

Haccombe-with-Combe Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2 October 2019 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Boarer (Chairman), Alexander, Duggleby, Eaton, Evans, Humble and Hussey

Also present: County Cllr Dewhirst. There were no members of the public present.

Clerk: Suzanna Hughes

021019.01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- Cllr Pattinson
- Cllr Squires
- District Cllr Haines
- Elizabeth Deane (Hearn Field Committee Chairman)
- PC Harvey

021019.02 POLICE REPORT

There were no reported crimes from 05/09/19 – 01/10/19.

021019.03 OPEN FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

021019.04 DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

County Cllr Dewhirst gave a report, a copy of which is attached. He also advised that TDC now uses Ecosia as its browser of choice. Ecosia use the profit it makes from searches to plant trees where they are needed most. Over 69 million trees have been planted across the world so far.

021019.05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Members were reminded of their responsibility to continually update their Notice of Registerable Interests and to declare any disclosable interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they have in any items to be considered at this meeting. Members were reminded that unforeseen requests for a Dispensation to be considered at this point only if there was no way a member would have been aware of such before the meeting.

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

021019.06 MINUTES

Members approved and signed the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4 September 2019.

021019.07 DELEGATE REPORTS

None.

021019.08 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

8.1 Expenditure

Members approved the following payments:

Cheque no	Payee	Details	Amount
Online	Miracle Theatre	Outdoor theatre event	£1,741.20
Online	S Hughes	Reimbursement for fireworks purchased from Epic Fireworks	£1500
1072	HMRC	PAYE	£63.20
1073	S Hughes	Mileage £54; postage £15.72	£74.22

1074	RBL Poppy Appeal	Poppy wreath (s137, LGA 1972)	£17
1075	DALC	Training – Cllrs Hussey & Alexander	£180
1076	S Duggleby	Wildflower seeds	£49
1077	M Boarer	Hearn Field cleaning + cleaning products + towel holders	£126.61
DD	Opus Energy	Hearn Field electricity (Sept)	£27.85
SO	Clerk	Salary (Oct)	£268.62

8.2 Income

Members noted the income during the period 2 – 28 September:

Received	Received from	Details	Amount
9 Sept 2019	Lloyds	Interest	£0.53
10 Sept 2019	Hearn Field bookings	Various	£380
13 Sept 2019	Hearn Field booking	Booking	£24
24 Sept 2019	DCC (County Cllr Dewhirst Locality grant)	Grant towards HF drive improvements	£600
27 Sept 2019	TDC	Second instalment of precept	£4,171.50

8.3 Bank Balances at 28 September 2019

Current account	Savings account	Sea Wall account	Total
£7,035.99	£12,405.21	£3,825.10	£23,266.30

- 8.4 Members considered an application for a small grant of £1,000 from the Village Hall Committee towards the cost of roof repairs (total estimated cost £35,000). After a discussion, it was agreed that, with only £3,500 raised so far, the project was in its very early stages and therefore members could not see how the Village Hall Committee would be able to comply with the condition to spend the grant within 12 months of receiving it. It was therefore suggested that the Village Hall Committee applies for a grant for a smaller project for which any grant funding can be spent within 12 months. Having not received any other applications, it was agreed that the grant scheme would re-open and all applications would be considered in February's meeting.

021019.09 PLANNING

9.1 New applications/appeals

- 9.1.1 19/01656/FUL – 1 Albert Cottages, Combeinteignhead
Boundary wall works

Members advised that they had been unable to view the online documents due to a system error on TDC's website. An extension will be requested with a view to discussing this in November's meeting.

- 9.1.2 19/01026/LBC – Home Farm Barns, The Old Dairy, Lane to Mill Cottage, Haccombe
Replacement of existing timber casement windows with new timber units

Members had no objections to this application assuming that the conservation officer is satisfied that the replacements are like-for-like and sensitive to the listed building.

9.2 Decisions

- 9.2.1 18/02142/FUL – 33 Chestnut Drive, Newton Abbot
Detached dwelling with detached garage and parking

Members noted that the appeal has been dismissed but that costs have been awarded against TDC for non-determination.

021019.10 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

The clerk advised that TDC's Coastal Officer has looked at the issues raised at the last meeting and has also commented on the recent flooding on Coombe Cellars lane. He reported as follows:

The flood gate at the slipway wasn't closed over the Spring tide on Saturday evening. Water entered the car park and effected several vehicles. It is understood that at least one vehicle was damaged (potentially written-off) due to water in the electrics and that this is currently being assessed between the vehicle owner and the Environment Agency which owns the gate. Previously the EA used to ask the pub to close and could in theory check on telemetry – but given the current debate over loss it wouldn't be pertinent to comment further at this stage.

Regarding the fluvial flooding and the report that the stream flow was being impeded by a build-up of vegetation in the stream bed – possibly due to a reduction in streambed/ditch management on the section owned by the brewery – Graeme has spoken with the householder and the household had themselves effected temporary clearance which had appeared to alleviate the problem. The brewery is being reminded their previous commitment to maintain the channel within their ownership. Graeme has offered to speak with the householder in a couple of weeks to check any progress/next steps.

When he visited the site, there wasn't any evidence of sewage overflows. This is, however, something TDC has kept a watching brief on as this is a sensitive area where children learn to sail/kayak and is immediately upstream of registered shellfisheries, and we have vigorously chased up before with both the EA and the pub in terms of discharge and better management of the site treatment works. The situation had seemed to have improved but we will maintain an interest.

021019.11 CAR PARK

Members continued their discussions about the car parking arrangements in the centre of the village. An email was also received and noted from a parishioner raising similar concerns to those raised by another parishioner in September's meeting in particular the ongoing management of the village hall car park. It was agreed that the clerk would respond to advise that the Parish Council is working to create the impression of a managed space in the parish car park by improving the signage and relining the parking bays. The village hall has, however, confirmed that its car park is for use by hirers of the village hall only and it does not intend to open up this area for use as a public car park. To relieve pressure in the parish car park, it will ensure that all hall users are encouraged to use the village hall car park.

Members proceeded to consider some proposed wording for a new entrance sign to the car park drafted by Cllrs Hussey and Evans. The preferred wording was agreed and a draft of the proposed sign, together with costs, would be drawn up for consideration at the next meeting. As well as signage at the entrance to the parish car park, members also discussed erection of other signage to direct users of the village hall into the village hall car park as current signage was rather concealed.

021019.12 HEARN FIELD Devon Open Studios

They had a very successful two weeks at the Pavilion and attracted a lot of visitors. A percentage of their takings, £385.25, has been paid to the field. We also attach a letter expressing their appreciation, and a request to repeat the event next year.

Reach Outdoors

They were forced to postpone their camp last week because of stormy weather. They will rebook in the New Year. It was agreed that no charge should be made for the late cancellation.

Tarmacing of drive

This will begin in the next few weeks. Paul Norrish has kindly cleared a space at the end of the car park when the top layer of gravel /soil can be put.

Treework at Tidelands Boathouse

Cllr Hussey attended to supervise the trimming of the overhanging tree on 5 September. This was completed satisfactorily and financed by the owner of Tidelands who had requested it.

Bonfire Night

The Hearn Field/Bonfire Committee, led by Cllr Evans, has made comprehensive plans for this. The clerk will order the fireworks soon and everything else is under way as before. Insurance also needs to be confirmed. Numbers will be limited to 500 this year.

Wildflower Area

This has been dug up and prepared and the seeds purchased and sown . We will wait until the Spring to see if simple fencing will be needed to keep dogs off the new seedlings.

Outdoor Theatre

Several parishioners have suggested that we invite Illyria Theatre company to perform at the field this year. They are a more family orientated company in terms of their productions (this year's is Dr Dolittle). We have negotiated a split rate of 70/30 in their favour but with no upfront financial commitment required from us. The suggested date is Saturday 13 June. The Parish Council agreed to support the Hearn Field with this. Miracle Theatre could also be booked but a volunteer would be needed to co-ordinate this.

Hedge Cutting

This needs to be done soon. The Chair will arrange this with the contractors (J Hutchings) and provide them with a job number to ensure clarification in invoicing.

021019.13 CLIMATE CHANGE

Cllr Hussey informed members that he had researched how the Parish Council could embrace the Climate Emergency and had been looking at the visions and objectives of the Teignbridge Climate Emergency Action Group. The group has been tasked with the working with communities to realise TDC's target. He advised that signing up to this group and indicating the parish's interests would seem a sensible way for the parish, as a whole, to start to embrace the climate emergency. He agreed to look into whether signing up as a group was possible.

021019.14 SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE - NETHERTON

Members were reminded about the Service of Remembrance at Netherton on Sunday 10 November at 2pm. The Chairman offered to tidy up the area before the service and it was agreed to ask Gerald Arnold if he would read out the names of the fallen.

021019.15 CORRESPONDENCE

- 15.1 Members received and noted correspondence from the Leader of Teignbridge District Council, Cllr Hook by way of a follow-up to the TALC meeting which he was invited to attend on 27 June.
- 15.2 Cllr Eaton informed members that he had received an email from a parishioner living on the Hawthorne Rise development expressing ongoing concern about the increased anti-social behaviour on this development centred around the meadow and play area at the head of Aluric Rise. The police are called but often

the culprits have gone by the time the police arrive. It was agreed that the Parish Council would write to the PCSO and advise that further representation has been made to the Parish Council and request that the police increases its presence in this area.

A request was also made to local councils to install a kissing gate along the footpath down to Jellicoe Road as this should be for pedestrian use only. Cllr Dewhirst had advised that DCC would not be installing a kissing gate in this location.

The safety of the shared space between Aluric Rose and Baron Way/Gould Place was also raised. The children's playground signage is not satisfactory to residents and the correct signage for shared spaces is needed. Again, this would be a matter for DCC to consider.

021019.16 MEMBERS' ITEMS FOR INFORMATION OR GENERAL DISCUSSION, FOR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDAS AND/OR ITEMS REQUIRING URGENT ATTENTION

Members are reminded that they have not received the statutory notice of this business to be transacted and should therefore recognise that any decision made may be taken to be unlawful if challenged in the future

None.

021019.17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that the date of the next Parish Council meeting is 6 November 2019.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

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Chairman

County Councillor Dewhirst's Parish Council Report 2nd October

Devon County Council is calling on local councils to help plant trees on town and parish-owned land across the county. At its series of town and parish council highway conferences, which resume later this week, the authority will be reminding people of the 3:2:1 tree planting rule being promoted by the Devon Ash Dieback Resilience Forum. This aims to plant at least three new trees for every large one lost, two for every medium sized one, and one for each small one. The first of this year's town and parish conferences will be held on Friday (4 October) at the Kenn Centre in Kennford and will run from 10am to 1pm.

A new Government report calling for a nationwide ban on pavement parking has been welcomed by the County Council. The Transport Committee is recommending that a new civil offence of obstructive pavement parking is created, and that enforcement becomes the responsibility of local authorities. The report states that in the long term a ban on pavement parking should be put in place across England, outside of London where pavement parking has been banned since 1974. The Committee is recommending the Government launch an awareness campaign on the issue, and that a full consultation is held with local authorities about how to make the process of enforcement easier and more cost effective.

The Government has been looking at the issue of pavement parking since 2015 and the Transport Committee's report criticises the Department for Transport saying action "to tackle the problem of pavement parking has been slow", leaving some communities "blighted by unsightly and obstructive pavement parking". People with mobility difficulties, visual impairments and those who care for others are adversely affected by pavement parking.

Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) has announced the decision to end Gigaclear's five contracts to deliver full-fibre broadband in Devon and Somerset. CDS intends to launch a fresh procurement on the open market this autumn, commencing a tender process to identify new providers of these services.

Gigaclear had earlier been placed on notice of default after failing to meet contract targets set in early 2018 for the number of homes and businesses connected. The company, under new ownership since last summer, had incurred significant delays with its broadband roll-out due to previous failings and the collapse of Carillion in early 2018. CDS has withheld public subsidy while Gigaclear has been attempting to produce a satisfactory recovery plan.

Stover Country Park celebrated the completion of a giant reedbed designed to attract an array of wildlife as well as help to keep water clean. The sustainable scheme, which has delivered an impressive 3,800 square metres of reeds at the park just off the A38 is the result of a ground-breaking partnership project between Highways England, Stover Country Park and Devon County Council. Natural England also supported the work. The reeds act as a filter, capturing and filtering water run-off from the A38 and Drumbridges roundabout before it enters the lake. Water can carry pollutants such as oil and metal residue into the lake and this has contributed to the poor water quality and reduced diversity of wildlife in the lake. The reeds have been planted upstream of the lake to act as a natural barrier and filter pollutants. They will also provide valuable habitat for a range of wildlife. At the same time, the park, which is designated as a Local Nature Reserve and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), will be improving sustainable drainage at the site. Planting was completed in April and already many areas of reeds have reached a height of 30cm.