

Haccombe-with-Combe Parish Council

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Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Combeinteignhead on 6 April 2022 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Humble (Chair), Boarer, Brampton, Bunce, Cooper-Smith, Evans, Hussey and Pattinson

Also present: County Cllr Dewhirst, County Cllr Bradford, District Cllr Haines and seven members of the public

Clerk: Suzanna Hughes

060422.01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

060422.02 CASUAL VACANCIES

Three applications had been received for the casual vacancy in the Urban Ward. Members cast their vote by paper ballot which resulted in Peter Bulleid being elected as a co-opted member until the next ordinary elections in May 2023.

Two applications had been received for the casual vacancy in the Hawthorne Ward. Members cast their vote by paper ballot which resulted in Luke Relf being elected as a co-opted member until the next ordinary elections in May 2023.

Mr Bulleid and Mr Relf would both join as members at the next Parish Council meeting in May.

060422.03 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 declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

060422.04 OPEN FORUM

A parishioner advised that he was present to hear an update on an enforcement matter which is listed on the agenda at item 9.3.

A parishioner asked whether the parish is doing anything to accommodate Ukrainian families and if they are to be housed in the parish it would be good to find a way to connect them. The Chairman advised that the Parish Council is not doing anything per se but she is aware that a number of people in the parish have put their names forward. They were working with organisations in bigger centres of population through TDC and DCC. Cllr Evans suggested that the Parish Council can reach out through Facebook to connect people or parishioners themselves could use www.nextdoor.co.uk. A luncheon club in the Village Hall has also been suggested. Cllr Dewhirst also advised that TDC is working on what it can offer to Ukrainian families who are housed in the district (ranging from free use of leisure facilities to ensuring that people are accepted on to Universal Credit as quickly as possible). More information can be found on DCC's and TDC's website (Team Devon).

060422.05 POLICE REPORT

- 5.1 Crime Report
PC Orchard submitted a report for March: there was one crime recorded (vehicle offence) and one incident logged (public safety). A copy of the monthly newsletter/gazette was also circulated.
- 5.2 Councillor Advocate Scheme:
Cllr Hussey highlighted increased thefts of agricultural machinery and heating oil. People may notice an increase in door to door sales as a means of checking things out in advance. Dial 999 if you see any suspicious activities.

The next PACT meeting is on Friday 8 April, 11.00 – 13.00, at the Woodshed Coffee Bar. This is an opportunity to meet your community policing team. The PACT meeting on 29 April will be in Combeinteignhead Village Hall. Both dates have been advertised on the notice boards and on social media.

060422.06 DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

District Cllr Haines advised that work is taking place at looking at all of the Local Plan consultation responses. He advised that he had stepped down as Chairman of TDC's Planning Committee but remained a member of the Committee.

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

County Cllr Bradford advised that he had been very busy responding to county matters. She sits on HATOC and learned that her predecessor had been campaigning to extend the 30mph zone on Shaldon Road. She fully supports this. The Mayor of Newton Abbot has provided her with up to date data from speedwatch, however, officers at DCC do not agree with the Chair of HATOC and the two local councillors asking for the 30mph. She hopes it is reviewed in 6 months. She also sits on Planning and Licensing at TDC and at DCC she sits on Childrens Scrutiny, Public Rights of Way and the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education. She is also on a SEND task group and is very interested in helping the next generation in any way she can. Using some of her locality budget, The Glendinning School has been able to provide music lessons for children and Buckland Support has been able to set up a singing group for anyone who feels isolated. She also believes that the Arts can help everybody and she urged everyone to sign the petition to keep the Alexandra Theatre.

060422.07 DELEGATE REPORTS

- 7.1 Climate – Cllr Hussey informed members that he had circulated the wording for an advert seeking volunteers. It was agreed to change the heading to 'Climate Emergency Group' after which the advert was agreed and will be published on the noticeboards, Facebook and website.
- 7.2 Cllr Hussey reported on a meeting he had attended in Stokeinteignhead arranged by PC Orchard bringing together interested parties in the use of minor unsurfaced roads. There are no real answers and the difficulties were noted, the main one being that many of the routes are legal for vehicles to use. It was suggested that intelligence built up over a long period would help to show patterns of use etc. The issues are of particular interest to those who live close to these minor unsurfaced roads and they are encouraged to keep a diary of activity.

060422.08 MINUTES

Members received the minutes of the meeting held on 2 March 2022 and authorised the Chair to sign them as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

060422.09 PLANNING

- 9.1 **New applications/appeals/notifications**
9.1.1 21/02675/HOU & 21/02676/LBC – Old Rectory, Haccombe
Replace existing glass conservatory roof with solid roof with sky lights

Members agreed to support this application.

9.1.2 22/00563/HOU – Tideland House, Shaldon Road, Combeinteignhead
Two storey rear extension

Members agreed that TDC should be asked to give full consideration to adjacent, very established trees, and their roots are fully protected before the commencement of any work.

9.1.3 Appeal against the refusal of 20/01817/FUL – Dwelling – Land adjacent to Haccombe Rise, Long Lane

Members agreed not to make any comment.

9.2 **Decisions**

None

9.3 **Update on enforcement matters, including:**

- 21/00381/ENF & 21/01721/AGR – Land at Combeinteignhead
The Enforcement Officer has contacted the owners to advise them that the site maybe too small to benefit from the 'permitted development' rights that allow the new building to be constructed. In response the owners confirmed that they do have other land that they farm which would take the area over 5 hectares but this is a few miles away. Although the area where the building is to be constructed is less than 5 hectares, the Enforcement Officer is seeking clarification as to whether the other land can be taken into consideration. Once he has clarified this, he will be able to determine whether the proposed agricultural building can be built as 'permitted development'.

A discussion followed as to whether the Parish Council should be taking any further steps at this stage whilst these investigations are ongoing. It was agreed to ask the Enforcement Officer that when investigations are concluded he informs the Parish Council how he arrived at his decision.

It was noted that a significant amount of rubble has appeared again. It includes waste which cannot be used *'in the works for the erection, extension or alteration of a building as described within the application or in the provision of a hard surface'* (condition 5 – waste materials). It was agreed to inform the Enforcement Officer/Environmental Health. Photographic evidence was available to support this.

- Teignview Cottage
The Enforcement Officer has written to the owner asking them to take steps to tidy the site. This will be reviewed in a few weeks' time.
- Higher Osier Court
The Enforcement Notice has been prepared and will be served shortly.

It was agreed to follow up on Lower Osier Court and ask for an update on any enforcement action which has been taken.

060422.10 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

10.1 **Expenditure**

The following payments were approved:

| Payment type | Payee | Details | Amount |
|--------------|------------------------|--|---------|
| DD | Opus Energy | Hearn Field electricity (March) | £35.80 |
| DD | Clerk | Salary (March) | £363.77 |
| Online | Village Hall Committee | Transfer of Sum-Up payments from Greek Night | £200.55 |
| Online | Aaron Turner | Clearance of tree debris, Hearn Field | £175 |
| Online | Netwise | Website hosting, support and maintenance | £360 |

10.2 **Income**

Members noted income received (25 February – 30 March 2022):

| Received | Received from | Details | Amount |
|-----------------|----------------------|---|---------------|
| February | Various | Hearn Field events & bookings | £75.60 |
| March | Lloyds | Interest | £0.10 |
| March | Sum-Up | Village Hall income from Greek Night (to be transferred back to VH) | £200.5 |

10.3 **Bank Balances at 30 March 2022**

| Current account | Savings account | Sea Wall account | Total |
|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| £15,462.42 | £12,464.06 | £4,327.23 | £32,253.71 |

10.4 **Complaints Policy**

Members received and adopted a proposed Complaints Policy.

10.5 **Clerk's Salary**

Members noted that the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) has reached an agreement on the new rates of pay applicable from 1 April 2021. The new rates have a 1.75% increase applied. Clerk's salary will be backdated accordingly.

060422.11

HEARN FIELD

11.1 The Chair of the Hearn Field Committee submitted a written report as follows:

Storm damage to the tree at the bottom corner of the field.

We are extremely grateful to Cllr Boarer who has overseen all of this work and the area is now cleared and safe. The greenery and small branches have been chipped and spread on the ground below the tree area.

Wood shed Coffee bar

This continues to flourish and will be open 4 days a week from this week. The community Police surgery will be held this Friday morning. It will be closed for most of June when Reach Outdoors are using the field.

Jubilee

Friday 3rd June. A group has meet to plan this and minutes shared with the Parish Council. This is providing an excellent opportunity for the Village Hall and the Hearn Field committees to work together with other volunteers from the community (see below at 10.2).

Entrance to car park

Works are being completed this month to improve the entrance to the car park.

Hearn Field Committee

We welcomed Annie Drew and Martin Wakefield to the committee at the last meeting. It was agreed that all the tasks and responsibilities associated with the running of the field should be divided into groups with a small group of people and a coordinator the first point of contact. These groups will be clarified at the AGM.

Garden

A group of volunteers led by Mr and Mrs Duggleby have worked hard to clear and organise the flower area beside the covered area. It has made a great difference to the look of this area.

Tables/benches

We have noted that quite a lot of people now come and sit under the covered area where there is only one bench. It has been suggested that we might purchase two bench/tables to go there (similar to those at the sailing club). We would like permission for research prices and refer back to the Parish Council for funding. This was agreed. County Cllr Dewhirst offered to make a contribution from his locality budget towards the cost of these.

11.2 Jubilee Celebrations

Members received detailed plans for the Jubilee celebrations. The proposals were supported. In addition, members agreed the following:

- Portaloos are not required
- The planting of a memorial tree/group of trees was supported.
- Cllr Pattinson's offer of use of a badge/fridge magnet/keyring maker should be explored.

After a brief discussion about costs, the Parish Council agreed a budget of £600.

060422.12 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

After discussion, it was agreed that the focus of the meeting will be Climate Emergency. It was further agreed to invite District Cllr Jackie Hook, Executive Member for Climate Change, Coastal Protection and Flooding, to give a short presentation. A provisional date of Friday 20th May, 6pm at Hearn Field was agreed subject to Cllr Hook's availability.

060422.13 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

Cllr Bunce circulated a short report which was noted by members. There were no immediate issues but he would be walking the paths again before the next meeting. A new map of the parish has been sent by DCC showing all the footpaths, bridleways, byways, restricted byways and unclassified roads.

060422.14 CORRESPONDENCE

14.1 Update on Planning Enforcement -

TDC is giving Parish Councils the opportunity to offer feedback and suggestions that might improve the planning enforcement function – responses are invited.

It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.

060422.15 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

060422.16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that the date of the next Parish Council meeting is Wednesday 4 May 2022 at 7.30pm in Combeinteignhead Village Hall.

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Chair

County Councillor's Report 6th April - HWC

The community testing team, which was delivering a mobile lateral flow testing service, as well as COVID-19 vaccinations, to communities across Devon since January 2021, changed its operations from 1st April. The government's plan will see the end to universal access to free LFT and PCR tests at the end of March.

The outreach vans will continue to support the vaccinations programme, alongside NHS Devon colleagues. PCR testing sites in Devon, run by the Department for Health, closed on 30th March.

Public Health experts say that testing is still an important tool for tracking coronavirus. National studies such as the Office for National Statistics Coronavirus Infection Survey, and PCR testing in clinical settings to support treatments, will continue, and these will help to identify new variants and track background community rates.

While there will no longer be access to free lateral flow tests from 1st April, Public Health Devon hopes that people will continue to use up the tests they currently have.

Team Devon, which includes Devon County Council, East Devon, Mid Devon, North Devon, South Hams, Teignbridge and Torridge District Councils, West Devon Borough Council and Exeter City Council, condemned Russia's actions when it first invaded Ukraine.

Individually, councils have also taken steps to cut Russian links, such as through contracts for energy provision. And any few remaining investments within the Devon Pension Fund, linked to Russian assets, are being sold off quickly.

Devon's local authorities are supporting local residents who want to provide sanctuary to the Ukrainian refugees who have been forced to flee their homes.

A new website now hosts the latest guidance and information as it becomes available <https://www.devon.gov.uk/supporting-ukraine/> .

The local authorities are giving particular support to families in Devon whose relatives in Ukraine are fleeing the conflict, as well as to households who volunteer to accommodate refugees.

The councils' support of Ukraine follows their previous commitment, alongside health and voluntary sector partners and local communities, to help Syrian families and those fleeing conflict in Afghanistan.

The county council is receiving the latest information from the government on the sponsors who have registered, and DBS checks on the sponsor families are being carried out.

And Devon's district authorities are using a common approach to assess each sponsor's accommodation, which will help better assess any potential safeguarding risks. Teignbridge have been made aware of 34 families who wish to provide accommodation and they will all be checked by the end of the week.

Climate Change affects every one of us and from Thursday 17 March until 14th April Devon residents have one final chance to give their views on the Devon Carbon Plan before it gets published this summer. It focuses on three vital areas: buildings and transport, which account for 70 per cent of Devon's carbon emissions, and onshore wind.

The carbon plan has been created by Devon Climate Emergency, a partnership of businesses, public bodies, and voluntary groups, and is the county's road map to net-zero. The plan consolidates the latest scientific evidence and, through previous consultations and last summer's climate assembly, contributions from the public.

This consultation is your chance to help ensure that the final Devon Carbon Plan is democratic, and fairly represents the wishes of Devon's residents.

<https://www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk/5-please-tell-us-what-you-think/>

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