

Hemyock Parish Council **3rd June 2009**

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

Present – Mrs.H.Stallard, Mr.I.McCulloch, Mr.P.Steed, Mrs.L.Clist, Mr.R.Brooke, Mr.J.Edwards, Pastor S.Reed and Mrs.S.Cartledge. Also present was Mr.F.Rosamond – District Councillor and six members of the public.

Apologies were received from Mr.R.Hart, Mr.L.Povah, P.C.Waller, W.P.C. Underhill and Mr.R.Radford – County Councillor.

It was proposed by Mr.P.Steed, seconded by Mrs.L.Clist that **The Minutes** of 6th and 26th May be signed as correct records – all agreed.

Matters Arising

- 1) Mrs.Stallard thanked everyone who had attended and taken part in the Annual Parish Meeting, making it a very successful evening.
- 2) Parish Hall Representative, as no one volunteered to take on this role Mrs.Stallard said she already attended the Parish Hall meetings anyway so was willing to act as Parish Council Representative.
- 3) SWW – a reply had been received, regarding the fallen trees around the sewage works, to say new saplings will be planted in due course. Councillors decided to ask to have the large trees around the treatment works topped.
- 4) Mr.R.Taylor has agreed to keep the BMX track cut back and tidy; he will also keep the footpath up to the BMX area tidy and the grass each side of the entrance to the old station yard cut. On doing this work for the first time Mr.Taylor said he was appalled at the amount of dog mess around the site; it was decided a sign was needed to say no dogs allowed on the site.
- 5) A letter had been received regarding our request for a “NoThrough Road” sign for the Station Road end of South View. The District Council have agreed to put up the sign but did not agree to put a staggered barrier at the Eastlands end to stop motorcyclists cutting through to Station Road as there was not enough room to make it the required width.

District Council Report

Mr.Rosamond included the following in his report:

- 1) The District Council finances are looking better, there is £2 million in reserves, but caution is necessary for the future. The District Council is still fairly hopeful that they will recover their money from the Icelandic Bank.
 - 2) A planning application has been received for traveller and gypsy sites at Culmstock and Burlescombe.
 - 3) MDDC is to have a peer review, which will keep everyone on their toes. The Audit Commission and Government South West are meeting next week, the District Council is
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in good heart about it but there is still a problem with the housing service, although there is now much more communication with tenants.

4) A questionnaire has been sent out to clerks asking for information for the District Council.

5) The “Parish Matters” leaflet was discussed; the clerk said that we do already get it, sometimes by e.mail and sometimes in the post.

6) Mr.Brooke said that Gypsy and Traveller sites usually take up quite a bit of Police time; he asked if any money from the District Council would be going to help them. Mr.Rosamond said that that was a matter for the government – the government has decided that if facilities are provided for them they will cause less trouble.

Devon County Council Report

Due to the elections tomorrow Mr.Radford was not able to be present.

Planning – None.

Floodplain Footbridge

Mr.Povah had arranged for a representative from the Environment Agency to come out to look at the proposed new raised walkway; Mr.Povah had also provided some drawings and a plan. The Environment Agency had agreed with the heights given on the drawings and Devon County Council will be putting in a coral for stock-handling for the landowner, similar to the ones used on Dartmoor.

It was thought that most of the time the walkway will be used to keep people off the road. Devon County Council has some money from Bloors (about £15,000.00) towards the cost but the Parish Council will still have to make a substantial contribution; until all the details are in the whole project cannot be costed accurately.

If Highways do the work they do not need to get planning permission but if we carry out the work we will have to get planning permission.

The next step is to submit detailed drawings to Highways; once approved we then need to obtain planning permission. The highways dept are prepared to adopt and maintain the footway once it is finished.

BMX Track

Has already been covered elsewhere in the minutes.

“The Garages” – Millhaves

Mr.Steed reported the following:

- Some youth surveys have already been undertaken
- The Scouts have about £7,000 which could be used towards the kitchen.
- There is an agreed drawing but a detailed design needs to be done.
- Mr.Steed said he had found a dozen or so grants which could be useful.
- Building Regulations need to be finished off.
- Mrs.Cartledge asked how much grant money is available; Mr.Steed said we already have £90,000 and we will need about another £100,000, the grants that he had found would add up to this amount.

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- Mrs.Stallard said that there are lots of grants available once everything is up and running. The first job is to get the building water-tight and get the services connected.

Twining

A party of 69 people from the area in France we are twinned with had come over to sign the charter to complete the official twinning ceremony and had had an enjoyable week-end. There had been visits to Hemyock and Culmstock Schools, Honiton Lace Museum, Ottery Garden Centre and Cothay Manor. There was a picnic on Longmead Field with Morris Dancing and the signing and presentation ceremony on Saturday evening. The cider mug we had commissioned from Nicola Werner was well received.

Finance

Payments

It was proposed by Mrs.Cartledge, seconded by Mr.Edwards that the following payments be made:

£19.20 – Hemyock PHMC – rent of Parish Hall for Annual Parish Meeting.

£2,661.84 – Came & Co. – Insurance premium.

£207.00 – I.Pike – cemetery grass cutting.

£638.25 – Lewis Brown Ltd – topographical survey for the floodplain footbridge.

£52.00 – P.Steed – travel to Plymouth for conference.

£14.98 – R.Calcraft – petrol for mowing Millhayes.

£144.00 – R.Taylor – Cutting grass and tidying up the BMX area.

During the development of Longmead Field Mr.Pursell had paid for the floodlighting for the Tennis Courts, he had now requested repayment of the loan.

The loan was for £4,849.00.

Mr.Pursell had purchased a submersible pump from the council which had been bought for Longmead Field (for £491.00) but is no longer required so it was agreed that Mr.Pursell could purchase it for £350.00.

Therefore the amount to be paid to Mr.Pursell is £4,499.00; it was proposed by Mr.McCulloch, seconded by Mr.Steed that this amount be paid – all agreed.

It was noted that the Tennis Club will shortly be paying us £3,500.00 towards the cost of the tennis courts floodlighting.

Highways

1) The Longmead residents have asked again when the bollards are to be removed;

Mrs.Stallard said that Highways are waiting for the electricity to be decommissioned.

2) A sign is needed for vehicles coming up Station Road to warn them who has priority by the kissing gate.

3) Mrs.Stallard asked if there was any way we could replace some of the signs that we need. Mr.McCulloch said it would be better to wait to see what happens with the Boundary Commission; we would need money back from the Community Charge to do this.

4) Mr.Brooke asked what was happening about the graffiti on the road signs by the

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Baptist Church; Mr.Rosamond said he would see if he could get someone out to clean it off.

5) Mr.Lambert, of Penlee, sent us a copy of the letter he had sent to Highways asking what was happening about the water which continually runs past the entrance to his property and is now undermining the road surface. Councillors thought this may be a spring causing the problem; clerk to write to highways again about this matter.

6) Mr.Steed suggested that when we know who our new County Councillor is we arrange a site meeting to let him know all the jobs that we are waiting to have done.

Cemetery

Leisha said she would water the new plants in the pots, and the hedging shrubs to get them established.

Footpaths

Definitive map – Pastor Reed said he had put it in the local press and it is on the parish website.

Correspondence

1) Glasdon catalogue of street furniture.

2) Play area catalogue.

3) Bus shelter catalogue - clerk to find out what is happening about our bus shelter.

4) 3 leaflets from highways that had been presented at the May Parish Council meeting – have now been distributed to all councillors, as requested.

5) Invitation to MDDC Civic Service and reception.

6) MDDC – “Your Views on Housing Problems”.

7) MDDC – Chairman’s Reception in October, let them have any nominations of people who help in the community.

8) MDDC – 16th June Peer Review – how well is MDDC performing, are they doing their job – Mr.Steed said he would be able to attend this meeting.

9) Mr.Finch, who lives at the entrance to Longmead, has sent a picture and plan of his proposals to tidy up the corner. Clerk to send reply to say we agree in principle but we will need to see detailed drawings. We will also need to have a site meeting to see exactly how much land he needs; he has agreed to pay the transfer of land fee. It was suggested that once the details have been agreed, that a time limit be put on the project. It was proposed by Mr.McCulloch, seconded by Mr.Brooke that we go ahead with this.

PR

- Name for BMX track plus a mention that no dogs be allowed in the BMX area.
- Special meeting with new County Councillor.
- Mention that the new Chairman of the District Council, Mr.Frank Rosamond, had attended our Parish Council meeting.

Chairman’s Business

Mrs.Cartledge said that a neighbour of hers had mentioned about the children jumping into the river. Since Bloors cut down the tree they used to dive from, they now dive from

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a higher point.

The provision of a sign by the river warning of the danger involved was discussed again.

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

Signed.....

Date.....

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