

## ***Hemyock Parish Council*** **1<sup>st</sup> April 2009**

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held in the Forbes Lounge under the chairmanship of Mrs.H.Stallard.

**Present** – Mrs.H.Stallard, Mr.R.Brooke, Mr.P.Steed, Mr.J.Edwards, Mr.L.Povah, Pastor S.Reed and Mr.I.McCulloch. Also present was Mr.F.Rosamond – District Councillor, Mr.R.Radford – County Councillor, P.C.Dave Whaller, WPC Vicky Underhill, and nine members of the public.

**Apologies** – had been received from Mr.Hart, Mrs.Clist and Mrs.Cartledge.

### **Police**

P.C. Whaller reported that P.C.Jim Purkiss has now moved on; our new Neighbourhood Beat Manager is WPC Vicky Underhill but will not be in post fully until 31<sup>st</sup> December. She said she had already arranged for some people to go out with speed guns in some areas and is hoping to arrange it for Hemyock and Symonsburrow soon.

P.C.Whaller gave the crime report for Hemyock for March:

2 unprovoked assaults (1 in Parklands and one in the lane beside the Catherine Wheel)

1 theft of a motor vehicle

1 burglary of a shed/garage (silver or gold Peugeot, the police would like to hear from anyone with any information)

1 anti social behaviour.

P.C.Whaller advised people to keep their garages locked and not to leave keys in vehicles at any time.

The PACT boxes are coming back and will be in the post office and Spar shop; there will be cards beside them for people to fill out if they have any problems or messages for the Police, these will be collected on a weekly basis. Posters will be put up to advertise that the PACT boxes are in place.

The Police are also going to get the Neighbourhood Watch going again; they will be holding some meetings and looking for co-ordinators.

Mrs.Stallard thanked P.C.Whaller and WPC Underhill for coming along to the meeting and said she hoped they would be able to come to the Annual Parish Meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> April.

It was proposed by Mr.Edwards, seconded by Mr.Povah that **The Minutes** of the meetings held on 4<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> March be signed as correct records, all agreed.

### **Matters Arising**

1) No.4, matters arising – Mr.Rosamond had made enquiries about the possible use of 1/4/09

land at Millhayes for allotments and had found that it would need planning permission. Mrs.Stallard said she had also heard that some of the Millhayes residents had not been happy about the proposal.

2) No.3, matters arising – floodplain footbridge; Mr.Povah said that he had had a drawing from Taunton Fabrication, but no costings, they have come up with a scheme they think is workable.

Mr.Povah said we need an engineer to look at it; a levels survey also needs to be done which should cost about £300 to £400. Mr.Povah said he had sent a letter to a survey firm at Chelston asking for a quote, he also suggested a firm of architects in Taunton but said he would not be able to take part in any discussions as he sometimes does outwork for them. Mr.Povah said that plans have to be done and we have to get agreement from the Environment Agency; he suggested that a sub-committee be formed to get things going. Mrs.Stallard said that 87% who responded to the Parish Questionnaire said they wanted the raised footway replaced.

Some money should come from Bloors towards this project.

The broken fence is the responsibility of Highways, they intend to make it stock-proof for the time being until work can start on the proposed new footway.

Mr.McCulloch said that as such a big majority of the public wanted this footway we must go ahead with it. Mr.Povah said the survey work and plans should not come to more than £3,000.00.

After further discussion it was proposed by Mr.Steed, seconded by Mr.McCulloch that we take this project forward – all in favour.

Pastor Reed asked what was going to happen to the old footway that has fallen into disrepair. The clerk said that Highways had been asked to remove it; but no answer had yet been received.

Mr.Edwards thanked Mr.Povah for all the work he had done on this project so far.

3) Highways – un-adopted pavements; Mr.Radford said that when a developer builds an estate they have to place a bond with the County Council, if the company then goes into receivership or the work is not up to standard the money is there to either complete the work or put it right. Pastor Reed said the lights that have been out for ages on the Wilcon Estate have now been repaired. Mrs.Stallard said she would check with Sharon Graham that the lights had all been repaired and Mr.Radford said he would look into it further.

4) Footpaths not adopted by the County Council – Highways had sent a map of part of Hemyock showing where there were pavements, however it was difficult to follow as there was no chart to explain all the different coloured areas.

5) Mrs.Stallard had attended a recent Police Liaison meeting.

6) Mrs.Stallard said she was going to ask Mr.Tony Durbin, Hemyock's Voice at the District Council's Tenants Forum, to introduce himself at the Annual Parish Meeting.

### **District Council Report**

Mr.Rosamond included the following in his report:

1) Local Government Review – the court case brought by East Devon District Council has been thrown out, however they are going to continue to protest.

2) Icelandic bank situation – no developments on this at the moment; the District Council is still hopeful they will get their money back but it probably will not be for a long time.

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3) Street Cleaning is being looked at; there is a lot of concern about litter. It has been suggested that “Clean Zones” be established to make people and traders be more aware of the problem. The District Council is trying to do this within existing resources as the budget has been set.

4) Mr.Rosamond will be Chairman of the District Council this year; the Annual Civic Church Service is to be held at Hemyock Church on June 28<sup>th</sup>. He was offered the Council’s congratulations.

5) Mr.McCulloch asked Mr.Rosamond what the District’s point of view was on the Boundary Commission’s extended consultation time. Mr.Rosamond replied that the District would still prefer the status quo; they do not know how the government is going to move on it. We will not know the result now until October.

After some discussion it was decided that we must respond and reiterate what we said before.

### **County Council Report**

Mr.Radford included the following in his report:

1) DCC Council tax has been fixed at 3.9%; DCC has received a 5.6% settlement from the government, the majority of the councils revenue comes from the government not from the tax payer.

2) Mr.Radford told councillors all the committees etc that he sits on, which included the Policy & Resources Committee, Investments & Pensions Committee, HATOC, plus many more and working groups.

The full council meets 6 times a year and he has 11 parish council meetings to go to.

3) Mr.Radford said there had been an Investing in Devon meeting last week; the £255,000 has been granted for the Healthy Living Centre and youth facilities at Millhayes. Mr.Radford said a big thank you to Mr.Brooke for all the work he has put in on this bid; it has been a long, hard fought battle.

### **Planning**

#### **Approvals**

09/00100/FULL – Castle Dene, Culmstock Road

09/00070/FULL – Hemyock Pre-School

09/00104 /FULL – Nelson Farm

#### **Withdrawn**

09/00162/FULL – Churchills Farm

#### **Application**

09/00385/FULL- Orchard Springs, Ashculme – Change of use of land from agricultural to residential to allow erection of double garage.

After careful inspection of the plans it was proposed by Mr.McCulloch, seconded by Mr.Povah, and all were in favour, that approval be recommended.

### **Parish Plan**

Mr.McCulloch had brought along some copies of the results of the Parish Questionnaire;  
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it will now have to go back to the working groups to decide how it will be expanded and how to move things forward towards a Parish Plan.

### **Freedom of Information Act**

All policies and procedures have to be put on the website.

### **Boundary Commission**

Most of the things on this subject had already been discussed; Mrs.Stallard said she had attended a meeting last week; Hemyock is bigger than some of the market towns in Devon that villages will be attached to.

Wiltshire County Council has gone Unitary today.

### **Finance**

#### **Income**

£78.00 – Richard Grant Memorials

£485.00 – P3 Grant for foot path maintenance

#### **Payments**

It was proposed by Mr.Povah, seconded by Mr.Brooke that the following payments be made:

£122.65 – Cemetery rates

£2,191.90 – Bussell Plant – Installation of water pipe – Longmead

£15.00 – Devon Playing Fields Association subscription

£850.88 – Clerks salary & expenses

£89.25 – Mr.I.Pike – Cemetery grass cutting

£10.50 (approx) – EDF Energy – meter reading to be sent in

### **Twinning Ceremony**

The official Twinning ceremony in Hemyock with the St.Herblon and Villages des Grées, in France will take place in May. The people from France are coming over to Hemyock on 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

Mrs.Stallard had been to see Nicola Werner to discuss what could be done for a gift, a two handled cider mug with the word “cider” on one side and “Hemyock 2009” on the other side which would cost about £80.00 was suggested. It was proposed by Mr.McCulloch, seconded by Mr.Steed that we go ahead with this – a vote resulted in 6 for and 1 against.

### **Twinning Sign**

The clerk had made enquiries to Mrs.Pitchford at the County Council regarding the cost of a sign (the same as County has put at Culmstock Road and Castle Hill) for Pencross Hill. The price given was £161.22 which the Twinning Association had agreed to pay; clerk to check before ordering that this price included VAT. This price would be for the sign to be made as soon as possible and be put in place before the official Twinning ceremonies in May.

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### **Annual Parish Meeting**

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Thursday April 30<sup>th</sup> at 7.0pm in the Parish Hall.

The agenda will include an update on the Neroche Project, information on the Parish Plan, information on the Archaeological Finds at Churchills, introduction of Tony Durbin, Hemyock's Voice on the District Council's Tenants Forum.

### **Highways**

- 1) Clerk to send thanks for all the pothole filling that has been done recently.
- 2) Subsidence north of Whitehall on the Culm Davy road.
- 3) Road into the Eastlands Estate is in a very poor state.

### **Cemetery**

The two big pots in the cemetery have been newly planted; thanks to be sent to Mr. John Bimson for doing this.

### **Footpaths**

- 1) A grant of £485.00 for footpath maintenance has been received from Devon County Council.
- 2) The footpath by Pithayne Farm, near Culmstock Beacon is going to be drained and matting is to be put down.
- 3) Work should begin soon on the Definitive Footpath Map of Hemyock. Councillors to consider anything that needs looking at.

### **Correspondence**

- 1) Senior Council for Devon – passed to Pastor Reed.
- 2) Glasdon Catalogue.
- 3) Open Spaces booklet – passed to Mr.Povah.
- 4) Devon Talk – all councillors had received a copy.
- 5) SLCC Regional “One Day” Conference at the Holiday Inn, Plymouth – Mr.P.Steed to attend.
- 6) “Devon Link” notice to be put on parish notice board.
- 7) Devon Partnership NHS.
- 8) Community Council of Devon – “Taking Parish Plans Forward” meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup> at Cullompton.
- 9) Barbara Starkiss – BSG, asking if the Parish Council would once again support the work of the Blackdown Support Group. Mrs.Stallard left the room and took no part in the discussion that followed. Following a brief discussion it was proposed by Pastor Reed, seconded by Mr.Steed that a donation of £700.00 be made – all agreed.

### **PR**

- Police – publicize that we now have a Beat Manager, also PACT boxes in Spar and Post-office.
- HELIC – received grant of £250,000.00
- Annual Parish Meeting

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- Work progressing towards new raised footway over the floodplain.

**Chairman's Business**

1) No sign indicating where the BMX track is situated; Mr.McCulloch to find out from the users what they would like.

2) A resident of Castle Park had telephoned Mrs.Stallard worried that some large trees were being going to be cut down. Mrs.Stallard had gone to have a look and found that it was tree surgeons taking out some lower branches on a tree by the stream.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.0pm

*Signed*.....

*Date*.....

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