

**Hemyock Parish Council Monthly Meeting**  
**held in the Forbes Lounge at 7.30pm on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2012**

Subject	Action
<p><b>1. Present</b>  Mrs H Stallard (Chair), Mr I McCulloch, Mr S Major, Mr R Brooke, Mr L Povah, Mrs L Clist, Mr R Hart, Mr J Edwards, Mr R Radford (County Councillor), Mr F Rosamond (District Councillor), Mrs D Evans (Parish Clerk) and 33 members of the public.  <b>Apologies</b> Mr S Clist (ill), Mr R Calcraft (away)</p>	<p>All to note</p>
<p><b>2. Public Question Time</b>  2.1 Many issues, queries, concerns and statements were raised/made concerning both the proposed development of 12 houses on the Culmstock Road and the Planning Application ref Station Road for 8 dwellings and 4 employment units. A summary of the comments and responses are as follows:-</p> <p>2.1.1 Why is the CLT proposing building on a greenfield site? Public were under the impression that there were no other sites available for the proposed 12 affordable houses. Why can't the Station Road site be considered for the affordable houses, rather than build on a greenfield?  <i>The CLT were offered the Culmstock Road site by the developer who had the option on the land. No other site was offered/available as an alternative site.</i></p> <p>2.1.2 Who is responsible if the 'affordable' houses are not affordable and cannot be filled by local people?  <i>The Parish Council will be responsible if the proposed 12 affordable house are not filled by local people.</i></p> <p>2.1.3 Why doesn't the parish council consider a neighbourhood plan reflecting the widespread opposition to further development?  <i>A neighbourhood plan has not been ruled out. However, the costs of creating a plan are around £60,000 and a plan should be considered where a parish wants <b>more</b> development than is allowed for in the Local Plan. It is not possible to set up a neighbourhood plan stating you want <b>less</b> development than the Local Plan allows.</i></p> <p>2.1.4 There is anger in the village over the perceived lack of transparency reference the CLT. What is the parish council doing to be more proactive? The CLT should issue its minutes. The village want to feel involved with the CLT.  <i>It was confirmed that the CLT will make its minutes public. In an effort to clear up any misunderstandings and be more transparent it was agreed that the council will issue a briefing note outlining a summary of events which have led to the CLT's decisions to date. See 13 CLT Update below.</i></p> <p>2.1.5 What about the traffic issues of building more houses in the village?  <i>This will be considered by Devon county Highways as part of the planning process. A safety audit was completed a number of years ago and as a result 20mph speed limits and traffic calming bumps were introduced. Many pavements have been installed in the village by the parish council.</i></p> <p>2.1.6 This planning application should go to a public vote to see if parishioners want to develop the land. The council is meant to listen to the parishioners, it is meant to be the voice of the community, why is it not listening? Parishioners want a public meeting to consider Culmstock Road and Station Road proposed developments.</p>	<p>Mr Major/Mr Povah</p>

<p>What is the relationship between the developer and the parish council?  <i>The planning applications will be decided by Mid Devon DC not the Parish Council. West of England Developments have been more sympathetic to the wishes of the parish than other developers, allowing achievement of many objectives in the past 25 years (eg social housing in Higher Mead, sport &amp; recreation grounds in Longmead)</i></p> <p>2.1.7 The Housing Survey is out of date.  <i>The housing needs survey is only ever meant to be a snap shot and sample. Any repeat within such a short time should show similar trends.</i></p> <p>2.1.8 Where is the BMX track going to go? There is a petition signed by 100 children requesting we keep the track in the village.  <i>No decision has been made about the BMX track. The developer has submitted a planning application involving land where the BMX track is currently located. Coincidentally, there have been complaints raised about the suitability of the location of the track within the site and the parish council are considering this.</i></p> <p>2.1.9 Why is the parish council supporting houses but not industry in the village?  <i>The parish council does support the need for industry within the village. It supported the recent application by Redwood Coaches at Station Road. However, this application was refused by MDDC for planning reasons.</i></p> <p>2.1.10 When are the next parish Council elections?  <i>The next elections are due May 2015.</i></p> <p>2.1.11 A member of the public asked for a copy of the Code of Conduct which the parish council has adopted. <i>Clerk to email the member of the public.</i></p> <p>2.1.12 When was the parish council notified of the Station Road development?  <i>The clerk received an email from the developer's agent on 17<sup>th</sup> October.</i></p> <p>2.1.13 Pot holes and blocked drain needs reporting by Holcombe House/Cottage. Clerk to report.</p> <p>2.1.14 No 14 light Station Road – light not working. Clerk to report</p> <p>2.1.15 Parish Hall Car Park – The parking is erratic due to a lack of white lines. Clerk to report to Parish Hall Committee.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p><b><u>3. Minutes from Previous Meetings and Matters Arising</u></b></p> <p>The Council minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> October and Section 2 minutes of the same date were accepted as a true record.</p> <p>1. <u>CLT/Housing Needs Survey</u>  CLT considered council's requests and responded as follows:- CLT will put notice in Pump, Spar, Post Office and website asking for interested parties to register with the CLT Secretary. CLT will ask John Scott of CCD to contact the people from the housing needs survey who expressed an interest in affordable houses to make them aware of the request to register with the CLT Secretary. CLT asked if they could use the Parish Council's noticeboards for the notice. Council agreed. Clerk to contact CLT Secretary.</p> <p>2. <u>Road Markings outside Surgery</u> (carried forward)  Clerk to arrange a site meeting with Mr Radford, Mrs Stallard, and Mr W Pike (DCC) to discuss a way forward.</p> <p>3. <u>Leat behind Redwoods</u> (carried forward)  This needs clearing out. Chair will speak to Geoff Ackland.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Chair</p>

<p>4. <u>Virtual Path</u> (carried forward) Mr Povah has measured the path by the kissing gate and has looked at painted footpaths at Dunster and Bishops Lydeard. Mr Povah now needs to liaise with Redwoods/Brookridge to ensure that any proposed traffic calming does not affect any PSV/HGV using the remaining road.</p>	Mr Povah
<p>5. <u>Dropped Kerbs</u> (carried forward) Mr S Major has identified 30 dropped kerbs needed in the village. Mr Major will produce a list of recommended works.</p>	Mr Major
<p>6. <u>Benches</u> (carried forward) The survey of 17 benches in the village has been completed. Mr McCulloch will produce an action plan detailing what needs mending, replacing etc. The job will then go out to tender.</p>	Mr McCulloch
<p>7. <u>Village Questionnaire</u> (carried forward) The village questionnaire was completed in December 2008. Mr McCulloch suggested the original panel get together to look at the results and decided what action, if any, needs to be taken. Mrs Stallard agreed to get the group together and take forward.</p>	Chair
<p>8. <u>Pencross Lay-by</u> (carried forward) When this was first mooted, 17 local businesses supported a Pencross lay-by. A meeting needs to be set up to get all interested parties around a table to discuss how this might be taken forward. Chair to inform Clerk of all interested parties and Clerk to set up a meeting with DCC. See 5.3 below.</p>	Chair/Clerk
<p>9. <u>TAP Fund</u> (carried forward) Hemyock has been allocated a budget of £1,916. If a successful bid is not received DCC will redistribute the funds elsewhere. HPC has been approached by Culmstock Cricket Club for £250.00 towards some specialist training for one of their coaches. Clerk to invite Culmstock PC and Clayhidon PC to attend a meeting on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm (venue to be confirmed) to discuss ideas.</p>	Clerk
<p>10. <u>Footpaths</u> (carried forward) Mr Povah to issue a schedule of works for tendering purposes for replacing some stiles with gates at footpath No 6.</p>	Mr Povah
<p>11. <u>Allotments</u> Clerk had response from the Gardening Club. They do not want to take on responsibility for a garden share scheme. No further action to be taken at this time.</p>	
<p>12. <u>NALC Code of Conduct</u> (carried forward) Mr Clist has a query about the new wording and is investigating.</p>	Mr Clist
<p>13. <u>BH Annual Event</u> (carried forward) Mr Clist suggested the launch of an annual event to celebrate the Blackdown Hills. Mr Clist to consider how to progress this idea.</p>	Mr Clist
<p>14. <u>Fixed Asset Register (FAR)/Insurance Review</u> (carried forward) The FAR is out of date and needs reviewing. It has been mentioned on the last 2 audits and must be reviewed this year. The Clerk to review this register along with the insurance schedule to make sure the insurance values are correct. Chair and Mr McCulloch will help Clerk with this task.</p>	Clerk/Chair/Mr McCulloch
<p>15. <u>Hemyock Emergency Plan (HEP)</u> Mr Tim Barton updated the council on the HEP. Clerk to circulate to councillors for final feedback. Mr Barton to contact Geoff at the Catherine Wheel to find out about some automatic sandbags he has purchased.</p>	Clerk/Mr Barton
<p>16. <u>Western Morning News</u> Competition for community groups. BSG has made it through to the finals and now needs to get people behind it. Clerk to include in PR.</p>	Clerk
<p>17. <u>Dog Mess at Longmead</u> The clerk met with Mrs Linda Hearn, Enforcement Officer from MDDC. Mrs Hearn</p>	

<p>has put up some new signs both permanent and temporary and is reviewing the site regularly.</p>	
<p><b>4. <u>District Council Report</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Pressure on budgets</u> On 19<sup>th</sup> December MDDC will be notified of their grant from Government. Cemetery grants will no longer be paid from next year. Villages in Action grants will stop.</li> <li>2. <u>Targeted families</u> (those with complex problems) – there is an initiative underway to bring together all the agencies to work more effectively i.e. police, social services, MDDC.</li> <li>3. <u>State of the District Debate</u> – focussed on Localism and making it effective. Dulverton has been very active in ‘Participatory Budgeting’ please see p13 of the following link <a href="http://www.creatingexcellence.org.uk/ceimages/Localism%20in%20Action%20Final.pdf">www.creatingexcellence.org.uk/ceimages/Localism%20in%20Action%20Final.pdf</a>.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>5. <u>County Council Report</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Targeted families</u> as mentioned in 4.2 above cost Devon County Council £102m per annum. There are 1,370 targeted families in Devon with 37 in Mid Devon.</li> <li>2. <u>TAP Fund</u> See 3.9 above.</li> <li>3. <u>Investing in Devon – Spar Footpath</u> Mr Radford had previously agreed to contribute £5k towards the Pencross lay-by and £5k towards the Spar footpath. He proposed that as the Pencross lay-by is a longer term project and unlikely to go ahead during this financial year, £10k be put towards the Spar footpath project. Clerk to formally write to Mr Radford requesting the works and funding proposed. Also asking for confirmation of estimated costs of the work and how much DCC expect HPC to contribute towards the project and obtain confirmation from DCC that if HPC cannot get all householders to agree to planned footpath then part of the road is used where necessary to continue the footpath. The deadline for Investing in Devon/Locality Budget is 20<sup>th</sup> December.</li> </ol>	Clerk
<p><b>6. <u>Planning</u></b></p> <p>Approval received for:- 12/01200/FULL - Erection of carport and store, and workshop for furniture restoration business after demolition of existing outbuilding, Shortlands, Hemyock Cullompton, Devon EX15 3SU</p> <p>Planning Application withdrawn for:- 12/00456/FUL – Highlands Farm, Hemyock. - Erection of 1 50kw wind turbine.</p> <p>Planning Applications received for:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 12/01428/FULL - Fourways Cottage Hemyock Cullompton Devon EX15 3PF - Erection of first floor extension with balcony</li> <li>2. 12/01425/LBC - Woodside Blackdown Hill Road Hemyock Devon TA21 9PA - Listed Building Consent for the conversion, alterations, re-building and repair to cottage, barn, outshut and outbuildings</li> <li>3. 12/01424/FULL - Woodside Blackdown Hill Road Hemyock Devon TA21 9PA - Conversion, alterations, re-building and repair to cottage, barn, outshut and outbuildings to include alterations to access</li> </ol> <p>The Council voted to support the above 3 proposed applications, with no further recommendations or observations.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. 12/01498/OUT - Former St Ivel Site Station Road Hemyock Devon EX15 3SE -</li> </ol>	

<p>Outline for the erection of 8 dwellings and 4 employment units.</p> <p>Mr Brooke declared an interest and left the room whilst this application was discussed. This application involves some land which is owned by the Parish Council and as such the Chair was unsure if the council were allowed to comment on the application. Clerk to ask for a deferment on the consultation/decision date whilst council seeks advice and ask MDDC to clarify what would/could be allowed to be developed on the site, as several previous commercial enterprise applications have been refused.</p>	Clerk
<p><b>7. Finance</b></p> <p>The meeting was updated on the following financial matters:</p> <p>Current Balance £154,034.40*</p> <p>*includes the following income but excludes the expenditure until approved.</p> <p><u>Income</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. £94.82 Real &amp; Son</li> <li>2. £58.34 Pring &amp; Son</li> <li>3. £0.85 Interest 14 day a/c</li> <li>4. £28,175 Precept final instalment</li> <li>5. £0.04 interest g/f a/c</li> <li>6. £60.00 cash back from Epson printer</li> </ol> <p><u>Expenditure</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. £12.32 South West Water cemetery rates</li> <li>2. £144.00 DALC CiLCA training course, clerk</li> <li>3. £20.00 DALC AGM Heather Stallard</li> <li>4. £25.00 DALC Standing Orders Book</li> <li>5. £223.66 MST Mower service (<i>after meeting cheque cancelled as already paid by Longmead</i>)</li> <li>6. £40.00 Open Spaces Society Annual sub</li> <li>7. £84.00 Hemyock Parish Hall (room hire plus CLT meetings)</li> <li>8. £150.00 Mr I Pike Grass cutting, Cemetery</li> <li>9. £384.44 Mrs D Evans Clerk's wages and expenses</li> <li>10. £636.00 Ashculme Tree Surgeons, cemetery tree maintenance</li> </ol> <p>All income and 10 payments were agreed unanimously by the Council.</p> <p><u>Other Finance</u></p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>The Blackdown Support Group</u> has written asking for their approved grant. Council confirmed it had agreed a figure previously. Clerk to investigate and report back to council.</li> <li>2. <u>Christmas Competition</u> – It was agreed to run this competition again. Mrs Stallard will approach Dr Jonathan Mead and ask him to judge the competition. Clerk to include in PR.(£25 first prize, £15 second prize and £20 first prize to a business premises)</li> <li>3. <u>Poppy Wreath</u> It was agreed to pay a £25.00 donation for this year's wreath plus another £25 to cover the cheque which was not presented at the bank last year. Clerk to ensure a receipt is given for the £50.00.</li> <li>4. <u>Donation Requests</u> – These are looked at half yearly by the Finance Committee in March and September. It was agreed when an organisation approaches the council for funding and the funding is needed before the next half yearly review, the council will consider the request sooner.</li> <li>5. <u>CiLCA Training update</u> – The clerk attended a one day course which was useful and informative reference passing the CiLCA qualification. DALC has suggested any clerk considering the CiLCA qualification needs the latest edition of a book, Local Council Administration by Charles Arnold -Baker (£80.00 approx) It was agreed clerk</li> </ol>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>



<p>2. The council recognise the formal process that has already been undertaken with the tenders.</p> <p>3. The council return to the two lowest tenderers and ask them to review and re-submit a specific priced quotation for the works.</p> <p>4. The council appoint a contractor who can complete the schedule of works as per DCC timescales.</p> <p>This was agreed by council. Mr Brooke will liaise with clerk over confirmation to go to DCC.</p>	<p>Mr Brooke/ Clerk</p>
<p><b>13. <u>CLT Update</u></b> See 2.1.4 above. Mr Povah suggested that the minutes past and present be publicised and members should be able to attend meetings. At the council's meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2012 the council agreed to pay for the hall charge for CLT meetings until the CLT had suitable finance in place. Clerk to write to CLT to clarify situation. It was agreed that Mr Povah and Mr Major will issue a briefing note outlining the summary of events which has led to the CLT's decisions to date.</p>	<p>Clerk Mr Povah/Mr Major</p>
<p><b>14. <u>Correspondence</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Growth &amp; Infrastructure Bill Update. Mr Povah updated the council on this bill.</li> <li>2. DCC Parish Paths Partnership. Mr Povah has completed the grant application for this year.</li> <li>3. Voluntary Support Scheme – thank you letter ref £50 donation</li> <li>4. CAB – thank you letter ref £50 donation</li> <li>5. Mr G Jones – Thank you letter ref wind turbine application</li> <li>6. DCC definitive map modification footpath 48</li> <li>7. Glasdon Catalogue</li> <li>8. PCSO Update – Update from Police on incidents during October.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>15. <u>Chairman's Business</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Code of Conduct</u> It was proposed that under the new Code of Conduct the council has adopted, that it should consider giving the clerk the power to grant dispensations. This was recommended at the MDDC training and mentioned by DALC. Mr Povah suggested we seek clarification on the matter as he was under the impression dispensations could be granted by the council itself. All agreed that Clerk should investigate and report back.</li> <li>2. <u>Assets of Community Value</u> There may be buildings and amenities that are important to the community that use them, for example, a village shop, a pub, a community centre or a library. The closure or sale of these places can sometimes damage communities. Under the Localism Act, parish councils can nominate an asset to be included on a list of 'assets of community value'. If the owner of a listed asset wants to sell it, they must tell the Local Authority and the community will then be given a period of time to prepare and make a bid for the asset. Councillors to come up with a list for the next meeting of any assets which may need to be considered for adding to the list. It was thought, however, that many may already be protected under 106 agreements.</li> </ol>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>All councillors</p>
<p><b>16. <u>PR</u></b> The Council requested PR on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote Western Morning News competition and the BSG's entry in press.</li> <li>• HEP – ask for 3 volunteers to assist.</li> <li>• Christmas Competition</li> </ul>	<p>Clerk Clerk Clerk</p>
<p><b>17. <u>Date of the Next Meeting</u>.</b> Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2012 at 7.30pm.</p>	

Meeting finished at 10.55pm.

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