

Hemyock Parish Council **6th May 2009**

Minutes of the AGM of the Parish Council held in the Forbes Lounge under the chairmanship of Mr.I.McCulloch.

Present – Mr.I.McCulloch, Mrs.L.Clist, Mr.R.Brooke, Mr.P.Steed, Mr.J.Edwards, Mrs.S.Cartledge and Mr.L.Povah. Also present were 2 members of the public, Mr.Radford arrived during the meeting.

Apologies were received from Mrs.H.Stallard, Mr.R.Hart, Pastor S.Reed and Mr.F.Rosamond.

It was proposed by Mr.Brooke, seconded by Mr.Steed and all were agreed that **The Minutes** of the meetings held on 1st and 20th April be signed as correct records.

Mr.McCulloch thanked all councillors for making the Annual Parish Meeting such a successful evening and gave a vote of thanks to Mrs.Stallard for setting it all up.

Elections

Mr.McCulloch asked for nominations for **Chairman**; Mr.Brooke proposed Mrs.Stallard, seconded by Mrs.Cartledge there were no other proposals and all were agreed that Mrs.Stallard continue as long as she was willing – Mr.McCulloch said that Mrs.Stallard had said she would be willing to be chairman for a further year with the continued support of all the councillors.

Vice Chairman – Mr.Edwards proposed Mr.McCulloch, seconded by Mr.Povah there were no other proposals and all were agreed; Mr.McCulloch said he was willing to continue as Vice Chairman.

Planning Committee – it was proposed by Mr.Povah, seconded by Mrs.Cartledge that the planning committee stays as all councillors – all agreed.

Finance Committee – It was proposed by Mr.Edwards, seconded by Mrs.Clist that the present finance committee of Mrs.Stallard, Mr.Brooke Mrs.Cartledge and Mr.McCulloch continue – all agreed.

Cemetery Representative – Mrs.Cartledge proposed that Mrs.Clist continues as cemetery representative, seconded by Mr.Povah, all agreed.

Footpaths Representative – Mrs.Cartledge proposed that Mr.Povah continues as footpaths representative, seconded by Mr.Brooke, all agreed.

Parish Hall Representative – Mr.Steed did not wish to continue as the parish hall representative – it was decided to postpone the proposal for a new representative until the June meeting.

Millhayes Committee – It was proposed by Mr.Edwards, seconded by Mrs.Cartledge that the present committee of Mrs.Clist, Mr.Steed and Mrs.Stallard continue for now but things could all change depending on how things progress.

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Longmead Management Committee – Mr.Brooke said he wished to stand down ; it was thought that two members of the Parish Council would be sufficient now on this committee – it was proposed by Mrs.Clist, seconded by Mr.Brooke that Mr.McCulloch and Mrs.Stallard continue on this committee, all agreed.

Matters Arising

1) A question had been raised under Public Question Time about an empty flat in Churchills – Mr.Tony Durbin had sent an e.mail to say that it had been offered to someone but they had turned it down, it should be let soon.

2) AVM Don Attlee had asked a question about the 106 money from the Dobles Garage site. Mr.Rosamond had sent an e.mail to say £23,000 had originally been earmarked as a commuted sum for affordable housing on the basis of a 2 or more housing development policy, there was then a change of policy as an inspector ruled that in rural areas the minimum figure should be 6 houses in a development that qualified. There is thus little prospect of receiving that identified commuted sum.

3) Freedom of Information Act – Mr.Steed said there is a template document we have to put on the website – he is making a list of things we need; Equal Opportunities Policy etc.

4) No.1 Matters Arising – following a suggestion that the land in front of Higher Millhayes was a possible site for the allotments, Mr.Rosamond had made enquiries and found that planning permission would be needed. However, on giving the matter more thought this area has been discounted as a possible allotment site. Letters of objection had been received from many of the residents in Higher Millhayes and Rackfield Close, including children, concerned at the possibility of losing their play area. Clerk to write to them all to say that it had only been a suggestion and to allay their fears of losing this green open space and play area.

Mrs.Stallard had made an appeal for some land at the Annual Parish Meeting; if anyone has a suggestion for a site for the allotments please contact any of the Parish Councillors.

5) Boundary Commission – a meeting of the Blackdown Parishes had been held on Monday, they had been talking to Sue Craythorne and Roland Pyle; May 14th is the deadline for submissions.

District Council Report

Mr.Rosamond was not able to be present.

County Council Report

Mr.Radford was not present at this time.

Planning

Approval

09/00187/FULL – 9, Lower Millhayes.

Refusals

08/02219/LBC – Luggs, Culm Davy.

09/00309/PNAG – Swallows Barn, Hemyock

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Applications

All plans were carefully inspected and discussed before decisions were reached.

09/00601/FULL – Erection of stable and associated machinery store at land adjacent to Park View, Withy Lane.

Mr.Brooke declared an interest and left the room before the discussion on this application. It was proposed by Mrs.Clist, seconded by Mr.Steed that approval is recommended – all agreed.

09/00598/FULL – Change of use of outbuildings to ancillary domestic use at Lower Castle Hill Farm, Hemyock. It was proposed by Mr.Edwards, seconded by Mrs.Cartledge that approval be recommended – all agreed.

Longmead

A meeting had been held last Monday and Andy Bolt from Uplowman had attended to give advice when discussing the problem of drainage of the football pitch; they had had similar problems with the Uplowman football pitch. The proposal was that they move forward with part of the area – the part of the field nearest the industrial units. It was thought this would cost £4,000.00 - £5,000.00 and the work could be carried out in mid June; the work may need to be done in stages. As it is capital works the Parish Council could pay the bill to reclaim the V.A.T.

Mr.Brooke said he had been cutting the grass on the far side of the stream and several trees have come down; it does not look very attractive and could we ask to have them replaced. Clerk to write to South West Water to see if they will replace the trees.

“The Garages” – Millhayes

Mr. Paul Steed is to project manage this scheme; we have planning permission and a sum of money, thanks to Mr.Brooke and HELIC.

Mr.Steed said they were looking for grants to boost funds; they want to make it ecological and economic to run, they do not want the cost of using it to be a barrier to the children. They will need information as to what the children would like provided.

Mrs.Clist suggested someone talks to Julie Betteridge, she runs the Scouts and they already have some money.

Mr.McCulloch said he had heard that a music group would like to meet there.

Mr.Steed said that Mr.Rick Auger is helping with Building Regulations; there are some things which grant money would not be available for which we can get on and do. It was suggested that Trainee Youth Workers might be able to help.

Mr.Brooke suggested we get some basic facilities going and see where it goes.

Mrs.Clist said that football/basketball matches could be held in the big hall; we just need to get it useable – get the roof etc seen to. Quotes will be obtained for all the big jobs but it is hoped a lot of self-help will be available.

Mr.Steed said he would keep us up-dated.

Finance

The clerk reported that the books will be going to Mrs.Aldworth in the next few days for the internal audit.

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Income

£50.62 – SWEB, wayleaves.

Payments

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

£11.55 – Mr.A.Smith – photocopies - litter pickers

£9.99 – Mrs.H.Stallard – gift for Mr.A.Smith (presented at A.P.M.)

£253.50 – Stephens & Scown, solicitors – legal fees for parking areas behind 17, 19 and 21 Station Road.

£11.75 - SWW – cemetery water rates

£25.00 – Stuart Webb – large photocopies for displays at A.P.M.

£937.25 – Southwest One – Parish Questionnaires

£44.74 – Independent Agri-breakers – plants for cemetery

£56.35 – SLCC – conference fees

£20.00 – Hemyock PHMC – Rent of Forbes Lounge for meetings

£145.00 – Burtlescombe School – Photocopies of reports for packs at A.P.M.

£13.44 – Photocopies of Parish Plan

£203.35 – Mr.I.Pike – cemetery & village grass cutting.

The clerk had prepared a cheque for Longmead Management Committee for this year's annual payment less money owed to the Parish Council for bills paid by us to recover the V.A.T. However, it was proposed by Mr.Brooke, seconded by Mr.Steed that this payment be deferred for the time being as there will be some more payments which we will be making on their behalf soon; the difference can be settled later on.

Garages Account

Clerk to set up new bank account for “Garages” project; any two of the following to be able to sign cheques, Mrs.Stallard, Mrs.Clist or Mr.Steed.

Mrs.Butt said she knew of someone willing to keep the BMX track area tidy, keeping the grass cut etc. Mr.McCulloch suggested she speak to Mrs.Stallard about this.

Chairman's Expenses

Mrs.Stallard had already been paid £175.00 expenses this year; it was proposed by Mr.Brooke, seconded by Mr.Steed that Mrs.Stallard be paid £525.00 making it up to the same amount as last year – all agreed.

Mr.Radford – County Councillor had arrived and Mr.McCulloch asked him for his report.

Mr.Radford said his 4 year term was coming to an end and that he had been a County Councillor now for 8 years; it had been both challenging and interesting and he was seeking a further term in office.

Mr.Radford said he had spoken to Meg Booth today who said that our list of 13 problems were all on-going, but that Darran Queenan was now dealing with this area. The traffic

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island in Longmead couldn't be moved until the electricity had been de-commissioned. It was suggested that a meeting could be set up with Darran Queenan. Mr.Radford said he had taken a list of times of local Parish Council meetings and intends to send an update on on-going jobs for each meeting.

Mr.Steed suggested we ask for the job numbers of all the things we are waiting for to be done.

The clerk asked Mr.Radford to find out why, if the County Council was short of money, the total length of Wheelbarrow Lane had been re-surfaced, causing damage to trees and hedges in the process. Fourways Cross to Oaklea is a designated lane but the surface was not worn and there was no potholes; from Oaklea down to the Clayhidon Road is a designated "green lane" this had received attention last year and was in a good state of repair for a "green lane" - Mr.Radford said he would make enquiries.

Mr.McCulloch thanked Mr.Radford for all the work he has done on our behalf over the past 4 years.

Highways

A homeowner in South View has asked for "No Through Road" sign at the Station Road end and a staggered barrier at the Eastlands end. The wall at the Eastlands end has been damaged by a lorry trying to turn around and the barrier is needed to stop motor bikes from using the footpath into South View as a short cut to Station Road.

Cemetery

Nothing to report.

Footpaths

1) The Definitive Map Review is due to start; there have been hold-ups in other areas causing ours to be 3 -4 years late. Mr.Povah asked if anyone knew of any new routes. These have to be footpaths that have been in use for 20 years but as yet are not properly designated footpaths. Mr.Povah said he was interested in opening up the path from Burleyhayes to the Blackdown Common, this is a used footpath but not designated as such. Mr.Povah to bring a map to the next meeting with this path marked on it.

2) A letter had been received from DCC showing how our P3 grant money had been worked out.

3) Another letter had been received from DCC – Informal Consultation – Pitt farm to Clements Farm – Trailriders Fellowship.

Correspondence

1) DCC – An extra £2 million is to be made available for Highway Maintenance over the whole of Devon.

2) Thank you letter from the Blackdown Support Group for our recent donation to their funds.

3) Mid Devon Talk – leaflet.

4) Devon Playing Fields Association Newsletter.

5) Junk Mail – passed to Mrs.Cartledge.

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6) Open Spaces Society – asking for funds, councillors decided the projects in our own parish come first.

7) Parish Matters – circulated to all councillors.

8) Challenging the Cuts – Devon and Torbay Post Office Task Force – leaflet.

P.R

- Allay fears of Millhayes residents; it was proposed by Mr.Povah, seconded by Mrs.Clist that the land in front of Higher Millhayes properties remain as recreation land, all agreed.
- Definitive Map Review.

Chairman's Business

Mr.Brooke asked for a salt bin to be put on the corner by Culmbridge House (to be sited on the wide bit by the barn) a school mini-bus had skidded in the icy weather narrowly missing the bridge.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

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