental Health. However, Mr Allen from the Gun Club advised that the toilet has now been taken away and therefore no further action is necessary.	
5.2	Contamination/Pollution – Mr Major has contacted Hydrock, a firm of consultants who specialise in land quality testing. Mr Major is waiting for an estimate for the necessary work to test the common for contamination/pollution issues.	SM
at 7pr Mrs I	Shuttleton Common group agreed that the tidy up of Shuttleton Common would take place on Wednesday 17 th July m. Clerk to coordinate with MDDC ref insurance and pick up of rubbish. Clerk to provide Moon with copies of the volunteering form. Mr Clist believes there may be some tyres that	Clark
WIII I	need to be collected. Clerk to confirm when she organises the rubbish collection.	Clerk

	gh the issues raised.	
Greer please work.	Items raised by Chairman Chair has spoken with George Greenshields from the Beef, Butterflies & Trees Project. Mr ashields has been advising the Gun Club reference management of Hemyock Common. He has ed with the work Mr Allen has done on the common and praised Mr Allen for his exemplary Clerk to organise a meeting between the councillors and Mr Greenshields.	Clerk
	would like to thank Mr McCulloch for providing coffee/tea and biscuits.	
9. None	Items raised by Councillors	
10. 10.1	Public Participation How long have the Gun Club been using the Common? No one was sure of exact date but at least 40 years. The Gun Club used to shoot on private land. The owner wanted to reclaim his land for farming and so the Gun Club approached the council and asked permission to shoot on a common. The Gun Club shot on Shuttleton Common for one year before moving to Hemyock Common.	
10.2	The Gun Club has cut the grass today, 20 th June. The Devon Biodiversity Records report recommends only cutting the access paths.	CMC
10.3	The group will discuss this when they meet with Mr Greenshields. Before the Gun Club shot on Hemyock Common it was covered in bracken which suffocated other plants.	CMG
10.4	There have been a couple of incidents involving dogs chasing deer. The group had previously mentioned the CROW Act and dogs having to be kept on leads at certain times. Can you look into this further please?	
10.5	Clerk will investigate rules and possible signage available. Natural England is happy for the Gun Club to use the common for the next 6 years. The council has voted to allow the gun club to continue to shoot on the common. Why is the council spending money on soil sample testing, site visits, admin etc. when these complaints have come from only 2 parishioners? The council has not agreed to spend any money on soil testing, visits yet. However, it has an obligation to ensure that the commons, which it owns, are managed effectively. The group is working through the issues and will take advice and report back to full council with any recommendations including any budget needed.	Clerk
11.	Summary of Recommendations Obtain a scoping report and costs from Hydrock to test the soil for pollution/contamination Complete volunteering forms to add individuals to MDDC's insurance Organise a site visit with George Greenshields Investigate signage options for dogs on leads with Natural England	
12.	Next Meeting will be Thursday 25 th July at 7.30pm Longmead	

Signed	Date	