

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL ON TUESDAY, 10th OCTOBER 2006 AT 7.00PM AT HALBERTON VILLAGE HALL

92. Present

The Chairman (K Browse), Vice-Chairman (B Lane-Smith) Cllrs Constable, Cooper, Gibbs, Radford* Mesdames Armstrong, Fisher, Jepps and Hull, Cllr Hannon, one Member of the Public

*Cllr Radford arrived later in the meeting

93. Public Forum

Mr Barry raised the question about whether any developments had occurred regarding the provision of a car park in the Parish. The Clerk advised that she had received a reply from Roger Folley at DCC. Mr Folley had confirmed that pig fencing would be required for the fencing of the footpath. In addition, as previously agreed, DCC would be prepared to lease the area of land required for a car park, together with sufficient land for the provision of a footpath link from the car park to the cemetery but would not be prepared to lease any additional land as DCC wished to retain it for agricultural purposes. Occupation of the Mead would continue on the basis of the existing agreement. It was agreed that the Clerk should talk to Dave Scott at MDDC with regards to securing part of the S.106 monies for use for a footpath supported by a car park area. Once she was fully aware of what was required of the PC she could then write to Mr Scott on a formal basis. The Vice-Chairman would contact Mr Folley direct regarding the measurement of the land available for the car park

94. Apologies

There were none

96. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the Planning and Ordinary Parish Council Meetings of 12th September 2006 were approved and signed accordingly

97. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- i. As Cllr Radford was not present at the meeting the matter concerning the overflowing recycling bins at the back of the Village Hall would have to be deferred until the November PC Meeting.
- ii. The Clerk to chase up Willy Pike, at DCC to see when the problems with over hanging branches and hedges, in the Parish would be dealt with
- iii. The Chairman would attend the presentation at Beer Village Hall on 18th October to receive a certificate for Halberton coming joint second place in the Calor Village of the Year Competition. The Clerk advised that the judges report had still not been received and hoped that this would be available at the presentation.
- iv. The Draft Statement of Principles re the Gambling Act 2005 had been circulated. There were no comments to submit to MDDC
- v. There had been concern that Stagecoach may not have been informed in sufficient time, to make alternative arrangements about the road closures which had been announced at the last PC Meeting, which could have caused problems and inconvenience for passengers. However Cllr Hannon had been liaising with various parties and had been assured that Stagecoach had received sufficient notice and had taken appropriate action. However Cllr Hannon was of the view that if the PC considered the steps Stagecoach had taken hadn't met the local need that he would require further information from the PC to take the matter further.

- vi. John Bodley-Scott of MDDC had advised that there was no procedure for 'signing off' Parish Plans as such. Halberton's Parish Plan had been used as an expression of local priorities and had been part of the framework of evidence used to develop not only the Council's Corporate Plan but also the Local Strategic Partnership's Community Strategy. However such strategic documents are not necessarily able to take up individual actions from the Parish Plan and there will always be a role for the PC to continue to lobby for individual elements of the Plan with the relevant agencies. The Parish Plan would also be considered when it comes to developing the Exe Area Development Plan Document (DPD) and consultation on this would start next year. The recommendations within the Parish Plan could only be incorporated within the DPD if they are specifically planning issues and they conform to national planning guidance and the LDF's Core Strategy.
- vii. MDDC's Chairman's reception would be held at Blundell's school on 1st November, and the PC's nominees would be sent out invitations by MDDC shortly
- viii. The Core Strategy – (to set out the vision and strategy for the District up to 2026) and Statement of Community Involvement (to set out the publicity and consultation procedures for the Local Development Framework and Planning Applications) had been circulated amongst the Cllrs. There were no comments to relay back to MDDC

100. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman advised that he had received a very unusual request from a Devon Wildlife organisation for details of any suitable sites that he was aware of, to rehouse newts and slow-worms, in the area. He suggested a site at Westleigh which was found to be suitable. The organisation was extremely grateful! He advised that the Hastoe Consultation Evening on 3rd October at Halberton Village Hall regarding affordable housing at the site next to Pethertons, had been extremely successful with a very high turnout. There had been interest in all the available proposed properties. The Chairman advised that a parish council in Wiltshire which was undertaking the initial steps in a Parish Plan had found the questionnaire which Halberton had used to consult with parishioners to be the best questionnaire it had found. He thought that this was a good endorsement of the professionalism that went into Halberton's Parish Plan. The Chairman had received a communication from the Community Council of Devon who were keen to support persons in the Parish who would like to write a feature based around farming life in the Newsletter. The Chairman thought this was a good idea. The Clerk would pass the details to the Newsletter team to see whether they wished to follow it up.

98. Police Matters

PC Dodd had advised that in the event of parishioners witnessing youngsters committing acts of vandalism in the Parish particularly with regard to the bus shelter that parishioners should ring 999 where the police would immediately respond to the information given. Names of the youngsters would also be required. Cllr Mrs Armstrong also reported that youngsters had taken down fencing of a field in which horses were kept which had raised health and safety concern if the animals had got out. She would ask the Headmaster of the local school to speak to the children about the possible dangers that could arise if they continued to act in this very irresponsible way and for this behaviour to cease forthwith. The Chairman advised that in view of a number of recent thefts that caravans and trailers should be locked away if at all possible.

102.DCC Matters

- i. The following road closure would be taking place:-

From 7th November to 9th November – Bridwell Avenue, Halberton 495 metres southeast of B3181 (Willand to Waterloo Cross). The alternative route for vehicles will be via B3181 to Four Cross Ways – B3440 Uffculme Road and vice versa

- ii. The Official Opening of Devon Compost Partnership's New In-vessel Composting Facility, Broadpath on 8th November 2006. The facility was the second in-vessel composting plant to be opened in Devon; part funded by DEFRA's third round Waste Minimisation and Recycling Fund. The Chairman would try and attend the Opening.
- iii. DCC had made an offer to the PC to carry out a Biodiversity Audit. A report would be published as to the wildlife of the Parish and ideas for nature conservation. The PC resolved to take up the offer.
- iv. CCllr Hannon advised of:
 - a. the closure of the Tiverton Local Service Group Office. A number of other offices would also be closing. However he thought with the proposed measures for the remaining offices that communications would be improved.
 - b. liaising with officers about the proposed car park for Halberton.
 - c. The Audit Commission's Report confirming that DCC is a 'good' authority, however Children's Services could be improved.
 - d. Problems at the local waste disposal site regarding the processing of compostable waste which for a temporary period had had to be buried in land fill due to the system being full and unable to process any more compostable waste. Cllr Hannon reassured everyone that this was a temporary hiccup which had now been resolved
 - e. The Parking of cars at Parkway along the road which was causing problems. DCC would be regularising along the road and motorists would be required to pay a parking charge

77. Mid Devon District Council

There were none to discuss

88. MDDC'S - October Litter Pick – 28th/29th October 2006

There was much discussion about this. Although there was interest by a number of Cllrs to take part, there was no one available to co-ordinate the event. It was agreed that in view of this, this year the PC would not take part but would hope to participate next year.

*Later in the meeting Cllr Radford agreed to be the Co-ordinator of the event in order that it could take place.

89. Bus Shelter

The roof had been vandalised yet again – some tiles had been broken off and concern was expressed about young children playing on the roof and the liability of the PC if a child was injured. There was much discussion. The PC was divided in whether the shelter should be demolished, replaced with a perspex shelter or remain. The shelter had been built with PC money and Cllr Cooper was of the view that if at all possible, it should remain. Concern was expressed as to the costs incurred in continually repairing the shelter due to vandalism. The Clerk advised that the shelter was covered under the PC's insurance policy for vandalism, however there would

be an excess fee of £200 and the knock on effect of increased annual premiums. It was resolved that the roof be replaced with a steel roof which could not be vandalised. Estimates of the costs would be obtained for the next PC meeting.

80. Meetings Attended

- i. 28th September 2006 Cullompton and 14th November 2006 Tiverton – 6 –9.00pm
5x30 Network Events
It was understood from Cllr Mrs Armstrong that these and a number of other meetings had been cancelled
- ii. 30th September 2006 – DAPC –AGM County Hall, Exeter
The Chairman attended this.

81. Future Meetings

- i. 17th October 2006 – Canal Awareness Ctte Meeting
The Chairman, Cllr Radford and Cllr Mrs Hull would be attending
- ii. 25th October 2006 – Mid Devon Transport Group Stakeholder Event, St George`s Hall, Tiverton at 9.45a, to 2.00pm
Cllr Gibbs would attend this. There was no cost but the Clerk warned that if he cancelled within three days of the event taking place there would be a £10 cancellation fee.
- iii. 21st November 2006 10am – 4.00pm Local Government White Paper Technical Workshop at Westbank Healthy Living Centre, Exminster
The event was free. If any PCllr was interested in attending then it would be necessary to contact the Clerk.
- iv. 28th November 2006 – New Councillor Short Course 6 – 9.30pm Old Heathcoat School Centre, Tiverton
Cllr Constable would attend. It was resolved that the PC would pay the £25 delegate fee
- v. Access Training Workshops at Various Locations and Dates – Advice and Funding for the Disability Discrimination Act
- vi.

THE ORDINARY PC MEETING WAS THEN ADJOURNED AT 8.20PM FOR 10 MINUTES , IN ORDER THAT MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PCLLRS COULD EXAMINE NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS. THE MEETING RESUMED AT 8.30PM FOR PLANNING MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED. THIS PART OF THE MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY CLLR RADFORD.

82. Planning – Public Forum

No questions were raised.

83. Planning Applications for consideration

<u>Planning App No</u>	<u>Name/Address</u>	<u>Details</u>
06/01972/FULL	EJ Mugford, East Manley Fruit Farm, *Cllr Mrs Hull declared an interest	Erection of agricultural building
06/02095/FULL	Mr & Mrs G Isaac, The Pethers, Crown Hill	Erection of agricultural building for storage of hay etc
06/02098/FULL	G W Persey, Hitchcocks Farm, Uffculme	Removal of planning condition 13 of p.permission 4/25/2000/628
06/02158/CLU	Mr & Mrs Clark, 9 & 9A Crossparks	Certificate of Lawfulness for the use of 9 and 9A Crossparks as 2 dwellings

PC's Comments: All the applications were approved. With regard to app 06/02095/FULL approval was given subject to the hedge being retained and the building being used for agricultural purposes only

84. Planning Decisions received from MDDC

<u>Planning Ref:</u>	<u>Name/Address</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>No. of Conditions</u>
06/01410/ARM	London & Devonshire Trust	Granted	1
06/01411/ARM	London & Devonshire Trust	Refused	
06/01460/LBC	Mr & Mrs W Hughes	Granted	7
06/01502/FULL	Mr & Mrs S Manning	Refused	
06/01658/FULL	Town Centre Heritage Conservation	Refused	
06/01787/CAC	Town Centre Heritage Conservation	Refused	
06/01808/FULL	T Stribley, Trevean, 57 High St, Halberton	Granted	5

85. Miscellaneous Planning Matters

- i. Glen Crocker had advised that with regards to the tree that was subject to a TPO and had been cut down at Townsend House development, that under planning legislation a TPO is overwritten by a planning permission on the same site unless the TPO is overwritten by a planning permission on the same site unless the TPO is specifically referred to within that permission. According to the file that MDDC held on the matter one tree was scheduled to be felled to ground level as it was considered to be dieing. Further works to the other trees were contained within the report.
- ii. With regards to Trevean 57 High St, Mr crocker advised that in the planning permission for the erection of dwelling and garage no specific landscaping condition was imposed on that permission. There were no TPOs on the site and the removal of the trees would be considered as part of the preparatory work required for the erection of the dwelling.
- iii. It would be necessary to ask Cllr Radford at the November PC meeting whether the new shed at Crown Hill required planning permission.
- iv. The Clerk had received a response from MDDC's planning dept regarding the numerous concerns raised by parishioners concerning the wall at 91 High street. The Clerk was advised that MDDC had not consulted with DCC's highway depy. The application was for the erection for a boundary wall to a listed building on privately owned land. Planning permission was required only because the building is listed and therefore the matters for consideration on the application were the impact on the Conservation Area and Listed Building. Planning permission would not be required for a hedge. Planning Officer, Alison Fish had also advised that when Orpington Court was built there was only a condition on the planning permission that visibility be provided. This was completed. There was no condition requiring retention of the visibility splay. 91 High Street, is now in separate ownership and had the building not been listed, planning permission would not have been required for the wall which is only 1m high. Cllrs Radford and Mrs Hull would also raise this matter at the next meeting of MDDC's Planning Ctte.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PC CHAIRED THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING

86. Committee Reports

- i. Amenities and the Cemetery

Cllr Mrs Fisher advised that a cherry tree in the cemetery was causing concerns as it appeared to be dying. It was agreed that Cllr Saunders would look at it and report back his findings at the next meeting. Cllr Mrs Fisher also reminded Cllrs that the grass cutting contract ended on 31st October and she was concerned as to who would be responsible for the emptying of the bins. Cllr Mrs Armstrong offered her assistance with this task, which was gratefully received.

iii. Communications, Footpaths & Environment

The Chariman reported that a hedge had `disappeared` at Venn Farm. The matter was being looked into

iii. Policy and Finance

There was nothing to report

88. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that there was continuing problems with the new computer as it had still not been repaired. The technicians at Uffculme School from where the computer had been acquired were maintaining that the fault which had occurred was as a result of the actions of the Clerk. The Clerk advised that the system had not worked correctly from the on-set as she could not insert CDs or `floppy` discs` and she disagreed that it was her fault the system was not working properly. It was understood that the fault could only have resulted by the actions of `someone` who had a knowledge of the workings of a computer as the computer settings had been altered. There was much debate by PCllrs, however the Chairman confirmed that the computer would be repaired and that the PC would not be charged for the work.

90. Accounts

RECEIPTS FOR PERIOD 1ST – 30th SEPT 2006:

Bank Interest	31.44
Newsletter	188.09
Cemetery	390.00
TOTAL	£609.53

PAYMENTS MADE FOR THE PERIOD 1ST – 30th SEPT 2006 £1501.60

PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED

Cheque No	Amount	Vat	Total	Details
SO	22.00		22.00	MDDC – Cemetery Rates
1043	12.37		12.37	Mrs C McIntyre - Repayment of postage/stationery costs
1044	28.88	5.05	33.93	Viking – suspension files and envelopes
1045	246.55	43.15	289.70	Newletter production costs
1046	15.00		15.00	J Austin – Newsletter delivery
1047	323.00	56.53	379.53	Gardencare – Grass Cutting & Maintenance work – Sept
1048	243.88		243.88	Mrs C McIntyre – Salary Sept/Oct
1049	21.16		21.15	Mrs C J McIntyre – repayment cost of black and colour ink cartridges
1050	9.23	1.62	10.85	Ottery Office Practice –

1051	25.00	25.00	photocopying costs Sept
1052	15.00	15.00	DAPC – Delegate Fee
			Royal British legion - Donation

Balance of bank accounts carried forward	19707.73
Plus Receipts for period 1 st - 31 st Sept	609.53
	TOTAL £20317.26
Minus Payments made for the above Period	1501.60
	TOTAL £18815.66

Made up as follows:- High Interest A/c	16002.76
Current A/c	2812.90
	TOTAL £18815.66

VILLAGE HALL FUNDS	400.00
PARISH PATHS FUND	2128.79
PARISH PLAN FUND	300.00
GENERAL FUNDS	15986.87
	TOTAL £18815.66

Halberton Newsletter: Income for Period 1st April – 30th Sept = £1075.36 less expenditure of £786.67 = £288.69 net profit

91.

92. **Miscellaneous Matters**

- i. The Vice-Chairman advised that Club 17 had closed. This was regrettable but due to a gradual lack of interest by youngsters, despite valiant attempts to increase the membership and also the lack of help with the running of the Club, it simply wasn't realistic or viable to continue with the Club. Mrs Lane-Smith would return the PC's donation which it had previously given to the Club, similarly she would be returning monies and any equipment to the Youth network and an accountant would independently audit the accounts.
- ii. The children of the local school would be planting crosses for Remembrance day followed by a service at the church at 11.00am. on 11th November. It was hoped Cllrs would support this. The Remembrance service on Sunday at St Andrews would take place at 10.50am

- iii. Lesley Smith from DAPC had advised that a new planning guide to help town and parish councils was being produced and quotes were requested from councillors. If anyone could help they were asked to e-mail Mr Jones on Andrew.Jones@lgiu.org.uk

93. Next Parish Council Meeting

- i. 7th November 2006 Amenities and the Cemetery Ctte Meeting and Communications, Footpaths & Environment Ctte Meeting at Halberton Village Hall at 7.30pm
ii. 14th November 2006 Ordinary PC Meeting at Halberton Village Hall at 7.00pm

The Meeting ended at 10.00pm

DATE

CHAIRMAN

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