

Halberton Parish Council

The Annual Meeting of Halberton Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 14 May 2024 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
1 May 2024

AGENDA

Item		Report Pages
Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman		
1	Election of Chairman for 2024/5 Elected Chairman to sign Declaration of Acceptance for Office	N/A
2	Election of Vice-Chairman 2024/5 Elected Vice-Chairman to sign Declaration of Acceptance for Office	N/A
Apologies, Declarations, Public Forum and Minutes		
3	Apologies	N/A
4	Declarations of Interest	N/A
5	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
6	To approve the minutes of the Council meeting on 9 April 2024	4 to 14
Standing Orders and Business of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council		
7	Nominations to Committees and Working Groups: Joint Traffic Committee, Newsletter Working Group, IT Working Group, Footpaths Working Group and Recreational Facilities Working Group	15
8	Representation on External Bodies To approve Council representation on external bodies and arrangements for reporting back.	16
9	General Power of Competence Sufficient councillors were elected at the May 2023 elections to allow for the General Power of Competence. The Clerk has completed the training and is submitting documentation with the view to all being completed prior to the next financial year.	N/A

10	Bank signatories To approve bank signatories for the Parish Council and Halberton Children's Recreation Ground accounts	17
11	Review of Core documents	18
Annual Review of Governance and Accounts Due to the change in bank accounts, the draft paperwork will be presented to this meeting with the approval and signing of the documentation moving to the June meeting.		
12	Internal Audit Report: The internal audit will be completed prior to the June meeting To formally appoint the auditor for 2024/25	N/A
13	Annual Governance Statement 2023/24 (see above)	N/A
14	Accounting Statements 2023/24 To approve and sign the Accounting Statement	N/A
General Council Business		
15	Chairman's announcement	N/A
16	Mid Devon District Council matters a. To receive a report from the MDDC Council Member b. Grand Western Canal Group	19-20
17	Devon County Council matters To receive a report from the DCC Council Member	21-22
18	Police matters To consider any correspondence from the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Council Advocate Scheme	23
19	Vacancies on the Parish Council To consider and, if agreed, approve any applications received	24
20	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.	25
21	Consideration of Mid Devon District Council's Planning Decisions The following planning decisions have been received.	26
22	Highways matters and the Road and Snow Warden Schemes	27
23	Amenity matters Update and any new matters pertaining to the amenities located within the parish that are not covered by the Recreation and Amenities Working Group	28
24	Recreation and Amenities Working Group The Recreation and Amenities Working Group	29
25	Community items To consider any other community matters	30
26	Newsletter Working Group The Newsletter Working Group did not hold a May meeting	31

27	Traffic Issues To consider information from the Joint Traffic Working Group and other matters relating to the parish of Halberton	32
28	Financial accounts 2023/24 and 2024/25	33
29	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	N/A
30	Items for next meeting	N/A
31	Meeting dates for 2024/25	N/A

*Signed: Susan McGeever
Clerk to Halberton Parish Council*

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
6	To approve the minutes of the Council meeting on 9 April 2024	4 to 14

**Halberton Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
held at Halberton Village Hall on Tuesday 9 April 2024 at 7.00pm**

Present

Councillors Batchelor (Chairman), Browse, Campbell, Graham and Saunders together with Councillor DuChesne (MDDC). The Clerk, Mrs S McGeever, was also present.

Councillor Batchelor opened the meeting at 7pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.

227-1 Apologies and Resignations

Apologies had been received from Councillor Furmedge and Councillor C Slade (DCC).

Councillors Ayre and E Slade had submitted letters of resignation and this information would be relayed to MDDC and the website updated.

227-2 Declarations of interest

Councillor Batchelor advised that one planning application related to a neighbouring farm and he would not take part in the vote.

227-3 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:

- The DMR Working Group, evidence available such as minutes and the public consultation together with letters to landowners and the possibility of a permissive path along the canal to join up from Sellake Bridge to Upplowman Road. (Private and potentially Tiverton Golf Club land.)
- Manley Lane and railway/canal walk where the verge has been banked up and pedestrians are now forced into the road.
- Traffic at Corner Lane together with parking issues and visibility when exiting the lane. Residents were concerned that the environment was not safe for road users and pedestrians especially given the number of agricultural vehicles, the proximity of the school and the issues of parking during pick up and drop off. A request for double yellow lines was made.

227-4 To approve the minutes of the Council meeting on 12 March 2024

It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes as a true record of the meeting and for the Chairman to initial each page and sign the final page.

227-5 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman thanked Councillors Ayre and E Slade for their work on behalf of the council and asked Councillor Campbell if he had attended the Horse Drawn Barge visit.

Councillor Campbell advised he had not attended due to a diary mix up.

227-6 Mid Devon District Council matters

a. To receive a report from the MDDC Council Member

Councillor DuChesne had submitted a report that had been circulated with the agenda.

The State of the District Debate was a success with a view to collaborative working and improved communication between MDDC and the towns and parishes.

The Planning Committee would be discussing the BESS at Junction 27 on 10 April 2024 whilst MDDC had submitted their objection to the Greenway application both on the DCC Planning Portal and the Environment Agency consultation noting the difference between the two consultations.

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The survey on the public view of MDDC showed a lack of satisfaction and a greater need to engage with the community. The response in terms of numbers was particularly disappointing with only 810 residents out of a possible 82000. The debts of 3 Rivers and its demise had raised questions of expenditure.

b. Grand Western Canal

The launch of the Flock that Rock on the Horse Draw Barge was a success and their 50th anniversary event was on 13 July 2024.

227-7 Devon County Council matters

Councillor C Slade had submitted a report which formed part of the agenda for the meeting and in his absence it was clarified that the electric buses were running in Exeter (Park and Ride) and parts of North Devon.

227-8 Police Matters

Police information had been sent out by MDDC and an email had been received from the Mid Devon Sector Inspector who had confirmed that the police figures were now available to view.

Councillor Browse advised that he was keeping abreast of Councillor Advocate Scheme correspondence but had nothing to report.

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

The Clerk advised that a meeting was still to be arranged.

227-9 Vacancies on the Parish Council

Councillor Batchelor noted that no-one had come forward to be on the Parish Council and with the two recent resignations, more councillors were needed to ensure that all services continued to run efficiently within the parish.

Vacancies would continue to be published in the Newsletter.

Action: Clerk

227-10 Consideration of Mid Devon District Council's planning applications

In the absence of Councillor Furmedge, Councillor Batchelor ran through the planning applications.

New applications:

22/02102/MFUL

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

Location: Land at Grid Reference 300503 112348 (Bycott Farm) Lower Town Halberton

Grid Ref: 300503 : 112348

Parish: Halberton 25

The Clerk advised that this was 'Revised Drawings and Revised Information' on the Bycott Farm application. The deadline for comments had been 27 March 2024 and no extension had been provided. The application

combined the two applications for Bycott Farm that the Parish Council had objected to at previous meetings.

After consultation with the planning officer, the Clerk had re-iterated the Parish Council's objections to the proposed works at Bycott Farm.

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24/00278/FULL

Proposal: Erection of dwelling and double garage following demolition of existing garage

Location: 59 High Street Halberton Tiverton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 300948 / 112856

Parish: Halberton 25

The Parish Council RESOLVED that it had no objection in principle to the application provided that sufficient parking spaces were being provided and there was no resultant deficit overall in the parking available in the area.

24/00401/CLU

Proposal: Certificate of lawfulness to establish the lawful commencement of development of conversion of redundant barns to a dwelling as approved by planning permission 20/01915/FULL

Location: Doddesweek Farm Lower Town Halberton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 300493 / 112589

Parish: Halberton 25

The Parish Council RESOLVED that it had no objection in principle to the application given that planning permission had been granted in 2020. It was noted that no historic survey had been carried out.

24/00433/LBC

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for 2 replacement doors

Location: Remberton Cullompton Devon

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 299009 / 110051

Parish: Halberton 25

The Parish Council RESOLVED that it had no objection to the application.

24/00509/FULL

Proposal: Concreting of existing yard area

Location: Land at NGR 300890 109856 Pond Farm Cullompton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 300830 / 109838

Parish: Halberton 25

Councillor Batchelor advised he would not comment on this application.

The Parish Council RESOLVED that it had not objection to this application.

The Clerk would upload the Parish Council's comments on the MDDC Planning Portal.

Action: Clerk

Planning Committee:

23/01351/MFUL

Proposal: Construction, operation and maintenance of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) facility with associated infrastructure and works including highway access, landscaping and biodiversity enhancements

Location: Land at NGR 304444 114510 North of A361, Junction 27 Westleigh

The Clerk advised that a place has been reserved at the Planning Committee (10 April 2024), if a member of the Parish Council wished to attend.

The Parish Council expressed its concern that there was no final plan to consider showing the full visual impact of the application on local amenities and that the potential for flooding appeared to be increasing and this could raise safety concerns. Councillor DuChesne would speak on these points at the Planning Committee.

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Appeals:

23/01141/FULL

Proposal: Variation of condition 13 of planning permission 22/00868/MFUL (Removal of condition 13 of planning permission 17/01142/FULL - further noise assessments) relating to the submission of a noise assessment

Location: Land at NGR 299621 112764 (Red Linhay) Crown Hill Halberton

Application No: 23/01141/FULL

Appeal Ref No. APP/Y1138/W/23/3334670

Appellants Name: Mr John Clapp

The Clerk had reiterated the Parish Council's comments on the Inspectorate Portal, by the 1 April 2024 deadline, that a noise assessment was required in the line with the previous Appeal result and the PHO's recommendations.

Existing applications:

Ref: ABX/DCC/4358/2023

County Matter Planning Application

Retention of existing deposition and temporary landfill site for the deposition of additional inert waste and a construction waste recycling facility with associated works including temporary buildings, access and landscaping, at Land at Greenway, Uplowman, Tiverton

The Clerk had uploaded the Parish Council's comments from the last meeting to the DCC planning portal and reiterated that the Parish Council believed a full transport assessment was required.

A response to the Environment Agency public consultation had also been sent. The EA would not allow any extension to the 15 March 2024 deadline to allow for greater public comments.

The Greenway Landfill application would not come to committee before June.

Red Linhay

As reported in the previous meeting, there are outstanding applications regarding the slurry pit and the biomass digester.

Outstanding Enforcement issues will be placed on the agenda as and when there is further information.

227-11 Consideration of Mid Devon District Council's Planning Decisions

The following decisions were noted:

24/00247/CAT – APPROVED 14 March 2024

Proposal: Notification of intention to crown reduce 1 Heaven Tree by 3-4m within a Conservation Area

Location: Hillside Greenway Halberton Tiverton

24/00137/FULL – APPROVED 21 March 2024

Proposal: Change of use of agricultural land to residential garden

Location: Land at NGR 304829 112756 The New Barn Uffculme Devon

24/00193/CLP – APPROVED 21 March 2024

First Schedule

The proposed construction of a replacement garage, as shown on the following plans received on the 29th of January 2024:

- Site Location Plan Drawing No. L1
- Proposed Elevations and Floor Plan Drawing No. L3
- Proposed Block Plan Drawing No. L4

Second Schedule

Mount Pleasant, Ash Thomas, Tiverton.

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24/00164/HOUSE – APPROVED 27 March 2024

Proposal: Erection of single storey side extension

Location: The New Barn Uffculme Cullompton Devon

24/00292/FULL – APPROVED 28 March 2024

Proposal: Variation of Conditions 2 (approved plans) and 7 (Landscaping) of Planning Permission 23/00059/FULL - Erection of 2 dwellings - to allow amended plans

Location: Land and Building at NGR 303260 113260 Nr Venn Farm Sampford Peverell Devon

227-12 Highways matters and the Road and Snow Warden Schemes

a. Potholes

Potholes continue to be reported online to Devon County Council and mended throughout the parish and roads have been cleared.

The two-day filling of a pothole at Brithem Bottom was reported and the Clerk would take concerns to DCC.

Action: Clerk

The Clerk was also asked to contact DCC over the continuing flood on the road from Brithem Bottom to Butterleigh.

Action: Clerk

b. Herne Bridge

The work has been undertaken and the bridge was sound. Annual visits were likely to continue and the item would come off the agenda.

Action: Clerk

c. Road Warden Scheme

Councillor Furmedge was still awaiting the strimming training.

d. Snow Warden Scheme

No response had been received to the call for volunteers in the Newsletter – a further call would be put in the autumn edition.

Action: Councillor Batchelor/Campbell

227-13 Amenity matters

a. Platinum Jubilee Car Park

The tree works had been carried out and the car park was left clean and tidy. Local residents had removed the resulting logs from the amenity area.

The possibility of an electric charger was being monitored in association with DCC and MDDC>

Action: Clerk

b. Footpaths

In the absence of Councillor Furmedge, the concerns raised in the Public Forum were noted.

It was understood that all available information had been submitted to DCC who had then prepared the consultation document based on the evidence provided.

It was noted that a meeting of the Working Group had been suggested for the 10 or 17 April and Councillor Furmedge would be contacted to confirm the date.

Action: Councillor Batchelor

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LCWIP (Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans)

It was noted that the closing date of the public consultation had been extended to 10 April 2024. It was felt that the plans were not clear

c. Cemetery

Given the resignation of Councillor E Slade, Councillor Campbell advised that he would take on overseeing the cemetery.

Action list:

- Clean/possibly paint the gates again
- Open up the shed and review contents (Councillor Batchelor)
- Scrape the moss of the path by the shed
- Spray moss in other areas
- Re-do the courtyard (on hold)
- Additional signs on the bins to prevent the wrong items being placed in them (Clerk)
- Clean/repair benches
- This year cut a path through the wildflower area and put down more wildflower seeds (on grass specification)

It was noted that the hedges have been taken back at the cemetery.

The Clerk advised that:

i) the grave lowering will take place when the weather permits and there would be a meeting with the contractor prior to the work commencing.

Action: Clerk to contact EROB holders - ongoing

ii) safety inspection of the gravestones completed - ongoing

Action: Clerk to contact EROB holders

iii) noticeboard

With Councillor Batchelor for installation.

Action: Councillor Batchelor

iv) Quotes for courtyard

Action: On hold until the budget is in place.

Following discussion, the Parish Council RESOLVED to put down two dumpy bags of 19mm gravel chipping on the main path through the cemetery.

Action: Clerk to organise

The Parish Council RESOLVED to maintain the PSPO on the cemetery.

d. Defibrillators

Councillor Graham advised that the defibrillators were in working order.

Action: Councillor Graham/Clerk

e. Landmark Tree

This item had been completed and would be taken off the agenda.

f. The Orchard Car Park

The Clerk had received further information on the car parking spaces at The Orchard but not sufficient to allow the Parish Council to make a decision. Further clarification would be sought and brought to the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

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227-14 Recreation and Amenities Working Group

The Working Group had not met since the last meeting.

The Clerk reported as follows:

a. The Mead

A clean copy of the new lease had been received and was ready for signature.

In addition to the lease, a Statutory Declaration was required to be signed by the Clerk in front of a solicitor.

The Parish Council RESOLVED that the Clerk should sign the documentation and return it to DCC.

Action: Clerk

The solicitors would then register the lease with the Land Registry.

The Parish Council RESOLVED to keep the PSPO on The Mead for dogs to be kept on leads.

b. Community Growing Area

A signed copy of the lease had been received from DCC and would be kept on file.

The first action was to fence the area in accordance with the specification provided.

Councillor Batchelor advised that he had received two quotes around the £600 mark but these did not meet the specification.

The Clerk would contact DCC to confirm that every fifth post needed to be concreted in.

Once three quotes had been received, the Clerk could complete the S106 application.

Action: Councillor Batchelor/Clerk

c. Halberton Children's Recreation Ground

i) update on installation of new equipment and financing

Councillor Campbell advised that the Working Group were looking at various options for the remaining funding required.

ii) monthly safety report

Councillor Campbell advised that the monthly safety reports were being logged.

iii) ROSPA inspection

The ROSPA inspection had taken place and the report circulated to the Working Group. There were a number of actions to be taken that were classified as low risk and one to be undertaken with regard to the fencing which was classified as medium risk.

Action: Councillor Campbell

d. Fund raising

See above

e. Mid Devon Wildlife Warden Scheme

Nothing to report.

f. Ideas for solar farm cooperation

Ongoing

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227-15 Community items

In the absence of Councillor Furmedge no information was received on items a. Council IT tools Working Group to include Facebook page/Website/Communicating with Parishioners and b. Internet connectivity Working Group.

c. Anaerobic Digester Liaison Committee

The Clerk was still awaiting a response to her email for a new date for the meeting.

Action: Clerk to follow-up

d. D-Day 80

Parish Council to support local groups as required. It was noted that events in surrounding parishes were limited to those being undertaken by the History Groups.

e. Flies in Halberton

Nothing to report.

f. Town and Parish Charter Review

The Clerk had not received any comments from councillors on the Town and Parish Charter Review. It was generally a legislative documentation covered by Government legislation.

Action: Clerk to send in the Parish Council's acceptance.

227-16 Traffic

A second meeting of Halberton, Sampford Peverell, Uffculme and Willand took place on 21 March 2024 and all Parish Councils had confirmed their participation.

A petition was now being prepared through change.org to call for a lowering on the speed limit on the Uffculme Straight.

The group would meet again in April.

The Clerk reported as per the agenda:

1. Flashing lights at the school in Lower Town – confirmation of Vision Zero funds from James Anstee has been received. Discussion is ongoing with DCC and Simmons signs to acquire the correct equipment and link to the street lighting and a further site meeting had taken place.
2. The pavement at Church Lane was ongoing. Councillor Batchelor suggested that given the delay the Parish Council look to see if they could reach an agreement with the owners of the piece of land. Initial discussions would take place to identify the cost of acquiring the land to make a safer place for children to exit Church Lane.

Action: Councillors Batchelor and Browse

3. The Mead Playing Field to Jubilee Car Park

Given the lease was being signed Councillor Browse would obtain quotes for the work required.

Action: Councillor Browse

4. Signage through Vision Zero grant – received
5. The solar batteries for the VAS units have been received.
Councillors Batchelor/Browse advised that some adjustment to the fitting was required.
Action: Councillors Batchelor and Browse
6. Flooding at the Farm Shop (appears to be better than prior to re-surfacing)
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7. Pedestrian Crossing at the Village Hall – on hold
8. Potential pavement at The Hickory Bridge – dependent on The Orchard (see under amenities)
although the Parish Council would contact DCC with regard to the process to achieve double yellow lines on the road.
9. Lorries on the Halberton to Willand road - report from PC Tim Walsh sent to DCC and is being followed up again.
10. Rose Cottage Bridge – as and when re-surfaced
11. Lorries between Halberton and Brithem Bottom – call for additional signage
It is unlikely that additional signage will be provided

Along with the possibility of double yellow lines at the Hickory, the Parish Council would investigate double yellow lines in Lower Town as requested by residents.

Action: Clerk

Community Speed Watch

Councillor Browse has undertaken the training.

Action: Councillor Browse/Clerk to organise a meeting

20mph limits

The Clerk is also looking into the cost of a parish council funded 20mph limit for Lower Town – response awaited from Devon County Council.

The Clerk has submitted a new application for the DCC funded programme.

Portable Air Quality Monitor

In the absence of Councillor Furmedge no report was given.

227-17 Newsletter Working Group

Issue 172 had been published and distributed and really good comments had been received on its layout and content. The Working Group was looking to put out a reader questionnaire.

227-18 Financial accounts 2023/24

a. Financial reports 2023/24

The Clerk was awaiting a new BIB to be able to access the statement. As soon as this is received the information for March will be input and the reports and bank reconciliations will be forwarded to Parish Councillors prior to the meeting.

b. Payments to approve 2024/25:

Google (Workspace)

£ 48.00

Source for Business (Cemetery)	£ 28.55
Messagemaker (solar batteries)	£1608.00
ROSPA Play Safety (Recreation Ground)	£ 93.60
Brightsea (newsletter)	£ 926.00
C Graham (distribution)	£ 30.00
S McGeever (Wages adjusted from PAYE change)	£1014.95
DALC (membership)	£ 578.03
SJM Tree Services (car park)	£ 696.00
HMRC (nothing to pay)	-£ 166.05
Utility Warehouse (car park)	-£ 192.72

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The rates for the Car Park are £429.14 and will be paid in monthly instalments.
The rates for the Cemetery are £0.00.

The payments would be set up online and would require two councillors to authorise.

Action: Clerk

c. Bank signatories/change of bank

The Unity Trust Bank is now set up and the switch had taken place.

A letter was required to transfer the Deposit Account due to the BIB failing.

Action: Clerk

d. Internal Audit and Year End documentation

The Internal Audit will take place in April and the Year End documentation will be prepared for the May meeting.

227-19 Members business including meetings attended, and miscellaneous matters (not for decision)

Devon Council Climate Network

Nothing to report.

Connecting the Culm/Catchment Visioning Workshop

Nothing to report.

Cullompton Health and Wellbeing

Nothing to report.

State of the District Debate

The need for an updated Emergency Plan and the formation of a Neighbourhood Plan would be beneficial to the Parish.

Devon Communities Together were arranging a meeting in June in Uffculme to talk to local parishes about the requirements and funding available. This would be followed by a site visit to each parish.

Action: Clerk

The Parish Council would review the Silverton local plan and look to identify the requirements and cost of producing a Neighbourhood Plan for Halberton. The Neighbourhood Plan would require input from the community.

Action: Clerk

227-20 Items for next meeting

Councillor Batchelor advised that Heather Corden was in favour of a memorial bench in the cemetery to commemorate the work of Barrie Corden as a Parish Council and to the village overall.

Action: Clerk

It was noted the Duck Race would take place on 11 May 2024 and the Parish Council would take stall to encourage people to come forward as councillors and/or volunteers for a project.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm.

Next meetings:	Annual Meeting of the Parish Council	Tuesday, 14 May 2024 at 7pm
	Annual Parish Meeting	Thursday, 16 May 2024 at 7pm

Signed: _____	Date: _____
Chairman	

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
7	Nominations to Committees and Working Groups and Parish Council Appointments: Newsletter Working Group, IT Working Group, Footpaths Working Group and Recreational Facilities Working Group	15

Current Councillor representation:

Joint Traffic Committee

Councillor Batchelor

Councillor Browse

Newsletter Working Group

Councillor Graham

IT Working Group

Councillor Campbell

Councillor Furmedge

Footpaths Working Group

Councillor Browse

Councillor Furmedge

Recreation and Amenities Working Group

Councillor Batchelor

Councillor Browse

Councillor Campbell

Road Wardens

Councillor Browse

Councillor Furmedge

Snow Warden

Ian Batchelor

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
8	Representation on External Bodies To approve Council representation on external bodies and arrangements for reporting back.	16

Current Councillor representation:

Grand Western Canal

Councillor Browse

Halberton Village Hall, Halberton Community Association and the Defibrillators

Councillor Graham

Police Advocate Scheme

Councillor Browse

Connecting the Culm and other climate related matters

Councillor Campbell

Cullompton Health and Wellbeing

Councillor Batchelor

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
10	Bank signatories To approve bank signatories for the Parish Council and Halberton Children's Recreation Ground accounts	17

Halberton Parish Council
Unity Trust Bank

Councillor Batchelor
Councillor Browse
Councillor Furmedge and
Councillor Graham

Halberton Children's Recreation Ground
Confirm decision to move to Unity Trust Bank

Signatories to be:

Councillor Batchelor
Councillor Browse
Councillor Furmedge and
Councillor Graham

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
11	Review of Core Documents	18

The Parish Council's Core Documents are available on the Parish Council website and can be downloaded:

[Policies and Procedures – Halberton Parish Council](#)

If any member of the Parish Council or Public requires a hard copy of these documents then please contact the Clerk (clerk@halbertonparishcouncil.gov.uk).

Changes to the Model Standing Orders documentation have taken place and an updated set of Standing Orders for consideration by the Parish Council has been circulated. Given its size, it is being circulated to Parish Councillors and will appear on the website when approved.

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
15	Mid Devon District Council matters a. To receive a report from the MDDC Council Member b. Grand Western Canal Group	19-20

Monthly Report April 2024

2nd April saw me at MDDC at the unveiling of a plaque to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Mid Devon District Council.

3rd April attended the Tiverton Canal Basin for the launch of the Swan Trail and a trip on the canal in our glorious horse-drawn Barge – please see Mark Baker’s update below.

10th April – Planning Committee major applications.

23/MOUT Hybrid application to allow sitting 10 safari tents – Loyton – approved

23/00511/FULL 5 affordable dwellings (Zedpods) Hemyock – approved

23/00126/Full 8 affordable dwellings (zedpods) approved

23/01351/MFULL Clearstone Energy BESS approved

15 Scrutiny Committee Cllr Rachel Gilmour’s chaired this meeting for the final time. She has stood down from this committee. Lots of interesting items as ever including:

MOTION 583 - PROTECTING RIVERS AND SEAS (201:12)

The following was highlighted by the Director of Place and Economy within the report:

- Liaising with the Environment Agency (EA) and South West Water (SWW) regarding attendance at meetings.
- Progressing the commissioning of skilled consultants on behalf of the Authority to undertake a water cycle study
- Researching how other local planning authorities sought additional information from the Water Companies through the Planning Process and the success (or not) they have had.
- The additional requests for information from SWW as a consultee in support of major planning applications. Asking further information around which treatment works would be managing sewage arising from developments and whether they had the capacity to do so
- Asking whether the water company had the information available to assess the impact on the number or duration of any sewage discharges into any local rivers or seas and asking for that information to be shared.

16 NZAG – Net Zero Advisory Group discussion it’s likely that we will be working more closely with external organisations to help determine our response to climate crisis

Areas that are being focussed on include:

- “Greener” policy planning.
- Energy saving and decarbonisation.
- Developing more “green” spaces.
- Rivers partnership
- Council & Communities Action Plan
- Supporting local energy projects
- Supporting local food growing.

22 AGM MDDC

24 Full Council there will be a further post created on cabinet.

It is recommended that the names of the current PDGs change to reflect the aims of the new the Corporate Plan and that there be an additional PDG, so instead of four (4) there will be five (5) PDGs. It is proposed that the PDGs will be renamed as follows:

- Planning, Environment & Sustainability;
- Community, People & Equalities;
- Homes

;• Economy & Assets;

• Service Delivery & Continuous Improvement

25 PPAG –(Policy Planning Advisory Group) Discussing Council of Europe Convention Landscape Assessment – which recognises landscape in law. Forward planning - starting to prepare a new Local plan

Other bits

A fully accessible toilet facility has been installed in Exe Valley Leisure Centre – a Changing Places toilet, which includes a rise and fall sink, changing bench, hoist and space for carers. This was achieved by way of a grant – Culm Valley Sports Centre in Cullompton is also set to benefit with its toilet due to be installed later this year.

Our recycling rates through the-2-3 Binit scheme are now 97%,

Devolution Devon Torbay Deal - £16m Devon & Torbay keep £8m the other we think will be divided – Mid Devon may get £750k

From Mark Baker:

2024 marks a significant milestone in the history of the Grand Western Canal as it is 50 years since the horse-drawn barge *Tivertonian* made its first public trip on the Canal. To celebrate this anniversary, a series of events and activities are being planned throughout the year. These are being organised by a small working group comprising of the Canal Ranger Service, the Tiverton Canal Co (who own and operate *Tivertonian*), events organiser Glas Events and myself.

The headline event for the year is a big Open Day in the Canal Basin on Saturday 13th July. Here a free-entry, canal-side fayre will take place, including live music, entertainers, swing boats, demonstrations, side stalls and a range of catering options. The barge will remain in the Canal Basin for the day allowing visitors to have a look round on board and view displays about the boat's history and demonstrations of traditional roses and castles canal artwork.

The Tiverton Canal Co are running a [photo competition](#), seeking the best and most interesting photos of the *Tivertonian* through the years.

We are grateful for financial support from Mid Devon District Council, whose Shared Prosperity Programme has funded some of the musical entertainment at the event as well as a series of banners around the town, and 10 hours of professional event organiser support.

More information and publicity will follow during May and June, but for now save the date and look forward to joining us for a great day out on 13th July!

GDuchesne@middevon.gov.uk

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
16	Devon County Council matters To receive a report from the DCC Council Member	21-22

Halberton DCC report 14th May

The leader of Devon County Council has announced he is leaving the post after 15 years.

John became Leader of Devon's opposition Conservative Party in 2007 and won power of the County Council in the 2009 election. He has remained Leader since then.

The Devon Conservative Group will hold a ballot to decide the County's next Leader and John will remain in post until then.

He said:

"It is the right time for me to stand down as leader. The county council is in a good position with a balanced budget.

"We've managed the budget this year so that we can now propose an allocation of an extra £10 million to repairing potholes and carrying out extra drainage work on our roads.

"We've concluded an agreement with the Government for £95 million of national funding to support our special needs education and, within weeks, we will hopefully finalise our devolution deal."

Mr Hart was first elected to his home ward of Wembury and Erme in 1989 and now represents Wembury and Bickleigh after boundary changes.

It is proposed that Cllr Hart will serve as Chairman of the County Council for the coming year.

Leaders of Devon and Torbay Councils are thanking everyone who responded to recent consultation about the proposed devolution deal for the Devon and Torbay area.

The proposed deal will transfer significant decision-making powers and funding from Whitehall to Devon and Torbay, so that important decisions on local priorities, such as jobs and skills, housing, and the environment, can be made locally.

But first, Devon County Councillors and Torbay Councillors must meet to consider the consultation analysis and to agree next steps.

Nearly 900 responses to the consultation were received from individuals and a broad cross-section of organisations, including Devon's District councils, Town and Parish councils, and representatives from the business, education and skills, housing, transportation, health service providers and voluntary sectors.

In addition to online consultation, 31 roundtable meetings were held across Devon and Torbay, attended by more than 700 people.

The purpose of the consultation was to seek views on the draft proposal, which all elected Members of Devon County Council and Torbay Council will consider at meetings to be held this month before deciding whether to submit their final proposal for the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority (CCA) to the Secretary of State.

The proposal itself was met with a wide range of views both for and against, although unanimous support is not a prerequisite to moving forward.

One thing is clear, however. Although the 'deal' may have Devon County and Torbay Councils' signatures on the paperwork, for devolution to work well for the one million or so residents across Devon and Torbay, the task in hand will require all levels of local government across the two areas – County and Unitary, City, District and Borough, and Town and Parish councils – to work much more closely together.

Councils to receive additional funds to support households struggling with higher energy and food costs

Citizens Advice is reporting that average [energy costs are as high as last winter for many households](#), and that despite energy prices falling this month, around 5.3 million people are currently living in households in debt to their energy supplier.

So, it's welcome news that we are able to confirm that we have been allocated a little over £5 million from

the government to help households struggling to pay higher bills for energy, food, water, and other essential items.

This will be the fifth round of Household Support Funding that we have received from the Department for Work and Pensions, to run between April and September 2024. It will take Devon's total level of Household Support Funding received so far to just over £30 million.

The funding is to support households in most need, but specifically those that may not be eligible for other support that is already available from the government.

We must submit plans mid-May to the Department of Work and Pensions, setting out how we, with Devon's District, City and Borough councils and other voluntary and community partners, will make the latest funding available.

Does your scheme benefit the community? Grants are available...

If your community group has a project that could improve people's well-being, or reduce hardship, or provide a warm safe space to work, or learn, or socialise within your area, you can apply for a grant.

This is the third year we have made funding available to support local schemes through the Growing Communities Fund.

Since July 2022 funding has been awarded to hundreds of local projects to help them respond to a specific local need.

This year's funding allocation will mean that since the fund was launched, we have made more than £1.1m available to help communities build self-reliance and resilience.

Groups with schemes that bring communities together, alleviate food poverty or tackle loneliness, isolation and build self-esteem, for example, are invited to apply.

This could include offering advice, peer support or guidance on budgeting, cooking low-cost nutritional meals or supporting the recruitment, training and retention of Volunteers.

Organisers of projects that have a clear and direct community benefit, such as improving the environment, or that use innovation to improve efficiency or proposals that seek to expand the reach of an existing scheme are also encouraged to apply.

My locality budget is now open again

If you have a project which is eligible for funding, please contact me in the first instance before completing the application for on the DCC website which can be found under Locality Budgets.

Colin Slade

Devon County Councillor for Tiverton East

Vice Chair of the County Council

Colin.slade@devon.gov.uk

07948 432942

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
17	Police matters To consider any correspondence from the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Council Advocate Scheme	23

Police Matters

Information circulated to Parish Councillors

Councillor Advocate Scheme

Councillor Browse to report

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Update from Mr Charles

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
18	Vacancies on the Parish Council To consider and, if agreed, approve any applications received.	24

Report from those attending the Village Hall on 11 May 2024

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
19	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.	25

New applications:

24/00638/FULL

Proposal: Erection of a general purpose agricultural building

Location: Land at NGR 300096 110838 Road Southeast of Crosslands Ash Thomas

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 300182 / 110879

Parish: Halberton 25

Deadline for comments: 14 May 2024

Appeals:

23/01141/FULL

Proposal: Variation of condition 13 of planning permission 22/00868/MFUL (Removal of condition 13 of planning permission 17/01142/FULL - further noise assessments) relating to the submission of a noise assessment

Location: Land at NGR 299621 112764 (Red Linhay) Crown Hill Halberton

Application No: 23/01141/FULL

Appeal Ref No. APP/Y1138/W/23/3334670

Appellants Name: Mr John Clapp

Decision awaited.

Existing applications:

Ref: ABX/DCC/4358/2023

County Matter Planning Application

Retention of existing deposition and temporary landfill site for the deposition of additional inert waste and a construction waste recycling facility with associated works including temporary buildings, access and landscaping, at Land at Greenway, Uplowman, Tiverton

No new information received.

Red Linhay

As reported in the previous meeting, there are outstanding applications regarding the slurry pit and the biomass digester.

Outstanding Enforcement issues will be placed on the agenda as and when there is further information.

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
20	Consideration of Mid Devon District Council's Planning Decisions	26

The following decisions have been received:

24/00169/LBC – APPROVED – 4 APRIL 2024

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for 2 replacement first floor windows

Location: Orchard House Halberton Tiverton Devon

24/00298/LBC – APPROVED – 16 APRIL 2024

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for repairs to roof on rear extension and replace existing velux window and guttering

Location: 4 Pond Hill Halberton Tiverton Devon

24/00333/FULL – APPROVED – 19 APRIL 2024

Proposal: Change of use of agricultural land to garden and erection of detached garage/garden store

Location: Barley Barn Ash Thomas Tiverton Devon

24/00307/HOUSE – APPROVED – 19 APRIL 2024

Proposal: Erection of ground and first floor extension to garage

Location: Dolphin Cottage 10A Lower Town Halberton Tiverton

24/00278/FULL – REFUSAL – 26 April 2024

Proposal: Erection of dwelling and double garage following demolition of existing garage

Location: 59 High Street Halberton Tiverton Devon

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
21	Highways matters and the Road and Snow Warden Schemes	27

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. Road Warden Scheme

Councillors Browse and Furmedge are the Parish Council's Road Wardens

c. Snow Warden Scheme

Councillor Batchelor is the Parish Council's Snow Warden

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
22	Amenity matters	28

Update and any new matters pertaining to the amenities located within the parish.
Given the setting up of the Recreation and Amenities Working Group – items under their Terms of Reference have been moved to a separate agenda item.

General safety checks on all Parish Council assets should be carried out.

a. Platinum Jubilee Car Park

Further information is awaited on electric car charging from DCC and MDDC.

b. Footpaths

Councillor Furmedge will report on Footpaths and the Walking Festival at the meeting.
The DMR Consultation is underway.

c. Cemetery

Action list:

- Clean/possibly paint the gates (they do not require sandblasting)
- Clean the external sign (actioned)
- Open up the shed and review contents (Councillor Batchelor)
- Scrap the moss of the path by the shed
- Spray moss in other areas
- Re-do the courtyard (on hold)
- Additional signs on the bins to prevent the wrong items being placed in them (Clerk)
- Clean/repair benches
- This year cut a path through the wildflower area and put down more wildflower seeds (on grass specification)

i) Grave lowering will take place when the weather permits. A meeting with the contractor will take place before the work begins.

Action: Clerk to contact EROB holders - ongoing

ii) safety inspection of the gravestones completed - ongoing

Action: Clerk to contact EROB holders

iii) Noticeboard

With Councillor Batchelor for installation.

iv) Quotes for courtyard

Action: On hold until the budget is in place.

d. Defibrillators

Update from Councillor Graham and decision on date for training.

Action: Councillor Graham/Clerk

e. The Orchard Car Park

Information has been circulated from MDDC and guidance from DALC.
An update on the potential rental charge or purchase price is awaited.

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
23	Recreation and Amenities Working Group	29

Councillors Batchelor, Browse and Campbell to raise any issues.

Report from the clerk

a. The Mead

The lease has been signed and returned to the solicitor to send to DCC and has a commencement date of March 2025.

b. Community Growing Area

The clean copy of the lease has been signed and returned by DCC.

S106 funding totalling £1205.00 is available.

Action: Clerk to submit application once quotes obtained for fencing. The fencing must be to the specification detailed in the lease.

Councillor Batchelor to report on fencing.

c. Halberton Children's Recreation Ground

i) update on installation of new equipment and financing (Councillor Campbell)

The S106 application has been submitted and the funds received.

The Community Growing Fund is now open for applications.

Other funding sources.

ii) monthly safety report (Councillor Campbell)

iii) ROSPA report

Group to report on works required.

d. Fund raising

See above

e. Mid Devon Wildlife Warden Scheme

f. Ideas for solar farm cooperation

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
24	Community items	30

To consider any other community matters.

a. Council IT tools Working Group to include Facebook page/Website/Communicating with Parishioners
Report from Councillor Furmedge at the meeting.

b. Internet connectivity Working Group
Report from Councillor Furmedge

c. Anaerobic Digester Liaison Committee
A new date for the meeting is being organised.
Action: Clerk to follow-up

d. Flies in Halberton
Nothing to report.

e. Town and Parish Charter Review
Documents circulated to councillors.
Deadline for Parish Council's agreement or suggested amendments to the Charter **by Wednesday 15 May 2024.**

f. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

g. Emergency Plan

h. Neighbourhood Plan

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
25	Newsletter Working Group	31

Work is ongoing to produce the next Newsletter – Issue 173.

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
26	Traffic	32

A second meeting of Halberton, Sampford Peverell, Uffculme and Willand took place on 21 March 2024 and all Parish Councils confirmed their participation.

A petition is now being prepared through change.org.

The group will meet again in May.

Ongoing Halberton matters:

1. Flashing lights at the school in Lower Town – confirmation of Vision Zero funds from James Anstee has been received. Discussion is ongoing with DCC and Simmons signs to acquire the correct equipment and link to the street lighting and a further site meeting has taken place. It is hoped a response on costs will be provided shortly.
2. The pavement at Church Lane – ongoing
3. The Mead Playing Field to Jubilee Car Park (can be actioned when lease signed)
4. The solar batteries for the VAS units have been received.
Councillor Batchelor/Browse to report
5. Flooding at the Farm Shop (appears to be better than prior to re-surfacing)
6. Pedestrian Crossing at the Village Hall – on hold
7. Potential pavement at The Hickory Bridge – dependent on The Orchard (see under amenities)
8. Lorries on the Halberton to Willand road - report from PC Tim Walsh sent to DCC and is being followed up – potential site visit
9. Rose Cottage Bridge – as and when re-surfaced
10. Lorries between Halberton and Brithem Bottom – call for additional signage

Community Speed Watch

Councillor Browse has undertaken the training.

Action: Councillor Browse/Clerk to organise a meeting

20mph limits

The Clerk is also looking into the cost of a parish council funded 20mph limit for Lower Town – response awaited from Devon County Council.

The Clerk has submitted a new application for the DCC funded programme.

Portable Air Quality Monitor

Councillor Furmedge to report.

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
27	Financial accounts 2023/24 and 2024/25	33

a. Financial report for the year 2023/24

The HSBC current account was closed on 5 April 2023 and £12266.72 transferred to the Unity Account. A written request to move the monies in the HSBC deposit account has been sent to HSBC. This followed the failure of the login BIB to allow the transfer of funds.

The balance in the current account on 31 March 2024 was £12317.88.

Balance 29/2/24	12489.02
Plus receipts	1696.72
Less payments	1867.88
Balance 31/3/24	12317.86
Less payments	51.14
Balance 05/4/24	12266.72

The balance in the deposit account is awaited before the accounts can be closed for the year but stood at £19460.12 at 29/2/24.

Interest for March (£30) and the first precept payment (£13555) would put the account at around £33045.12 at 29/4/24.

b. Financial report for the year 2024/25 (April)

Opening balance in HSBC	12317.86
Less HSBC payments	51.14
Opening balance in Unity	12266.72
Plus receipts	711.00
Less payments	5179.55
Balance 30/4/24	7798.17

c. Payments to approve (Council):

Google (Workspace)	£ 48.00
Mark Upcott (Ground Maintenance March)	£696.00
Mark Upcott (Ground Maintenance April)	£696.00
S McGeever (Wages adjusted from PAYE change)	£614.42
S McGeever (stamps)	£ 11.40
HMRC (PAYE)	£130.00
Utility Warehouse (car park)	£ 11.22

d. Internal Audit and Year End documentation

The Internal Audit will take place in May due to the change of bank and the Year End documentation will be prepared for the June meeting.