

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF HALBERTON PARISH  
COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2010 AT 7.30PM AT  
HALBERTON VILLAGE HALL

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**217. Present**

\*Cllr Browse (Chairman), Cllrs Mesdames Cuthbert, Graham, Jepps and Johnstone and Cllrs Britton (Vice-Chairman), Corden and Radford

\*Cllr Browse arrived later as he had been at an earlier meeting. The Vice-Chairman chaired the meeting throughout.

**218. Apologies**

Cllrs Hand and Saunders, CCllr Des Hannon, PCSO Sims and PC Custance

**219. Public Forum**

There were no members of the public present

**220. Approval of the Minutes**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> February 2010 were approved and signed without amendment. However Cllr Mrs Jepps later in the meeting advised that Minute 205 (vi) should have made reference to `West Exe`. The amendment was made to the minutes and initialled accordingly

**221. Matters Arising from the aforementioned Minutes**

- i. The Clerk confirmed that she had now received the certificate of insurance from the new grass cutting contractor.
- ii. Cllr Radford advised that as yet he didn't have an update on the funding for the proposed car parking at Pethertons via the Tiverton and Area Tenant Group. He would chase the matter up
- iii. The Clerk had received a letter of thanks from Mrs Pat Tremlett of St Andrews Church in respect of the PC's grant of £50 for the churchyard
- iv. The Clerk advised that with regards to the adoption of the phone box at Ash Thomas, BT had now had a change of policy whereby either the PC could take over the electricity supply and be responsible for payment or alternatively BT would remain responsible for the electrical supply and any payments to the electricity companies for the supply. BT reserved the right to disconnect the electricity supply at some point in the future but would contact the PC should this become necessary. The PC agreed that BT should continue to be responsible for the electricity supply and that the form of agreement could now be progressed. MDDC's planners had confirmed that the phone box did not require any planning consents. The Clerk would need to contact the emergency services once the adoption had been completed to advise that the telephone equipment had been removed. The Vice-Chairman was of the view that further enquiries should be made about the site on which the phone box was situated before the agreement was entered into. It was agreed that the matter be further discussed at the April PC Meeting.
- v. The Vice-Chairman advised that he had called at 11 properties re overhanging tree branches etc. He had had some responses and a number of parishioners had carried out the necessary work. Part of the work at the Vicarage had been carried out but the Diocese would need to be contacted about the remaining work. The Clerk to also contact DCC's Highway Dept re the wall at the back of the old rectory. This was causing much concern as the soil at the back appeared to be pushing the wall and concern was expressed that the wall could collapse onto the highway
- vi. The Chairman and Cllr Corden would arrange a meeting with the landowner about the drainage problems at Lower Town

### **222. Vice-Chairman`s Announcements**

The Vice-Chairman reported that the Goal Post Opening on 6<sup>th</sup> March had been a success. Feedback indicated that the new nets were “brilliant”! 15 youngsters under 12 and 10 over 16 had turned up for the event. Cllr Mrs Cuthbert would send a photograph to the Football Foundation. It was understood that Nigel Cuthbert had cut the grass in time for the event and was thanked for the pristine appearance of the pitch. It was considered that expert advice was needed regarding the condition of the goal area and some expense may be involved in dealing with the matter.

### **223. Matters following Amenities Meeting**

- i. The Clerk would source suppliers of for a recycled 5ft heavy duty plastic seat
- ii. Consideration was given to reinstating the gate at Boyes Close/Pethertons. It was suggested that a gate could be placed to the left, near the new light which would be safer. This would be considered along with alternatives such as the re-arrangement of the fence.
- iii. The Vice-Chairman had managed to obtain a quote for the tarmac work for the footway to the Rec and for the area by the pond. He hoped to have the remaining quotes available for the next meeting.
- iv. Simon Tucker of W H Squires had agreed to be the third point of contact if Cllr Mrs Jepps or the Clerk were not available for burial arrangements.
- v. The flowering cherry tree had now been planted.
- vi. The Clerk provided the PC with information about the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which it appeared would eventually replace S.106 contributions. The Clerk advised that councils would be empowered (but not required) to set a charge for most developments. This would be done through a formula related to the scale and type of proposal. The proceeds must be spent on local and sub-regional infrastructure that supported the development of the area. CIL was being introduced as it was the government`s response to the need for developments to contribute to the provision of infrastructure either directly or indirectly related to the development in question, and that there was a view that the S.106 provisions as currently exercised, provided only a partial and variable response to capturing funding contributions for infrastructure. The Clerk had ascertained from Dave Scott of MDDC that it would be looking to implement CIL but it was not programmed as yet. It would take quite a lot of work. It would not affect the PC`s funds received through S.106 monies and they would continue to be protected in accordance with the legal agreement

### **224. Model Standing Orders**

The Clerk had e-mailed copies to all members. It was resolved that the Clerk prepare new Standing Orders for consideration by the PC which she would do shortly. In view of the time this would involve, it was resolved that she should receive an additional salary payment.

### **225. DCC Matters**

- i. The PC provided information for the Clerk with regard to its views concerning the mobile library service which called at the village each Thursday. DCC was reviewing the service and was keen to canvas public opinion about it. The Clerk would forward DCC the PC`s comments
- ii. As CCllr Hannon was not at the meeting there were a number of DCC matters which could not be raised. These would have to be raised with him at the April PC meeting

### **226. MDDC Matters**

- i. Geraldine Talbot (MDDC) was now the Parish Liaison Officer. As the Clerk was attending the Annual Meeting of Town and Parish Council Clerks on 24<sup>th</sup> March, it was agreed that the issues concerning the attitude of certain planning officers be raised at that meeting.
- ii. The Clerk to contact Geraldine Talbot with a view to Halberton becoming a `Clean Zone`

iii. Cllr Radford reported that MDDC was going to work with North Devon District Council regarding waste disposal and recycling. New waste collection vehicles were also being considered

iv. Cllr Radford reported that MDDC had under-spent its budget quite considerably.

v. Cllr Radford reminded the PC of the need for another litter pick in the village. It was agreed that this would take place on 17<sup>th</sup> April at 10.00am. Cllr Mrs Cuthbert would arrange to advertise this event in the Newsletter

vi. MDDC would be notifying the general public about the Private Sector Housing Renewal Assistance and Community Strategy. The documents became policy from July 2009 and they would be available to view in libraries at Tiverton, Crediton, Cullompton, Uffculme and Bampton from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February to Monday 22 March

vii.. By combining MDDC`s recently launched Private Landlords Energy Action (PLEA) grant with the government`s new Boiler Scrappage Scheme, landlords may be able to claim as much as £900 of the cost of a new A-rated condensing boiler. This represented one of the biggest discounts available to landlords anywhere in the country

viii. Peter Hare-Scott had commented on the go-ahead for an Exeter unitary council and considered that it would necessitate a whole new unnecessary bureaucracy and create great difficulties for DCC. He stated the colossal transaction costs would not be recouped and pointed out that 3 1/2 years ago a financial appraisal clearly showed a unitary Exeter was not viable and was rejected by the then Secretary of State.

ix. MDDC`s Environmental Health Officers had arranged for a filthy and verminous cottage in Sandford to be totally cleared out and disinfected to allow the Council`s pest control contractor access to deal with a local rat infestation. Work had started on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. It was understood that the condition of the cottage was so filthy it could have been filmed for an episode of “A Life of Grime”!

### **227. Police Matters**

PC Graham Custance had sent in the following report:-

Please find below the Police report for the Halberton parish Council meeting and accept mine and Jonathan`s apologies.

Over the last 30 days there have been 5 crimes of note:

- 16/02/10 – Theft of a moped. Recovered in the Halberton vicinity intact and undamaged. No suspects.
- 16/02/10 – Criminal damage to motor vehicle. Nothing stolen. No suspects.
- 20/02/10 – Drink driver. Person arrested.
- 01/03/10 – Criminal damage to motor vehicle. Nothing stolen. No suspects.
- 06/03/10 – Theft from motor vehicle. Stereo equipment stolen. No suspects.

Over the same time period there have been incidents of note:

- 14/02/10 – Youths on school premises. Area searched with no trace.

- 17/02/10 – Male seen walking in middle of road. Matter resolved without police attendance.
- 18/02/10 – Concern for welfare of vagrant. All in order.
- 19/02/10 – Road traffic collision (WILLAND ROAD) due to icy road conditions. Devon county council informed.
- 23/02/10 – Male requesting ambulance and Police. All in order and emergency services not required.
- 27/02/10 – Suspicious vehicles in the area of Green Acre. Area searched with no trace. No offences.

Can you also advise the Parish council that Jonathan and I are continuing to enforce the speeding issues in Willand Road. We are also looking at speeds of vehicles in the 60mph stretch too.

In view of concerns regarding the reported incident of 3<sup>rd</sup> March, it was agreed that the matter be raised at the April meeting with PC Custance

### **228. Car Park/Footpath Project**

Cllr Corden advised that the Headmaster of the Primary School had made strong representations that the proposed car park should be in the original location as he was of the view that the alternative location would be a white elephant and would not be used.. He was 100% behind the original plan. In view of time constraints the PC agreed that a planning application in respect of the project should be submitted to MDDC as soon as possible. Cllrs Radford and Corden would meet up with Tony Matthews of DCC Highways Dept; on Thursday and the Clerk would forward the relevant plans to them in readiness for the meeting. It was agreed that a further Amenities Meeting should be set up for Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March – the same evening as the Planning Cttee meeting.

### **229. Meetings Attended**

9<sup>th</sup> March 2010 Grand Western Canal Joint Advisory Committee

Cllr Browse had attended this, prior to arriving for the PC meeting. Amongst the items discussed were:- Code of Conduct; the Visitors Centre and Green Flag Award

### **230. Dates of future meetings**

10<sup>th</sup> March 2010 State of the District Debate Lecture Theatre, Petroc – 7.00pm

24<sup>th</sup> March 2010 – Annual Meeting of Town and Parish Council Clerks 7.00pm The Exe Room  
MDDC

21<sup>st</sup> April 2010 – The Annual Conference of the East and Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership at Broadclyst Victory Hall

### **231. Committee Reports (Amenities/Footpaths)**

The Chairman advised that HogCo were progressing matters He had spoken with Emily Spurway regarding the Footpath Review. There should be an update in the Autumn.

### **232. Consideration of Quote for Footpath Work**

It was resolved to accept Mr Page`s quote in the sum of £370.

### 233. Clerk`s Report

The Clerk had recently been helping the new Clerk to Willand PC regarding matters concerning the cemetery and associated burial law.

### 234. Accounts

#### **RECEIPTS FOR PERIOD 1<sup>ST</sup> - 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2010:**

Bank Interest	0.0
Newsletter	248.04
Cemetery	88.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£336.04</b>

#### **PAYMENTS MADE FOR THE PERIOD 1<sup>ST</sup> - 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2010 £2405.20**

##### PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED

<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Vat</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Details</b>
1373	265.00		265.00	HM Customs & Revenue – Quarterly Clerk`s tax deduction
1374	40.00		40.00	Mrs C J McIntyre – Quarterly Expenses (Internet and phone calls)
1375	353.51		353.51	Mrs C McIntyre – salary
1376	13.90		13.90	Ottery Office and Computer – photocopying
1377	1.00		1.00	BT Consideration for phone box
1378	10.41		10.41	South West Water – cemetery water charges
1379	27.31		27.31	Mrs C McIntyre – repayment of postage stamps
1380	38.40	6.72	45.12	Mole Vallet – stake hardwood for trees
1381	40.00	7.00	47.00	Decals Direct – sign for Rec`

The above invoices were approved for payment

Balance of bank accounts carried forward	25161.03
Plus Receipts for period 1 <sup>st</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2010	336.04
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£25497.07</b>

Minus Payments made for the above Period	£2405.20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£23091.87</b>

Made up as follows:- High Interest A/c	21693.11
Current A/c	1398.76
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£23091.87</b>

<b>*VILLAGE HALL FUNDS</b>	<b>2420.00</b>
<b>PARISH PATHS FUND</b>	<b>2058.59</b>
<b>VILLAGE OF THE YEAR PRIZE</b>	<b>252.00</b>
<b>DONATION FROM PARISHIONER</b>	<b>2186.00</b>
<b>PARISH PLAN FUND</b>	<b>433.54</b>
<b>CAR PARKING</b>	<b>2500.00</b>
<b>GENERAL FUNDS</b>	<b>13241.74</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£23091.87</b>

**\*Ash Thomas £1250 and Halberton £1170**

**Halberton Newsletter: Income to date £2221.77 - less expenses of £2535.80 = debit £314.03**

### **235. Members Business**

- i. Parishioners living at Rock View were complaining about the state of the road as there were numerous potholes. The Clerk to contact Steve Densham at MDDC to deal with this matter. Cllr Browse declared an interest.
- ii. The state of several of the memorials in the cemetery was causing concern. The Clerk had not completed an index of grave details as yet but she had provided information regarding the unsafe memorials as requested back in December, The Chairman and Cllr Mrs Johnson were dealing with the list.
- iii. It was suggested that play provision should be provided at Fisher`s Way. However after some discussion it was agreed that if provision was provided at this location then other parishioners in other locations in the Parish could quite rightly demand the same for their respective areas. It was agreed that the Rec and the Mead, provided adequate play provision at the present time. However the PC took the view that if any new housing development was planned for the future then play facilities should be included in the new development

### **236. Miscellaneous Matters**

- i. The Clerk advised that Terry Payne had a complete set of the Halberton Newsletter which he was willing to make available to the PC if it was interested. It was understood that a set was kept at the Tiverton Museum and in view of this the PC didn`t think it was necessary for an additional set to be kept but was grateful to Mr Payne for his offer

### **237. Future PC Meetings**

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2010 – Planning Ctte Meeting – Halberton Village Hall – approx 7.30pm

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2010 – Amenities Ctte Meeting – Halberton Village Hall approx 8.00pm

13<sup>th</sup> April 2010 - Halberton Village Hall

7.00pm Planning Ctte Meeting of Halberton Parish Council

7.30pm Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

The Meeting closed at 9.45pm

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**CHAIRMAN**

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**DATED**