

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

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

**Present** – Mrs.H.Stallard, Mr.P.Steed, Mr.J.Edwards, Mr.R.Hart, Mr.L.Povah, Mr.I.McCulloch and Pastor S.Reed. Also present was Mr.R.Radford – County Councillor and 4 members of the public.

**Apologies** were received from Mr.R.Brooke, Mrs.S.Cartledge, Mrs.L.Clist and Mr.F.Rosamond – District Councillor.

It was proposed by Pastor Reed, seconded by Mr.P.Steed that **The Minutes** of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June be signed as a correct record – all agreed.

It was proposed by Mr.J.Edwards, seconded by Mr.I.McCulloch that **The Minutes** of the meetings held on 17<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> June be signed as correct records – all agreed.

It was proposed by Mr.P.Steed, seconded by Mr.I.McCulloch that **The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting**, held on 30<sup>th</sup> April, be signed as a correct record - all agreed.

### **Matters Arising**

1) Longmead – Mr.Finch's proposals for access from his property to the rear of his garage - Mr.Povah felt there might be an issue because the proposed fence would be out further than the original property line. He said Mr.Finch was happy not to put up a fence if he didn't have to, he had thought it was what we wanted him to do. Mr.Povah also felt that a fence down to the end of Mr.Finch's garage would cause poor visibility when exiting the service road to the rear of the Station Road properties. Mr.Edwards was concerned that someone could fall off the edge of the footway. However, it was thought that when the shrubs have been planted there would be no fear of that happening.

It was decided that a letter be sent to Mr.Finch proposing that he build the low retaining wall, which would be capped; with short piece of fence at the top from the gate into his garden to the line of his garage, but not beyond the old building line.

2) Matters Arising No.3 – we had asked SWW to top the trees around the sewage works; they had replied that they would be willing to do this but pointed out that when this had been done at other sites the odour coming from the site had increased, the trees had been acting as a natural barrier. After discussing this councillors decided to ask to have the trees reduced by about 6 feet and to remind SWW that they were going to replace the trees blown down in last winter's storms or taken out to allow improvements to the works to be carried out.

3) Mr.P.Steed had attended a MDDC Peer Review meeting; he said he had felt out of place as it had been mainly shop keepers, sub-contractors and Pannier Market people. However, he said everyone had given good feed-back and he had said that Mr.Rosamond,

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our District Councillor, had always responded very well to our requests for help with any matters.

Mr. Radford said MDDC have done very well to turn everything round over the past couple of years and things have improved immensely. They are now concentrating on Joint Ventures; if this goes according to plan things will improve even more. MDDC are also looking at Working Partnerships with outside bodies.

4) Chairman's Business – sign by the river; during the audit process the internal auditor had pointed out that a risk had been identified in the risk assessments but the councillors had chosen to ignore it, she felt a sign of some sort should be erected by the river bridge at Millhayes. Councillors felt they had discussed this matter and decided that young people would jump into river at this point whatever sign was put up, and had been doing so for as long as anyone could remember.

It was decided to hold a meeting to update all the risk assessments.

### **District Council Report**

There was no report as Mr. Rosamond was not able to be present.

### **County Council Report**

Mrs. Stallard congratulated Mr. Radford on his re-election; Mr. Radford said he was pleased to be re-elected and said there was now a new administration at County Hall.

Mr. John Berry is now Chairman of the County Council.

Mr. Radford said he felt it was his job to look after his ward which covers a wide rural area; he is sitting on the following committees

- The Environmental, Economy and Culture Committee (as Vice Chair)
- The Policy and Resources Committee
- The Investment and Pensions
- The Development Control (Planning)
- The Devon & Somerset Fire Authority
- The Highways & Traffic Order (HATOC)
- The Mid Devon County Committee (Chairman) deals with all local County issues
- The Tiverton Education Trust

He said there would also be working groups set up from time to time to deal with pertinent issues.

Mr. Radford asked the clerk to e.mail the list of jobs we are still waiting to have done – some for up to 2 years.

There is one very urgent job that must be started immediately and Mrs. Stallard asked Mr. Radford if he could help. We have already invested £20,000 in the continuation of the pavement past the Spar shop, everything is in place we are just waiting for County to authorize the work. Now one of the householders wants to sell her house and if the work has not been done by the time it's put on the market it could jeopardize the whole project. Mr. Radford said he would look into it first thing in the morning.

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## **Planning**

### **Approvals**

09/00598/FULL – Lower Castle Hill Farm

09/00601/FULL – Sunnylea

09/00385/FULL – Orchard Springs

09/00552/FULL – Conigar Farm

### **The “Garages” Millhayes**

- 1) Mrs. Butt said she had tried to organise a meeting last Saturday but there was not many young people around so she was going to try again next Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> July; she said she wanted to get them together before the school holidays start – there were meeting at 7.30pm at the garages.
- 2) A local school teacher is to organise a disco for the youngsters to try to get things going again.
- 3) Mrs. Stallard, Pastor Reed, Mrs. Clist and Mrs. Butt had met with the Divisional Youth Officer from Exeter who is involved with capital funding and the Team Leader from Mid Devon who is involved with on-going work, provided that we put together a good business case there is a possibility we could get another £50,000 from Exeter.
- 4) Mr. Steed said he had had a meeting with the Building Regulations officer, who said he would be realistic with the price of the job as we were using volunteers.
- 5) Mrs. Butt said there was a possibility we could train up 17/18 year olds to be Youth Leaders.
- 6) Mrs. Stallard we should have a “Garages” page on the website; Mr. Steed said there was already information on the website about the garages but not a specific page.

### **Notice Boards**

There was concern at the lack of notice boards around the village; the one on the hall needs to be extended as it is always full up and there needs to be another one at the entrance to Longmead, the opposite side of the road from the present one (which is only for Longmead notices) the new one to be an open board for general notices. It was also suggested that a notice board be put up somewhere in Millhayes.  
Prices to be obtained and brought to next months meeting.

### **Calor Village of the Year**

Mrs. Stallard said the deadline for entering the Calor Village of the Year Competition had been extended, so there is still time to enter – do we want to do it again?

It was suggested that Mrs. Stallard ask around to see if people want to get involved again. Pastor Reed said the village would look tidier if we cut the grass ourselves; by the time the contractors cut it it is too long and then left all over the place and looks an eyesore. Mrs. Stallard said if we take this on at the moment we are in affect paying for it twice; we will have to wait until County agree to devolve some the budget to us so that we are able to employ someone to do the work.

Mr. McCulloch said that taking on a village caretaker/handyman is something we’ve talked about before and something we could definitely do

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## **Finance**

### **Income**

£142.80 – Redwood and Son – cemetery fees  
£191.52 – Pring & Son – cemetery fees  
£327.60 – Fine Memorials cemetery fees  
£81.90 – Manning & Knight – cemetery fees  
£149.94 – Thomas Bros – cemetery fees  
£3,500. – Tennis Club – towards the flood lighting  
£163.80 – Fine Memorials – cemetery fees  
£4,649.11 – Reclaimed V.A.T.  
£34.02 – Stonehenge Masonry – cemetery fees

### **Payments**

It was proposed by Mr.Hart, seconded by Mr.Povah and all agreed, that the following payments be made:

£1,373.98 – Brookridge Timber – drainage materials for the Longmead football pitch  
£386.10 – D.A.P.C. subscription  
£12.00 – Mr.A.Smith – cost of renting the Church Rooms for a litter pick meeting in April.  
£30.00 – D.A.P.C. – for extra copies of the “Village Green” magazine and a monthly copy of the Local Council Review.  
£862.36 – Clerks salary and expenses  
£190.50 – Mr.I.Pike – cemetery and village grass cutting.  
£80.00 – Nicola Werner – presentation cider mug for the Twinning Celebrations

- The clerk reported that all the documents had been sent off for the external audit.
- Mr.McCulloch asked if the Millhayes account had been set up yet; the clerk said the forms had been obtained from the bank but as yet had not been returned.
- Mrs.Stallard asked if the Parish Council would be willing to pay for a new section of fence on the recreation field and repairs on the rest of it. A quote of £461.49 + VAT had been obtained from Fensec, a local firm, which seems very reasonable. The Parish Council has always helped with external hall refurbishments; it was proposed by Mr.McCulloch, seconded by Mr.Hart that the Parish Council pay for the work, all agreed.

## **Highways**

Mrs.Stallard said that hopefully Mr.Radford will chase up the jobs we are waiting to have done.

Mr.Edwards reported that the grass needs cutting on Wrangway Cross, visibility is difficult; clerk to contact Somerset Highways.

**Cemetery** – Nothing to report.

## **Footpaths**

Mr.Povah reported that the review is coming up; Mrs.Jenny Parsons has submitted a list of proposed footpaths. The lady at Devon County Council had asked if we would endorse it.

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Mrs.Stallard said that we need to have another meeting to review our risk assessments so we could look at the list in detail then; Mr.Povah said he would mark them all on a map so it would be clear where they were.

**Correspondence**

- 1) Open Spaces leaflet.
- 2) East & Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership.
- 3) DCC – Parish Paths – Spring Newsletter.
- 4) RD & E Newsletter
- 5) Senior Council of Devon Newsletter – issue no.3.
- 6) Empowering Communities in Devon – meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> July at Sandy Park.
- 7) DCC – Parish Paths – Summer Workshops
- 8) Seton – Health & Safety leaflets.

**P.R.**

- Meeting on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30 with young people in the village.

**Chairman’s Business**

If the Forbes Lounge is available it was decided to hold a meeting to update the risk assessments and look at Jenny Parsons’s list of footpath proposals on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

***Signed***.....

***Date***.....