

# Haccombe-with-Combe Parish Council

[www.haccombewithcombe.co.uk](http://www.haccombewithcombe.co.uk)

## Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held in Combeinteignhead Village Hall on 1 September 2021 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Councillors Humble (Chairman), Boarer, Bunce, Evans, Hosking, Hussey and Pattinson

**Also present:** County Cllr Dewhirst and District Cllr Haines

**Clerk:** Suzanna Hughes

### **010921.01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- Cllr Saunders

### **010921.02 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.

### **010921.03 OPEN FORUM**

There were no members of the public present.

### **010921.04 POLICE REPORT**

4.1 Crime Report 1/8/21 – 31/8/21

There were no crimes recorded and 1 incident logged (anti-social behaviour).

4.2 Councillor Advocate Scheme:

Cllr Hussey reported that PC Orchard is trying to arrange PACT meetings. He has liaised with PC Orchard about the yellow Skoda parked outside the garage. The vehicle has now moved. The Devon Community Foundation is administering grants of between £1,000 and £5000 for community voluntary groups.

### **010921.05 DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

County Cllr Dewhirst gave a verbal report (copy attached).

District Cllr Haines advised that the Local Plan consultation has not ended. He gave apologies for October's meeting.

### **010921.06 DELEGATE REPORTS**

None

### **010921.07 MINUTES**

Members received the minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2021 and authorised the Chair to sign them as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

### **010921.08 PLANNING**

8.1 **New applications/appeals**

8.1.1 21/01465/LBC – Home Cottage, Road from Coombe Cottage to Higher Charlecombe Farm, Combeinteignhead

New windows at first floor level gable end, single storey extension to garden store room/greenhouse

Members agreed that they would support the decision of the Listed Buildings Officer.

**8.2 Decisions**

8.2.1 21/01708/HOU – 16 Chestnut Drive, Newton Abbot  
Two storey rear extension

Members noted that TDC has granted conditional planning permission.

8.2.2 21/01721/AGR – Land at SX 90364 71808, Combeinteignhead  
Agricultural building

Members noted that TDC has confirmed that prior approval is not required to carry out the development required.

8.2.3 21/01725/AGR – Erection of a building to be used for the cutting and dry storage of timber

Members noted that TDC has determined that this development does not constitute permitted development and therefore a full planning application will be required.

8.2.4 20/02024/FUL – Plant World, St Marychurch Road, Newton Abbot  
Retention of replacement agricultural building along with associated landscaping works and resurfacing of existing access track

Members noted that TDC has granted conditional planning permission.

8.2.5 20/02028/FUL – Higher Osier Court, Newton Abbot  
Change of use from B8 to Storage and Distribution to B2 General Industrial

Members noted that TDC has refused planning permission and as the unauthorised use is continuing, enforcement action will be instigated.

8.2.6 21/01259/FUL – Coombe Cellars, Combeinteignhead  
Installation of 28 bollard lights

Members noted that TDC has granted conditional planning permission.

**010921.09 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE**

**9.1 Expenditure**

The following payments were approved:

<b>Payment type</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
DD	Opus Energy	Hearn Field electricity (July & August)	£32.18
DD	Clerk	Salary (July)	£266.98
Online	T Boarer	Padlocks – £24 Diesel & grease - £82 Outside tap - £23.99 New vacuum (HF) - £169.99 Cupboard - £76.99 Cleaning (3 hrs) - £45	£421.97
Online	E Deane	Outdoor theatre expenses: Food/evening meals for cast - £72.43 Laminating pouches - £8 New spray fitment for tap in bar -	£99.64

		£12 Overprinting of posters - £7.21	
Online	PKF Littlejohn LLP	Limited assurance review of accounts 2020/21	£240
Online	Dart Forest Trees	Tree survey	£630
Online	Argos Fire Protection Ltd	Servicing of fire extinguishers	£99.60

## 9.2 **Income**

Members noted income received (18 July – 27 August 2021):

Received	Received from	Details	Amount
July/August	Various	Hearn Field bookings	£1580
July	Lloyds	Interest	£0.11

## 9.3 **Bank Balances at 27 August 2021**

Current account	Savings account	Sea Wall account	Total
£22,607.92	£12,463.33	£4,327.23	£39,398.48

## 9.4 **Clerk's hours**

Members received a report regarding the clerk's hours. It was agreed to increase the clerk hours to 30 per month. This will be reviewed every September.

## **010921.10 HEARN FIELD**

10.1 The Chairman of the Hearn Field Committee submitted a written report as follows:

Following the easing of Covid restrictions we have been inundated with requests for bookings. This is due in part to the increased awareness on the part of the public of the field and what it has to offer, particularly in terms of flexible space. However, many of these bookings are coming from outside the parish and, whilst the revenue is useful, it raises questions about the function and availability of the field in terms of the parish community. This summer every weekend is booked, and requests are coming in daily.

We have had lengthy discussions about this and now share our thoughts with the Parish Council for their consideration.

- It would be very helpful to have a breakdown of income and expenditure for the HF over the last few years. From this we can plan in terms of the approximate income we need to raise annually in order to maintain the asset to a good standard and to be able to save money for unexpected expenses or maintenance.
- We know that a combination of the permitted 4 weddings, planned Reach outdoors camps and the possibility of 3 or more theatre productions per annum can raise in excess of £6K.
- Additionally, Bonfire night as a community event also raises good income.
- The suggestion is that, in addition to these, we only permit additional private bookings from residents of Haccombe-with-Combe parish.

We also need to bear in mind the reality that all these events and bookings require management and supervision by our volunteers. We need to be realistic in terms of how much we can expect them to do on a regular basis. It seems that the consensus is that by restricting bookings to residents of the parish this will make way for more community use which is what the field was originally

intended to be. We can be justly proud of the improvements made to the facility over the past years, its flexibility of usage and the high standard to which it is maintained. However, we are to some extent a victim of this success which has made it a much sought after venue from people outside the parish. We welcome the views of the Parish Council and would be grateful if their decision could eventually be reflected in information on the website. The clerk has set up a Gmail account for the Field which will simplify booking procedures. We are currently reviewing all booking and hire agreements, as well as rules for the general use of the field, which will be passed to the PC for their approval after our 9<sup>th</sup> September Hearn Field meeting. The Parish Council was supportive of the proposal to restrict bookings to parishioners.

### **Bonfire night**

We would like to hold a bonfire and fireworks display on 5<sup>th</sup> November as before. Cllr Evans has gamely offered to mastermind this, with a team, as she has done so successfully in the past. We would ask the Parish Council, as before, to underwrite the initial purchase of fireworks. This was agreed.

### **General maintenance**

The planned work on new field gates and fencing behind the Pavilion will be carried out in the next month.

### **Water**

Cllr Boarer has fitted a new tap to the outside water supply in the hope that waste can be avoided. Cllr Pattinson continues to monitor usage. We would like to suggest that the (very old) water meter should be checked by SWW and replaced if needed even if this costs us money it seems like a sensible longer-term investment.

### **Sea wall**

We are very grateful to Cllr Boarer who has a team who will carry out repairs to the wall in mid-September

### **Theatre**

The production of Midsummer Night's Dream last Friday was very well attended and much enjoyed. We have our last outdoor performance next Sunday. 'Salmon' is a production about the Teign by a local community theatre company.

## **010921.11 REVIEW OF PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER**

Members were invited to take part in TDC's survey regarding the Public Spaces Protection Order. It was agreed that members should respond and individuals should do so if they wish to comment.

## **010921.12 TREE SURVEY**

The tree survey has been carried out. It was agreed that members would review the survey for discussion next month.

## **010921.13 CAR PARK**

Cllr Boarer presented quotations for resurfacing the entrance of the car park. It was agreed to accept the quotation from Hutchings Groundworks for £5733 + VAT. Arrangements will need to be made to ensure the car park is clear of vehicles when the works take place.

## **010921.14 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS**

Cllr Bunce reported that he has walked the paths. A couple are overgrown, in particular the path from Haccombe Road which goes up over the hill. He will approach a couple of the landowners to ask if they would help with keeping these clear. He has contacted Western Power to try and establish when they will be accessing Gulmswell Lane so that this can be co-ordinated with Johnathan Rowlands who has promised to clear the boulders and tree trunks.

**010921.15 CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**010921.16 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.

**010921.17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was confirmed that the date of the next Parish Council meeting is Wednesday 6 October 2021 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

.....  
Chairman

## County Councillor's Report 1<sup>st</sup> September – HWC

The government designated Devon an 'enhanced response area', in response to high case rates of coronavirus. It means additional support will be available from the government.

Devon's Director of Public Health, Steve Brown, said: "We welcome today's announcement that Devon and the South West is designated as an enhanced response area.

"This means that the government has prioritised the 'far' South West for additional support to reduce case rates. It doesn't mean another local lockdown, but it does mean that we have more flexibility to introduce additional public health measures if considered necessary.

"Case rates here in Devon are very high which is to be expected since the removal of restrictions, the opening up of opportunities to socialise, and our popularity as a major visitor destination.

"The availability of testing in the county is good, and the vaccination take up across all of the priority groups has been very high. We ask all Devon residents and visitors to the county to take extra caution."

Public Health Devon is urging people to:

- Limit your social contacts to stop the virus spreading
- meet others outside, because that's safer than meeting inside
- continue to wear face coverings when indoors in public places
- wash your hands properly and regularly
- have the jab if you are an adult and haven't yet had it. Please have both doses as soon as you can. If you're aged 16 to 18, please take up the vaccination when offered to you
- self-isolate if told to do so by NHS Test and Trace
- self-isolate and arranging a PCR test if you show any symptoms of having the virus – the high temperature, new and continuous cough, or change of your usual sense of taste or smell

Devon has the opportunity to become the heart of a 'Southwest Powerhouse' with communities creating their own power, selling what they don't need and then reinvesting proceeds into local projects such as giving local homes a net-zero retrofit.

This would create thousands of jobs and help ensure that the county achieves the goal enshrined in its Carbon Plan, to become Net-Zero by 2050 at the latest. The key could well be onshore wind.

Devon has more not-for-profit Community Energy Organisations than any other county in England – and the county's geography and unique double coastline makes it an ideal location to produce cheap green energy derived from wind, sea, and sun.

A glimpse of this future was recently given by Iain Stewart, Professor of Geoscience Communication at the University of Plymouth during a recent session of Devon Climate Assembly.

In 2018 just 22 per cent of Devon's electricity came from renewable sources. And while many of the key planks to achieve Net-Zero have been agreed through public consultation, some issues are so significant that they needed further consideration by the Assembly.

One of these is the future of onshore wind turbines. Because the sun doesn't shine as much as the wind blows, a single three-megawatt wind turbine will produce 2.5 times more electricity in a year than the solar farm. And it's not just the cost of producing the energy where onshore wind turbines

come out on top; wind has the lowest 'embodied energy' – the energy required during manufacture – of any form of energy production.

The National Planning Policy Framework maintains that all new windfarms have to be part of an area allocated for wind development in a local or neighbourhood plan and that the planning impacts have been fully addressed and the proposal has local backing.

Professor Patrick Devine-Wright, Chairman of the Net-Zero Task Force said: "We've set limits where onshore wind can go and most of those constraints were made before a Climate Emergency was declared. So, you might want to rethink some of those constraints – do they still apply? Are they still relevant or important enough to stop wind turbines in certain places?"

Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) has announced that its Mobile Boost Programme, which aims to upgrade indoor 4G coverage in "not-spot" areas, now includes a greater choice of equipment.

The initiative, which is being funded through the LEP's Growth Deal, aims to improve the quality of mobile phone calls and connectivity. It's targeting small businesses and households in rural communities who currently have inadequate coverage, or have access to only one provider and are currently struggling with connectivity.

Businesses and households can apply for a voucher of up to £1,200 towards the cost of a mobile signal booster from a registered supplier. The value of the voucher will be dependent on the type of technology most suitable for the premises. There are now three options of equipment available – these are a 4G booster and two models of "signal repeaters" which repeat the outdoor signal indoors. Suppliers will be able to advise on the most appropriate option.

Businesses and residents applying through the scheme will be required to make a contribution to cover the cost of installation. Depending on the option chosen, this will range from a one-off fee from around £200 to a monthly fee for a SIM card.

Devon County Council is working in partnership with District Councils in response to the situation in Afghanistan.

Devon's councils support the UK government's moves to relocate Afghan citizens who worked with and for UK forces and organisations, and are working actively to find long-term accommodation for these friends of the UK.

So far, four Devon District councils have offered to find accommodation, but it is too early to say how many people can be housed overall. Councils are very keen to hear from local landlords who would be willing to rent flats or houses to these Afghan citizens, particularly in Devon's towns where it will be easier to help families settle in.

The county is well placed to welcome Afghan families, building on our experience of housing nearly 50 refugee families in the last five years under the government's Syrian resettlement scheme. We hope that this experience will also help us to respond to the new Afghan refugee resettlement scheme just announced by the government.

Landlords who are interested should get in touch by email at [refugeeresettlement@devon.gov.uk](mailto:refugeeresettlement@devon.gov.uk)

Alistair Dewhurst

[alistair.dewhurst@devon.gov.uk](mailto:alistair.dewhurst@devon.gov.uk) / Tel 07836 704127