

Hemyock Parish Council
Commons Management Group
held at Longmead at 7.30pm on 27th March 2014

Subject	Action
<p>1. <u>Present</u> Mr S Clist (Chair), Mr J Edwards, Mr I McCulloch, Mrs D Evans (Parish Clerk), 3 Members of the public (Mr Allen, Mr Moon and Mrs Moon) <u>Apologies</u> Mr S Major and Mr L Povah</p>	
<p>2. <u>Declarations of Interest/dispensations</u> None declared.</p>	
<p>3. <u>Minutes of Last Meeting</u> PROPOSAL: The Commons Management Group minutes of the 20th February are approved. PROPOSED: Mr McCulloch SECONDED: Mr Clist DECISION: passed (all in favour)</p>	
<p>4. <u>Matters arising from previous minutes</u> 4.1 Lease/Agreement Information – The Clerk and Mr McCulloch have pulled together some background information. A working group of Mr McCulloch, Mr Clist and the Clerk will draft an agreement for next month's meeting.</p>	
<p>5. <u>Shuttleton Common</u> The work at Shuttleton went well and many thanks to all those that helped. Ed Hopkinson reported: 'Although the swailing did end up being 'a little' bigger than I had intended. This should not really cause any problems for the habitat and it will be very interesting to see how it recovers. In a few weeks and with a lick of rain, things will start growing pretty quickly and with so much thatch removed, a lot of flowering plants should thrive. I have put the fixed point photography pin on the site so I will be able to record how the site recovers. It is brilliant that the parish was willing to have a go and it is always a possibility that more is burnt than is intended.' Clerk to check with Ed ref when and where best to apply the mulching topper to create some fire breaks.</p>	Clerk
<p>6. <u>Hemyock Common</u> nothing to report</p>	
<p>7. <u>Correspondence</u> The group considered an email from a parishioner ref signage at both Hemyock & Shuttleton Common. The 'restricted access' and 'dogs on leads' signs will be installed at the entrance to Hemyock Common on the arm across the track. The 'dogs on leads' sign will be erected at Shuttleton.</p>	
<p>8. <u>Items raised by Chairman</u> nothing to report</p>	
<p>9. <u>Items raised by Councillors/Clerk</u> The Clerk confirmed:- 9.1 She had contacted Devon Biodiversity Records Office reference a possible visit to review and assess the Commons. It confirmed it does not survey sites which have been surveyed in the past 5 years as it gives a better chance of visiting more County Wildlife Sites and more evenly spreading survey effort to get a more accurate picture of how Devon's wildlife is faring. It would not be able to visit the two Commons again until 2015. However, it offered to put the two sites on its list for survey in 2015 and advised it would be useful if the council could let it know about current management practices so that it can keep its records up to date in the meantime. 9.2 Hemyock Community Nature Project – the Clerk has asked to be kept informed of this local project. It may be the Commons can play some part in future projects.</p>	

10. <u>Public Participation</u> none	
11. <u>Summary of Recommendations</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shuttleton Common – update on swailing and coppicing work • Dogs on leads signage at both Commons • Instruct contractor to create fire breaks at Shuttleton Common 	
12. <u>Next Meeting</u> will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 17 th April 2014 at Longmead	

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

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