

Halberton Parish Council
A meeting of Halberton Parish Council will be held on
Tuesday 14 March 2023 at 7pm in Halberton Village Hall

All members of the Parish Council are hereby summonsed to attend the above meeting for the purpose of considering and resolving the business as set out hereunder.

Members of the public are also invited and may speak in the Public Forum.

Susan McGeever
Clerk, Halberton Parish Council
7 March 2023

Halberton Recreation Ground

AGENDA

Item		Report Pages
1	Apologies	N/A
2	Declarations of Interest	N/A
3	Public forum Members of the public may speak for a period of 3 minutes on matters they wish to bring to the attention of the Parish Council and these matters may be related to the items on the agenda. Unless the Chairman elects to put down standing orders, members of the public may not speak during the remainder of the meeting.	N/A
4	To approve the minutes of the Council meeting on 14 February 2023	3 to 15
5	Chairman's announcements	N/A
6	Mid Devon District Council matters a. To receive a report from the MDDC Council Member b. Grand Western Canal Group	16
7	Devon County Council matters To receive a report from the DCC Council Member	17 to 19
8	Police matters To consider any correspondence from the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Council Advocate Scheme	20
9	Vacancies on the Parish Council To consider and, if agreed, approve any applications received.	21

10	Consideration of Mid Devon District Council's planning applications The planning application with its supporting documents and comments made by the public and other consultees which are published on the MDDC planning website prior to the meeting will be considered as part of the Council's deliberations on planning applications.	22 to 23
11	Consideration of Mid Devon District Council's Planning Decisions The following planning decisions have been received:	24
12	Highways matters and the Road and Snow Warden Schemes Update and any new matters to report excluding those reported under the Traffic Committee.	25
13	Amenity matters Update and any new matters pertaining to the amenities located within the parish	26 to 29
14	Community items To consider any other community matters	30
15	Traffic Committee The Traffic Committee met on 1 March 2023.	31
16	Newsletter Working Group The Newsletter Working Group met on 28 February 2023.	32
17	Review of Core Documents <i>Note: no items requiring a decision have been placed on this agenda. Further documentation will be provided to the April meeting following CILCA training.</i>	N/A
18	Financial accounts 2022/23	33 to 34
19	Members business including meetings attended, and miscellaneous matters (not for decision) Devon Council Climate Network Connecting the Culm/Catchment Visioning Workshop Cullompton Health and Wellbeing Queen's Platinum Jubilee accounts King's Coronation	N/A
20	Items for next meeting	N/A

Next meeting: Tuesday, 11 April 2023 at 7pm

*Signed: Susan McGeever
Clerk to Halberton Parish Council*

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
4	To approve the minutes of the Council meeting on 14 February 2023	3 to 15

**Halberton Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of Halberton Parish Council
held at Halberton Village Hall on Tuesday 14 February 2023 at 7pm**

Present

Councillors Batchelor, Ayre, Browse, Graham, Furnedge, Marshall and Saunders together with Councillor Radford and Councillor Slade (DCC). The Clerk, Mrs S McGeever, was also present.

Councillor Batchelor (Chairman) opened the meeting at 7pm.

210-1 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Councillor Campbell.

210-2 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

210-3 Public Forum

The following items were raised during the Public Forum and would be discussed under the relevant agenda items or placed on the agenda of the next meeting:

Two Trees Solar Panel Farm

CPRE had written a comprehensive response in objection to the proposed solar panel farm and this was on the MDDC planning portal. They had also written an article calling for the residents of Halberton to object.

The land being proposed for the site was classified as BMV, the best and most versatile land, and should thus be retained for agricultural use.

Concern was expressed for the residents who lived down the proposed site entrance lane where Brown Bridge was the only access point. This was an old, historic railway bridge and could be damaged by a large number of HGVs passing over it. If the bridge was damaged, residents would have no way of accessing the main road.

The lane leading to the bridge was single track with no passing points. The land either side of the lane was privately owned.

There was disappointment expressed that Willand Parish Council had no objection given that works traffic would be directed through Willand.

Signage to/from the permissive path at Greenway

A call for better signage to/from the permissive path at Greenway was called for in order to direct pedestrians away from the main road.

Rubbish bin at Muxbeare Lane

A call for a rubbish bin at the end of Muxbeare Lane towards Tiverton Parkway was called for. There was a dog bin but no bin for actual refuse. Two black sacks of rubbish had been removed from the area.

Herne Bridge

Concern was expressed that there had been a road closed sign for 13-17 February but that the road had been closed the week before.

Pavement in Lower Town

Concern was expressed that the proposed pavement from the end of Church Lane would stretch to the pavement of the nearby close. It was believed the road was too narrow at that point to allow for a pavement and cars would be forced into the middle of the road increasing the possibility of accidents.

Bycott Farm AD Plant

Concern was expressed that a member of the public had been approached by one of the Parish Council prior to the meeting commencing on 31 January 2023 and asked if they were there to object to the application and if so 'what was the problem'. It was felt the comment had been passive aggressive and not in keeping with the Code of Practice. No formal complaint would be made and no formal response was required.

A member of the public thanked the Parish Council for the quality and depth of the second submission sent in, in response to new documentation placed on the MDDC planning portal. (Minutes of 31 January 2023 refer.)

Water Leaks

Water leaks had been repaired at Ash Thomas and on the Halberton to Willand road. It was felt these leaks were in part caused by the excessive number of HGVs and heavy tractors using the roads to access the AD plants. These were essentially roads designed to 7.5 tons and not the 30-40 ton vehicles now being used. They were various weight limits in the parish from 7.5 ton to 17.5 tons. It was noted such restrictions did not apply to agricultural vehicles.

3 Rivers Development Ltd.

A question was directed to Councillor Radford regarding the role of 3 Rivers Development Ltd and the use of tax payers money to fund the company.

210-4 To approve the minutes of Council meeting on 31 January 2023

It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes and for the Chair to initial each page and sign the final page.

210-5 Chairman's announcements

The Chairman advised he had no announcements to make.

210-6 Mid Devon District Council matters

a. To receive a report from the MDDC Council Member

Councillor Radford had submitted a report just prior to the meeting and it had been circulated to the Parish Council. (see Attachment)

Councillor Radford advised that he raised the re-instatement of the AD Plant Liaison Group again but had still not received a response from MDDC Planning. Whilst there was no legal requirement for there to be a group, the meetings which had taken place with the previous owner of the AD plant at Crown Hill had been very useful. The agent of the new owner had indicated that there was a willingness to re-instate the group.

In response to the question raised in the public forum regarding 3 Rivers Development Ltd, Councillor Radford advised there had been a number of projects successfully undertaken. There had been difficulties with the most recent project but it was hoped to sell all thirty-nine properties that had been built in line with the proposed business plan to 2027 which would feed monies back to MDDC. Winding up the company would prove very costly.

Councillor Radford noted the request from the Parish Council to call in the solar farm planning application.

b. Grand Western Canal Group

The agenda of the next meeting of the Grand Western Canal Group was being prepared and the Parish Council could put forward items for discussion.

Action: All to consider

210-7 Devon County Council matters

Councillor Slade's report was included in the agenda for this meeting. There were a number of updates:

The Cabinet had met to set the budget and a 10.5% increase had been agreed to increase the social care budget and provide vital care to children (18.4%) and adults (8.8%). An additional sum of £2m had also been agreed to deal with the potholes caused by the freezing weather and torrential rain.

The Cabinet member for Highways had reported that as of April 2022, 27,000 potholes had been reported. By January 2023, 10,000 of these potholes had been repaired. This needed to be balanced against 500 reports being received per day in January and thus the decision had to be taken to focus on those potholes that were likely to affect the safety of members of the public travelling on the roads. There were also some 14,000 drainage issues associated with the roads booked in for repair.

A review of kerbside waste had taken place and of 1600 residual bins surveyed, 78% of the waste could have been recycled – 27% of that waste was food waste of which 37% had been thrown away still packaged. Residents placing food waste in the food waste bins provided would have a significant impact on the amount of residual waste going to Energy from Waste plants in Exeter and Plymouth. Food waste went to AD Plants in North Devon.

Councillor Batchelor asked what mechanisms were in place to deal with areas where potholes consistently re-appeared.

Councillor Slade advised that such areas should be reported directly to him with location and supporting photographs. DCC were looking to re-surface such areas.

A new phenomena, central line splitting, caused by the weight of vehicles consistently going over the central line because of size, had been identified. Within Halberton, this was occurring on the road from the High Street to the cemetery and on the road from Halberton to Willand. The long term plan was to re-surface these area and it was hoped that the work would be undertaken in the next financial year.

Councillor Slade advised he was aware of the traffic problems in Lower Town and would assist where possible.

Councillor Slade advised that further to his meetings with Norse South West, he was hopeful that a new proposal regarding the location of the Community Growing Area would be forthcoming.

210-8 Police matters

All correspondence relating to police matters had been forwarded to the Parish Council.

Police Advocate Scheme

Councillor Marshall advised that she had made contact with staff members associated with the scheme and hoped that a member of the team would be able to attend a future meeting of the council.

Councillor Batchelor asked Councillor Marshall to provide a report at each meeting on any crimes reported in the parish. This information could be taken from the crime map available online.

Action: Councillor Marshall

210-9 Vacancies on the Parish Council

The Clerk advised no further applications had been received.

Councillor Ayre advised that she did have one person who had expressed an interest and they would attend a future meeting.

Upcoming elections

Emails had been circulated to the Parish Council in relation to:

- a) Voter ID
- b) An event held by Mid Devon District Council for prospective candidates (7 February)

At the time, it was proposed the information be uploaded to social media and the website.

The Clerk had requested to attend an upcoming DALC Workshop on 'Preparing for Elections 2023' given that she had not been in post when the last election had taken place.

It was RESOLVED that the cost of attending the course £36 including VAT would be met by the Parish Council.

Action: Clerk

Councillor Slade advised that the MDDC website had a video explaining the role of a councillor which would be of interest to potential candidates at both parish and district council level.

210-10 Consideration of Mid Devon District Council's planning applications

There had been no new planning applications received at the time of publishing the agenda of this meeting.

Where an application had been received post the publishing of this agenda, an extension had been requested and the applications would be considered at the meeting on 14 March 2023.

Update on existing applications

22/02102/MFUL

Proposal: Construction of on-farm anaerobic digestion plant with associated equipment and works

Location: Land at NGR 300535 112291 (Bycott Farm) Lower Town Halberton

The Parish Council had submitted a second response and the application continued to be monitored for additional documentation.

The recent report from the Conservation Officer highlighted the potential impact of the proposed plant on heritage assets with respect to the designated conservation area, the Grand Western Canal and Herne Bridge.

A further 8 objections had been listed as well as a request for further information to be provided by the application on the production levels for the plant.

It was noted that the application was due to be called in at the April meeting of the MDDC Planning Committee.

22/02374/MFUL

Proposal: Construction and operation of a solar photovoltaic (PV) farm together with associated works, equipment and infrastructure

Location: Land at NGR 301974 110937 Dean Hill Road Willand

The Parish Council had submitted a response to the application asking for it to be called in.

The Parish Council noted the comments from the Public Forum with regard to the CPRE objection and DCC Highways request for passing spaces to be provided along the access lane. Given the land either side of the access lane was in private ownership, the Parish Council questioned if such passing spaces would be provided by a compulsory order to the land owners and if compensation would be provided.

Action: Clerk

The application would be monitored for additional documentation.

22/00665/MFUL

Retention of silage clamp and erection of roof over

Land at NGR 299554 112915 (Red Linhay) Crown Hill Halberton Devon

The Clerk continued to await a response regarding the questions raised by the Parish Council with regard to the planning conditions placed on the application to ensure that any silage stored was used for agricultural purposes only.

In the notes from the Planning Officer, it was understood that the fact the AD plant was on the same land could not be taken into account when determining the application and that it had been felt that no additional tractor movements would be made.

It was further noted that there was a restriction on the number of HGVs that could access Hartnoll Farm where the AD Plant was situated.

The Parish Council believed that a silage clamp of that magnitude had resulted in additional tractor movements.

It was further noted that the landscape report had to be provided within three months of the application.

In the absence of a response to the call for the Liaison Group to be re-instated, it was suggested that a Village Liaison Group be set up to monitor the traffic and gain a further understanding of movements to/from the silage clamp and, perhaps, gather photographic evidence.

Once the group was formed, it could elect a chair and invite the owner of the AD plant and, if required, the planning officer in charge.

Given that the Bycott AD plant application was going to council in April, it might be possible to raise a carefully worded question that would address the above concerns.

Councillor Radford suggested that the Parish Council make contact with Richard Marsh, MDDC's Director of Place.

Action: Clerk

Other planning matters:

Crow Green

Five Bridges

The Orchard

Pleasant Streams

The Clerk had spoken to Enforcement and understood that investigations were ongoing with regard to the four items listed above and that the Parish Council would be informed of the outcomes.

Action: Clerk

210-11 Consideration of Mid Devon District Council's Planning Decisions

The following decisions have been received:

22/02135/HOUSE - APPROVED

Proposal: Erection of replacement single storey front and side extension to create annexe, single storey rear extension and first floor side balcony, reinstatement of verandah and chimney stack.

Location: Cott Farm Willand Cullompton Devon

210-12 Highways matters and the Road Warden Scheme

Update and any new matters to report including:

a. Potholes

Residents had taken to social media regarding a large pothole that appeared on the Halberton to Willand road. The Clerk had spoken to Highways and it was given top priority with a team visiting the same day and the road being closed to allow South West Water to repair water leaks. The combination of old piping, heavy traffic and frost had caused a number of water pipes to break across the parish.

The Herne Bridge road closure was due to a water leak.

The Parish Council was kept informed of planned road closures but were not informed if it was a closure due to an emergency such a water leak. However, when identified information was put up on social media to inform residents.

Action: Clerk to remain in contact with DCC

b. Replacement of Halberton Milestone

The Milestone was ready to be picked up and placed in position.

It was RESOLVED that the Milestone would be placed on the opposite of the bench that was situated next to the Jubilee Stone.

Action: Councillor Saunders

c. Herne Bridge

The Clerk advised that the contractors had not received approval from DCC Highways to close the work and thus a new date was now awaited.

Action: Clerk to monitor

d. Training for the Road Warden Scheme

Councillor Batchelor advised that he had not yet undertaken the online course and Councillor Furmedge advised that he had not yet undertaken the Chapter 8 training. He was also on the list for the next strimming course.

Action: Councillors Batchelor, Browse/Clerk to monitor and organise Chapter 8 training.

Councillor Browse advised that he was in the process of organising clothing equipment for the Road Wardens and tarmac for the potholes.

Action: Councillor Browse/Clerk

e. Snow Warden Scheme

Councillor Marshall advised that there had not been any response to the call for volunteers to assist with the Snow Warden scheme.

Action: Councillor Batchelor

f. Highways Audit Report

The Clerk had completed the Audit Report for 2019/2020 which had been sent through by DCC Highways. The audit had been delayed by Covid.

210-14 Amenity matters

Update and any new matters pertaining to the amenities located within the parish.

a. Platinum Jubilee Car Park

The following actions were required:

i) Electrician to provide training on reading the meter

Councillor Batchelor undertook to speak to the electrician and provide the Clerk with a meter reading.

Action: Councillor Batchelor

ii) Jubilee lamp installation to be completed

It was noted that the installation of Jubilee Lamp had been completed. The invoice(s) for the work was awaited.

Action: Councillor Batchelor

iii) Fallen trees to be cleared

Councillor Ayre advised that the fallen trees had been cleared.

The Clerk was asked to review the last tree audit (2020) and take advice on the trees along the southern edge of the car park and, in particular, the ash tree.

Action: Clerk

iv) Gravel base to be put under noticeboard

Councillor Batchelor undertook to put the gravel base in.

Action: Councillor Batchelor

v) Brass plaque for noticeboard to be ordered

This item was on the Clerk's to do list.

Action: Clerk

b. The Mead

i) The Heads of Terms agreement for the new lease has been returned to Norse South West.

The Clerk had been advised that any amendment to that agreement, such as expanding the type of teenage facilities that could be provided, would require the approval of the Farm Committee. A decision was awaited.

The question of when the equipment could be installed had also been asked given that the new lease did not come into effect until March 2025.

Action: Clerk

ii) The goalposts need to be installed

Councillor Batchelor undertook to put the goalposts in.

Action: Councillor Batchelor

It was noted that once the Heads of Terms agreement was in place the following actions would be needed:

i) quotes for potential equipment

ii) quotes for installation of path from the car park to the Mead

iii) quotes for changing rooms and a decision on location – the Mead or the Car Park

Councillors Slade (DCC) and Radford (MDDC) left the meeting.

c. Community Growing Area

As previously reported a decision on the possibility of changing the location of the growing area is awaited.

It was possible for the project to go ahead then Councillor Ayre undertook to organise a working team to plant and maintain the area.

Action: Clerk

d. Halberton Children's Recreation Ground

The Annual Return 2022 has been submitted to the Charity Commission. Councillor Browse and the Clerk attended HSBC in Exeter to sort out the bank account and change the address and collect statements. Councillor Browse was in the process of unlocking the account.

i) date of the Annual General Meeting

It was RESOLVED that the AGM would take place at 6.45pm on the day of the next Parish Council meeting in March.

Action: Clerk

ii) preparation for ROSPA inspection in March

Councillor Batchelor asked the Clerk to resend the March 2022 report so that he could undertake any required preparatory work such as raking the play surfaces.

Action: Clerk

iii) repair of fencing

Councillor Saunders had repaired the fence and cut back the ivy that had been growing up the posts.

It was noted that the brambles close to the basketball area needed to be cut back.

Action: Councillor Batchelor/Ayre

iv) quotes for installation of new equipment

In the unavoidable absence of Councillor Campbell, this item was carried forward to the next meeting.

v) monthly safety report

Given the unavoidable absence of Councillor Campbell, Councillor Ayre undertook to provide the monthly safety report.

e. map of 5k run and adult gym equipment

The Clerk advised that this item was on the 'to do' list.

Action: Clerk

f. Footpaths

i) Definitive Map Review

Councillor Furmedge referred to the report he had provided as detailed in the agenda.

The two important items to note were

a) the missing Parish Council Minutes from 1938 to 1962. It was thought they might have been lost when the Clerk of that time left the position given that they were not in audit prepared in 2020 and

b) the need for User Evidence Forms. A reminder had been put into the Newsletter.

The next meeting of the Working Group would take place on 2 March 2023.

ii) P3 return (Devon County Council)

In response to Councillor Furmedge, the Clerk advised that Councillor Browse had submitted the forms in 2022. The Clerk was happy to submit the forms in 2023 and they had been due to be submitted on 13 February 2023.

It was noted that there was still a number of paths to be walked. The Clerk volunteered to walk the Exe Valley walk and would also contact DCC regarding the submission.

Action: Clerk

The Clerk advised that DCC had confirmed that the 2022 payment would be made in April 2023.

iii) Approval of PROW work quote of £420 for the 2023 season

It was RESOLVED to accept the quote for the 2023 season. The quote reflected a £10 increase on 2022.

Signposts

The Clerk reported that there were signposts from the canal footpath to both the pub and the farm shop.

Councillor Browse and the Clerk had been tasked with signage for the permissive path from the Farm Shop to Greenway.

It was RESOLVED to place signage at the Farm Shop end of the path, at the Greenway end of the path and at the bottom of Greenway. There was currently a signpost with a sign advising that the lane led to the Grand Western Canal and the Clerk would contact GWR staff to see if a second sign could be added.

Action: Councillor Browse/Clerk

g. Cemetery

i) notices regarding the work to be done to flatten the graves

It was RESOLVED that a notice would be erected at the cemetery itself, in the Newsletter and in the Mid Devon Gazette with the Parish Council meeting the cost of such notice.

Action: Clerk

ii) safety inspection of the gravestones

The Clerk advised that a safety inspection of the gravestones in the cemetery had been put in place.

Action: Clerk

iii) planting of the monkey tree

Councillor Browse and Ayre would plant the monkey tree in the cemetery.

Action: Councillor Browse/Ayre

h. The Pigeons

The Clerk reported that following investigation, it had been shown that there are no rubbish bins of any kind in Ash Thomas and residents currently clear rubbish from The Pigeons in the summer.

It was RESOLVED to approach Mid Devon District Council to see if a dual bin could be located at Ash Thomas Village Hall. It would then be possible to put up signage at The Pigeons.

Action: Clerk

It was further RESOLVED to purchase a tree to go alongside the bench in the Pigeons.

Action: Clerk

i. Noticeboards

i) location of second noticeboard

It was RESOLVED that Councillor Batchelor would approach Hitchcocks to see if they had an existing noticeboard where the Parish Council could put notices and that he should also approach the Farm Shop as a possible location for the second noticeboard.

Action: Councillor Batchelor

The Ash Thomas noticeboard was in reasonable good order.

ii) access to the noticeboard at Brithem Bottom

Councillor Batchelor undertook to improve the access to the noticeboard.

Action: Councillor Batchelor

iii) size of Village Hall noticeboard

It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council would suggest to the Village Hall committee that the noticeboard was A1 (9-page display) size.

Action: Clerk

j. Defibrillators

Following the report in the agenda submitted by the Clerk, it was RESOLVED that the total cost (£2800 plus VAT) of the defibrillators for Halberton and Ash Thomas Village Halls would be shared between the Parish Council and the Ash Thomas Village Hall committee. Both organisations had received locality grants of £1000 and this would mean an additional payment of £400 plus VAT each. This represented a reduction of £400 in the cost for both organisations.

Action: Clerk

k. Landmark Tree

A Hornbeam had been delivered to the Clerk and is ready for planting.

Action: Councillor Batchelor/Ayre

210-14 Community items

To consider any other community matters including

a. Council IT tools Working Group to include Facebook page/Website/Communicating with Parishioners

Councillor Furmedge referred to his report and advised that the Working Group had not met again. Work was ongoing on the the websites, google workspace and Clerk training.

Action: Councillor Furmedge/Clerk

b. Internet connectivity Working Group

Councillor Furmedge advised there were ongoing road closures as fibre was rolled out across the Parish. There was not change to the projected completion date.

c. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Councillor Marshall advised she had not received any further information and would follow up.

Action: Councillor Marshall

d. Anaerobic Digester Liaison Committee

This subject was covered under Item 10.

210-15 Traffic Committee

The Clerk updated the Parish Council on actions taken since the last Traffic Committee meeting:

a. Road safety in the vicinity of Lower Town

A response was awaited from Devon County Council/Norse South West on drawing up a contract to obtain the land needed for the proposed pavement in Lower Town. The pavement only covered the corner at Church Lane.

Action: Clerk

b. Flashing lights at the school/pedestrian crossing at the Village Hall

A response was awaited from Devon County Council.

Action: Clerk

c. 20mph Expression of Interest

A revised 20mph Expression of Interest covering Lower Town was submitted by the deadline of 31 January 2023.

d. 20 is plenty for Devon

A meeting of parishes involved in the scheme in Devon is scheduled for 21 February 2023. Details had been circulated to the Parish Council.

Action: Councillor Batchelor/Clerk

The signs for bins, cars and windows were available from the Clerk.

e. Pedestrian Safety

i) Halberton Community Association have purchased hi-viz waistcoats. These were due to be delivered to Councillor Graham.

ii) Letters had been sent to residents whose hedges require cutting back from the road. The feed back had been positive.

210-16 Newsletter Working Group

Councillor Marshall reported that the first edition with the merged Newsletter and Business Directory had been produced. The Business Directory would remain at the rear of the publication for several issues. It was noted that this should have been Edition 165.

Feedback had been good and there had been more advertising enquiries including for colour pages.

Councillor Marshall hoped to include the dates of Parish Council meetings in the next edition.

An offer of a complete collection of Newsletters from 1-165 had been offered to the Newsletter Team.

The History Group already have a set of newsletters.

210-17 Review of Core Documents

No further documentation was presented at this meeting. Further documents would be forward to the March meeting.

210-18 Financial accounts 2022/23

a. Financial report 2022/23 for January 2023

The financial report for January was noted.

b. Payments to approve (Council):
The following payments were approved:

Tiverton Fine Memorials (2 nd payment Halberton Milestone)	£179.28
R Furmedge (purchase of IT items on behalf of the Parish Council)	£187.71
R Furmedge (Fasthosts)	£ 4.30
DALC (Iain Campbell – training)	£ 72.00
Brightsea (Newsletter)	£944.00
S McGeever (wages/Zoom/expenses)	£601.77*
S McGeever (NALC adjustment)	£521.16
C Graham (Newsletter distribution)	£ 30.00
Countrywide (grass cutting November)	£456.00
Countrywide (grass cutting January)	£456.00**
T. Scrace (bus shelters x 2 – one cheque lost)	£ 64.00
Ash Thomas Village Hall (meeting room)	£ 30.00
R Saunders (fence repairs at the Recreation Ground)	£100.00

* the Zoom account has been cancelled

** Countrywide have been billing a set amount to cover their contract, the two payments above would complete the contract.

c. Precept 2023/24

The paperwork for the 2023/24 precept was submitted on 17 January 2023 in accordance with the decision made at the December meeting and receipt was acknowledged on 18 January 2023.

d. Bank signatories/change of bank

It was RESOLVED to switch banks from HSBC to Natwest.

It was further RESOLVED to have the following four signatories:

Councillor Batchelor

Councillor Browse

Councillor Furmedge and

Councillor Graham

e. NALC pay award and review of Clerk's hours

NALC pay award

It was agreed on 10 January 2023 that the NALC pay award should be backdated for the Clerk on the agreed hours worked since 1 April 2023. The amount was shown under payments and an adjustment will be made to the February PAYE submission to reflect this additional payment.

Review of Clerk's hours

It was RESOLVED that Councillor Batchelor and Furmedge would be tasked with meeting with the Clerk to review working hours and would report back to the next meeting.

Action: Councillor Batchelor/Furmedge and Clerk.

210-19 Members business including meetings attended, and miscellaneous matters (not for decision)

Devon Council Climate Network - Ongoing

Connecting the Culm/Catchment Visioning Workshop (Councillor Ayre)

Cullompton Health and Wellbeing (Councillor Batchelor)

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Accounts

The Clerk was awaiting invoices to complete the accounts.

King's Coronation

It was felt a meeting of all interested parties should be called similar to that put in place for the Queen's Jubilee. That group could then come back to the Parish Council with ideas.

Action: Clerk

210-20 Items for next meeting

No items were put forward for the next meeting.

In closing the meeting, Councillor Batchelor (Chairman) reminded Parish Councillors of the Code of Conduct and that any non-adherence to that reflected on the Parish Council as a whole.

Next meetings: Tuesday, 14 March 2023 at 6.45pm - Halberton Children's Recreation Ground AGM
Tuesday, 14 March 2023 at 7pm - Full Council

Signed:

Date:

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
6	Mid Devon District Council matters a. To receive a report from the MDDC Council Member b. Grand Western Canal Group	8

Dear Sue & Members.

I have never known such interest in any planning application until now. I have received in excess of 70 emails, and replied to all of them, I hopefully have not missed any. I have managed to bring about a meeting together with Colin, of Officers of MDDC and DCC, to consider all the facts available to date, that will take place later this month. We have to make sure we make the right decision.

Much has happened at Mid Devon. You will know that the Cabinet has been changed three times in this current term, never been known before. Eventually there was a motion to remove the Leader, he resigned so that never happened, we elected a new caretaker Leader and a new Cabinet, albeit some of the previous members. With all the disturbance we hope this will stabilise Mid Devon. We should have agreed a budget on 22nd Feb, that did not happen so another meeting had to be agreed for 8th March, when we finally did agree the budget, legally we have to produce a balanced budget by 11th March. It is feared what will now happen to 3Rivers, wholly owned by Mid Devon, currently anticipated to lose money on the St Georges Court 39 properties.

The balancing of the Council's budget continues to be a challenge year-on-year following the Government's austerity measures and the subsequent reduction in funding. Adding to this pressure, the financial impacts of Covid-19 continue to disrupt service delivery and reduce fee income and now the Cost of Living Crisis significantly adds to our costs and is likely to increase demand for services.

The Council Tax income included in the proposed budget includes a £6.56 (2.99%) increase. This equates to a Band D charge of £225.40 (a 1% variation to our Council Tax changes the income generated by approximately £65k). Previous years, Government would only allow an increase of 1.99% to avoid a referendum, this year they have increased it to 2.99%.

Latest figures show that the recycling rate for the district has risen to 56.56%, compared to 52.02% during the same period in 2021/22.

The major contributor to the change has been food waste. More food waste has been stored correctly in food caddies instead of with non-recyclable waste meaning the amount of food waste collected has increased by 6.81%. On top of this, the amount of household non-recyclable waste has decreased by 14.46% meaning the total waste the Council collects has decreased.

Regards,
Ray

Ray Radford
Devon County Councillor
Willand & Uffculme Division
Email: ray.radford@devon.gov.uk

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
7	Devon County Council matters To receive a report from the DCC Council Member	17 to 19

Halberton DCC Report March 2023

Communities in Devon are being invited to apply for funding to help them be better prepared for emergencies or unexpected events.

Independent charity [Devon Communities Together](#) is working with us and the [Environment Agency](#) to provide the funding opportunities.

This latest programme is financed by us and the South West Regional Flood & Coastal Committee local levy funding, and is administered by Devon Communities Together as part of its role in the [Devon Community Resilience Forum](#) (DCRF), whose core mission to help communities prepare for, and respond to, emergencies.

Scheme 1 – up to £250 for communities that wish to develop their own Community Emergency Plan

The Devon Community Resilience Board (DCRB) wants to encourage more communities to produce a Community Emergency Plan (CEP).

A CEP is a document which helps guide a community to organise a response to a local emergency; from flooding or snow to the completely unexpected. They ideally need to be updated every three years, however some communities in Devon either don't have a plan in place or are not sure how to put together a support document for their community. The aim is that by providing this funding, many more communities across the county will be able to put plans in place to ensure their resilience in case anything happens within their community.

Once approved and completed, the DCRB will upload a completed CEP to a secure government gateway. This enables emergency responders to combine local knowledge with their expertise, allowing an effective place-based, joined-up response.

Devon's communities can bid for this fund to help form their own Community Emergency Planning group.

Further guidance and support on creating the group can also be provided from the DCRF with in-person attendance from a Devon Communities Together Resilience Project Officer. <https://www.devoncommunities.org.uk/grant-funding-emergency-flood-resilience>

Scheme 2 – up to £1,500 for small scale works and resilience equipment (once a CEP is in place)

Experience has shown that a wide range of small resilience measures can make a real difference to communities. This funding is available to communities to improve their own resilience with equipment and small scale works, and may range from the provision of sandbag stores and other flood protection equipment, road signs, tools and personal protective equipment, to one off small scale works to reduce risk.

DCRF recommends that a Community Emergency Response Team defines its own shopping list to meet local requirements. Examples of resilience measures can be provided by the DCRF, other communities, or Devon County Council to help a Community Emergency Planning Group consider what might be best for a particular area.

Laura Dixon, Project manager at Devon Communities Together, commented: “The importance of having a plan in place in case of emergencies cannot be underestimated. It may feel like it is something that you might never need – and you might not. However, if you do need to help your community bounce back from an event that is out of your control, wouldn’t it be great if you had something that could help you and your community straight away? Please get in touch or find out more if you want to be part of the resilience of your community.”

On 16th February, our Councillors agreed a budget that will see significant increases in spending on services that support vulnerable children, young people and adults, in response to rising demand for those services.

It means that we’ll be spending 18.4 per cent more on children’s services, and 8.8 per cent more on adult services. Councillors also allocated extra millions for roads and drainage to tackle potholes caused by this winter’s icy spells and torrential rainfall.

Overall, we’re budgeting to spend £696 million on services this financial year – that’s 10.5 per cent more than last year – as well as spending millions more on infrastructure such as schools and roads.

But it comes at a price. The average Band D householder will see our proportion of their council tax bill increase by £1.49 a week.

The fact is though, the council tax rise, plus funding that we receive from the Government, will not balance our budget book.

Spending this much on priority services to meet significantly growing demand means having to make savings in the region of £47.5 million from elsewhere, in order to balance expenditure – which we have to do, by law.

Councillor James McInnes, our Cabinet Member with responsibility for adult social care, says:

“Devon County Council is facing a huge financial challenge, and we must get the most of every pound we spend. That means looking carefully at every area of our work to ensure that resources are being used as effectively as possible.” and that’s where we are right now. Having agreed the budget last week, we now need to make those difficult decisions about how and where the savings will come from.

Just over £30 million of the savings are earmarked to come from adult social care.

We’ve launched consultations, putting forward proposals on ways that we could make savings from some specific services within adult social care. And we’re contacting the people who use those services, directly, to ask them what they think.

We’re putting forward the proposals, having heard already from people who use our services that they would like the support they receive to be more tailored to them, rather than ‘one size fits all’.

So we’d like people to be able to access the services they need, that are tailored more to them, and that are close to where they live.

A disproportionately high level of our spending is tied up with the buildings from which some of our adult social care services are delivered – the walls and roofs distinct from the services being provided.

We’ve wanted to move away from costly building-based models of care that require people to travel distances to a building to access a service. Instead, we’d like people to have access to the support they need wherever they live, with the council and NHS working in partnership with care providers and the voluntary sector in communities across Devon.

So the proposals we've put forward this week about possible changes to our day service, respite services and drop-in support for people with learning disabilities and mild mental health conditions, are largely about reducing the number of buildings used to provide some of those services.

They're not about reducing the support that people receive – people who are eligible for our support will, of course, continue to receive the help they need to meet their individual needs.

But the conversation that we'll be having now with people who use these services will be about what those services look like and where and how people access them.

In other parts of our adult services budget, we're also putting forward proposals to reduce spending on our contract that provides information, advice and guidance to unpaid carers; and potentially to stop our contribution to non-statutory services, provided alongside our District and City Council partners, that help some young adults who are hard to reach, including homeless.

The Big Help Out On Monday 8 May 2023

As part of the planned celebrations to commemorate the Coronation of His Majesty The King, members of the public will be invited to take part in [The Big Help Out](#).

It's to encourage people to try volunteering for themselves and join the work being undertaken to support their local areas.

And its aim is to use volunteering to bring communities together and create a lasting volunteering legacy from the Coronation weekend, in tribute to His Majesty The King's public service.

The Big Help Out is being organised by The Together Coalition and a wide range of partners such as The Scouts, the Royal Voluntary Service and faith groups from across the United Kingdom.

[You can find opportunities to volunteer in Devon on Pinpoint.](#)

My Locality budget closed for this financial year at the end of February. It will reopen soon, but the amount available for 2023-24 has been reduced to £5000 per councillor.

Finally I am in full support of the objections to the proposed AD Plant at Bycott Farm, and I am working with Cllr Radford and planning officers at DCC and MDDC to try to ensure it will be refused.

Colin Slade
Devon County Councillor for Tiverton East
Colin.slade@devon.gov.uk
07948 432942

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
8	Police matters To consider any correspondence from the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Council Advocate Scheme	20

All correspondence regarding Item 8 has been sent to Councillor Furmedge for inclusion in the 'digest'.

No items for decision have been submitted.

Verbal report from Councillor Marshall on the Council Advocate Scheme and Crime Report.

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
9	Vacancies on the Parish Council To consider and, if agreed, approve any applications received.	21

Report from the Clerk:

No applications for vacancies on the Parish Council have been received.

Upcoming elections

All paperwork for councillors to register for the election and the process to submit them to the Returning Officer has been circulated to the Parish Council.

Attendance at DALC Workshop on 'Preparing for Elections 2023'.

Following the Clerk's attendance at the workshop, information on procedures and timings for the forthcoming election were circulated to the Parish Council.

It should be noted that the public forum should not be used as a platform for campaigning by any potential candidates.

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
10	10 Consideration of Mid Devon District Council's planning applications The planning application with its supporting documents and comments made by the public and other consultees which are published on the MDDC planning website prior to the meeting will be considered as part of the Council's deliberations on planning applications.	22 to 23

New applications:

23/00266/HOUSE

Proposal: Erection of first floor extension above garage

Location: Coombe House Brithem Bottom Cullompton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 300849 / 110583

Parish: Halberton 25

Deadline for comments: 7 March 2023 – extension granted to 15 March 2023

23/00215/FULL

Proposal: Change of use of agricultural land to domestic garden including retention of new vehicular access

Location: Land at NGR 300188 111354 Crow Green Ash Thomas

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 300583 / 111378

Parish: Halberton 25

Deadline for comments: 27 March 2023

23/00366/LBC

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for replacement windows

Location: 53 High Street Halberton Tiverton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 300899 / 112874

Parish: Halberton 25

Deadline for comments: 28 March 2023

Existing applications:

22/02102/MFUL

Proposal: Construction of on-farm anaerobic digestion plant with associated equipment and works

Location: Land at NGR 300535 112291 (Bycott Farm) Lower Town Halberton

The decision date has now been deferred to June as the applicant has failed to submit additional material as requested to meet April deadline.

The Parish Council has written to the planning officer as follows:

The Parish Council has noted that the "Landscape and Visual Assessment" provided by Enderby Associates (October 2022) does not appear to provide any visual of how the plant would look upon the landscape and thus wondered whether you, as the Planning Officer for this application, might be mindful to request further diagrams or visuals that would clearly show any possible impact.

The application is being monitored for additional documentation.

22/02374/MFUL

Proposal: Construction and operation of a solar photovoltaic (PV) farm together with associated works, equipment and infrastructure

Location: Land at NGR 301974 110937 Dean Hill Road Willand

The application is being monitored for additional documentation.

22/00665/MFUL

Retention of silage clamp and erection of roof over

Land at NGR 299554 112915 (Red Linhay) Crown Hill Halberton Devon

The Clerk was still awaiting a response regarding the questions raised by the Parish Council with regard to the planning conditions placed on the application and the latest request for a response also went to Richard Marsh as requested.

Both Councillor Radford and the Clerk had sent emails regarding the re-instatement of the Ad Liaison Group and again responses were awaited.

The Parish Council were in favour of a Working Group being set up to monitor information from the AD Plant.

Other planning matters:

Crow Green

A retrospective planning application has been received (see above)

Five Bridges with Enforcement

The Orchard with Enforcement

Pleasant Streams with Enforcement

The Clerk has spoken to Enforcement and investigations are ongoing with regard to the three items above.

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
11	Consideration of Mid Devon District Council's Planning Decisions	24

The following decisions have been received:

22/02255/LBC - LISTED BUILDING CONSENT

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for alterations and extensions to wedding venue including extensions to the bar and holiday accommodation; erection of a canopy in courtyard

Location: The Corn Barn Cullompton Devon EX15 1NF

22/01492/MFUL - APPROVED

Proposal: Erection of a roof over existing slurry store (2370 sqm)

Location: Land at NGR 300509 112340 (Bycott Farm) Lower Town Halberton Devon

22/02039/FULL - APPROVED

Proposal: Creation of secure storage compound to include the siting of 4 storage units

Location: Telephone Exchange Halberton Tiverton Devon

22/02392/FULL - APPROVED

Proposal: Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 21/02523/FULL (Associated operational development, in conjunction with 17/00888/PNCOU for the change of use of garage to form additional residential accommodation, garage and car parking area) to install garden access gate to field

Location: Myrtle Cottage 3D Old Bridwell Uffculme Cullompton

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
12	Highways matters and the Road and Snow Warden Schemes	25

Update and any new matters to report excluding those reported under the Traffic Committee:

a. Potholes

Potholes continue to be reported online to Devon County Council.

Repairs have taken place across the Parish.

b. Replacement of Halberton Milestone

The Milestone is in situ and the item can be removed from the agenda.

c. Herne Bridge

No new date for the closure of Herne Bridge has been received.

d. Road Warden Scheme

Equipment

Councillor Browse is in the process of ordering equipment and tarmac to carry out repairs in the parish.

Action: Councillor Browse/Clerk

Training

Action: Councillor Batchelor to undertake initial training

Action: Councillor Furmedge to undertake Chapter 8 and strimming training

e. Snow Warden Scheme

Call for volunteers to assist Councillor Batchelor in his role as Snow Warden on social media and in the Newsletter.

Action: Councillor Batchelor/Furmedge/Marshall

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
13	Amenity matters	26 to 28

Update and any new matters pertaining to the amenities located within the parish.

a. Platinum Jubilee Car Park

Actions completed:

i) Electrician to provide training on reading the meter – meter reading required

ii) Jubilee lamp installation to be completed

iii) Fallen trees to be cleared.

In conjunction with the fallen trees, the Clerk had contacted MDDC to see if planning permission was needed to clear trees along the southern edge of the car park. A response was awaited.

Actions required:

i) Gravel base to be put under noticeboard (Councillor Batchelor

ii) Brass plaque for noticeboard to be ordered (Clerk)

b. The Mead

i) The Heads of Terms agreement for the new lease has been returned to Norse South West.

Any amendment to that agreement will require the approval of the Farm Committee and a decision will be advised as soon as possible.

The question of when the equipment could be installed has also been asked.

ii) The goalposts need to be installed

Once the Heads of Terms agreement is in place:

i) quotes for potential equipment

ii) quotes for installation of path from the car park to the Mead

iii) quotes for changing rooms and a decision on location – the Mead or the Car Park

c. Community Growing Area

A decision on the possibility of changing the location of the growing area is awaited.

d. Halberton Children's Recreation Ground

Actions completed:

i) date of the Annual General Meeting – 14 March 2023

ii) repair of fencing

Actions required:

i) preparation for ROSPA inspection in March (Councillor Batchelor) including cutting back the brambles

ii) quotes for installation of new equipment (Councillor Campbell)

iii) monthly safety report (Councillor Ayre standing in for Councillor Campbell)

e. map of 5k run and adult gym equipment

Clerk to prepare a report

e. Footpaths

i) Definitive Map Review – report from Councillor Furmedge

General status

- Working Group meeting took place 2nd March.
- Notes circulated. Verbal update.

Activities / Next steps

- Parish Council Minutes 1938 to 1962 missing - continue to investigate.
- User Evidence Forms
- - collection ongoing as these are key documents required
- - Working Group ideas to further promote work being done, for instance, have a 5min session / booth at any upcoming parish events.
- Sub-group trip to Devon Records Office being planned in March
- Website continue to update with latest information

ii) P3 return – Report from Council Furmedge

Activities

- Walking paths for audit - taking place. Verbal update.
- There are signposts required from the canal footpath to both the pub and the farm shop.
- Signposts on FP4 at (Pond Farm), FP10 (Leonards Farm) and FP10 (Socks Hill) maybe required
- Some remedial work on styles FP30 (Halberton->Canal) maybe required

Note: Councillor Browse/Clerk actioned to improve signage on permissive path from the Farm Shop to Greenway

Next steps

- Submit return to Devon County Council. Extension on submission time agreed while paths are being audited.

f. Cemetery

i) notices regarding the work to be done to flatten the graves

ii) safety inspection of the gravestones (organised but not completed)

iii) planting of the monkey tree

g. The Pigeons/Muxbeare Lane

The following information has been received:

Ash Thomas

The cost for a new dual bin would be £223.85p.

Installation would be £227.91p

And the empty charge would be

To empty once a week would be £1008.80p per annum

To empty once a fortnight would be £504.40 per annum.

Muxbeare Lane

There are two dog mess bins on this lane which are emptied twice a week. We could replace a dog bin for a dual bin but it would be at the cost to the parish.

In my experience if a litter bin is placed in a remote location some people see this as an invitation to dispose of their general household waste.

The cost for a new dual bin would be £223.85p.

We would still empty twice a week.

h. Noticeboards

- i) location of second noticeboard (Hitchcocks or Farm Shop) (Councillors Batchelor)
- ii) access to the noticeboard at Brithem Bottom (Councillor Batchelor)
- iii) size of Village Hall noticeboard
Email sent to the Village Hall committee

i. Defibrillators

The invoice (£1800 plus VAT) for the Halberton defibrillator is on the list of payments at this meeting.

j. Landmark Tree

A Hornbeam has been delivered to the Clerk and is ready for planting. (Councillor Batchelor)

It had been resolved to purchase a tree for the Pigeons (Ash Thomas).

k. Flies in Lower Town

A resident in Lower Town has raised the issue of flies in Lower Town during the period of May to September each year.

The resident has spoken to the environment officer who have asked that the source of the flies is advised.

Decision needed:

Would the Parish Council consider bringing a specialist company in to identify the source of the problem?

If yes, quotes would need to be obtained for the April meeting.

h) Wildlife areas in the parish (Wildlife Warden)

General discussion on improving the wildlife areas in the parish, the Wildlife Warden project and the Hedgehog Project details of which had been circulated to the Parish Council.

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
14	Community items	29

To consider any other community matters.

a. Council IT tools Working Group to include Facebook page/Website/Communicating with Parishioners (Councillor Furmedge)

Verbal update.

Activities

- Google Workspace, migrated some councillors
- Ongoing website updates

Next steps

- Continue Google Workspace complete setup / carry out training
- Traffic - Road Closure notifications, create subscription form and publicise
- Adopt above notifications to other types
- Have Working Group meeting

b. Internet connectivity Working Group (Councillor Furmedge)

The advanced notifications of poles being erected are also being sent to local properties,
Verbal update.

c. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme (Councillor Marshall)

d. Anaerobic Digester Liaison Committee

A response regarding the re-instatement of the committee is awaited from Mid Devon District Council.

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
15	Traffic Committee The Traffic Committee met on 1 March 2023.	30

The minutes of the last Traffic Committee meeting have been circulated to the Parish Council.

a. Road safety in the vicinity of Lower Town

A response is awaited from Devon County Council/Norse South West on drawing up a contract to obtain the land needed for the proposed pavement in Lower Town.

A resident had submitted a request to DCC for traffic calming and a reduction in vehicle speeds.

b. Flashing lights at the school/pedestrian crossing at the Village Hall

A response is awaited from Devon County Council.

c. 20mph Expression of Interest

The outcome of the revised 20mph Expression of Interest covering Lower Town is awaited.

d. 20 is plenty for Devon

A meeting of parishes involved in the scheme in Devon took place and there was a clear indication that the majority wished to have 20mph zones.

Some were in favour of all residential areas and others in key areas such as roads with a school or recreational facilities.

Reminder: The signs for bins, cars and windows are available from the Clerk.

e. Pedestrian Safety

i) Halberton Community Association have purchased hi-viz waistcoats.

ii) Letters have been sent to residents whose hedges require cutting back from the road and one hedge has been cut.

lii) Pavement at The Hickory Inn

The Traffic Committee felt that discussions should commence with DCC as to the implementation of a pavement passed The Hickory Inn and ask the Parish Council to approve this course of action.

Possible decisions on whether the Parish Council should set a budget for and purchase:

i) Teleraam

ii) a vibration monitor

iii) an air quality monitor

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
16	Newsletter Working Group The Newsletter Working Group met on 28 February 2028.	31

The minutes of the last Newsletter Working Group have been circulated to the Parish Council.

No items for decision have been submitted at the time of publishing the agenda.

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
18	Financial accounts 2022/23	32 to

a. Financial report 2022/23 for February 2023

Income received 1/2/23-28/2/23

Current account		
Newsletter	£ 622.50	
Cemetery	£1130.00	(£1752.50 reconciles to bank statement)
Reserve account		
Interest	£ 25.49	(£25.49 reconciles to bank statement)

Payments cashed in February:

MDDC (Waste)	£ 15.96
C Graham (2533 Newsletter distribution)	£ 30.00
R Saunders (2557 – recreation ground fence)	£100.00
Ash Thomas Village Hall (2556 – meeting room)	£ 30.00
S McGeever (2551 - NALC adjustment)	£521.16
S McGeever (2550 wages/Zoom/expenses)	£601.77
Scrace (2555 – bus shelters)	£ 64.00
R Furmedge (2547 – reimbursement for projector + Fasthosts)	£192.01
R Furmedge (2543 – reimbursement of Fasthosts)	£ 83.56
Bank charges	£ 9.00
DALC (2549 Iain Campbell – training and attendance at AGM)	£156.00
DALC (2545 Councillor Campbell – Good Councillor)	£ 18.00
Countrywide (2544 - grass cutting November/January)	£912.00
Tiverton Fine Memorials (2552 - 2 nd payment Halberton Milestone)	£179.28
Utility Warehouse (DD)	£ 8.83

Total: £2921.57 (reconciles to bank account)

Outstanding cheques:

CAB grant (2021/22 – 2449 re-written on 2510)	£200.00
Brightsea (2548 - Newsletter)	£944.00

Bank balance at

	31/1/2023	28/2/2023
Current	£ 2411.29	£ 1242.22
Reserve	£31644.92	£31670.41

	Current account	Reserve account
Opening balance	£2411.29	£31644.92
Receipts	£1752.50	£ 25.49
Payments	£2921.57	
Closing balance	£1242.22	£31670.41

As at 7 March the balance in the current account was at £343 and thus a transfer was made to cover March payments.

b. Payments to approve (Council):

South West Ambulance Service (Defibrillator)	£2160.00
DALC (Councillor Campbell – DALC courses)	£ 54.00
DALC (Councillor Campbell and Clerk – DALC courses)	£ 54.00
Countrywide (February invoice)	£ 456.00*
Source for Business (cemetery water bill)	£ 12.53
S McGeever (wages less tax plus fasthosts)	£ 457.47**
HMRC (income tax/employee NIC)	£ 77.23
Utility Warehouse (DD)	£ 8.83
SJ & DM Diggle (Electrics – Jubilee Car Park)	£1065.17
Halberton Village Hall (meeting room)	£ 188.00

* Amendment to previous information - Countrywide have been billing a set amount to cover their contract (£4560.00 plus VAT) – there is, therefore, one last payment under the existing contract.

** February payslip included the approved NALC rise which resulted in tax needing to be paid.

c. Bank signatories/change of bank

Following the decisions made at the last meeting, work to switch banks is ongoing.

d. NALC pay award and review of Clerk's hours

The Clerk has circulated time sheets for the period from 1 April to 28 February 2023 showing the hours worked and the additional hours worked. The latest time sheet has been itemised in greater detail for two of the weeks to show how a working session is divided between tasks.

A meeting with Councillors Batchelor and Furmedge is due to take place.