

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL ON TUESDAY, 12th SEPTEMBER 2006 AT 7.00PM AT HALBERTON VILLAGE HALL

67. Present

The Chairman (K Browse), Vice-Chairman (B Lane-Smith) Cllrs Cooper, Gibbs, Saunders, Mesdames Armstrong, Fisher, Jepps and Hull Cllr Hannon, 2 MDDC Officers and five Members of the Public

68. Public Forum

Concern was raised about the wall at 91 High Street. The matter would be discussed later in the Planning section of the meeting. A suggestion was made that bollards should be erected running from the Village Hall to the PO to stop lorries from mounting the pavement. A letter of complaint regarding the judging of the Village of the Year Competition to be discussed later in the meeting,

69. Apologies

Cllr Radford

70. Talk by Officers of MDDC regarding Organic Waste Collection Scheme

The talk by the two Officers was information and enlightening. It was understood that every person in the Parish would be in receipt of a recycling box by December 2006, to be emptied every fortnight. MDDC had no plans to introduce organic waste collections to the whole district. The scheme would be extended to a small number of villages where it could be achieved cost effectively. In areas that were not served by organic waste collections, a weekly refuse collection would be retained. The amount of waste recycled/composted by MDDC was ever increasing. Since the introduction of the scheme in 2005, 37% of household waste had been sent for recycling or composting. This compared well with MDDC's government imposed target of 30%. From 2004/05 to 2006/06 the amount of waste buried in landfill reduced by 16%. Local community groups continue to make a significant contribution by collecting paper, clothing and garden waste for recycling: a 22% increase from 781 tonnes in 2004/05 to 949 tonnes in 2005/06. These groups account for 11% of the total recycling effort in Mid Devon. A new composting facility next to the Broadpath landfill site near Uffculme which recently opened means that all Mid Devon's organic waste can be composted locally and turned into a useful product for landscape restoration and soil conditioning. Compostable bags made from corn starch were available at £3 per roll of 50 and large compostable sacks for use as wheeled bin liners at £8 per roll of 10. One of the Officers spoke about the forthcoming Parish Litter Pick - 'MAD Day' (Make A Difference Day) in October, of which the PC would receive further details shortly. It was understood that Club 17 had been liaising with MDDC's Officers regarding the provision of litter picking equipment for the youngsters of the village to use. The two officers answered a number of questions raised by members of the public and Parish Cllrs.

70. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the Planning and Ordinary Parish Council Meetings of 11th July 2006 were approved and signed accordingly

71. Matters Arising from the Minutes and Update on Calor Village of the Year Competition

- 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 October PC Meeting.
- ii. Cllr Gibbs had still not received a copy of Mid Devon Association's accounts and it was decided not to pursue this matter further.

- iii. Areas of concern in the Parish with over hanging branches and hedges which needed cutting back were identified. The Clerk to pass address details to Willy Pike at DCC in order that he could request the occupiers of the relevant properties to take appropriate action.
- iv. The Chairman was proud to announce that Halberton had been awarded second place in the Calor Village of the Year Competition. He was delighted that the village had received this award and thanked everyone who had been involved in the preparations for the judging of the village and attributed their hard work and effort in Halberton being successful. He hoped that next year Halberton would reach first place which would mean automatic entry into the national competition and the chance of winning a large financial prize. A letter had been received by the Landlady of the Barge Public House. Sue Hutter was upset that the Barge was not put on the judges schedule of places to visit as she considered that the pub to be an integral part of village life. The Chairman could understand Mrs Hutter's dismay and sympathised with her. However he was of the view that because the judges schedule was tight it was simply not possible for them to have been able to visit every place of interest in the village. He hoped that the matter could be addressed if Halberton got into the final of the competition next year. In the meantime the Clerk to chase up the 2nd place certificate which she had still not received.

72. Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Colin Constable made his Declaration of Acceptance of Office as a Parish Cllr of Halberton PC and was warmly welcomed to the PC.

73. Police Matters

There were none.

74Chairman`s Announcements

There were none

74. Police Matters

There were none

75. DCC Matters

- i. The following road closures would be taking place:-
 - a. From 21st – 22nd September – C769 High Street at junction with Greenway
From its junction with Pond Hill for a distance of 250 metres north westwards
The alternative route would be C105 Sampford Peverell – A361 North Devon Link Road – A396 Heathcoat Way – C769
It was understood that access would be possible to occupants of properties, along the route, whilst the works were taking place
 - b. 27th – 29th September – C272 Brithem Bottom from its junction with C186 at Palmers Farm for a distance of 53 mts to Polly's Meadow
The alternative route would be via C186 – U/C past The Old Chapel and Middle Combe and vice versa

76. Mid Devon District Council

- i. It was agreed that the Clerk obtain a copy of the Draft Statement of Principles (Gambling Act 2005) to circulate to Cllrs Mesdames Armstrong and Fisher and Cllr Cooper. If they had any comments to make, for them to relay them to the Clerk by 2nd October

- ii. Consultation with parishioners was to take place on 3rd October at Halberton Village Hall from 3.30pm – 7.00pm regarding affordable housing at the site next to Pethertons. Nearby houses would receive letters informing them of the proposed scheme. Catherine Simmons, the Housing Development Officer could be contacted on 01884 234904 if anyone wished to raise any issues with her about the matter.
- iii. A Chairmans Reception was to take place at a date yet to be confirmed week commencing 30th October. The following persons were nominated by the PC to attend the reception as it was considered that they had made a significant contribution to the community:- Susan Hutter and Brent Ivermee of the Barge for their charitable works, Brian and Sue Lane-Smith for their work with youngsters (Club 17), Bob and Kathy Saunders for their work with Ash Thomas Village Hall, Pat Armstrong for her work with the church and the local community
- iv. 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) documents would be circulated amongst the Cllrs. If there were any comments any member would like to make, it would be necessary to relay them to the Clerk before 3rd October. It was understood that if a District Council “signs off” a Parish Plan the DC has to take the Plan requirements into any Local Development Framework. The Clerk to contact John Bodley Scott to request this be carried out.

77. Annual Charity Commission Return 2005/06

The Chairman signed off the accounts. The Income was £0 and expenditure £2863

78. Cordwents/new footpath/fencing etc

The Vice-Chairman was becoming increasingly frustrated at the lack of progress being made in this matter. The Clerk had spoken today to Roger Folley at DCC who was under the impression that this matter could not proceed further until the PC instructed DCC to draw up plans to meet with the PC's requirements with regard to its future use of the plans. This would incur the PC in costs of approximately £2,000. However the Vice-Chairman advised that it was a fruitless exercise going down this route if DCC could not indicate initially whether or not the land the PC required would be available to the PC on suitable terms. The Vice-Chairman had drafted a letter for the PC's approval. It was agreed that the Clerk should formulate a letter to be sent on behalf of the PC. Cllr Hannon was also making representations on behalf of the PC so it was hoped that eventually progress would be made. The Clerk also reported that Roger Folley would check with Dan Meek at DCC as to whether sheep/cattle netting fencing could be used rather than pig fencing along the proposed new footpath

79. Meetings Attended

- 1. 4th September 2006 – DAPC
The Chairman attended this
- i. 12th September 2006 at MDDC - Standards Cttee Meeting at 2.00pm
Cllr Lane-Smith attended this meeting. He reported that the Cttee was seeking an independent member to join

80. Future Meetings

- i. 26th September 2006 – 7.00pm – 9.00pm AGM Mid Devon Primary Care Trust at Tiverton Hospital
- ii. 28th September 2006 Cullompton and 14th November 2006 Tiverton – 6 –9.00pm 5x30 Network Events – Cllr Mrs Armstrong would attend one of thr meeting
- iii. 30th September 2006 – DAPC –AGM County Hall, Exeter
The Chairman would attend. It was agreed that the PC would pay his lunch expenses of £15

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

Planning – Public Forum

Much concern was expressed about the erection of the wall at 91 High Street. The wall was considered to be extremely dangerous as it obstructed vision and the situation would be considerably worse as trees had now been planed behind the wall which once mature would reduce visibility even more, It was understood that the wall had been built in accordance with the specification of the plans passed by MDDC> DCC had not been consulted and if they had been made aware they would have not allowed the erection of the wall. It was agreed that the Clerk should carry out the following:- i. ask MDDC if they consulted with Devon Highways and if so the response given. If MDDC had not consulted with DCC to provide the reasons for this. To pass on the concerns of parishioners and the trees which had recently been planted. It was understood that a petition was being prepared as numerous persons were so incensed by the situation which would eventually be submitted to MDDC. Ii. The Clerk to look out the plans for the development when they were originally submitted to the PC for considertion, which the Clerk would ciruclate again to the PCllrs.

Planning Applications for consideration

<u>Planning App No</u>	<u>Name/Address</u>	<u>Details</u>
06/01808/FULL	T Strabley Trevean, 57 High St, Halberton	Erection of dwelling and garage
pc`s comments: The PC refused all previous applications on visibility grounds and interference of free flow of traffic and holds the same view regarding this latest application		
06/01591/FULL	A Venner, Battens Farm, Sampford Pev	Conversion of ag building to live/work unit

PC`s COMMENTS: No objections

06/1658/FULL	Town Centre Heritage, grounds of 26, 26A Chaves House, High St, Halberton	Erection of 4 dwellings
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06/1787/CAC	Town Centre Heritage, grounds of 26, 26A Chaves House, High St, Halberton	Pedestrian/highway access through retaining wall
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PC`s Comments re both applications: The PC welcomes the provision of a footpath but would only agree to the proposed development if the level of the houses was dropped to ensure that there is not a privacy issue

Planning Decisions received from MDDC

<u>Planning Ref:</u>	<u>Name/Address</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>No. of Conditions</u>
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Miscellaneous Planning Matters

- i. A tree had been cut down at the Townsend House development, which appeared to be in breach of a planning permission. Substantial tree cutting had been carried out at the pond at the rear of the property on Chapel Close which was a Conservation Area. It was agreed that the Clerk should refer these matters to John Clarke who was now MDDC's Planning Enforcement Officer for the Parish. The Clerk was not over optimistic that she would receive a response to her e-mail as previous contact with Planning Enforcement Officers had not been entirely satisfactory. She was still waiting to hear from the Enforcement Officer about the cutting down of trees at 57 High Street, after nearly two months of waiting!
- ii. It would be necessary to ask Cllr Radford at the October PC meeting whether the new shed at Crown Hill required planning permission.
- iii. It was understood that a planning application may be submitted to MDDC for a change of use of land for motor cycle scrambling.
- iv. MDDC was proposing to produce a new design guide as a supplementary planning document and was seeking examples of good practice which could feature in the Guide. The PC's view was that any rural development should reflect the character of the Parish

Committee Reports

Cemetery

Cllr Mrs Fisher advised that the path clearance had been carried out in August but she had taken the liberty of requesting that they be sprayed again. She was thanked for taking the initiative in this matter.

Footpaths

The Chairman reported that there would be new criteria introduced regarding checks on footpaths. He had been on a course to get to grips with the new procedures. He was currently awaiting quotes for fencing along the footpath.

Amenities/Policy and F

There was nothing to report

Members Business

The Vice-Chairman reported that more tiles had been ripped off the roof of the bus shelter. It was suggested that the cost of continually repairing the shelter was becoming prohibitive and perhaps consideration should be given to knocking it down. Cllr Mrs Armstrong would arrange for an article to go into the Newsletter informing parishioners that if they wanted the shelter to be continually repaired then it would necessitate an increase on the Parish precept. The Vice-Chairman said the good news was that youngsters were being encouraged to paint designs on the interior of the shelter and he produced examples of the designs. It was agreed that the bus shelter be an item for the October agenda. The Clerk to check in the meantime whether vandalism was covered under its insurance policy and if so the excess payment the PC would have to pay.

205. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that she was having problems with her new computer which she had returned to the Chairman who would arrange for its repair. The item was under guarantee and it was hoped that the problem was minor.

206.Accounts

Miscellaneous Matters

- i. A McMillans Coffee morning would be taking place from 10.30 – 12 noon on 29th September.

Future Parish Council Meetings

The Meeting ended at 9.30pm

DATE

CHAIRMAN

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