

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF HALBERTON PARISH
COUNCIL ON TUESDAY, 11th NOVEMBER 2003 AT 7.30PM AT
HALBERTON VILLAGE HALL

138. Present

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Cllrs Mesdames Armstrong and Jepps, Cllrs Gibbs, Lane-Smith, Saunders, Mr P Brown MDDC's Emergency Planning Officer and two Members of the Public

139. Public Forum

Rob Stevens advised that the Village Hall project was progressing well. To date approx £68,000 had been raised through grants and other initiatives. The Village Hall would be seeking further grants totalling a similar amount in the near future. Everyone connected with the project was also anxious that the doctor's surgery (to be incorporated in the village hall) should be up and running as soon as possible. It was resolved that the sum of £1,550 be paid to the Village Hall Committee by the PC on receipt of an invoice, as part of the previously agreed amount it had agreed to contribute towards the project. The remaining sum of £450 to be paid at a later date. The Vice-Chairman declared Code of Conduct.

140. Apologies

Cllrs Mesdames Fisher and Hull and Cllrs Hugill and Radford,

141. Talk by Mr P Brown, Emergency Planning Officer

This was Mr Brown's third visit to the Parish and in view of this he geared his talk to the 'Way Ahead' in emergency planning, covering the latest Government initiatives in introducing the Civil Contingencies Bill. Mr Brown's talk was extremely interesting, informative and very enjoyable. Cpt Cornish had advised that he would be resigning from the Emergency Ctte. It was agreed that at the next PC Meeting 'Emergency Ctte' be included on the Agenda as it was now necessary for new members to be found. Once this was carried out a Ctte meeting could then be arranged at which Cpt Cornish could formally resign and a new Ctte Chairman be elected. The updating of the Emergency Plan could also be considered.

142. Minutes

The Minutes of:

- i. The Parish Council Meeting of 14th October 2003
- ii. The Amenities Ctte Meeting of 28th October 2003
- iii. The Transportation Ctte Meeting of 28th October 2003

were approved without amendment

143. Matters Arising

- i. Catherine Simmons Rural Housing Development Officer would be able to attend the February PC meeting to talk about affordable housing. It was requested that she bring information along to the meeting regarding subsidised housing, in particular detailed information about 'social housing contributions' which was being considered in the case of the Sellake Farm planning application.
- ii. As Cllr Radford was absent there was no update available regarding the problem of lorries parking at Orchard View. Cllr Gibbs advised that the lorries were still parking there but the abandoned motor vehicles had gone. It was requested that the Clerk write to the Vehicle Inspectorate, Gaunt House, Bristol questioning if lorries were registered at an operating centre

could they be left full time in a residential area.

iii In view of Members various commitments including the Parish Plan, it had been difficult for any of them to attend recent meetings organised by the Cullompton Town Clerk about the Town Guide. The PC requested to be kept up to date with developments

iv. Cpt Cornish had sent in a letter of thanks in respect of the PC's donation to the Poppy Appeal.

144. Chairman's Announcements

There were none

145. Parish Plan

Meetings had taken place on 21st and 25th October. A summary of these meetings is attached for information (Appendix 1).

146 Police Matters

The PC was extremely concerned that despite Cllr Auger's assurances in the summer the speed monitors were still not in place in the village. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to PC Auger to express the PC's disappointment and to find out when the machines would be installed. It was understood that there had recently been a distraction burglary in Halberton and another at Muxbeare. A survey questionnaire was being sent by the Police, to 8,000 members of the public and the same number of businesses to obtain their views on the policing service they receive.

147 Mid Devon District Council Matters

There was nothing to report

148. DCC Matters

- i. The Radio Devon Road show would be arriving in Halberton on 5th December from noon until approx 4.00pm. It was agreed that this would be an excellent opportunity for any parishioners interested, to learn computer skills, use of the Internet etc and if willing, to be interviewed on Radio Devon. The service would, however, require the use a telephone line. It was agreed that Mrs Erasmus be approached. In addition it was suggested that the the siting of the bus should be in the Methodist Church car park. Use of the Church's kitchen facilities would also be required. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Mr Voce about this.
- ii. Details of the Parish Lengthsman visits to the Parish during 2003/04 had been received by the Clerk. She had passed photocopies of the information to the Vice-Chairman and Cllr Gibbs.

149 Meetings Attended

- i. 14th October 2003 – Canal Awareness Meeting
The Vice-Chairman attended this. Various matters were discussed. It was understood that another section of the canal from Swingbridge, would be dredged next year.
- ii. 15th October 2003 Rural Housing Solutions
(See `Appendix 2` attached)
- iii. 4th November 2003 – Land at Cordwents Farm
(See `Appendix 3` attached)
- iv. 10th November 2003 – Training Day
(See `Appendix 4` attached)

150 Future Meetings

i. 3rd December 2003 Mid Devon Association of Local Councils – Tiverton Town Hall

It was understood that Cllr Hugill may be attending as the PC's representative.

ii. 20th January 2004 – Mid Devon Association of Local Councils – Tiverton Town Hall

Mr J Guscott Head of MDDC's Planning Dept would be speaking about the new planning regulations. It was important that as many members of the PC attended

iii Dates in 2004 – Local Government Forums

As Area Cttes had been abolished, Local Government Forums were being re-introduced. In March and May Forums were being held in Cullompton and Tiverton respectively. As Cllr Hugill was previously the PC's representative at the Area Cttes it was decided to see whether he would be prepared to be the PC's Forum representative. Cllr Gibbs indicated he would be willing to attend if necessary.

151. Committee Reports

i. Cemetery

Mr Bryant of Town and Country, the cemetery grass cutter, had ceased trading. The Clerk would ensure that he was paid up to date. She would also place an advert in the Halberton Newsletter seeking a grass cutter for the cemetery and possibly for the playing fields on an 'as and when' basis over the winter months.

ii. Amenities

It was agreed that the Clerk should order the rubber granules for the safety surfacing and arrange for them to be delivered to Boe Hill Farm, Sampford Peverell. The point of contact being the Vice-Chairman. The Clerk to provide the supplier with the Vice-Chairman's contact telephone numbers.. It was unlikely that the granules would be in place before the New Year.

iii. Footpaths

Work was underway on the footpaths. Realignment of the path running from Sock Hill to Leonards Farm and the placing of a stile etc would be dealt with. Down at Venn it was understood that a considerable amount of maintenance had been carried out. Surveys of the footpaths would be required to be carried out shortly. DCC had sent blank survey forms to the Vice-Chairman for completion. The Clerk had received finance information forms which she had completed as far as possible but had passed to the Vice-Chairman for him to complete the outstanding information. A Christmas Workshop would be held on 10th December at Highbullen Hotel, Chittlehamholt. The Vice-Chairman indicated that due to pressure of work he may be unable to attend. A Footpaths Ctte Meeting to be arranged for Thursday, 20th November 2003 at 7.30pm at the Methodist School Room.

iv. Highways.

There were continuing concerns about the speed limits on roads leading into the Parish. The recommendations made by the Highways Ctte at its meeting on 28th October were agreed but it was considered that they needed to be expanded upon and other Parish Councils consulted (eg Sampford Peverell and Willand). In view of this it was agreed that the Clerk should arrange another Highways Ctte Meeting for 25th November at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. Items for the Agenda to be i. Speed limits for various locations in the Parish, (to include requests by parishioners who live on the Halberton Road for a speed reduction and also a speed limit sign at Cross Parks) ii Radio Devon Roadshow
iii Miscellaneous matters

152. Clerk's Report

The Clerk had nothing to report

153Accounts

RECEIPTS FOR PERIOD 1ST -31ST OCTOBER 2003:

<i>Bank Interest</i>	<i>16.89</i>
<i>Newsletter</i>	<i>89.20</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>£106.09</i>

PAYMENTS MADE FOR THE PERIOD 1ST – 31ST OCTOBER 2003 *£1292.84*

PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED

<i>Cheque No</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>VAT</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Details</i>
<i>Direct Debit</i>	<i>20.00</i>		<i>20.00</i>	<i>MDDC – Rates re Cemetery</i>
<i>100769</i>	<i>215.00</i>		<i>215.00</i>	<i>B Sharland – Repairs to playing field eqy</i>
<i>100770</i>	<i>120.00</i>	<i>21.00</i>	<i>141.00</i>	<i>Audit Commission</i>
<i>100771</i>	<i>607.00</i>	<i>106.23</i>	<i>713.23</i>	<i>Maslands – questionnaires re Parish Plan</i>
<i>100772</i>	<i>25.98</i>		<i>25.98</i>	<i>Mrs C McIntyre – repayment cost of stationery</i>
<i>100773</i>	<i>220.00</i>		<i>220.00</i>	<i>Town & Country – grass cutting cemetery</i>
<i>100774</i>	<i>216.24</i>		<i>216.24</i>	<i>Mrs C McIntyre – Salary (less tax deductions)</i>
<i>100775</i>	<i>102.92</i>	<i>18.01</i>	<i>120.93</i>	<i>Landscaping and Grounds Maintenance</i>

The above were approved for payment by the PC

<i>Balance of bank accounts carried forward</i>	<i>16,378.62</i>
<i>Plus receipts for period 1st – 31st October 2003</i>	<i>106.09</i>
	<i>TOTAL £16,484.71</i>
<i>Minus payments made for the above period</i>	<i>1292.84</i>
	<i>TOTAL £15,191.87</i>

<i>Made up as follows:- Current</i>	<i>£947.51</i>
<i>High Interest</i>	<i>£14,244.36</i>
	<i>TOTAL £15,191.87</i>

<i>VILLAGE HALLS FUND</i>	<i>£ 3,500.00</i>
<i>PARISH PATHS FUND</i>	<i>£1,673.72</i>
<i>PARISH PLAN FUND</i>	<i>£1,884.01</i>
<i>GENERAL FUNDS</i>	<i>£ 8,134.14</i>
	<i>TOTAL £15,191.87</i>

NEWSLETTER :

Income for period 1/4/03 – 31/10/03 *£1,106.75*

Income received in 2002/03 (payment in advance for advertising in 2003/04) - *£68.57* TOTAL

INCOME = *£1038.18* LESS EXPENDITURE = *£836.28* NET INCOME = *£201.90*

154.Members Business

Cllr Hugill needed a new blade for the strimmer . It was agreed that he should purchase this and the PC would re-imburse him the cost.

155.Miscellaneous Matters

- i. The Clerk had received information on a forthcoming course: 'What you need to know about a Housing Needs Survey but never dared ask' Any Cllrs wishing to attend to contact the Clerk.
- ii. The Devon Fire and Rescue Service would be undergoing significant changes to ensure it met the needs of the community. Under the modernisation programme, services delivered by the Service would be reviewed to make sure they served the people of Devon in the best possible way. The Clerk had full details available for all interested members and the full draft plan could be found on the Service's website. The draft plan was open for public consultation until 5th January 2004

156.Next Meeting

A Meeting of the Parish Council would take place on Tuesday, 9th December 2003 at Halberton Village Hall at 7.30pm, preceded by a Meeting of the Council's Planning Committee at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

CHAIRMAN

DATE