

Haccombe-with-Combe Parish Council

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Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Combeinteignhead on 4 January 2023 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Boarer (Chair for this meeting), Bulleid, Brampton, Evans and Hussey

Also present: County Cllr Dewhurst

Clerk: Suzanna Hughes

040123.01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- Cllr Humble
- Cllr Relf
- Cllr Cooper-Smith
- Cllr Pattinson
- Cllr Bunce
- District Cllr Haines
- County Cllr Bradford

040123.02 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.

040123.03 OPEN FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

040123.04 POLICE REPORT

4.1 Crime Report:

PC Orchard advised that he was still not in a position to provide a regular monthly crime report at the moment as the force is still transitioning to a new IT system.

4.2 Councillor Advocate Scheme:

Cllr Hussey advised that the next PACT meeting is on 13 January at 11.00am at the Wood Shed Coffee Bar at Hearn Field.

040123.05 DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

County Cllr Dewhurst gave a report (copy attached).

040123.06 DELEGATE REPORTS

No reports.

040123.07 MINUTES

Members received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6 December 2022 and authorised the Chair to sign them as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

040123.08 FINANCE

8.1 Expenditure

Members approved the following payments:

Payment type	Payee	Details	Amount
DD	Opus Energy	Hearn Field electricity (Dec)	£79.33
DD	Clerk	Salary (Dec)	£585.37
Online	HMRC	HMRC (PAYE Q3)	£224.00
Online	S Guppy	Grass seed	£21.99
Online	Argos Fire Protection	Fire tests – Hearn Field	£59.40
Online	T Boarer	Supply and fit new timber and galvanised roofing sheets to mower shed on Hearn Field	£1000
Online	M Boarer	Cleaning of Hearn Field Pavilion (3 visits during Oct & Nov)	£75

8.2 Income

Members noted income received (3 December – 28 December 2022):

Received	Received from	Details	Amount
Dec	Lloyds	Interest	£2,85
Dec	Bonfire	Cash	£365

8.3 Bank Balances at 28 December 2022

Current account	Savings account	Sea Wall account	Total
£19,989.33	£12,470.14	£5,828.74	£38,288.21

8.4 Budget and Precept 2023/24

Members considered the budget and precept request for 2023/24. After discussion, the budget was agreed. It was noted that whilst reserves are healthy and can be drawn on if required, the budgeted expenditure exceeds the proposed income which, in the longer-term, is not sustainable. Therefore, having not increased the precept last year, it was agreed that it would be prudent to increase it by 2% in 2023/24. This is significantly below the current rate of inflation. A sum of £8723 would be demanded. It was also noted that the current year's council tax for an average Band D property in the parish is £21.28 compared to an average of £86.67.

040123.09 PLANNING

9.1 New applications/appeals/notifications

9.1.1 22/02358/LBC – Haccombe House, Haccombe

Fire safety works including fire detection and alarm system and upgrades to existing fire doors

Members had no objections to this application.

9.2 Decisions

9.2.1 22/01103/HOU – Poachers Croft, Hiller Lane, Netherton

Single storey rear extension to rear and loft conversion with new pitched roof to replace existing

Members noted that TDC has refused to grant planning permission.

9.3 Update on enforcement matters, including:

- Teignview Cottage
There was no further update.
- Lower Osier Court
There was no further update.
- Higher Osier Court
There was no further update.

With regard to the application which was refused at land in Combeinteignhead (22/01635/AGR), it was agreed that a view from the Enforcement Officer is obtained regarding the three caravans sited in the field and whether there is an intention to seek their removal now that their intended use is no longer required.

040123.10 CAR PARK

Cllr Brampton presented quotations for both reducing and felling the hawthorn tree in the car park. After discussion, it was agreed that the tree should be felled but that other quotes should also be sought to ensure good value. It was also noted that as the tree is situated in the Conservation Area, an application to TDC to reduce/fell would need to be made.

040123.11 HEARN FIELD

11.1 Cllr Hussey circulated a report as follows:

December marks the end of another successful year of Outdoor Theatre, Bonfire Night, Queen's Platinum Jubilee Picnic, the new Woodshed cafe, private party bookings and many other activities on the Hearn Field that enrich our community.

We are more than lucky to have a willing and capable Hearn Field Committee and a community of a volunteers including teams: organising and managing outdoor theatre and other events, marketing and publicity, taking bookings and doing the accounts, maintaining the Pavilion and the grounds, and delivering the bonfire night. To everybody involved - many thanks and a Happy New Year.

Next Hearn Field Committee Meeting: Thursday 19th January, 7:30 pm at the Pavilion.

Activities in December:

Woodshed Cafe

The cafe has been the ideal venue for locals to meet for Christmas mulled wine and mince pies, a PACT meeting with PC Orchard and PCSO Bunce, and a visit from the Teignmouth Gig rowers via the Teign River. The Parish has this month received £314.67 for this use of the Woodshed.

Pavilion repairs and maintenance

- A period of extended cold weather highlighted the Pavilion's vulnerability to frost. This can be discussed further at the HF Committee. Thank you to all who noticed and dealt with the frozen outside tap and to Martin for lagging the vulnerable internal pipework.
- Many thanks to Tim for doing a great job of the tractor shed roof and providing excellent photo opportunities!

Grounds & Gardens

- Noting that a silver BMW reg LF52VHB has been long term parked on the same spot in the car park.

040123.12 CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

Cllr Hussey advised that he has put forward the land identified on Ridge Road as a possible site for power allotments. There is no requirement to inform the landowner. All suggested sites will be analysed and those with the most potential for further studies will be prioritised. We will be notified in about 6 weeks' time if they wish to proceed with the proposed sites.

040123.13 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

It was noted that the Parish Paths Partnership survey and finance forms need to be submitted to DCC by 13 February. It was agreed that the clerk would contact Cllr Bunce about completion of these.

Members received correspondence from Mr Halpin regarding trees which have fallen into a hedge bank on the drove track at Gulmswell and a request for reimbursement for the work he has carried out to remove them. Members agreed that Mr Halpin has already been informed that the Parish Council will not pay for unplanned maintenance work for which it is not responsible. Devon County Council are responsible for this track and individual landowners are responsible for trees which have fallen onto it.

040123.14 CORRESPONDENCE

None

040123.15 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

040123.16 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON SOCIAL MEDIA, PARISH MAGAZINE, NOTICE BOARDS ETC

None

040123.17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that the date of the next Parish Council meeting is Wednesday 1 February 2023 at 7.30pm in Combeinteignhead Village Hall.

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Chair

County Councillor's Report 4th January - HWC

The beginning of a new year can be a great opportunity to create a new habit. One Small Step, a free lifestyle service, funded by Devon, has many options for support to help people keep their resolution in 2023, or to inspire them to make the change.

Studies have found some of our New Year resolutions will struggle to make it past 12 th January, but with the support of others, they can be made to last much longer.

They have friendly advisors who can help plan lifestyle changes and support to maintain a healthier weight, stop smoking, drink less or become more active. They can be reached by calling 01392 908 139, or on the website at www.onesmallstep.org.uk.

They have a team of stop smoking practitioners so if one are thinking about stopping smoking you can also text us by messaging QUIT to 60777. They can offer 12 weeks of behavioural support along with Nicotine Replacement Therapy.

Past users of the One Small Step service have said that their only regret is not getting in touch sooner.

You can also follow One Small Step on Instagram, Facebook or Twitter for motivational messages and healthy tips, including easy and affordable healthy meal ideas, or alcohol-free alternatives to your usual drink. If you would like some advice on where to start – please do get in touch and they will be happy to help!

Devon would like people to think about and plan for the possibility of power cuts this winter. Nationally, there's no suggestion that it's likely, but the unpredictable winter weather, and experience here and in other countries following severe storms, suggests now's a good time for people to think about the electricity they rely on should for any reason an emergency situation leads to a power cut.

Loss of power used to be a more frequent occurrences but these days, as technology has moved on, the impact of a power cut can be even greater on our daily lives, disrupting our ability to keep warm; stay connected with others should we need help; and to power essential medical equipment that helps many people live independently at home.

We recommend that people take steps to prepare for a power cut and know how to deal with it if it happens.

Prepare

- Follow your energy provider on social media so you can find local updates
- Have a list of phone numbers you might need written down
- Keep a mobile phone fully charged so you can call or go online for updates
- Keep a torch handy and leave a light on so you know when power is restored
- Switch off electrical appliances that shouldn't be left unattended

Care

- Join your provider's free Priority Services Register if you have additional needs
- Check to see if your neighbours are safe and if they have a power cut too
- Make sure you have warm clothes and blankets, especially at night
- Ensure you have food and drink that doesn't need power to prepare

A six-week "Countryside Skills" course will be held for unemployed people interested in working in the environment and countryside management sectors.

The course, which starts on 10th January, has been developed by community interest company Running Deer and is funded through Devon's Natural Capital Challenge Fund (NCCF), which was created to stimulate the county's post-Covid recovery. It is one of six projects funded through the NCCF to support job and skills creation in the natural capital sector, while improving and safeguarding the county's environment.

The course will be delivered from locations near Moretonhampstead, with some practical sessions on Dartmoor.

It will cover a number of subject areas including practical training in environmental conservation, woodland management, hand tool use and maintenance, establishing and protecting habitats, woodland and field surveys and tree planting. For more information email info@runningdeer.org.uk

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