

4th June 2008

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held in the Forbes Lounge at 7.30pm under the chairmanship of Mrs.H.Stallard.

Present – Mrs. H.Stallard, Pastor S.Reed, Mr.P.Steed, Mr.R.Hart, Mr.R.Brooke, Mrs.L.Clist, Mr.L.Povah, Mrs.S.Cartledge and Mr.I.McCulloch. Also present was Mr.R.Radford and 4 members of the public.

Apologies were received from Mr.J.Edwards and Mr.F.Rosamond.

Following one alteration – correspondence no.19 should have read *we are not in a position at the moment to make any donations* not *we could not afford it* – it was proposed by Pastor Reed, seconded by Mr.Brooke that **The Minutes** of the May meeting be signed as correct, all agreed.

Matters Arising

- 1) Hemyock Primary School – Pastor Reed said that the information given at the last meeting was not complete; the child who did not get a place at Uffculme Comprehensive School went to Hemyock Primary School but lived in Wellington and was not therefore in the catchment area for Uffculme School.
- 2) Alec Smith said that one of the leaflets handed out at the Annual Parish Meeting was out of date and he was unable to follow the instructions for one of the walks he had tried.
- 3) The seat has been put in the cemetery in memory of the late Terry Frost.
- 4) Mrs.Stallard said she had filled out the form to enter Hemyock in the Calor Village of the Year Competition.

District Council Report

Mr.Rosamond was unable to be present.

County Council Report

Mr.Radford included the following in his report:

- 1) The Boundaries Commission report will be out on 7th July; we shall know their views once they have consulted the Town and Parish Councils.
- 2) Airport money – Mrs.Stallard said we still do not know what the criteria is for applying for some of this money; Mr.Radford gave Mrs.Stallard another form as the first one had not been received. Mr.Radford said the money has to be spent on capital projects.
- 3) This week is Recycling Week.
- 4) Margaret Squires is Chairman of the District for a second year; John Berry has stood down as leader and Councillor Peter Hare-Scott has been elected as the new Leader of the Council.

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Twinning

Most of this had been covered in Public Question Time.

Councillors thought we ought to have village signs saying who we are twinned with; clerk to make enquires at County Highways.

Planning

Approvals

08/00512/FULL – Leat Cottage, Station Road

08/00278/FULL – Studleys, Ashculme

Withdrawn - 08/00620/FULL – Hemyock Motors

Applications

08/00925/FULL – 16, Pencross View - Erection of detached single garage and conversion of existing garage into additional living accommodation.

It was proposed by Mr.R.Hart, seconded by Pastor S.Reed that approval be recommended, all agreed except Mr.I.McCulloch and Mr.R.Brooke who both abstained.

08/00903/FULL – 5, Lower Millhayes – erection of conservatory.

It was proposed by Mr.R.Brooke, seconded by Mrs.S.Cartledge that approval be recommended all agreed except Mr.L.Povah and Mr.I.McCulloch who both abstained.

Post Office & Telephone Box

Mrs.Stallard said that Hemyock Post office was not on the list of Post Offices to be closed.

We have not received a reply to our enquiry about level of usage of the telephone box; therefore in the absence of any information we will oppose the closure of the public telephone box in Culmbridge Road.

Millhayes Project

Planning permission has been received for the garages but not change of use Mrs.Stallard said that some of the information she had been given was incorrect.

The application for Millhayes Hall has run into problems – the Environment Agency is concerned as the hall is in the flood plane and vulnerable people will be in the building. Mrs.Stallard said she had checked and the hall has never flooded and it did not flood last Thursday when Hemyock experienced flash floods after an extremely heavy thunder storm.

Finance

The Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2008 was submitted to councillors by the clerk for their approval. After careful consideration of its contents, including the Annual Governance Statement, it was proposed by Mr.McCulloch, seconded by Mr.Brooke that the accounts be accepted, all agreed.

Following a meeting on Monday evening when risk assessments were prepared for all the council's liabilities, the clerk presented the finished assessments for their approval.

Mrs.Stallard said she had checked with MDDC and the bin men do check all the litter and
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dog bins for damage when they empty them.

The clerk had prepared an inspection register to record when inspections are carried out; several other items are to be followed up e.g. purchase of signs etc. Following a couple of minor alterations it was proposed by Mr.P.Steed, seconded by Mr.Hart that the risk assessments be approved - all agreed.

Income

£78.00 – Fine Memorials – cemetery fees

£11.60 – Pring & Son – cemetery fees.

Payments

It was proposed by Mrs.Clist, seconded by Mrs.Cartledge that the following cheques be signed, all agreed

£35.00 – A. Kingston – extra ram for laptop

£267.75 – I.Pike – cemetery & village grass cutting

£4,329.00 – from the Longmead account to the Longmead Management Committee

Retrospective - £2,693.24 – Came & Co. new Insurance company underwritten by Norwich Union.

Mrs.Stallard had been to the NALC Conference in Plymouth and obtained information on insurance available for Parish Councils; we now have much improved cover at a much better rate than quoted by Allianz, the company which up until recently was the company used by all Parish Councils.

Mrs.Stallard said that precepts had been discussed and a village of our size should be precepting for £100,000 per year.

Chairman's Expenses

Mrs.Stallard left the room while this was being discussed.

After much discussion and deliberation it was proposed by Pastor Reed, seconded by Mrs.Clist that the Parish Council makes a lump sum payment of £700.00 for last year as usual, but as from this financial year the chairman must keep a record of all expenses, as with the ever rising cost of fuel, use of broad band etc it was thought she was, in all probability, greatly out of pocket (mileage to be paid at the County rate). Her expenses from now on will be paid quarterly, however, as the first quarter is $\frac{2}{3}$ of the way through £175.00 will be paid for the first quarter – all agreed.

Mrs.Stallard returned to the room and was informed of the decision; Mr.McCulloch, Vice-Chairman, also thanked Mrs.Stallard for all the work she does on behalf of the Parish Council.

Highways

1) Letter to be sent to Highways to thank them for coming out to Hemyock so quickly after the flash floods on May 29th to clear up the piles of debris and banks that had slipped out.

Many parishioners had tried, unsuccessfully, to get sand bags. MDCC have agreed that we can have some bags to store in the village and D.W.Hart & Son have agreed to supply
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the sand. Mr.Brooke suggested the bags be given to vulnerable people and tell them where the sand can be obtained from. Pastor Reed is to follow this up as part of the Hemyock Emergency Plan.

2) 20mph signs have been turned around again in Culmbridge Road.

Cemetery

Mrs.Clist said there are gaps in the hedge along the front railings – she was asked to see what shrubs were needed to rectify this problem.

Footpaths

Nothing to report.

Correspondence

- 1) DCC – Highways- the zebra crossings we had asked for have to be requested by the school as part of their Travel Plan; clerk to contact the school.
- 2) MDDC – news from their Annual Meeting on 7th May.
- 3) East Devon Gypsy & Traveller Review Consultation – passed to Mr.McCulloch.
- 4) MDDC – Scrutiny Review on anti-social behaviour.
- 5) Police Authority – asking people to apply to become an independent member of the local police authority; no-one was interested as a minimum of 10 hours per week commitment was required.
- 6) DCC – P3 Scheme information, Mr.Povah said he had already received copies of this.
- 7) Composting network meeting on 21st June at Totnes Hall.
- 8) MDDC – Local Code of Conduct – had been distributed to all councillors.
- 9) Postwatch – post-office closure programme in Devon.
- 10) Western Power Consultation on New Business Plan.
- 11) MDDC - Standards Committee Report.
- 12) Royal Devon & Exeter Newsletter.
- 13) Junk Mail leaflet.
- 14) DAPC – Throwing Light on the Role of Town & Parish Councillors; Pastor Reed and Mr.Steed to go along to this meeting on 15th July.
- 15) DAPC – vacancy on Executive Committee.
- 16) Village Greens magazines – distributed to councillors.

PR

- BT Public telephone box
- Post Office not being closed
- Millhayes Project.

Chairman's Business

Mrs.Stallard reported that the National Cycle race is coming through Hemyock in September, not sure yet of the date but possibly the 9th.

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There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.0am.

Signed.....

Date.....

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