<u>Hemyock Parish Council</u> <u>Full Meeting</u> held at Blackdown Healthy Living & Activity Centre, Hemyock at 7.30pm on 6 March 2024

Present

Councillors P Doble (Chair) and A Doble, Parish & District Councillor S Clist, Councillors Lawrence, Matthews, Moon, Povah, Summers, Talbot and Ward together with Devon District Councillor Radford and Mrs S McGeever (Clerk) and members of the public.

In the absence of the Chairman who was delayed, Councillor Talbot welcomed those present and called for a minute's silence for Mrs Donna Evans, the Parish Clerk, who had sadly passed away in February.

Councillor Talbot returned to the meeting agenda at 7.35pm.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest/Dispensations

- Agenda Item 6 Planning Councillor Clist is a member of the planning committee of Mid Devon District Council and chooses not to participate in any planning application consultation.
- Agenda item 11 Longmead Councillors P Doble and Ward may have a personal interest as both are members of Longmead Management Committee

3. Public Participation

Members of the public raised the following points:

An environmental report had indicated that the St Margaret's Brook should be kept clear of overhanging branches. Work to cut back branches was required.

Note: It was understood that remedial work would be carried out. The date was not known but if advised would be forwarded.

Reporting potholes at Castle Farm.

Note: Reporting potholes on the DCC website went straight to the inbox of the Neighbourhood Highways Officer and was the most effective method.

Obtaining reports from the PSPO Enforcement Officer with regard to loose dogs on Longmead Playing Field.

Action: Clerk to contact MDDC

Hedges at the cemetery. **Note:** It was understood that hedge-cutting would take place.

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting on 7 February 2024

PROPOSAL: The council minutes of 7 February 2024 are approved as a true record of the meeting. **PROPOSED:** Councillor Lawrence

SECONDED: Councillor Clist

It was RESOLVED by those who had been present at the meeting that the minutes were a true record of the meeting, and they were duly initialled and signed by the Chairman.

5. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman raised the following items:

a. Update action plan

The Clerk would circulate dates for an informal meeting to discuss the Parish Council's plans for the next five years. Any proposals coming out of the meeting would be brought to a Parish Council meeting for decision.

Action: Clerk

b. Update emergency plan Discussed under Item 17.

c. Review of leases, agreements, Terms of Reference

The Clerk would contact the Parish Councillors responsible for the various assets around the village and each would prepare a report on the lease/agreement /methodology for running and possible maintenance costs to present to the Parish Council. Assistance could be sought from other councillors. **Action:** Clerk

6. Finance

6.1 To agree income and expenditure and bank reconciliations:

INCOME

27-DEC-23 20.00 Exe Valley Pizza Co (rent) 31-DEC-23 866.35 Interest 11-JAN-24 300.00 DCC for library 11-JAN-24 100.00 Cemetery 27-JAN-24 20.00 Exe Valley Pizza Co (rent)

EXPENDITURE – February 2024

Several invoices were added to the invoices received in February 2024 and the table of payments was updated as follows:

No	Amount	Payee	Reason
1.	1513.51	Brookridge Timber	Footbridge decking
2.	315.00	SLCC	Cilca training – agreed Feb 24
3.	18.59	Source for Business	Cemetery
4.	42.63	Source for Business	Public Conveniences
5.	120.00	E Ingledew	Cleaning public conveniences
6.	426.25	l Pike	Village and cemetery maintenance
7.	32.29	l Pike	Lock for public conveniences
8.	180.20	HMRC	PAYE (Payroll 29/2/24)
9.	223.36	D Evans	Parish Clerk wages (subject to accountant)
10.	721.18	S McGeever	Clerk's wages (Payroll 29/2/24)
11.	6.00	GiffGaff	PC phone paid by S McGeever – to be reimbursed
12.	36.00	S McGeever	Travel expenses – February
13.	84.00	Metcalfe Allen	Repairs to CCTV cameras at Longmead
14.	400.00	Roger Beaver	Longmead maintenance
15.	40.00	The Lights Brigade	Christmas lights (1 st prize)
16.	20.00	Tracey Parkinson	Christmas lights (3 rd prize)
17.	683.00	N Page	PROW works
18.	120.00	N Williams	Moles at the cemetery

The Clerk would provide expenses for print cartridges and paper at the next meeting.

PROPOSAL: To make the payments as listed in the table above.

PROPOSED: Councillor Lawrence

SECONDED: Councillor Talbot

It was unanimously RESOLVED that these payments would be made.

Action: Clerk to set up online payments.

Bank Reconciliations

Bank account	Closing balance 31/12/23	Monies in	Monies out	Closing balance 31/12/2023
Unity Trust Bank current 298	6,073.83	10000.00	11740.12	4333.71
Unity Trust Bank deposit	128,841.00	886.35	10,000.00	119,727.35
Unity Trust Bank GF	727.72	5.04		732.76
Unity Trust Bank P3	1,260.22	8.74		1,268.96
Bank account	Closing balance M 31/12/23	onies in	Monies out	Closing balance 31/01/2024
Bank account Unity Trust Bank current 298	balance M 31/12/23	onies in 15100.00		balance
	balance M 31/12/23		out	balance 31/01/2024
Unity Trust Bank current 298	balance M 31/12/23 4333.71	15100.00	out 10974.44	balance 31/01/2024 8459.27

Note: Two transfers were made from the deposit account to the current account

Other Bank accounts		
HSBC 2116	£317.72	22/12/23
HSBC 2132	£95981.14	22/12/23
HSBC 0275	£0.00	22/6/23
Nationwide	£5003.92	21/7/23
Nationwide	£80132.60	21/7/23
Skipton	TBA	
Income		
HSBC 2132		
Interest December	£152.80	
Interest November	£157.63	

6.2 To receive an update from the Finance Committee Chairman on the inputting of data into Scribe, budgets etc

Councillor Lawrence advised that the Finance Committee had met on 28 February 2024 and adding the financial information to Scribe was ongoing. The following items had been put forward for consideration to the Parish Council:

a. S106 funds were available for Lower and Upper Millhayes and there was currently no urgency to spend the funds

b. The possibility of using the BHLAC as the address for bank and utility correspondence **PROPOSAL:** Ask the Trustees of the BHLAC if they would be amenable to the Parish Council using the BHLAC as the address for correspondence relating to the bank, utilities and the Peter Holloway Trust **PROPOSER:** Councillor Lawrence SECONDER: Councillor Moon **DECISION:** unanimous (Councillor P Doble was not present at the vote.) Action: Clerk to write to BHLAC

c. The application for debit cards for Councillor Lawrence and the Clerk would be actioned following the response from the BHLAC.

Councillor Lawrence advised that the Finance Committee wished to have an authorisation protocol in place.

PROPOSAL: Card payments could be actioned

i) when the payment has been approved at a Parish Council or

ii) on the authorisation of two members of the Finance Committee (not the cardholder) and/or the

Chairman of the Parish Council

PROPOSER: Councillor Lawrence

SECONDER: Councillor Moon

DECISION: unanimous (Councillor P Doble was not present at the vote.)

d. Cemetery fees

At the request of Councillor Clist, the Finance Committee had considered the current (2018) cemetery fees against those of similar parishes and they were found to be some 15% lower. A new set of fees with a 15% increase rounded up were presented to the Parish Council.

PROPOSAL: The increased cemetery fees be approved with effect from 1 April 2024

PROPOSER: Councillor Lawrence

SECONDER: Councillor Clist

DECISION: unanimous (Councillor P Doble was not present at the vote.)

Action: Clerk to update all cemetery paperwork

It was noted that Hemyock still offered the option of walled graves and it was felt that this should still be an option.

Councillor Clist had also recommended an advance payment of £150 to cover the cost of the Parish Council levelling the grave. The Finance Committee would consider this at its next meeting given varying costs from £30 to £150.

e. The Finance Committee had also considered two grant requests and would propose that the Parish Council approve two grants.
PROPOSAL: A grant of £2000 be given to the BHLAC and a grant of £1000 be given to the new Youth Club and the amounts added to the payment schedule for March 2024
PROPOSER: Councillor Lawrence
SECONDER: Councillor Moon
DECISION: unanimous (Councillor P Doble was not present at the vote.)
Action: Clerk to set up online payments

f. Repairs to the front doors of the BHLAC. These repairs had been actioned and the invoice would be sent to the Parish Council for payment.

6.2 To receive an update on the application for bank cards See above.

6.3 Thank you from the Twinning Association A thank you letter from the Twinning Association had circulated to the Parish Council.

6.4 Funding request from the new youth club See above

7. Planning

Councillor P Doble joined the meeting.

Councillor Clist did not take part in the planning discussion nor did he vote on any of the applications.

24/00181/FULL

Proposal: Installation of a Medpoint prescription collection machine Location: The Blackdown Practice The Surgery Station Road Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 313687 / 113347 Parish: Hemyock 26

PROPOSAL: Hemyock Parish Council RESOLVES that it was content with this application.
 PROPOSER: Councillor Moon
 SECONDER: Councillor A Doble
 DECISION: unanimous of those voting

24/00186/ADVERT

Proposal: Advertisement Consent to display vinyl wrap to the front of the proposed Medpoint prescription collection machine with operation instructions, name and logo and White LED strip light static at the top of screen. Location: The Blackdown Practice The Surgery Station Road

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 313687 / 113347 Parish: Hemyock 26

PROPOSAL: Hemyock Parish Council RESOLVES that it was content with this application provided that adequate thought was given to the possibility of light pollution from the White LED strip light static at the top of the screen. Should light pollution be considered a problem then mitigating action should be a condition of approval of the application. **PROPOSER:** Councillor Matthews

SECONDER: Councillor Moon DECISION: unanimous of those voting

24/00246/HOUSE

Proposal: Erection of rear extension Location: 2 Redwood Close Hemyock Cullompton Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 313781 / 113216 Parish: Hemyock 26

PROPOSAL: Hemyock Parish Council RESOLVES that it was content with this application **PROPOSER:** Councillor A Doble **SECONDER:** Councillor Talbot **DECISION:** unanimous of those voting

24/00218/LBC

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for traditional sett paving around War Memorial monument Location: War Memorial Culmstock Road Hemyock Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 313609 / 113235 Parish: Hemyock 26

PROPOSAL: Hemyock Parish Council RESOLVES that it was content with this application. **PROPOSER:** Councillor Moon **SECONDER:** Councillor Talbot **DECISION:** unanimous of those voting

24/00317/FULL

Proposal: Temporary siting of a chalet for a period of three years to provide accommodation for a family member Location: Land at NGR 315120 116620 Hill Farm Hemyock Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 315133 / 116661 Parish: Hemyock 26 PROPOSAL: Hemyock Parish Council RESOLVED that it was content with this application and believed there was a genuine need for the temporary siting of a chalet for the specified three-year period. The Parish Council would like to see a condition whereby should the period of time extend beyond the three-year period then a new full planning application should be submitted.
PROPOSER: Councillor Moon
SECONDER: Councillor Ward
DECISION: unanimous of those voting

24/00112/FULL

Proposal: Erection of agricultural building Location: Land at NGR 313115 112060 Higher Rodleigh Hemyock Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 313096 / 112069 Parish: Hemyock 26

PROPOSAL: The Clerk is requested to send an email to the MDDC Planning Officer dealing with the above application asking that a condition be placed on any approval notice that any change of use would have to be submitted as a full planning application.
 PROPOSER: Councillor Lawrence
 SECONDER: Councillor Talbot
 DECISION: unanimous of those voting

24/00161/TPO

Proposal: Application to fell 1 Oak tree protected by Tree Preservation Order 16/00004/TPO Location: 15 Lower Greenfield Hemyock Cullompton Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 313201 / 113302 Parish: Hemyock 26

PROPOSAL: The Clerk IS requested to send an email to the MDDC Tree Officer asking that should the condition of the tree be such that it required to be felled then a new tree should be planted to take its place given that the current tree was covered by a TPO.
PROPOSER: Councillor A Doble
SECONDER: Councillor Ward
DECISION: unanimous of those voting

Action: Clerk to write and submit responses

7.2 To receive the following decision notices/appeal decisions:-No decision notices had been received since the last meeting.

7.3 To receive information regarding enforcement issues:-**ENF/23/00164/COU – 13 July 2023** Re: Conversion of barn to dwelling Shuttleton Castle Hill Hemyock

No update had been received.

ENF/23/00214/BRE - 30 August 2023

Re: Home office used as living accommodation Ploversfield Culmstock Road Hemyock

No update had been received.

8. Asset Management Reports

8.1 Longmead

The Clerk had reported as follows:

a. the review of the constitution, provision of the committee structure and terms of was ongoing

b. the floodgate had been ordered but was not in situ – finance might be available through Connecting the Culm

c. following a report received that the CCTV cameras were not working - remedial action taken.

Councillor P Doble advised that Devon Air Ambulance have confirmed that the football posts can stay in situ.

The Purple Peril would be moved to Longmead as soon as possible.

8.2 War memorial

The Clerk reported that:

a. The planning application had been addressed under Item 7. Planning.

b. A notification of planned works had been published with the Mid Devon Gazette.

c. The Planning Notice has been received, mounted on site by Councillor Lawrence and a photograph and completed form had been sent to MDDC Planning and confirmation received.

8.3 Cemetery

Councillor P Doble reported that the cemetery hedges in the extension area will be cut as soon as the weather permits by the Parish Council approved contractor. The field should also be topped. If necessary, livestock could graze behind flexi-net.

Cost £50 per hour.

It was noted that maintaining the cemetery hedges adjoining the Cavanna development could not be done with a tractor due to limited access.

Cemetery charges had been dealt with under Item 6. Finance

Increasing the size of the cemetery

Councillor Clist reported that in accordance with the views of undertakers, the cemetery does not need extending in the immediate future. In addition, their preferred entrance, when the cemetery was extended, would be through the front gates.

Given that the Parish Council had agreed to extend the cemetery at its December meeting, it was RESOLVED that the decision could not be reversed for six months.

Whilst noting that there may be some maintenance costs involved, the Parish Council RESOLVED to remain with its original decision to fence of the area of the field that would constitute the extended cemetery.

Action: Fencing quotes to be obtained with a gated entrance.

The Clerk reported that the mole contractor has been contacted following a report of moles at the cemetery and remedial work had been undertaken.

8.4 Blackdown Healthy Living and Activities Centre

The Clerk reported that information has been submitted to the solicitors in respect of the AONB (now Blackdown Hills National Landscape) lease and it was hoped that this would be signed in the near future.

Councillor Lawrence reported that: a. grant request – see Item 6. Finance above

b. Following the tree works, the area beside the newly repaired fence required re-seeding when the weather allowed.
 PROPOSAL: The Parish Council authorise Mr Pike to carry out the necessary works and when the weather permits

PROPOSER: Councillor Lawrence SECONDER: Councillor P Doble DECISION: unanimous Action: Clerk

8.5 The Parish Store

Councillor Lawrence advised that the Parish Store was almost cleared and the road signs would be kept easily accessible.

The Parish Council RESOLVED that Councillor Lawrence would write to the Lights Brigade asking them to tidy up their area.

Action: Councillor Lawrence

It was noted that the guttering does not address the weep of water through the back wall.

The Parish Store did not have any electricity and it was agreed that the cost of installing lighting and power points would be investigated and quotes brought to the next meeting. **Action:** Councillor Lawrence/Clerk

DRIP was looking at the Garages, Longmead and the BHLAC to ascertain if grants could be allocated for flood defences.

8.6 The Commons

a. Report from the Commons Management Group A meeting of the Commons Management Group would be held in April and proposals would be brought to the May meeting.

Action: Clerk to agree a date and circulate agenda

b. Review of direction restricting access at Hemyock Common Councillor Moon advised that a 5 year extension had been granted, following that period the continuance of the clay pigeon shooting would be managed by the gun club and Parish Council

8.7 Public Conveniences

The report on maintenance from the Clerk detailed in the agenda was noted. **PROPOSAL:** The Parish Council authorise the budget to cut two new sets of keys for the public convenience **PROPOSER:** Councillor Lawrence **SECONDER:** Councillor Ward **DECISION:** unanimous **Action:** Councillor Lawrence/Clerk

8.8 Car Park

Councillor Povah reported that there was some dispute as to who was responsible for the wall which needed repair.

Action: Clerk to identity the deeds of the car park and resultant responsibility

Councillor Povah reported that the surface was beginning to break up and would require re-surfacing and believed there was an understanding that MDDC would be responsible for the first re-surfacing works following the Parish Council taking on the asset. Action: Clerk to contact MDDC

8.9 Village Maintenance

The invoice for decking for the Footbridge is given under Item. 7 Finance. This reflects the amount of decking still held by Brookridge Timber.

9. Project Reports

9.1 Community Land (Cavanna)

The report from Councillor Matthews as detailed in the agenda was noted and several actions were required:

a. Name of the committee
 PROPOSAL: That the Community Land Committee be renamed the Public Open Space Committee to avoid confusion with the Community Land Trust Committee
 PROPOSER: Councillor Matthews
 SECONDER: Councillor Moon
 DECISION: unanimous

b. That an independent survey of the land drainage should be commissioned
 Councillor Clist advised that he had spoken to several companies and a meeting would take place shortly to ascertain costs which could then be passed to Cavanna
 Action: Councillors Clist and Matthews

c. Councillor P Doble had sent through quotes for work to plough the fields once the drainage had been undertaken.

d. The Clerk had spoken to the Parish Council's solicitors to move forward on access and to move to a formal letter from Cavanna and a Heads of Terms agreement to ensure that all restoration work was completed whether Cavanna were still on site or not. Simultaneous exchanges was the preferred option. **Action:** Clerk monitor

Potential funding options were now closed until 1 April 2024.

9.2 Station Road Pavement

Councillor Povah reported that negotiations were moving forward slowly with residents of Station Road.

The solicitors have been asked to liaise with solicitors for Property 1. Property 2 has requested that the Parish Council agree to finish the works within a 2-year period. **PROPOSAL:** The Parish Council will look to complete all works within a 2 year period from the date of the Decision Notice on the revised planning application. **PROPOSER:** Councillor Povah **SECONDER:** Councillor P Doble **DECISION:** unanimous **Action:** Clerk

9.3 Connecting the Culm/DRIP

a. The Clerk was awaiting the contract for the works on the Commons to alleviate flood water

b. Five to ten volunteers were needed for the advance warning system – information in the PUMP and on social media

Action: Councillors Matthew and Talbot

c. Further information on the web cameras was awaited.

10. Community Matters

10.1 Garages Youth Project

Councillor Matthews reported that she was reviewing the lease. The grant for the Youth Club had been agreed see Item 6. Finance.

10.2 Hemyock Community Larder

Councillor P Doble advised that the Community Larder (FoodSave) project is going from strength to strength.

10.3 Hemyock Event

Mrs Scantlebury reported that preparations for the event were well in hand with food outlets and bands booked and children's activities arranged. The event which was free to enter would take place on Saturday, 29 June and start at 11am followed by a Big Lunch/Picnic and then the entertainment. Glastonbury would be featured in a marquee. She had received many offers of help.

10.4 Footpaths (P3)

Councillor Povah reported that the P3 paperwork to cover the grant for 2024/25 would be submitted by 15 March 2024. **Action:** Councillor Povah

11. Highways

11.1 Meeting with the Neighbourhood Highways Officer

The Parish Council noted the Clerk's report in the agenda for this meeting. There were no questions raised.

11.2 Road Warden Scheme

Councillor A Doble has volunteered to undertake the initial training and the Chapter 8 training and this required ratification by the Parish Council. PROPOSAL: Councillor A Doble train to be a Road Warden PROPOSER: Councillor Matthews SECONDER: Councillor Lawrence DECISION: unanimous Action: Clerk to arrange training.

11.3 Overgrowth on pavements/ivy on walls (Falcon Homes)

Falcon Homes had advised the overgrowth had been cut back but there was still ivy on the walls.

11.4 Overgrowth on hedges at Station Road

Letters had been submitted by DCC's NHO to the households concerned. The NHO had advised the hedges were not at a level where DCC would take any further action. **Action:** Clerk to monitor

It was also noted that the lamppost opposite the footbridge was overgrown. **Action:** Clerk

11.5 DCC 20mph applications (Tranche 3 – 1 March 2024) and Parish Council funded areas.

The Clerk advised that information on Parish Council funded areas was awaited.

12. Police matters

12.1 Crime ASB at the Public Conveniences was being monitored.

12.2 Councillor Advocate Scheme

Councillor Clist advised he was receiving all he reports and would bring anything specific to issues within Hemyock to the Parish Council.

12.3 Vision Zero

The Clerk reported that Vision Zero did offer grants to assist with road safety but these were currently on hold given the current financial year ended on 31 March 2024.

This might be an option for 'pedestrian in roads' signs. **Action:** Clerk

12.4 Community Speedwatch

The Community Speedwatch Team would report to the Parish Council on a quarterly basis. The first report is given in the agenda for this meeting.

The key action point was the need for more volunteers. More volunteers would mean more sessions, more education and hopefully safer roads for us all. **Action:** Parish Council to support a call for volunteers in the Pump.

13. MDDC Report

Councillor Clist reported as follows:

a. MDDC had achieved a balanced budget

b. the National Planning Policy Framework referred to social housing for the elderly not the young generations and it was expected that 95% of applications would be approved. Renewable energy and battery storage also featured.

c. the modular houses were ready for occupation

d. it was not a statutory requirement to provide for Enforcement but MDDC had appointed a new Enforcement Officer

e. comments on the DEVO deal were required

Action: Councillor Matthews would present her thoughts to the next Parish Council meeting.

14. DCC report

Councillor Radford had submitted his report and noted that the Parish Council had met with the new Neighbourhood Highways Officer.

Potholes remained a problem.

The 'red diesel' policy was raised given that it prevented rural Parish Council's from using local farmers for hedge cutting etc. Councillor Radford advised that this would require a national change. **Action:** Clerk to write to DALC in the first instance

15. Public Relations

Councillor Talbot advised that she was working on the Parish Council's PUMP article and asked for any contributions.

Action: All

16. Clerk Update/Correspondence

The Clerk's report in the agenda was noted and the following actions required:

a. Final cheques for the Christmas Lights competition

b. A response to the Town and Parish Charter Review

It was agreed that Councillors A Doble/P Doble and the Clerk would arrange a Zoom meeting and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Action: Councillors Doble/Doble and Clerk

c. Annual Parish Meeting Councillor Matthews gave her apologies for the meeting.

PROPOSAL: The local burger van is used to provide refreshments
PROPOSER: Councillor P Doble
SECONDER: Councillor Summers
DECISION: unanimous
Action: Councillor P Doble (confirm), Councillor Talbot (Pump announcement) and Clerk (invitations to clubs)

d. Devon Communities Together Invite DCT to the next Parish Council meeting to talk about Emergency Plans and available funding. Action: Clerk

e. Portrait of His Majesty The King Clerk to speak to Village Hall/BHLAC as locations to hang the portrait. **Action:** Clerk

17. Matters raised by Councillors/meetings attended

17.1 Blackdown Hills National Landscape Management Plan Review Workshop 28th February 2024 Councillor Lawrence reported that the management plan had to have a policy to further the Aims of the national landscape and not as previously have a passive regard. A draft of the plan would be available in the summer.

17.2 Energy Outreach Project (Councillor Matthews)

Nothing to report

17.3 Attendance at State of the District Debate – Wednesday 20 March 2024

Councillor P Doble/Clerk confirmed as attending.

Other matters: Councillor Lawrence put forward the following proposal: **PROPOSAL:** A card and flower be bought to celebrate a previous Councillor's 90th birthday **PROPOSER:** Councillor Lawrence **SECONDER:** Councillor Moon **DECISION**: unanimous

Councillor Povah raised the cars and trailers parked overnight and possibly abandoned in the Longmead car park.

Action: Councillor Povah to provide number plates to the Clerk to report to MDDC

Councillor Povah advised that the gulley by the Baptist Church was gushing water and could mean that the Shutlake was blocked again. Action: Clerk to report to DCC

18.Items for the next agenda

As detailed in the minutes.

19. Dates of the next meetings:

Finance Committee	-
Full Council Meeting	-
Annual Meeting of the Parish Council	-
Annual Parish Meeting	-

- Wednesday, 20 March 2024 Wednesday, 3 April 2024 Wednesday, 1 May 2024
- Wednesday, 15 May 2024

Signed ____ Chairman _____ Date _____