

Hemyock Parish Council
Extraordinary Meeting
held in the Forbes Lounge, Parish Hall, Hemyock at 7.30pm on 14th June 2018

Subject	Action
<p>1. <u>Present</u> Mrs H Stallard (Chair), Mr P Doble, Miss P Lawrence, Mr N Moon, Mr L Povah, Ms J Pritchard, Mr N Punnett, Mrs D Evans (Parish Clerk) and members of the public. <u>Apologies</u> Mr T Barton (Vice-Chair), Mr R Calcraft & Mr S Clist (received and approved)</p>	
<p>2. <u>Declarations of Interest/Dispensations</u> Mr Moon declared a personal interest as he is a member of the rough shoot syndicate that uses the commons.</p>	
<p>3. <u>Public Participation</u> Two parishioners reported that they had several concerns about the conduct of the gun club on Hemyock Turbary. They alleged various breaches of the gun club's agreement with the council, namely:- late payment of rent, noise, litter, water pollution, contamination, lead shot falling on neighbouring land.</p> <p>Another parishioner reported that he owned land neighbouring the common and had never found lead on his land. He had made silage while the shoot was taking place and had never heard or seen lead shot falling on his land.</p> <p>Mr Pike suggested that the broken slab on one of the steps at The Garages be turned inwards and filled. Mr Pike was instructed to go ahead on this basis. A parishioner offered a replacement slab if required. Clerk to provide Mr Pike with a key to the building.</p>	Clerk
<p>4. <u>Village Information Noticeboard</u> Mr Punnett circulated the proposed design of the information noticeboard. It is hoped that this will be erected in the car park and that both sides of the new noticeboard will be used. It was suggested that the design should be put on the council's Facebook page for comment. PROPOSAL: The council applies to MDDC Communities Together Fund for funding for the new noticeboard and, whether successful or not, the council purchases the board from Ken White Signs for £4,900 plus VAT. PROPOSED: Mr Punnett SECONDED: Mrs Stallard DECISION: passed (all in favour)</p>	Clerk
<p>5. <u>St Mary's Church Fete</u> The parish council will have a stall at the church fete. Copies of the parish plan, Hemyock Tomorrow, will be available and councillors will promote the council to potential candidates for next year's elections. Clerk to contact MDDC to see if any promotional material is available.</p>	Clerk
<p>6. <u>Library Consultation</u> Clerk to add link reference library consultation to council's Facebook page and forward email to Healthy Living & Activities Centre.</p>	Clerk
<p>7. <u>Gun Club agreement</u> The councillors discussed the points raised in the parishioners' letter. The clerk explained that legal advice had been received reference the wording of the agreement between club and council. She confirmed that the agreement gave provision for circumstances in which the council may wish to revoke the agreement. The gun club has paid the outstanding rent due. Mr Punnett suggested the wording of the agreement could be amended to make clearer that revocation of the agreement is at the discretion of the council. Mr Moon confirmed he had taken various measurements from his land to the common and disagreed with the measurements provided by the parishioners. The gun club has confirmed the shoot positions have not changed. Mr Punnett suggested councillors might wish to visit the turbary during the next shoot to see first-hand the shooting positions, proximity to neighbouring properties etc. The parishioners stated that the shoot positions have been approved by MDDC reference noise but that the firearms officer has not approved them. Mr Povah said that as the council is the licensor it has a duty to check that the firearms officer and MDDC are happy with the existing shooting positions.</p> <p>Mr Doble agreed it would be helpful to visit the turbary whilst the shoot is in progress. He suggested that if</p>	

<p>there was a problem with the shoot then relevant agencies would have stopped the shoot. Mr Moon confirmed that he farms land that had previously been used by the shoot without any issues with regard to potential contamination/pollution.</p> <p>Mr Doble, Mr Punnett & Miss Lawrence will visit the turbarry on Saturday 16th June to observe the shoot. The clerk will contact the various agencies to check that they are content with the existing arrangements.</p> <p>The clerk confirmed that a Freedom of Information Officer had advised that if the gun club present its insurance policy to the council and asks for it to be kept confidential then this does not have to be released to a third party. The gun club has confirmed its insurance policy is on display in the cabin for anyone to see. Mr Povah asked that the gun club is asked to provide a copy of its insurance policy.</p> <p>The parish council will visit the site and review its findings.</p> <p>The issue of cleaning up the clays was discussed. Again, this will be looked at when the councillors visit the site.</p> <p>The council has liaised with the gun club about the cutting of the grass so that the area is more usable for walkers. The council appreciates that there is a balancing act to be maintained between wildlife, biodiversity and useable areas for walkers. The various commons under the custodianship of the council should provide this variety (Shuttleton Common, Owleycombe Common, Lickham & Ashculme Turbarry).</p> <p>It was agreed that the wording of the agreement could be amended to clarify that any breach could lead to revocation <i>at the discretion of the parish council</i>. Mr Punnett & Miss Lawrence were asked to review the agreement and report back with suggested amendments for consideration by the council's legal advisers.</p> <p>A parishioner asked why the gun club isn't paying for the legal expenses associated with the agreement and offered to top the turbarry for free if the gun club were charged.</p> <p><u>Summary</u></p> <p>It was agreed that the clerk would check with agencies that they are happy with existing arrangements. Several councillors will visit the next shoot. Mr Punnett & Miss Lawrence will review wording of the agreement. The clerk will ask for a copy of the gun club's insurance policy.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>8. <u>Items raised by the Chairman</u> Nothing to report.</p>	
<p>9. <u>Items raised by councillors</u></p> <p>9.1 Miss Lawrence reported that some boards on the bridge are moving, possibly rotten. Mr Povah & Mr Pike to inspect and repair.</p> <p>9.2 Mr Punnett asked that the double glazing quotations for the Healthy Living & Activities Centre are added to the agenda for the next meeting.</p>	
<p>10. <u>Date of next Meeting</u> Wednesday 4th July 2018 at 7.30pm Forbes Lounge, Parish Hall</p>	

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed Dated