

# Haccombe-with-Combe Parish Council

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

## Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Combeinteignhead on 2 November 2022 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Councillors Humble (Chair), Boarer, Bulleid, Cooper-Smith, Hussey and Pattinson

**Also present:** County Cllr Dewhirst, District Cllr Haines and five members of the public

**Clerk:** Suzanna Hughes

### **021122.01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- Cllr Brampton
- Cllr Bunce
- Cllr Evans
- Cllr Relf
- County Cllr Bradford

### **021122.02 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 of requests for dispensation.

### **021122.03 OPEN FORUM**

A group of Haccombe residents came to the meeting in support of their application for a small grant for a defibrillator in Haccombe. Members were advised that District Cllrs Haines and Cook are able to give £400 each from the locality budget and County Cllr Dewhirst has agreed to give £500. This means they have achieved the funding they require for the project without the need for a grant from the Parish Council.

Representatives of the Stoke/Combe Parish Magazine attended the meeting to support their application for a small grant towards the cost of producing two colour copies (Easter and Christmas) at a cost of £452 each for 200 copies. Members were advised that the print costs for these colour copies have doubled.

### **021122.04 POLICE REPORT**

#### 4.1 Crime Report:

PC Orchard submitted a report for September: there was one crime recorded and no incidents logged.

PC Orchard also circulated the monthly Community Speed Watch report and rural monthly theme posters in relation to farm machinery and livestock theft.

#### 4.2 Councillor Advocate Scheme:

Sergeant Robert Harvey has been appointed as the Neighbourhood Team Manager. He will attend a Councillor Advocate meeting at the end this month and will report back at the next meeting. The next PACT meeting is on 11 November.

### **021122.05 DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

County Cllr Dewhirst gave a report (copy attached).

District Cllr Haines offered his support with planning and enforcement matters. Details of TDC's proposed budget for 2023/24 will not be circulated until after Christmas.

**021122.06 DELEGATE REPORTS**

No reports

**021122.07 MINUTES**

Members received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5 October 2022 and authorised the Chair to sign them as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

**021122.08 FINANCE****8.1 Expenditure**

Members approved the following payments:

Payment type	Payee	Details	Amount
DD	Opus Energy	Hearn Field electricity (Oct)	£104.04
DD	Clerk	Salary (Oct)	£369.57
Online	ABC Siddalls Skip Hire	Skip hire – to clear vegetation in car park	£173
Online	T Boarer	Cleaning - £45; Toilet paper - £13.18; Glasses for bar - £112.14; Electrical socket - £23.99; Noticeboard - £314	£508.31
Online	RBL	Poppy wreath	£20
Online	Energise South West	Floodlight, twin socket at gateway and work to thermostats – Hearn Field	£120
Online	Clarke Construction	Pavilion roof work	£250

**8.2 Income**

Members noted the following income (1 – 28 October 2022):

Received	Received from	Details	Amount
Oct	Lloyds	Interest	£0.53
Oct	Woodshed Coffee	Hearn Field	£242.70

**8.3 Bank Balances at 28 October 2022**

Current account	Savings account	Sea Wall account	Total
£19,105.36	£12,465.96	£5,828.74	£37,400.06

**8.4 Small Grant Scheme**

Members considered applications from the following organisations for a small grant. After a discussion it was agreed to allocate funds as follows:

- Hacombe Community Defibrillator - funding no longer required (see open forum)
- Stoke/Combe Parish Magazine - it was agreed to allocate £250 towards the development of the magazine as a viable product
- Combeinteignhead Village Hall - it was agreed to allocate £250 towards internal refurbishment as detailed on the application form

**021122.09 PLANNING****9.1 New applications/appeals/notifications****9.1.1 22/01734/HOU – Well Cottage, Netherton**

Works to existing outbuilding to allow for use as a home office

Members had no objections to this application.

**9.1.2 22/02047/HOU – Churchway, Hacombe**

Single storey side extension and rebuilding of garage

Members had no objections to this application.

9.1.3 22/01938/CLDE – Charlecombe Farm, Combeinteignhead  
Certificate of Lawfulness for non-compliance with occupancy restriction  
condition 4 on permission 88/2091/19/1

Members agreed to make no comment.

9.1.4 22/02050/EXMPTC – The Old Forge, Lang Barn Farm, Combeinteignhead  
Crown reduction of Willow tree

Members noted that this has already been approved.

## 9.2 **Decisions**

There were no decisions.

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

- **Teignview Cottage**  
The Enforcement Officer has recently visited the site and has written to the owner asking them to tidy it up by the end of November. He will visit again then and if there has been no improvement, he will discuss it with the Principal Planning officer to decide on what action to take.
- **Lower Osier Court**  
The Enforcement Officer noted from a recent visit that there is still rubbish stored next to the site entrance but now that the gates have been changed it is less visible to the public. He has also taken on board that the land has previously been used as a contractors' yard for storage purposes so the main issue is whether it warrants an Untidy Land Notice being served. As he has only recently visited the site, he wishes to discuss it with the Principal Planning Officer for their opinion.

9.4 It has been brought to the Parish Council's attention that a building is being constructed on the site between Linden Lea and River Lodge (Little Park). Members were not aware of a planning application only an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness in 2019. It was agreed to notify the Enforcement Officer.

### **021122.10 CAR PARK**

Members noted that the motorhome was not currently parked in the car park but agreement needed to be reached about the actions to be taken if it returns. Correspondence from the owners was also received and noted requesting a meeting to discuss the matter. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the clerk will invite the owners to meet in the village hall with two Councillors. In the meantime, it was agreed that the clerk would make enquiries about clamping vehicles which are breaching the rules of the car park.

### **021122.11 SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE**

The Clerk confirmed arrangements for the Service of Remembrance in Netherton on Sunday 13 November at 2pm.

### **021122.12 HEARN FIELD**

Cllr Hussey circulated a report as follows:

The mower shed roof has been inspected and found in poor condition. The top layer of roof felt is stripped away and the under layer in poor condition. A quotation has been sought to strip off old felt and replace by torching on two layers roofing felt. It was agreed that two further quotes should be sought for consideration.

A complaint has been received about the hedge trimming operation this year re: lack of notification, time of day and method of trimming. The HF Chairman has been in initial contact with all concerned and it was agreed that he should further meet and discuss the issues with the neighbour. This would be discussed at the next HF Committee Meeting.

The bonfire event is on 5th November. Bonfire team leaders met on 11th October to reinforce team messaging. Cllr Evans will look at the weather forecast on Thursday 3rd and then liaise with the "team" for a final decision by Friday morning at the latest. No further

tickets can be purchased. Anybody asking should be advised to check the Hearn Field Facebook page for spare tickets becoming available from people unable to attend. A final risk assessment will be done on the morning of Friday 4th November. A mandatory volunteer briefing will take place at the Pavilion 5th November at 5pm.

Since October's Parish Council meeting, a roofing contractor effected emergency repairs to the Pavilion roof/toilet breather pipe to remedy long term water ingress. An electrical contractor fitted a new sensor light on south end of the Pavilion, replaced corroded leads, checked thermostats etc. Ongoing discussion about hot water system and safety to be furthered with an on-site meeting. The electrical outlet at the main gate has been replaced by Cllr Boarer and checked by an electrician. A hedging contractor trimmed the boundary hedges.

PC Orchard has had a look at Pavilion security and will report to the next PACT meeting.

Woodshed Café - a payment of £242.70 has been received for the last month. This is less than was received the previous month because as we move into Autumn the cafe is open shorter hours and was closed for one week during the month.

The balance of the Shaldon Kestrel Cycle Club account (£393.37) has been donated to Hearn Field to be used in memory of Ron Vaulter. How this will be used will be discussed at the next Hearn Field meeting.

**021122.13 CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT**

Cllr Hussey advised that the group is meeting on 9 November having not met in October. He has had an initial discussion with ACT about Power Allotments.

**021122.14 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS**

Members were copied in to a letter regarding the 'ancient drove track' requesting funding for unplanned maintenance work which was carried out by a landowner. It was agreed that the Parish Council is not responsible for this track and will not be funding the work. Any matters relating to this track need to go through Devon County Council.

Cllr Hussey proposed that a tree survey is not carried out until July 2023. Cllrs Hussey and Bunce will have a general look at the trees over the coming weeks, in particular the tree at Netherton near the war memorial.

**021122.15 CORRESPONDENCE**

15.1 Members received an email regarding the removal of ancient hedgerows at Teign View Barn, Shaldon Road. It was agreed that the Parish Council doesn't have any powers in relation to hedgerows. TDC can issue Tree Preservation Orders, otherwise it is a matter for DEFRA.

15.2 Members received information regarding the Recycle Devon Reuse Fund.

**021122.16 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

**021122.17 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON SOCIAL MEDIA, PARISH MAGAZINE, NOTICE BOARDS ETC**

None

**021122.18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was confirmed that the date of the next Parish Council meeting is Wednesday 7 December 2022 at 7.30pm in Combeinteighhead Village Hall.

.....  
Chair

## County Councillor's Report 2<sup>nd</sup> November – HWC

At lunchtime yesterday I received the following letter from the Interim Chief Executive of Devon County Council it echoes a letter received a few minutes later from the Leader of the County Council – it is important you hear this . . .

*In the next couple of weeks, the Chancellor of the Exchequer is expected to set out the Government's economic plan which we anticipate will include a further squeeze on public sector spending from April 2023.*

*Even before this announcement, Devon County Council is projecting that savings of £75 million will be needed next financial year (April 2023 to March 2024) unless the Government intervenes.*

*Councils are required by law to balance their books, but with few available reserves left in the bank, this leaves Devon, like many other councils, at a very real risk of bankruptcy unless action is taken by the Government.*

*Of course, all this comes on top of the huge savings we are already having to make in this financial year, and I would like to thank everyone for their tremendous efforts so far in helping to find and make these savings.*

*But today we have taken the decision to issue a stark public warning that if the situation does not change, then radical cuts that have a significant impact on the quality of life for everyone in Devon will be unavoidable.*

*I know this message is hard to hear and will raise many questions and concerns.*

*The important services that you help to provide are the lifeblood of our county and directly impact on tens of thousands of local people. Many of you will also be Devon residents who, alongside family and friends, use the County Council's wide range of services day in, day out.*

*I would like to stress that absolutely no decisions have been made about where any cuts might happen, and some very difficult conversations will be taking place over the coming weeks with our Strategic Leadership Team and elected Members to find savings whilst limiting the impact on everyone as best we can.*

*Throughout my long career in the public sector, I have never witnessed a financial crisis in local government of this magnitude. We have always been rightly proud of the authority's sound fiscal management, our ability to manage the resources we have, and adapt how we work together with our partners in order to protect vital local services and support the most vulnerable.*

*But these are unprecedented times. Rising demand for services after the pandemic, rising costs and the impact of inflation are all taking their toll.*

*As a reminder, through our Financial Sustainability work we are already making £36 million of savings this financial year (April 2022 to March 2023). This has been achieved across all services and includes holding vacancies in non-frontline areas and stopping some routine road maintenance. We are squeezing all our contracts with external service providers and reviewing things like school transport for children with disabilities, as well as delaying planned investments in IT and infrastructure projects, and cutting office heating and lighting bills.*

*We are reviewing all high-cost activity in both Children's and Adult Services with the focus on transforming and improving the support we give while saving resources. We are also reviewing our properties and will be looking to dispose of assets where they are no longer needed.*

*Even then we must find a further £37 million this financial year, largely because of rising demand in adult and children's social care, higher prices for care packages and a higher national pay award to reflect the cost of living increases we all face.*

*With best wishes, Jan Spicer, Interim Chief Executive*

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