

# 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 5 April 2023 at 7.30pm

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

**Also present:** County Cllr Dewhurst

**Clerk:** Suzanna Hughes

### 050423.01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from:

- Cllr Bulleid
- Cllr Relf
- County Cllr Bradford
- District Cllr Haines

### 050423.02 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.

### 050423.03 OPEN FORUM

No comments.

### 050423.04 POLICE REPORT

4.1 Crime Report:  
No report.

4.2 Councillor Advocate Scheme:  
The next PACT meeting is Thursday 6 April at 11am on Hearn Field.

### 050423.05 DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

County Cllr Dewhurst gave a report (copy attached).

### 050423.06 DELEGATE REPORTS

None

### 050423.07 MINUTES

Members received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1 March 2023 and authorised the Chair to sign them as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

### 050423.08 FINANCE

#### 8.1 Expenditure

Members approved the following payments:

Payment type	Payee	Details	Amount
DD	Opus Energy	Hearn Field electricity (Feb)	£76.34
Online	Clerk	Salary (Feb)	£393.37
Online	HMRC	PAYE	£188
Online	NetwiseUK	Website hosting support and maintenance	£396

Online	T Boarer	Replacement tap – Hearn Field	£17.58
Online	C Bouchard	Laminating pouches	£25.98
Online	A Barnes	Hearn Field gate posts and fence	£526.65
Online	A Bouchard	Village Show expenses	£110.31
Online	R Hussey	Hearn Field mower fuel	£61.08

## 8.2 Income

Members noted the income (24 February – 31 March 2023):

Received	Received from	Details	Amount
March	Lloyds	Interest	£5.88
March	Various	Pavilion	£145
28 Feb	Wood Shed Coffee Bar	Hire	£576.59
31 Mar	Wood Shed Coffee Bar	Hire	£510

## 8.3 Bank Balances at 31 March 2023

Current account	Savings account	Sea Wall account	Total
£18,031.53	£12,481.83	£5,828.74	£36,342.10

## 050423.09 PLANNING

### 9.1 New applications/appeals/notifications

9.1.1 23/00510/CAN – Greenacre, Combeinteignhead  
Fell dead willow

Members had no objections to this application.

### 9.2 Decisions

9.2.1 21/00429/FUL - Tucketts Farm, Netherton  
Change of use from agricultural land to wild camping facility (maximum of 15 tents only) including moveable composting toilets from Easter until September

Members noted that TDC has refused to grant planning consent.

### 9.3 Update on enforcement matters, including:

- Little Park  
Following a recent visit to the site by the Enforcement Officer, it was noted that the structure being built does comply with the definition of a caravan and as such does not require planning permission. As for the ground works, the Enforcement Officer can confirm that it was proposed to build decking and carry out other works which the owner has been advised will require planning permission. Furthermore, given the works that have been carried out to the rear of the structure, the owner will be advised that these will also need consent.
- Caravans associated with 22/01635/AGR  
The Enforcement Officer is proposing to write to the owner to seek clarification on the uses of the caravans. He was advised previously that they were being used to store items for the proposed agricultural building. However, they may not require consent if the use changes to be ancillary to the permitted agricultural use of the land. Once he has further information, he will update the Parish Council.
- Higher Osier Court  
The Enforcement Officer confirms that building works were carried out to infill the building as required by the planning permission granted on appeal. He hopes to visit the site soon to assess the current situation; should there still be any issues of noise associated with the camper van business then this is likely to be a matter that will need to be pursued through Environmental Health legislation.

## 050423.10 HEARN FIELD

Cllr Hussey circulated a written report as follows:

### Village Show

Plans for spending the £900 budget have been made to deliver a properly local village show on Sunday 28th May. Activities will include judged categories (baking, handicrafts, flowers, photography etc), stalls (white elephant, second hand books, plant sales etc), community entertainments, local food and drink vendors. A copy of the agenda issued to the planning team was also circulated for information. A new page has also been created for the website. Please note and support the calls for community engagement.

### Outdoor Theatre

Next event is "Robin Hood" on 20th May.

### Woodshed Cafe

Despite a few days lost to road closures and the weather the cafe paid the Parish £510 for the use of the facility this last month. A discussion about the change in electricity contract is ongoing.

### Grounds & Gardens

A big thank you to our volunteers on Monday 3rd March who worked on the Pavilion border and paver weeding, and pruning overhanging branches. A well grown oak tree has been sourced to be planted as a memorial to Ron Vaultier.

### Proposal

Noting that the road to Hearn Field has been closed several times recently, please consider whether a letter be written to the authority asking that this be avoided if possible on the following future dates in May: Sat 20th (Outdoor Theatre) and Friday 26th to Sunday 28th (Village Show).

After a short discussion, it was agreed that the clerk should write to the Neighbourhood Highways Engineer, Sam Williams, asking if road closures can be avoided on these dates.

#### **050423.11 EMERGENCY PLANNING**

This was deferred until next month. Cllr Boarer, as Vice Chair, will be the point of contact for the next month should there be an emergency.

#### **050423.12 CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT**

Cllr Hussey is still waiting to hear about Power Allotments.

#### **050423.13 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS**

Nothing to report.

#### **050423.14 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

It was agreed that this would be held on 18 May at 6.30pm at Hearn Field with drinks and nibbles. The theme will be 'Meet you New Council' and hear about volunteering opportunities.

#### **050423.15 CORRESPONDENCE**

15.1 The Chairman reported that she had received correspondence from the owner of the motorhome (which had previously been parking in the car park) advising that the motorhome was temporarily parked in the car park whilst it was being cleaned/packed. The Chairman advised members that she had responded directly by reminding the owners that it was acceptable to park it whilst it was being loaded/unloaded but not for any longer. It has now been moved.

15.2 The Chairman reported that she had received a response from the correspondent who was advised last month that the Council would not be responding any further to their vexatious issue. They have not taken up their right of appeal. Further questions have been raised relating to other matters and these will be answered by the clerk.

#### **050423.16 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

**050423.17 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON SOCIAL MEDIA, PARISH MAGAZINE, NOTICE BOARDS ETC**

Details of the Annual Parish Meeting would be advertised.

**050423.18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the Annual Meeting of the Council was agreed as 10 May 2023.

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Chair

## County Councillor's Report 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023

A reminder to dog owners that from last Saturday (1<sup>st</sup> April) dogs are not allowed on some beaches in Teignbridge.

The restrictions run until 30<sup>th</sup> September and you can see which beaches permit dogs and which do not by going to the website. When walking on beaches, dogs owners are reminded to pick up after their dog and deposit the waste in the bins provided.

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A landmark devolution deal for the greater Devon region, which transfers new money and powers into the hands of local Leaders across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay, has moved a step closer today with the backing of the Government's Levelling Up Minister, Dehenna Davison.

Outline approval has been given for a Devon-wide devolution deal which could bring greater local control and allow partners to tap into additional resources to help tackle key local priorities such as affordable housing, better public transport and connectivity, and providing for the skills that the local economy needs.

Importantly, the deal would not require a change to the established democratic structures across the area or the need for an elected Mayor as in other devolution deals across the country.

Instead, the new powers would be devolved to a partnership of existing local Councils who would deliver on a joint programme working alongside a wide range of other local stakeholders. Any final deal would require local consent with the full agreement of all the constituent Councils as well as Parliamentary approval.

Welcoming the opportunity and Government's backing for a local deal without the need for an elected Mayor, Councillor John Hart, Leader of Devon County Council and Chair of the local Devolution Partnership said: "This could be an important first step towards getting more local control to deliver on the big issues affecting local people and help us get access to much needed new investment. We have been talking with the Government about this for some time and now it's time to deliver."

Every penny' of the extra £9.4 million we received from the Chancellor's budget will be spent on improving the highway network and making sure Devon's roads are more resilient.

Earlier this month we learned that the county's share of the additional £200 million capital funding from the Government was the largest among County and County Council Network unitary authorities.

And at the Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee on Thursday it was confirmed that all the extra cash would go towards improving the condition of the network, including the prevention of defects, surface dressing and skid resistance on key routes.

The lion's share of the money, £5.5million, would go towards the Local Area Capital Programmes, which will reflect local priorities identified through our elected members and Neighbourhood Highway Officers.

Using inspections and survey data, the remaining funding will be directed to preventative works to stop potholes forming in the first place.

Councillor Stuart Hughes, the Cabinet Member responsible for highway maintenance, said that this winter's weather, particularly a freezing December, had had a significant impact on the condition of Devon's 8,000-mile road network.

Libraries Unlimited, the Charity that runs Devon and Torbay's Libraries are proposing to stop delivering a mobile library service, because it's become very expensive to run and the number of people using it has fallen considerably over the last few years.

Currently there are four mobile libraries, three of which are 15 years old and at the end of their serviceable lives, and the fourth is nine years old. All of them have become increasingly expensive to maintain. They

are unreliable and have spent a combined 670 hours off the road in the last year, mostly because of mechanical issues.

They are also very expensive to replace – to replace all four with new vehicles would cost between £0.5m and £0.8m – and given our financial situation, this is not something we can afford to do.

As the costs of the service continue to rise, the use of the mobile service has fallen significantly.

Since 2013 the number of loans from the service has fallen by 68 per cent while the number of visits has fallen by 73 per cent.

The County Council are seeking the views of users on the proposals, and are asking for suggestions and ideas on how to deliver the service in a different way to ensure that everyone continues to have access to the library service.

The options being explored include improving the current Home Library Service. Dedicated volunteers choose and deliver books, including large print and audiobooks, free of charge and often have time to chat.

They are looking at extending the Good Neighbours service. This scheme involves friends, neighbours and family choosing and delivering books to people unable to get to the library.

Libraries Unlimited also provide an extensive digital service, and want to make better use of the thousands of eBooks, audiobooks, digital magazines and digital newspapers which are available.

The consultation can be accessed here - <https://www.devon.gov.uk/haveyoursay/consultations/mobile-libraries-consultation/>

Alistair Dewhirst - [alistair.dewhirst@devon.gov.uk](mailto:alistair.dewhirst@devon.gov.uk) / Tel 07836 704127