



# Hemyock Parish Council

29 January 2025

To: All Members of Hemyock Parish Council

Dear Councillor

You are duly summoned to attend a meeting of **Hemyock Parish Council** to be held at The Healthy Living & Activities Centre, Riverside, Hemyock on **Wednesday, 5 February 2025 at 7.30pm**. The meeting is open to the press and the public.

Yours sincerely  
Susan McGeever  
Parish Clerk

## AGENDA

ITEM		REPORT PAGE
1	<b>Apologies for absence</b>	N/A
2	<b>Declarations of Interest/Dispensations</b>	3
3	<b>Public Participation</b> (limited to 10 minutes, 2 minutes per question)	N/A
4	<b>To approve the minutes of the meeting on 6 November 2024</b>	4-14
5	<b>Chairman's Announcements</b>	N/A
6	<b>Finance</b>	15-18
7	<b>Planning</b> No consultation requests have been received.	19
8	<b>Asset Management Reports</b> Longmead War memorial Cemetery Blackdown Healthy Living and Activities Centre The Parish Store The Commons Public Conveniences Car Park Village Maintenance Ground Maintenance	20-23
9	<b>Project Reports</b> Community Land (Cavanna) Station Road Pavement Connecting the Culm/DRIP Improvements at Longmead Improvements to the MUGA Skatepark Assistance for the Clerk Christmas Lights Longmead Car Park Building Maintenance	24-25

<b>10</b>	<b>Community Matters</b> Garages Youth Project Hemyock Community Larder Hemyock Event Footpaths (P3)	26
<b>11</b>	<b>Highways</b> Road Warden Scheme DCC 20mph applications	27
<b>12</b>	<b>Police Matters</b> Crime Councillor Advocate Scheme	28
<b>13</b>	<b>MDDC Report</b> Report from Councillor Clist	29
<b>14</b>	<b>DCC Report</b> Report from Councillor Radford	30
<b>15</b>	<b>Public Relations</b>	31
<b>16</b>	<b>Clerk update/correspondence</b>	32-34
<b>17</b>	<b>Matters raised by Councillors/meetings attended (not for decision)</b>	N/A
<b>18</b>	<b>Items for the next agenda</b>	N/A
<b>19</b>	<b>Date of the next meeting</b>	35

This agenda displayed on the noticeboards provides the topics that will be under discussion at the next Parish Council meeting.

The full agenda published on the Parish Council website includes all the reports listed on this agenda ([www.hemyock.org/parishcouncil/meetings/](http://www.hemyock.org/parishcouncil/meetings/)) or a copy can be obtained from the Clerk ([hemyockpc@gmail.com](mailto:hemyockpc@gmail.com)).

ITEM		PAGE
2	<b>Declarations of Interest/Dispensations</b>	3

**To receive** any declarations of interest relating to business to be conducted at this meeting and  
**To consider** any dispensation requests and confirm any relevant dispensations.

- Agenda Item 7 Planning – Mr 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 8 Asset Management Reports - Mr Doble and Mr Ward may have a personal interest as both are members of Longmead Management Committee

ITEM		PAGE
4	<b>To approve the minutes of the meeting on 3 December 2024</b>	4-14

**Hemyock Parish Council**  
**Full Meeting**  
**held at Blackdown Healthy Living & Activity Centre, Hemyock at 7.30pm on 4 December 2024**

**Present**

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

Councillor Doble opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Councillor Summers and DCC Councillor Radford.

**2. Declarations of Interest/Dispensations**

- Agenda Item 7 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 8 Longmead – Councillors P Doble and Ward may have a personal interest as both are members of Longmead Management Committee

No declarations of interest were made.

**3. Public Participation**

Members of the public raised the following points which would be addressed under the appropriate agenda item or dealt with in any other business:

- blocked drains on Station Road
- blockage along the Shutlake
- MDDC emails to deceased residents

**4. To approve the minutes of the meeting on 6 November 2024**

**PROPOSAL:** The council minutes of 6 November 2024 are approved as a true record of the meeting.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor Ward

**SECONDER:** Councillor A Doble

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 thanked Councillors Summers and Talbot and the Clerk for their actions following blocked drains.

**6. Finance**

**6.1 Report from the Finance Committee**

Councillor Lawrence referred to the items listed in the agenda as follows:

**Improvements to Longmead**

The Finance Committee recommends that the improvements to Longmead be approved and paid for by the Parish Council.

The Longmead Committee had advised that income did not cover the basic expenditure for running the pavilion and there would be a loss this year. Maintenance of the building and all the grounds were covered by the Parish Council. The constitution of the Longmead Committee did need to be amended to correctly reflect the financial distribution of costs relating to Longmead.

Page 145

The Finance Committee felt the improvements offered the Longmead Committee the ability to break even and, possibly, start contributing to the overall costs of Longmead. It also maintained what was a valuable Parish Council and community asset.

The Finance Committee was recommending that £10,000 be set aside for the improvements with additional sums to cover insurance, prior planning advice, planning permission, possible structural survey and the potential need to meet building regulations. This sum represents £2k per year over 5 years.

The possibility of Football Federation grants would be explored.

Councillor Lawrence also recommended that the works for the showers (3 quotes had been obtained by the Longmead Committee) should be actioned prior to submitting a planning application.

**PROPOSAL:** The council allocate the funds of £10,000 to undertake the works in the schedule presented by the Longmead Committee and other associated costs.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor Lawrence

**SECONDER:** Councillor P Doble

It was RESOLVED that the proposal be accepted with one abstention by Councillor Clist given the planning nature of the project.

### **Improvements to the MUGA**

The MUGA was a key component in improving the revenue at Longmead and again was a Parish Council asset. The current surface was not fit for purpose and could be deemed at health and safety issue.

The Longmead Committee were organising quotes for the MUGA to be re-surfaced and it was hoped that this would be covered by grants.

The Clerk had spoken to the person organising the quotes and contacted two firms that had sent promotional emails to the Parish Council. These two companies would supply quotes for tarmac and 2g surfacing.

### **Skatepark**

The Finance Committee recommends that the Parish Council increase the amount from £25,000 to £30,000 representing 10% of the known cost. It was felt this would assist in the Skatepark Committee obtaining grants etc.

The Finance Committee felt that the amount should not be increased above £30,000 unless public budgetary participation was in favour of further investment.

It was noted that the Skatepark had approximately £3700 in Parish Council funds and some £5000 had already been provided by the Parish Council for planning and the environmental assessment plans.

There will be a launch of the Skateboard project which will require attendance from the Parish Council. The question should be raised if any finance is required for the launch.

**PROPOSAL:** The council increase the allocate the funds to the skatepark from £25,000 to £30,000. Any further funds to be agreed by public budgetary participation.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor Lawrence

**SECONDER:** Councillor Moon

It was RESOLVED that the proposal be accepted on a unanimous decision.

**Action:** Clerk

Page 146

### **Assistance for the Clerk**

The Finance Committee felt it was important that the Parish Council had a clear understanding of the documentation held. A person has been identified who could do this for £13/hour and recommended at budget of £1000 be set (over 75 hours) to identify all documentation handed over. If more expenditure is required the Committee will return to the council with details. An inventory of the paperwork would assist in registering land etc.

**PROPOSAL:** The council allocate £1000 to assistance for the Clerk.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor Lawrence

**SECONDER:** Councillor Moon

It was RESOLVED that the proposal be accepted on a unanimous decision.

**Action:** Clerk

### **National Joint Council for Local Government Services agreement on the 2024/25 pay award**

The Finance Committee recommends that with effect from 1 April 2024, an increase of £1,290 (pro rata for part-time employees) will be paid as a consolidated, permanent addition on all NJC pay points 2 to 43 inclusive, should be applied to the Clerk's salary.

Given the Parish Council had also approved the increase at the meeting on 6 November 2024, a further vote was not felt necessary.

**Action:** Clerk

#### **Grant requests**

- the Lights Brigade - £750

The Finance Committee recommended granting £750 for this 10th anniversary year . However bearing in mind pressures on budgets, this level of support is not likely to continue and it is recommended the Lights Brigade look at alternative sources.

**PROPOSAL:** The council give a grant of £750 to the Lights Brigade.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor Lawrence

**SECONDER:** Councillor A Doble

It was RESOLVED that the proposal be accepted on a unanimous decision.

**Action:** Clerk

- CHAT

The Clerk was awaiting a response to her email requesting the number of Hemyock residents using the service.

**Action:** Clerk

The Grant Application policy and form , currently on the website, will be reviewed by the Finance Committee in February. All requests for grants should use the published form.

**Action:** Finance Committee/Clerk

#### **MDDC Grass Cutting Charges**

The contribution for 2025-2026 at £1284.24 ex. VAT was noted by the Parish Council.

**Action:** Clerk

#### **Devon Communities Together**

The membership fee by Direct Debit of £50.00 was noted by the Parish Council.

**Action:** Clerk

#### **Lights Competition**

The Finance Committee had recommended a sum of £100 should be set aside for prizes and that the competition terms should be amended to say that a resident could only win the competition once in every four years.

Page 147

**PROPOSAL:** The sum of £100 should be set aside for prizes and any individual could win once in every four years.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor Lawrence

**SECONDER:** Councillor Moon

It was RESOLVED that the proposal be accepted with one abstention.

**Action:** Clerk

#### **Budgets/Precept**

Councillor Lawrence advised that Scribe is now providing in-year comparisons with the previous year's full figures, which is very helpful. A few issues have been identified, mainly involving the detailing of already agreed project expenditure. The Committee will return to the PC with updated details for confirmation.

However, given the Government budget and the increases in the minimum wage, lowering of National Insurance thresholds and the need to pay contributions together with other ongoing costs, the Finance Committee was recommending an increase in the precept. The precept had been held at its current level for 6 years and this was not sustainable, however, the total amount has increased due to more properties (7%).

Normal expenditure is taking the Parish Council over the amount we received for the precept in this financial year. To be prudent, we need to be sure that we are not using reserves for general expenditure which are earmarked for specific projects.

The proposed increase was 11% to £98,000 , taking band D from £97.31 to £107.53, just under 20p more per week.

**PROPOSAL:** The precept be increased by 11% to £98,000.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor Lawrence

**SECONDER:** Councillor Moon

It was RESOLVED that the proposal be accepted on a unanimous decision.

**Action:** Clerk

### **Future projects**

#### **Cemetery**

Councillor A Doble had asked for three quotes and received two quotes to take down the back fence and use it to extend the side fence with the requirement to purchase 17-20m of additional fencing.

#### Quote A

Painted £7975 plus VAT

Galvanised £8325 plus VAT

#### Quote B

Painted £6800 plus VAT

Galvanised £7600 plus VAT

It was RESOLVED that the option for galvanised fencing was preferred.

**PROPOSAL:** Quote B for the fencing at the cemetery be accepted.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor A Doble

**SECONDER:** Councillor Moon

It was RESOLVED that the proposal be accepted with four abstentions. The details of the contractors would be provided in Part 2 of the meeting.

**Action:** Councillor A Doble

Page 148

#### **Longmead Carpark**

The addition of further parking at Longmead was needed with a Junior Football tournament being held in May and should be a project undertaken in early 2025.

The Parish Council RESOLVED that the drawings for the proposed car park which had been drawn up by Councillor Povah form the basis of the project and that Councillor Moon oversee the project to keep costs down. Any quotes obtained would be more expensive than a Parish Council led project.

**PROPOSAL:** Councillors Povah and Moon lead on the project and present a final design to the February meeting which should provide for the biggest car park possible and include galvanised tubing barriers.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor Lawrence

**SECONDER:** Councillor P Doble

It was RESOLVED that the proposal be accepted with one abstention by Councillor Clist given the planning nature of the project.

**Action:** Councillors Povah and Moon

#### **Robotic Mowers**

The Clerk had been unable to acquire three quotes for both purchase and lease of robotic mower(s).

**PROPOSAL:** The Parish Council should move to the use of robotic mowers to cut Longmead. If grant funding was available then the mower(s) would be purchased. If not the mowers would be leased. The Clerk would pursue three quotes for the next meeting.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor A Doble

**SECONDER:** Councillor S Clist

It was RESOLVED that the proposal be accepted on a unanimous decision.

**Action:** Clerk

#### **Village Maintenance**

The Clerk had identified a document that went out to tender for all village maintenance (grass cutting, repairs etc) and it was RESOLVED that this document should be used to provide for an updated document to include all contractors current rates.

**Action:** Councillor Povah/Clerk

### Station Road Pavement

Councillor Povah had spoken to the solicitors and felt that the Parish Council was once again in a position to apply for planning permission.

The original architect had been approached to provide quotes for architectural services, a quantity surveyors services and a CDM safety inspector given that much of the work had already been done when the previous application was submitted. The pavement design had changed slightly so new plans would need to be drawn up. The quotes had been circulated to councillors.

**PROPOSAL:** The Station Road Pavement architect be appointed to apply for planning permission/oversee the project as detailed in the quote.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor Povah

**SECONDER:** Councillor Moon

It was RESOLVED that the proposal be accepted with one abstention Councillor Clist due to it being a planning matter.

**Action:** Councillor Povah/Clerk

### Building Maintenance

A building maintenance plan had been started in 2020 but not followed. The Parish Council RESOLVED to agree the principle having a budgeted, maintenance plan for all assets and that funding may be required to achieve this.

**Action:** Councillor Povah/Clerk

Page 149

### Public Convenience

The Clerk had had difficulty in obtaining quotes because there was only one key and she lived away from Hemyock. Councillor Povah had volunteered to meet contractors on site but the problem of one key remained.

**PROPOSAL:** Three keys should be cut for the Public Convenience.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor Lawrrence

**SECONDER:** Councillor Moon

It was RESOLVED that the proposal be accepted on a unanimous decision.

### 6.2 To agree income and expenditure and bank reconciliations:

The Parish Council noted the income in the month of November.

### INCOME

Account ending 1298	£100.00 (cemetery)
Account ending 1308	Interest £0.00
Account ending 1311	£0.00
Account ending 1324 Pizza van	£20.00 (pizza van)

### EXPENDITURE – Invoices received 2024/25

Invoices to pay in November:

No	Amount	Payee	Reason
1.	142.50	E Ingledew	Cleaning public conveniences
2.	281.38	I Pike	Cemetery £75 Village maintenance £172.50 Reimbursements
3.	835.75	S McGeever	Clerk's wages (Payroll 30/11/24) + NALC increase
4.	6.00	GiffGaff	PC phone paid by S McGeever
5.	36.00	S McGeever	Travel expenses – September
6.	208.80	HMRC	PAYE
7.	64.00	MDDC	Car park rates - November
8.	40.00	BHLAC	Meeting rooms invoices sent out 30/11/24
9.	180.00	Upcott	Cutting of the grass at Longmead (3)
10.	96.00	Bunyan	Blocked urinals at Public Convenience
11.	87.53	Source for Business	Public conveniences
12.	27.59	Source for Business	Cemetery
13.	39.00	Metcalfe Allen	Longmead – archiving CCTV



No	Amount	Payee	Reason
14.			

Invoices paid

in October:

EDF Energy DD for Public Conveniences	£ 24.29
Bank service charge	£ 8.55
Approved payments total:	£2035.10
Total	£2067.94

The Clerk advised that an additional invoice from MDDC for the grass cutting in 2024-25 had been received in the sum of £1517.34.

**PROPOSAL:** The expenditure listed above be paid.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor Taylor

**SECONDER:** Councillor Lawrence

It was RESOLVED that the proposal be accepted on a unanimous decision.

Page 150

### Bank Reconciliations

The Parish Council noted the bank reconciliations given below:

Bank account	Closing balance 31/10/2024	Monies in	Monies out	Closing balance 30/11/2024
Unity Trust Bank current 298	4970.92	100.00	2067.94	3002.98
Unity Trust Bank deposit	143197.27	20.00		143217.27
Unity Trust Bank GF	747.99			747.99
Unity Trust Bank P3	1295.34			1295.34

Details of the other bank accounts would be given as bank statements were received. will be given at the meeting and recorded in the minutes.

### 6.2 To receive an update on the application for bank cards (Financial Regulations)

The Clerk advised the application was ongoing.

### 6.3 To receive an update on the change of key contact for Unity Trust Bank and changes for other bank accounts

The Clerk advised as follows@

#### Unity - completed

#### United Trust Bank – completed

The Parish Council confirmed that the annual budgets under £500,000 and thus eligible for the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

**Action:** Clerk

#### Nationwide

The application for Nationwide had been re-sent.

#### Cambridge

Identification documentation was required from new signatories.

#### Skipton

Identification documentation was required from new signatories.

#### HSBC

The HSBC paperwork had been lost in the post. The documents were signed at the meeting.

#### Lloyds – Poor Charity

Councillor Matthews advised that she had had no contact from Lloyds.

#### **6.4 To receive** information on S106 monies

The Clerk advised that the possibility of additional funding towards the cost of the trim trail project was ongoing.

### **7. Planning**

#### **7.1 To consider** the following applications:-

There were no applications to consider.

Page 151

#### **7.2 To receive** the following decision notices/appeal decisions:-

##### **24/01078/FULL – APPROVED – 1 November 2024**

Proposal: Change of use of dwelling and associated works to form offices and accommodation for Blackdown Support Group

Location: Newland Station Road Hemyock Cullompton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 313702/113362

##### **23/00511/FULL – APPROVED - 11 November 2024**

Proposal: Erection of 5 affordable dwellings following demolition of existing garages with associated parking, landscaping and works

Location: Land and Garages at NGR 313963 113447 Eastlands Hemyock Devon

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 313961/113446

#### **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

##### **ENF/23/00214/BRE – 30 August 2023**

Re: Home office used as living accommodation

Ploversfield Culmstock Road Hemyock

The Clerk had met with the Enforcement Officer and there are a number of ongoing issues in Hemyock. Enforcement issues were being dealt with on a 'risk' basis and those potential breaches that could have a serious effect on residents.

### **8. Asset Management Reports**

#### **8.1 Longmead**

See information under Finance.

Lighting for the Hemyock Muga

The questions raised at the Parish Council meeting have been given to the Longmead Committee for consideration.

Councillor P Doble advised that the Longmead Committee were making a list of items that needed to be checked on a regular basis under Health & Safety. The Tennis Club had requested that the brambles be dealt with and it was understood action had been taken.

The big timbers in the stream were due to be removed by the designated contractor.

It was noted that some damage appeared to have been caused by South West Water and this would be addressed when the project was completed.

Councillor Lawrence believed that there might be historical documentation relating to the upkeep of the bridge.

**Action:** Clerk

#### **8.2 War memorial**

Councillor Povah confirmed the work would take place after Christmas.

#### **8.3 Cemetery**

See information under Finance.

The Clerk would contact MDDC to ascertain if there was information on the ownership of the hedge between Cavanna and the cemetery. In certain areas, there was no access to the hedge. A copy of the Tenant Management Committee document would be beneficial.

Councillor Lawrence believed the conifers should come down and the stumps be ground to provide additional plots. The Parish Council used a number of contractors and given the work would need to be done before the nesting season a proposal was put forward.

**PROPOSAL:** Three quotes be obtained and the lowest quote be accepted to take down the conifers and grind the stumps.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor A Doble

**SECONDER:** Councillor P Doble

It was RESOLVED that the proposal be accepted on a unanimous decision.

#### **8.4 Blackdown Healthy Living and Activities Centre**

Councillor P Doble advised that one parking spot had been lost during the provision of the electric car charging facility.

Councillor Lawrence raised the parking post that had been repeatedly hit. Councillor Povah considered the best course of action would be take the post away and fit a 5" curb.

**Action:** Councillor Povah to design and obtain quotes

Councillor Lawrence and the Clerk had contacted Connecting the Culm regarding the riverbank and this would be looked into by the Environment Agency.

#### **8.5 The Parish Store**

Councillor Lawrence advised that the heap in the middle had now been removed.

#### **8.6 The Commons**

Councillor Moon advised that he considered it beneficial to fence off the top end of the track at Shuttleton Common. Access to the common could then be obtained via a 10' vehicular gate that could be kept locked and a 4' pedestrian gate which would prevent damage to the common.

He had obtained three quotes:

Quote 1 £1626

Quote 2 £2106

Quote 3 £1782

**PROPOSAL:** Of the three quotes obtained, the lowest quote for fencing should be accepted and the work undertaken.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor Moon

**SECONDER:** Councillor A Doble

It was RESOLVED that the proposal be accepted on a unanimous decision.

Councillor Moon would also remove the fallen tree on the track at Turbary.

Councillor Moon also considered it would be beneficial to move the gun club stands at Hemyock Turbary nearer to the track. This would require some investigation and contact with MDDC and the gun club.

In principle driving across the common to the stands should be discouraged.

Councillor Lawrence suggested that it would be advisable for the commons to be inspected; Councillor Moon advised this had been done 4 to 5 years ago. However, there is no access to Owleycombe Common.

There would be a commons meeting in the New Year.

**Action:** Clerk

#### **8.7 Public Conveniences**

See report under Finance.

### **8.8 Car Park**

The Clerk advised that MDDC was going out to tender for the car park to be re-surfaced now with a view to it being completed in this financial year.

### **8.9 Village Maintenance**

See report under Finance.

### **8.10 Ground Maintenance**

See report under Finance.

## **9. Project Reports**

### **9.1 Community Land (Cavanna)**

The Clerk had written a report which would be considered under Part 2 of this meeting due to the sensitive nature of some of the information. When matters were resolved a report would be given to the Parish Council in the public section of a future meeting.

Information published in the agenda was as follows:

- Information from Cavanna regarding the ROSPA report on the attenuation pond together with action relating to trees at the cemetery and Longmead is awaited at the time of writing the agenda
- Email exchanges have taken place with the Cavanna and our solicitor regarding the handover and a further call is booked before the meeting

### **9.2 Station Road Pavement**

See report under Finance.

### **9.3 Connecting the Culm/DRIP**

See report under BHLAC.

The paperwork for the flood works at Longmead had been completed.

### **9.4 Blackdown Hills Parish Network (BHPN)**

Councillor Lawrence advised that the Village Hall would like to use the Flir C5 Thermal Imaging Camera.

**Action:** Clerk

## **10. Community Matters**

### **10.1 Garages Youth Project**

Councillor Matthews undertook to chase up the paperwork for the flood works at the Garages. Work to set up a meeting to discuss the lease was ongoing.

### **10.2 Hemyock Community Larder**

Councillor Doble advised that the community larder continued to be a success.

### **10.3 Footpaths (P3)**

Councillor Povah advised that the bridge on Footpath 19 had now collapsed and Devon County Council had been informed and repairs would be carried out.

An additional P3 grant had been awarded.

### **10.4 Hemyock Day 2025**

The event would take place on 21 June 2025.

A successful fundraising disco had been held with a further event planned in April.

Page 154

## **11. Highways**

Road Warden Scheme

Councillor A Doble advised Chapter 8 training had been arranged for 17 December 2024.

The Clerk reminded Councillor Doble that she needed his equipment order in readiness for the course.

Highways had also agreed to fund cones that could be used in the event the Road Warden needed to make off areas etc. The cones would be kept at Longmead and at Councillor Doble's home and be painted with a HPC. Councillor Clist advised that he also had a number of cones.

20mph applications/speed limits

The Clerk advised that correspondence from residents had referred to the use of speed cameras and the need for a reduction of speed on Cornhill.

Devon County Council had indicated that self-funded 20mph limits may be brought in but no cost information had been received.

Bus routes

The Clerk had requested a meeting with DCC and Dartline to address ongoing issues with buses and parked cars.

## **12. Police matters**

### **12.1 Crime**

The Clerk had contacted the Neighbourhood Police Officer and he hoped to come to the next meeting. Councillor Ward indicated his willingness to go out on a police run.

**Action:** Clerk

### **12.2 Councillor Advocate Scheme**

Councillor Clist had no information to give on the scheme at this meeting and reports had been circulated to Parish Councillors by the Clerk.

## **13. MDDC Report**

Councillor Clist advised that Councillor Bradshaw would attend the next meeting to talk about the climate initiative and he reported as follows:

- The UK prosperity funding was available for local businesses.
- The Crediton plan had been adopted
- Free parking was being offered on a Saturday in the run-up to Christmas.
- It was hoped that the Culm Valley Light Railway would be added to the LCWIP project.
- The Let's Talk Devon consultation closed on 11 December 2024
- There had been no planning applications

Councillor Matthews believed that the Devolution Bill would see the district councils disbanded.

## **14. DCC report**

Councillor Radford had submitted a report which was considered by the council and no questions raised.

## **15. Public Relations**

Councillor Talbot advised there were no Public Relations issues.

The Clerk advised that work was ongoing to change to a gov.uk website domain and update the website.

## **16. Clerk Update/Correspondence**

Emergency Plan

The Clerk has met with Devon Communities Together to run through the Emergency Plan. It would be helpful if a working group was set up to start the plan and then a parish open meeting held to identify key areas of assistance.

Page 155

Neighbourhood Plan

The Clerk is still working on a date for the Neighbourhood Plan meeting with the consultant.

Grant Funding for Flood Works

See report under the Garages.

Consultation on remote Parish Council meetings

The Parish Council were in favour of councillors being able to attend remotely in exceptional circumstances. They did not wish to see proxy voting as believed it was necessary to hear the discussion before forming an opinion.

## **17. Matters raised by Councillors/meetings attended**

The following matters were raised:

- mowing of Longmead
- drains on the hill blocked (reported to DCC)
- potholes at Ruggsmoor

- grant awarded by the Mary Waldron Charity
- membership of Open Spaces

The Chairman wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

**18. Items for the next agenda**

As detailed in the minutes of this meeting.

**19. Dates of the next meetings:**

The next meeting will be on:

- 8 January 2025 (if required for planning)
- 5 February 2025
- 12 February 2025 (Finance)

Meetings to be arranged: Commons Committee  
Community Land Committee  
Skatepark Committee  
Action Plan meeting

The Chairman closed the public meeting at 9.15pm and the meeting went into Part 2.

Part 2 covered the negotiations between Cavanna and the Parish Council together with their associated solicitors to bring to a conclusion the acquisition of the community land and its re-instatement to meadow land. The final contract, once concluded, will be published on the Parish Council's website.

Part 2 closed at 9.45pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

ITEM		PAGE
6	<b>Finance</b>	15-18

### 6.1 Report from the Finance Committee

The Finance Committee will next meet on 12 February 2025.

Information on Scribe is being updated to reflect the decisions made at the last meeting regarding reserves.

### 6.2 To agree income and expenditure and bank reconciliations:

The information provided reflects the bank statements for December, the January statements were not available when the agenda was prepared. The final information will be provided at the meeting.

#### INCOME (December)

Account ending 1329		
Account ending 1308	Interest	£ 8.68
Account ending 1311	Interest	£ 5.01
Account ending 1324	Pizza van	£ 20.00
	Interest	£932.27

#### INCOME (January)

Account ending 1329		
Account ending 1308		
Account ending 1311		
Account ending 1324	Pizza van	£ 20.00

#### EXPENDITURE – Invoices received 2024/25

Other payments in December (not listed in the minutes):

Service Charge	£ 7.95
CPRE membership	£ 60.00
EDF Energy	£ 28.06
RBL (wreath)	£ 100.00

Invoices paid for December (in January):

I Pike (reimbursement)	£ 8.49
I Pike (maintenance charge)	£ 157.50
E Ingledew (public convenience)	£ 135.00
HMRC (PAYE)	£ 131.20
S McGeever (Wages)	£ 524.78
J Stevens (clearing stream)	£ 120.00
J Stevens (Commons fencing)	£1626.00
BHLAC (meeting room)	£ 16.00

EDF Energy DD for Public Conveniences £25.67

Invoices to pay for January (approval at February meeting):

No	Amount	Payee	Reason
1.	£286.25	I Pike	Cemetery maintenance £31.25. Village maintenance £255.
2.	£135.00	E Ingledew	Public Convenience
3.	£420.00	R Beaver	Longmead strimming (shrubs)
4.	£15.99	S McGeever	Google subscription
5.	£50.00	S McGeever	Devon Communities Together membership
6.	£12.00	S McGeever	Giff Gaff subscription x 2
7.	TBA	S McGeever	January wages
8.	TBA	HMRC	PAYE
9.	£213.00	Woodquist	Website
10.	£4560.00	Blackdown Fencing	Fencing for extension to cemetery 50% deposit
11.	£131.62	A Doble	PPE equipment (DCC reimbursing council)
12.			
13.			
14.			

### ICO

Data protection fee - we will collect your direct debit on or before 05/02/2025

### Bank Reconciliations

September statements were not available when agenda was produced – updated information will be brought to the meeting and included in the minutes.

Bank account	Closing balance 30/11/2024	Monies in	Monies out	Closing balance 30/12/2024
Unity Trust Bank current 298	3002.98	5000.00	3789.90	4213.08
Unity Trust Bank deposit	143217.27	952.27	5000.00	139169.54
Unity Trust Bank GF	747.99	5.01		753.00
Unity Trust Bank P3	1295.34	8.68		1304.02

Bank account	Closing balance 31/12/2024	Monies in	Monies out	Closing balance 28/01/2025
Unity Trust Bank current 298	4213.08	5000.00	2744.64	6468.44
Unity Trust Bank deposit	139169.54	20.00	5000.00	134189.54
Unity Trust Bank GF	753.00			753.00
Unity Trust Bank P3	1304.02			1304.02

Details of the other bank accounts will be given at the meeting and recorded in the minutes.

**6.3 To receive** an update on the application for bank cards (Financial Regulations)

**6.4 To receive** an update on the change of key contact for Unity Trust Bank and changes for other bank accounts

Unity

United Trust Bank - completed

Nationwide

Cambridge



Skipton

HSBC – signatory change completed – a signatory must register for online banking

Lloyds – Poor Charity

#### **6.5 To receive** information on S106 monies

Possibility of additional funding towards the cost of the trim trail project – ongoing

#### **6.6 To consider hourly rate increases for**

- Cleaning of the Public Conveniences
- Strimming
- Grass Cutting and Village Maintenance

#### **6.7 Clerk’s Annual Review**

The permanent contract was put in place in March 2024. An annual review/appraisal should take place.

#### **6.8 Cemetery Rule Book**

Essential Law for Cemetery and Crematorium 2025 revision is now available to purchase via amazon for the price of £46

The book replaces the first edition published June 2021, which has been withdrawn from sale, and which contains the following additional content:

- Changes to death certification, resulting from the introduction of the statutory medical examiner system on 9 September 2024;
- The Funeral Market Investigation Order 2021.
- The launch on 3 October, 2024 of the long-awaited Law Commission Consultation on burial and cremation and what legal changes are expected as soon as parliamentary time allows
- Three real-life case studies relating to competing family claims for burial rights; moves by local councillors to dissolve a joint cemetery committee; and the extent of a town council's responsibilities to maintain a closed churchyard.
- Recent case law concerning a well-known London cemetery and the interpretation of burial rights.

#### **6.9 To consider the** Community Fridge Grant

The Community Fridge has just celebrated its first anniversary. It has re-distributed 15,503kg of food to our community. This is the equivalent of 6,511 meals for local people, £48,740 saved and 49,608kg of CO2 footprint saved which is enough to drive 11, 311 miles. Pretty impressive!

The Parish Council kindly agreed last year to pay the community larder rent each year when we agreed to house the larder at the Healthy Living Centre. It was paid in February 2024, so is now due. The amount agreed was £1500.

#### **6.10 To consider funding CCTV at the BHLAC**

We had a Trustee meeting recently where we discussed the issues of increased car accidents and a rise in vandalism in the village. One of our neighbours has had his car hit 3 times over the past year, and another neighbour has recently had their car hit. In most cases the drivers who have caused the damage just drive off without leaving contact details for insurance. There has also been the case of the lady who drove into the oil tank. The trustees agreed that CCTV works as a good deterrent for vandalism and also for owning up to any car incidents!

We would like to ask the PC to consider putting CCTV on the building. I have had 3 quotes.

- A. £1,845 + VAT for 5 x Cameras
- B. £1,866 + VAT for 3 Cameras
- C. £1,885 for 3 Cameras

Our preference would be A because the additional cameras would give us cover down the side of the building, this would have given us visibility of the car hitting the oil tank. Also, A provided the CCTV system at Longmead Pavillion and the aftercare has been excellent. It's an easy system to use.

A CCTV policy adopting the principles outlined in Code of Practice for the use of surveillance cameras ihas been circulated to councillors.

#### **6.11 Play Park**

The Annual Inspection is due to take place in April – cost £94.95 exclusive of VAT.

#### **6.12 Precept**

The precept paperwork has been submitted.

ITEM		PAGE
7	<b>Planning</b>	19

**7.1 To consider** the following applications:-

No applications have been received.

**7.2 To receive** the following decision notices/appeal decisions:-

24/00783/FULL – APPROVED – 28 November 2024

Proposal: Conversion and extension of barn to self-build dwelling and erection of a link-to garage with store

Location: Land and Buildings at NGR 311821 115118 (Cracklehayes Barn) Hemyock Devon

**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

**ENF/23/00214/BRE – 30 August 2023**

Re: Home office used as living accommodation

Ploversfield Culmstock Road Hemyock

The Clerk met with the Enforcement Officer and there are a number of ongoing issues in Hemyock.

Enforcement issues were being dealt with on a ‘risk’ basis and those potential breaches that could have a serious effect on residents.

ITEM		PAGE
8	<b>Asset Management Reports</b>	20-23

Update on the setting up of a working group to assess all assets.

### 8.1 Longmead

Tidying up Longmead

Given the wet weather and the use of one robotic mower various areas of Longmead need to be tidied up especially if robot mowers are going to be used going forward as the grass is too long.

Councillor Povah has met with a local contractor who is able to carry out this work for £440 which includes cutting all areas and taking down all brambles etc.

Grass cutting at Longmead

Robotic mowers

#### Quote 1

To price the equivalent Kress against the Husqvarna 550 Auto Mow, it would be the Kress KR174E @ £3499.00 + vat. x 2 machines = £6998.00 which would be £435 per 1/4 year. We would advise not to have these machines as they would only cut the whole area around once a week, this wouldn't be sufficient enough knowing how fast the grass grows and it wouldn't look very tidy at all.

Lease plan for a Kress Robot Mower for 5 year Plan.

Kress KR236E RTK Mega Robot Mower £10832.50 + vat

c/w 8-year free 4G data + OAS

service charge per year/updates £150.00 +vat

Over 5 Years £750.00 + vat

Total £11582.50 + vat

1/4 Year Repayments £719.27 +vat per annum

£2877.08

This price excludes insurance as there are so many get out clauses for the insurance companies /not secure/Vandalism/theft/weather/lightning/Trees falling/Branches/Floods/etc. I believe this is the same with a lot of manufactures from what I've been told. The lease company advised me that you would be a lot better off using your own existing insurance company, as you should be able to bespoke the policy to your requirements.

The Kress KR236E would cut the whole of the grounds 2-3 times per week, so you would get that sports field tidy finish you're looking for.

You will need a person to carry out general care of the machine weekly, cleaning off the underside and wheels etc of the build-up of grass, also to check the blades for sharpness/ damage, also to be a point of contact if anything was to happen, or if there is anything going on at Longmead, football etc, the mower needs to be sent back home to its docking station until it is safe to come back out again. The blades would not be covered by us.

#### Quote 2

2 1 970656703 AUTOMOWER® 550 EPOS™

970468203 EPOS™ RS5 Reference Station

Service and insurance

Total monthly fee (excl VAT) GBP 374.85

Annual fee £4498.20

Contract length 60 months

Husqvarna Services \* includes the following:

Comprehensive insurance

Installation (Automowers)

service checklist

Seasonal change of blades (Automowers)

Free repairs\*

Replacement product in case of repair

\* Does not cover irresponsible or inappropriate use.

Comprehensive insurance \* covers the following:

Fire

Theft

Lightning strike

Floods

Vandalism

Unexpected injury / accident

Products to be used according to user manual

In the event of damage, the insurance' deductible is a maximum of GBP 450.00 per product.

Offer valid for 30 days from : 2025/1/7

Grass cutting costs

Quote 1

3 hrs to cut @£50-60 per hour football pitches – 1 hour surrounding area

Strimming £30 per hr

4 x £55 x 14                      £3080.00

4 x £55 x 18                      £3960.00

Quote 2

Option 1 -

Works Included – 14 Grass Cuts and strimming

Annual Cost (exc. VAT) £2,240.04

Monthly Cost (exc. VAT) £186.67

Option 2 -

Works Included – 18 Grass Cuts and strimming

Annual Cost (exc. VAT) £2,880.00

Monthly Cost (exc. VAT) £240.00

Quote 3

£220 per day x 14                £3080

£220 per day x 18                £3960

(smaller machine)

Lighting for the Hemyock MUGA

Initial repairs have been carried out to the lighting at the MUGA. There appears to be significant water damage in the electrical units and the Longmead Committee are considering the way forward. Consideration needs to be given to possible lighting for the Skatepark.

Re-surfacing the Hemyock MUGA

The general consensus appears to be that the MUGA requires re-surfacing and again is becoming a health and safety issue. Given that several firms have contacted the Parish Council, I have asked for quotes. I understand the Football Team also have a quote and there may be grants available.

Play Park inspection

The Play Park inspection is booked for April at a cost of £94.95 (see Finance)

Finance

Longmead have reported that the income is £4,639.22 and expenditure is £5,132.59. The majority of income for the year has been received and there is 2 months to go until year end. There will be a significant deficit again this year. Currently standing at £493.37.

The Longmead Committee have discussed the contribution Exe Valley Pizzas make each week and it was suggested we charge a little more each time and use the money collected towards the trade waste bill. Would the Parish Council support this?

Receipts to the Parish Council are £20 per month.

The trees overhanging the bridge are in need of pruning and the overgrowth needs to be strimmed back so the stream can be accessed.

## **8.2 War memorial**

Update from Councillor Povah

## **8.3 Cemetery**

Report from Councillor Clist/Councillor A Doble

Extending the cemetery:

**PROPOSAL:** Quote B for the fencing at the cemetery be accepted.

Quote

Without galvanised panels	£6800.00 ex VAT	£8160.00
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With galvanised panels	£7600.00 ex VAT	£9120.00
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Proposed start date 3 March 2025 – weather dependent

Deposit required (see Finance)

Does the grass need to be cut in the extension?

Taking down the trees

**PROPOSAL:** Three quotes be obtained and the lowest quote be accepted to take down the conifers and grind the stumps.

Work to be undertaken once the back fence is down.

Spoil tip also needs to be removed.

Report from the Clerk

Moles have been in evidence and work has and continues to be carried out.

## **8.4 Blackdown Healthy Living and Activities Centre**

Update from Councillor Doble

Update from the Clerk

Accident and damage

The accident and damage has been reported to the insurance company.

River bank at the BHLAC

Connecting the Culm have advised that the Environmental Agency do not offer this service and are trying to find a river geomorphologist that can visit and advise.

## Oil tank at the BHLAC

It has been identified that the oil tank at the BHLAC does not meet the required standard. The base is too small and it is not sufficiently protected. The insurance is invalidated by the failure to meet the required standard.

Councillor Povah has been working to secure quotes to make the oil tank compliant. One timber post and the rails to each side need to be removed and a Keeklamp (or similar) galvanised tubular fence with proprietary clamp fittings as shown on the drawing put in its place. Could you please indicate the cost of this work. As it is an emergency because of the insurance implications it would be appreciated if this work could be done as soon as possible.

The whole system should have been signed off at the time of completion of the contract. The certificate provided to the council appears to indicate that this information was highlighted.

The whole contract advised off significant savings. Have they been achieved?

## **8.5 The Parish Store**

Update from Councillor Doble

## **8.6 The Commons**

Report from Councillor Moon

The Commons Management meeting has been postponed to the New Year.

The work to the track and fencing has been completed at a cost of £1626.00 (see Finance).

## **8.7 Public Conveniences**

Report from the Clerk

The Clerk has been chasing quotes for three months. Councillor Povah will meet contractors at the Public Convenience

## **8.8 Car Park**

Report from the Clerk

MDDC is going out to tender for the car park to be re-surfaced now with a view to it being completed in this financial year.

The possibility of electric car chargers funded through DCC is being pursued.

## **8.9 Village Maintenance**

Report from Clerk

Maintenance continues around the village.

Quote for repairs to Church/St Margaret's Brook fencing at £984.00 are being reviewed by Councillor Povah.

## **8.10 Ground Maintenance**

Councillor Povah and the Clerk are putting together a document of current hourly rates for those undertaking ground maintenance in the village.

ITEM		PAGE
9	<b>Project Reports</b>	24-25

### 9.1 Community Land (Cavanna)

Report from the Clerk

- The Land Registry document sent to Foot Anstey before Christmas appears to have been lost in the post and will require re-signing at the meeting. The signed scanned copy is not sufficient. The other party has signed the document.
- Cavanna's solicitors have confirmed that the draft contracts received just before Christmas are the latest drafts and Foot Anstey is considering the documentation.
- Drainage and soil analysis – three companies have been contacted to look at the drainage and soil analysis – availability appears to be the main issue

A report from the meeting with Cavanna in December has been circulated to councillors.

Report from Councillor Matthews

### 9.2 Station Road Pavement

Report from Councillor Povah

As agreed at the previous meeting:

**PROPOSAL:** The Station Road Pavement architect be appointed to apply for planning permission/oversee the project as detailed in the quote.

The paperwork has been signed and returned.

Costings to date:

Architectural Services and Principal Designer	£3225.00 ex VAT	£3870.00
Principal Designer Service	£1125.00 ex VAT	£1350.00
Quantity Surveying Service	£1350.00 ex VAT	£1620.00

### 9.3 Connecting the Culm/DRIP

Memorandum of Understanding (cameras)

The Parish Council has received information that DCC would like to hand the cameras over to Hemyock Parish Council. The document will be circulated to councillors before the meeting.

News

In early January we held webinars to introduce the surface water flood forecasting system that we are trialling through the project. These webinars provided detail on how the volunteers can sign up for the alerts via WhatsApp channels, and provide us with feedback. As this is a pilot project we currently trialling the system with a small group of volunteers, so we can refine and improve the alerts before rolling it out to the whole community. I have 3 people currently signed up in Hemyock, but if you know anyone else that would like to join the project, please do pass on my contact details and I can send them all the information.

If you would like more information, the link to the recorded version of the webinar is here: [Engagement presentation recording Jan 2025 \(v0.1 January 2025\).mp4](#). Details on how to join the WhatsApp channel for Hemyock are in this document: [Hemyock Joining WhatsApp Channel.pdf](#)

Next events

- **Drowning by numbers:** the past, present and future of ancient water meadows - Coldharbour Mill, Uffculme, 7pm on **Thursday 6 February** (more details below)
- **Connecting the Culm annual forum** - Cullompton Community Centre, 7pm on **Thursday 3 April**. Save the date - details to follow.



#### **9.4 Improvements to Longmead**

**PROPOSAL:** The council allocate the funds of £10,000 to undertake the works in the schedule presented by the Longmead Committee and other associated costs.

A progress report has been requested.

#### **9.5 Improvements to the MUGA**

Quotes are being obtained for the refurbishment of the MUGA and should be available for the meeting.

#### **9.6 Skatepark**

**PROPOSAL:** The council increase the allocate the funds to the skatepark from £25,000 to £30,000. Any further funds to be agreed by public budgetary participation.

The Lottery Application has been submitted.

Request for Parish Council to put funds into a Crowdfunding page.

HSBC Safeguard Team has confirmed the Hemyock Parish Council Longmead Field Account can be re-activated.

Update at the meeting.

#### **9.7 Assistance for the Clerk**

**PROPOSAL:** The council allocate £1000 to assistance for the Clerk.

The Clerk is collecting the paperwork at the meeting and will take it to the individual concerned.

#### **9.8 Lights Competition**

**PROPOSAL:** The sum of £100 should be set aside for prizes and any individual could win once in every four years.

Clerk actioning prizes (see Finance).

#### **9.9 Longmead Carpark**

**PROPOSAL:** Councillors Povah and Moon lead on the project and present a final design to the February meeting which should provide for the biggest car park possible and include galvanised tubing barriers.

#### **9.10 Building Maintenance**

A building maintenance plan had been started in 2020 but not followed. The Parish Council RESOLVED to agree the principle having a budgeted, maintenance plan for all assets and that funding may be required to achieve this.

**Action:** Councillor Povah/Clerk

ITEM		PAGE
10	<b>Community Matters</b>	26

### **10.1 Garages Youth Project**

Report from Councillor Matthews

The Youth Club have requested if there is funding available to install Broadband at the Garages.

### **10.2 Hemyock Community Larder**

Report from Councillor P Doble

### **10.3 Footpaths (P3)**

Report from Councillor Povah

Report from Clerk

DCC have contacted Hemyock regarding this year's payments of £410 and £700 – the two invoices have been re-sent to PROW and payment is awaited.

ITEM		PAGE
11	<b>Highways</b> - traffic issues and pavements	27

Report from Clerk

- a. Road Warden  
Chapter 8 training – completed by Councillor Doble  
Claim being made for equipment purchased.  
A grant has been approved for the purchase of traffic cones for the Parish Council when needed to road matters.
  
- b. 20mph applications/speed limits  
Correspondence from residents refer to use of speed cameras and the need for a reduction of speed on Cornhill.
  
- c. Bus routes  
Meeting requested with DCC and Dartline – not date has been agreed
  
- d. Grit bins  
One grit bin has been refilled by DCC and further supplies have been ordered.
  
- e. Speedwatch report  
The Speedwatch report has been sent to councillors

ITEM		PAGE
12	<b>Police Matters</b> - Councillor Advocate Scheme	28

**12.1 Crime**

ASB at the Public Conveniences and around the parish  
The local Neighbourhood Officer has been contacted.

**12.2 Councillor Advocate Scheme**

Report from Councillor Clist

ITEM		PAGE
13	<b>MDDC Report</b>	29

MDDC report from Councillors Clist/Bradshaw

ITEM		PAGE
14	<b>DCC Report</b>	30

DCC Report from Councillor Radford

ITEM		PAGE
15	<b>Public Relations</b>	31

Report from Councillor Talbot on public relations and social media.

Report from Clerk

Updating of all the information on the website is ongoing.

Email to Woodquist regarding possibility to change domain name to gov.uk

ITEM		PAGE
16	<b>Clerk update/Correspondence received</b>	32-33

Items received have been circulated to the Parish Council and included on the agenda as appropriate.

#### **Station Road**

Email correspondence has been received regarding surface water on Station Road which is a matter for South West Water.

South West Water are attending a MDDC Scrutiny Committee meeting and with the correspondents approval, I have forwarded the correspondence to a member of the committee.

#### **Emergency Plan**

This is a work in progress and will require an Open Meeting for residents. The 2012 Emergency Plan has been circulated to councillors.

Date to be set.

#### **Neighbourhood Plan**

Given the changes to the National Planning Policy Framework and the possibility of a Unitary Authority, the Neighbourhood Plan meeting has been postponed so that the impact can be assessed.

#### **Grant Funding for Flood Works**

The paperwork has been completed for the works at Longmead.

The paperwork for the works at the Garage is with the owner and the Parish Council, as the lessee, needs to give consideration to signing the paperwork.

#### **Blackdown Hills National Landscape**

Comments are invited on the draft management plan for the period 2025-2030. The information has been circulated to the Parish Council.

#### **Christmas Lights**

Two winners have come forward to date

1<sup>st</sup> prize and

2<sup>nd</sup> prize

Can 1<sup>st</sup> prize be a cash payment?

#### **VE Day 80**

Does the Parish Council wish to organise anything for VE Day 80?

#### **Discussion paper on Government changes to IHT and farming**

A discussion paper based on research conducted by the NFU demonstrates that 75% of farming families will be adversely affected by this proposed tax. The research notes that, given the marginal nature of farming today, the proposed taxes are not affordable for most medium sized farms, typical of our area.

As a result, we are distributing this paper to gauge how other parishes in the Blackdown Hills see this issue and to see whether there is an appetite to start a concerted campaign of lobbying our local MPs, with the aim of getting them to represent our disagreement with this policy to Central Government.

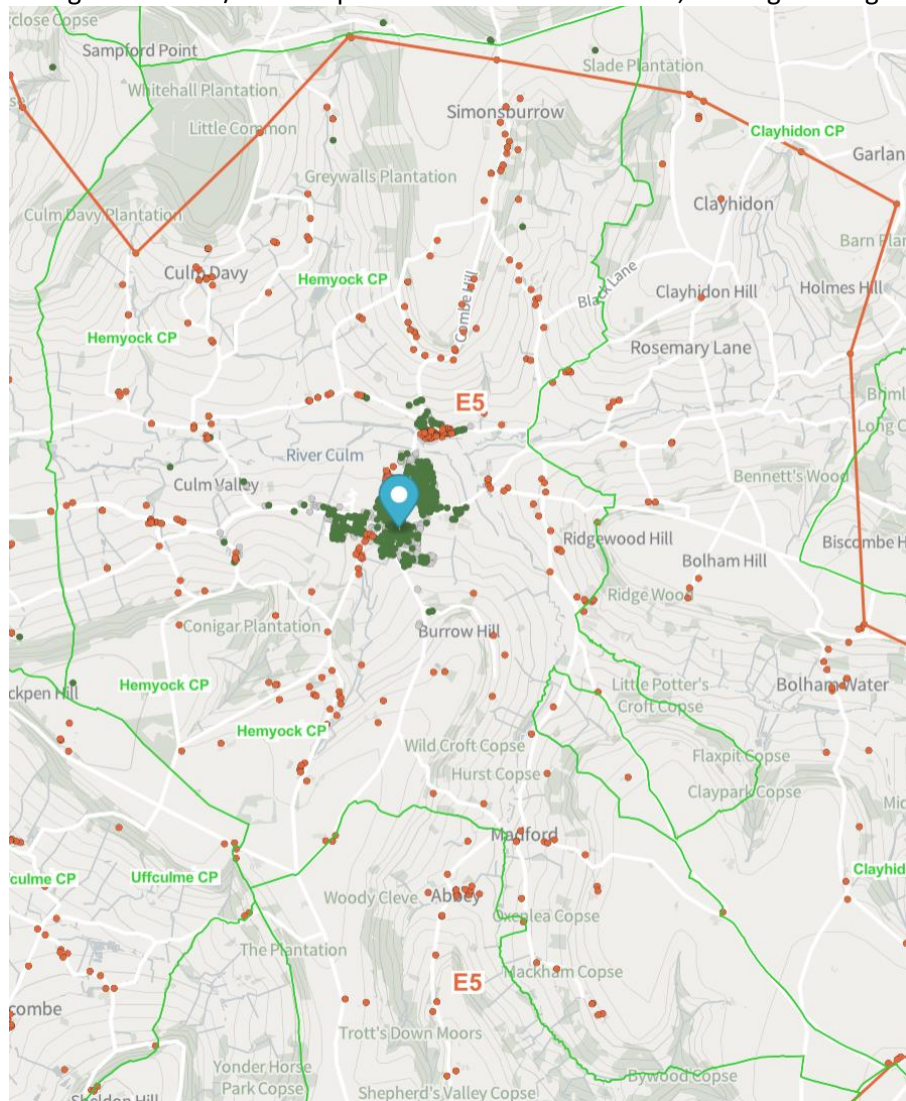
MDDC have subsequently set up a number of workshops on the issue.

#### **Broadband**

Meeting with Connecting Devon and Somerset



Grey dots – Openreach commercial build: build complete  
 Dark green dots – CDS/BT phase 1 contracts: build complete  
 Orange dots - CDS/Airband phase 2 contracts: E5 cluster, no longer being built to



As discussed during our meeting, for communities which will no longer be built to under the CDS/Airband phase 2 contracts, including Hemyock, CDS are engaging with government, through the Building Digital UK agency (BDUK), to discuss alternative options for providing connectivity to parishes who have been affected by this situation including their Project Gigabit Programme and voucher schemes.

CDS is liaising with BDUK to re-enable rural voucher eligibility for communities which were earmarked for delivery by Airband, allowing them to pursue solutions with other fibre providers as soon as possible, should they wish to.

Links which may be useful:

- ISP article on Project Gigabit [131,000 Premises to Benefit from New Project Gigabit Broadband Contracts UPDATE - ISPreview UK](#)
- Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme information [Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme information - GOV.UK](#)

## DALC

Meeting of smaller councils on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January, 10am – 12pm to discuss Devolution.

**Defibrillator Agreement**

The defibrillator agreement for Longmead Pavilion, Hemyock Parish Hall, Rosemary Lane Chapel, Clayhidon Half Moon Pub, Culmstock Village Hall & The Garages is up on the 16/06/2025.

Packages are currently the same cost; £1800.00+VAT for 4 years (paid upfront), if for example you wanted 2 defibrillators it would be the £1800.00 +VAT and an additional £1000.00 +VAT and so on for each additional package. Although this could be subject to change, as pricing is currently under review.

It is my understanding that these are the last contracts that will be entered into. At the end of this forthcoming 4 year period, the units will be handed over to the parish.

Hemyock Parish Council renewed the contract and was then reimbursed by the other parishes.

		PAGE
19	<b>Date of the next meeting</b>	27

Dates of the next meetings:

- 5 March 2025
- 2 April 2025
- 7 May 2025 – Annual Meeting of the Parish Council
- 14 May 2025 – Annual Parish Meeting

Commons Meeting

Action Plan Meeting

Skatepark Meeting