

MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL ON TUESDAY, 7TH JUNE AT 7.00PM AT HALBERTON VILLAGE HALL

1. Present

The Chairman (K Browse), Vice-Chairman (B Lane-Smith), Cllrs Mesdames Armstrong, Fisher and Jepps, Cllrs Cooper, Gibbs, Greenhill, Radford, Saunders, nine volunteer Members of the Parish Plan Steering Group, Sue Craythorne, Devon County Community Strategy Officer and County Councillor Des Hannon

2. Apologies

Cllr Mrs Hull and Debbie Affleck

3. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for giving up their time to attend.

4. Powerpoint Presentation – Parish Plan

Cllr Mrs Armstrong provided the presentation which was informative and effective. This summarised the various stages of the Plan from the initial planning stage right through to the completed Parish Plan document. The Plan contained the wishes and ideas of parishioners as to the facilities/improvements they would like to see implemented together with the future development of the Parish

5. Matters Resulting from the Powerpoint Presentation

i. Sue Craythorne, Devon County Community Strategy Officer

Sue Craythorne provided background information with regard to her involvement with Parish Councils and Parish Plans. The Vice-Chairman advised that it was hoped that Sue may be able to assist with pushing forward the needs/requirements contained in the Plan as concern was expressed that unless progress was made the Plan was in danger of running out of steam. Sue replied that she was particularly impressed by Halberton's Parish Plan and said it provided a good mix of requirements which individuals, Parish, District and County Councillors could assist with. She indicated that Parish Plans were part of a hierarchy of community planning at district and county level. A new Community Plan for Mid-Devon would be published in December which would take into account and reflect some of the priorities contained in various Parish Plans. She mentioned that the elderly population was increasing significantly in Devon and this would impact on communities and facilities needed.

ii. Youth Provision

Sue was asked about obtaining the services of a youth leader. The intention was that there should be the provision of a youth centre staffed by a qualified leader in the Parish as this was a much needed facility for the local youngsters. She explained that Halberton was not classed as a priority area. Deprived areas with troublesome youngsters would qualify for youth provision service. Rob Stevens felt that youngsters who were well behaved and did not cause problems in the Parish should be rewarded by having facilities eg a youth centre and that youth provision should not just be provided for 'problem' areas. Sue explained that advice and support could be given but not direct funding or to supply a youth worker. It was suggested that lottery funding may assist but this would be for a limited period only, if granted. It was suggested that Paul Tucker of MDDC would be a point of contact for funding sources available. Other suggestions ranged from youngsters of Halberton being transported into Tiverton to access youth facilities. The provision of a suitable site for a mobile skateboard park was also discussed. As yet a site had not been found.

iii. Travel Plan re Halberton School

Carol Onley-Gregson explained that a Travel Plan had been drawn up but there were still concerns regarding children going to and from school safely.

iv. Car Parking

It was suggested that the PC needed to come up with a blue print for car parking but would need some practical help with the scheme. Sue Craythorne indicated that there may be money available towards the drawing up of such a scheme.

Sue Craythorne was thanked by the Chairman for all her help and for attending the Meeting.

6. Delivering the Parish Plan

The following was proposed and seconded "Now that the Parish Plan has been produced, the Parish Plan Steering Group to cease to exist and be replaced by new Parish Plan Delivery Groups to implement the recommendations". The proposal was carried unanimously. The Chairman thanked everyone for their involvement and commitment to the Parish Plan.

7. Formulation of New Committees

It was suggested that the following new Cttes be formed to incorporate the desires of the Plan with a Chairman from the Parish Council chairing each Ctte. This would enable the PC to be kept up to speed with reports from each Ctte. The following was suggested:

Amenities: to incorporate The Mead, The Rec`, Village Halls and Leisure, Cemeteries

Communication: to incorporate The Newsletter, Web Site, and Publicity

Environment: to incorporate Traffic, Highways, Transport, Canal, Hedges and Verges, Litter and Car Parking

Footpaths: to incorporate Footpaths old and new

Planning: to incorporate Applications and Housing Needs

Policy and Finance: to incorporate Precepts, Sponsorship and Funding

A proposal was made by the Vice-Chairman that the present Cttes as contained in the PC's Standing Orders 41 – 48 be varied to reflect the aforementioned. However in accordance with Standing Order 70 the item to stand adjourned without discussion to the next Ordinary PC Meeting to be held on 14th June 2005. At this meeting the question of varying the Cttes could be discussed and a decision made.

8. Miscellaneous Matters

- i. The Chairman advised that the bus shelter would be rebuild shortly as a donation of building materials had been received.
- ii. Barry Corden proposed on behalf of the whole village, sincere thanks to Cllr Mrs Armstrong for organising and taking responsibility for the Parish Plan project. He considered she had put her `heart and soul` into the project and if she had not been involved it would certainly not have been so professionally handled. In response Cllr Mrs Armstrong warmly thanked the Steering Group Members for all their hard work, commitment and support without which the completion of the Plan would not have been possible. The Chairman thanked everyone for all their efforts and concluded by saying the production of the Plan had been a real achievement. Cllr Gibbs stated that the Plan had already benefited the Parish in that the findings had resulted in improved public transport provision. The Chairman suggested that a `Cordwents Plan` was needed if this particular project was to move forward. The Vice-Chairman advised that he had been in contact with the Devon FA with regard to improving facilities at the Mead and obtaining funding etc

The meeting closes at 8.45pm

CHAIRMAN

DATED