

Halberton Parish Council

Meeting of Halberton Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 10 June 2025 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
3 June 2025

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 13 May 2025	3-15
5	Chairman's announcement	N/A
6	Mid Devon District Council matters a. To receive a report from the MDDC Council Member b. Grand Western Canal Group	16-17
7	Devon County Council matters To receive a report from the DCC Council Member	18
8	Police matters To consider any correspondence from the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Council Advocate Scheme	19
9	Vacancies on the Parish Council To consider and, if agreed, approve any applications received	20
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.	21-22
11	Consideration of Mid Devon District Council's Planning Decisions The following planning decisions have been received.	23

12	Highways matters and the Road and Snow Warden Schemes	24
13	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	25-26
14	Recreation and Amenities Working Group The Recreation and Amenities Working Group	27
15	Community items To consider any other community matters	28
16	Newsletter Advisory Committee Terms of Reference	29
17	Traffic Issues To consider information from the Joint Traffic Working Group and other matters relating to the parish of Halberton	30
Annual Review of Governance and Accounts		
18	Internal Audit Report: The internal audit will be completed prior to the June meeting To formally appoint the auditor for 2025/26	N/A
19	Annual Governance Statement 2024/25	N/A
20	Accounting Statements 2024/25	N/A
21	Core documents Standing Orders Risk Management Scheme Asset Register	N/A
22	Financial accounts 2025/26	31-32
23	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
24	Items for next meeting	N/A
25	Date of next meeting 8 July 2025	N/A

*Signed: Susan McGeever
Clerk to Halberton Parish Council*

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
4	To approve the minutes of the Council meeting on	3-15

Halberton Parish Council Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held at Halberton Village Hall on Tuesday 13 May 2025 at 7.00pm

Present

Councillors Batchelor (Chair), Barnard-Taylor, Campbell, Fairclough (arrived late), Furmedge, 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.

Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

241-1 Election of the Chair for 2025/26

Councillor Graham proposed that Councillor Batchelor continue as Chair and this was seconded by Councillor Furmedge and this was unanimously agreed by those present. Councillor Batchelor accepted the office of Chair.

241-2 Election of the Vice Chair 2025/26

Councillor Campbell proposed that Councillor Furmedge continue as Vice-Chair and this was seconded by Councillor Graham and this was unanimously agreed by those present. Councillor Furmedge accepted the office of Vice Chair.

Apologies, Declarations, Public Form and Minutes

241-3 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Councillor Browse.

The Clerk advised that the new Devon County Council Councillor for Tiverton East, Neale Raleigh, did not have a DCC email address and had not known about the meeting.

The Chair advised the meeting that he wished to bring Item 19, Vacancies on the Parish Council forward.

241-19 Vacancies on the Parish Council

The Clerk had circulated a co-option application from Mr Colin Slade and Councillor Batchelor felt it appropriate, if appointed, to let Mr Slade participate in the meeting.

Councillor Campbell proposed that Mr Slade be co-opted onto the Parish Council as his knowledge of the workings of Mid Devon District Council and Devon County Council would be invaluable and this was seconded by Councillor Barnard-Taylor and this was unanimously agreed by those present.

Councillor Slade accepted the appointment and joined the meeting.

Action: Clerk to provide ROI and organise signing if the Declaration of Acceptance

Councillor Slade advised that Neale Raleigh would take up his position at the DCC meeting on 22 May 2025.

Given there were still vacancies on the Parish Council, a notice would continue to be published in the Newsletter.

Action: Clerk

241-4 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

241-5 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:

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- DCC Highways continued to dump earth on the piece of ground by the canal at Manley Bridge when clearing ditches rather than take it away. It appeared to be a policy change and had an impact on the verge and the wildflowers as well as the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.
- Road closures did not appear to be co-ordinated with two road closures preventing access to Tiverton, could the Parish Council contact DCC Highways.
- The Crown Hill planning application raised a number of concerns including conversations between the applicant and MDDC looking for MDDC to use the proposed development although it was now understood that this was not the case resulting in a reduction of parking spaces from 42 to 12 but the hard standing remaining in place. This raised questions as to the number of proposed vehicle movements with no traffic assessment plan being submitted. The proposed site is very close the canal and opposite the AD plant raising concerns not only over the impact on this historic asset but also the health and safety implications for workers. Access to the site down a single track lane and could be in conflict with heavy traffic to and from the AD Plant. Finally, the residential unit on site was tied to the sawmill and this had not been addressed in the planning application.
- A member of the public raised the question as to the whether the Parish Council would support a widening of an entrance by 2m on the High Street to accommodate agricultural vehicles.
It was noted that the Parish Council could only comment on applications in front of them.

241-6 To approve the minutes of the Council meeting on 8 April 2025

Councillor Barnard-Taylor proposed and Councillor Furmedge seconded the proposal that the minutes were a true record of the meeting and this was unanimously agreed by those present.

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

Standing Orders and Business of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

241-7 Nominations to Committees and Working Groups

The Clerk had provided the current make-up of each committee/working group as follows and the changes are noted below:

Joint Traffic Committee

Councillor Batchelor

Councillor Browse

Proposed addition – Councillor Slade

Newsletter Working Group

Councillor Graham

Proposed addition – Councillor Slade

IT Working Group

Councillor Campbell

Councillor Furmedge

Councillor Barnard-Taylor

Footpaths Working Group

Councillor Browse

Councillor Furmedge

Recreation and Amenities Working Group

Councillor Batchelor

Councillor Browse

Councillor Campbell

Proposed addition – Councillor Fairclough

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Road Wardens

Councillor Browse

Councillor Furmedge

Snow Warden

Councillor Batchelor

Proposed change – Councillor Campbell to replace Councillor Batchelor

Councillor Batchelor proposed and Councillor Slade seconded the proposal that the above changes take place and this was unanimously agreed by those present.

241-8 Representation on External Bodies

The Clerk has prepared a list of current councillor representatives as follows:

Grand Western Canal

Councillor Browse

Halberton Village Hall, Halberton Community Association and the Defibrillators

Councillor Graham

Police Advocate Scheme

Councillor Browse

Councillor Furmedge proposed and Councillor Slade seconded the proposal that the above appointments be confirmed and this was unanimously agreed by those present.

Councillor Slade advised that he could deputise for Councillor Browse, if required.

It was noted that Councillor Browse attended the Connecting the Culm meeting.

241-9 Power of Competence

Whilst it was noted that sufficient councillors had been elected in May 2023, the Clerk was still to complete her CILCA qualification. The training had been completed and was ongoing with the qualification.

241-10 Bank signatories

The signatories for Unity Trust Bank were:

Parish Council

Councillor Batchelor

Councillor Barnard-Taylor

Councillor Browse

Councillor Furmedge and

Councillor Graham

Halberton Children's Recreation Ground would move to the Unity Trust Bank once a business plan had been completed. The signatories would be:

Councillor Batchelor
Councillor Browse
Councillor Furmedge and
Councillor Graham

Councillor Furmedge proposed and Councillor Slade seconded the proposal that the signatories remain as is and this was unanimously agreed by those present.

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241-11 Review of Core Documents

The Clerk ran through the core documents required by law as follows:

Standing Orders

A new version of the Standing Orders had been circulated to Parish Council with changes to paragraphs 14 and 18 to bring them in the line with the revised Financial Regulations. It was RESOLVED to transpose the current parish council specific information from the existing standing orders.

Action: Clerk to circulate final document

Financial Regulations

The Parish Council had recently adopted the revised Financial Regulations and no further action was required.

Code of Conduct

There was no change to the Code of Conduct in place.

Publication Scheme

There was no change to the Publication Scheme in place.

Privacy Notice

There was no change to the Privacy Notice in place.

Equality and Diversity Policy

There was no change to the Equality and Diversity Policy in place.

Contract of Employment

The Clerk's contract of employment was in place.

Risk Management Scheme

The Clerk advised that updates were required accommodate the change to online banking authorisations.

Action: Clerk to bring revised document to the next meeting

Health and Safety Policy

There was no change to the Health and Safety Policy in place.

Website Accessibility Statement

There was no change to the Website Accessibility Statement in place.

Asset Register

The Clerk advised that updates were required to the risk register to reflect purchases in 2024/25.

Action: Clerk to bring revised document to the next meeting

Councillor Slade proposed and Councillor Furmedge seconded the proposal that the core documents be approved with the exception of those to be approved at the next meeting and this was unanimously agreed by those present.

Annual Review of Governance and Accounts

The Clerk advised that the accounts were with the internal auditor.

The AGAR forms would, therefore, be presented to the June meeting for approval and signature.

241-12 Internal Audit Report

The internal audit would be completed prior to the June meeting and the report presented to the Parish Council and confirmation of appointment agreed.

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241-13 Annual Governance Statement 2024/25

The Annual Governance Statement would be presented to the June meeting.

241-14 Accounting Statements 2024/25

The Accounting Statement would be presented to the June meeting.

General Council Business

241-15 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman thanked members of the Parish Council for re-appointing him as Chair and welcomed Councillor Slade to the Parish Council and thanked him for his work as the Parish Council's Devon County Council Councillor.

The Chair issued a welcome to the new Devon County Council Councillor, Neale Raleigh, and hoped to see him at the next meeting.

He thanked members of the Public for their attendance and looked forward to seeing them again at the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday, 15 May 2025.

241-16 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.

Councillor DuChesne understood that it had never been MDDC's intention to use the proposed new development at Crown Hill for any of its departments. The GWR Joint Advisory Committee would be submitting its objection.

Councillor DuChesne noted the loss of Frank Letch.

Councillor DuChesne was concerned that the new Planning and Infrastructure Bill would limit the role of Ward Councillors in planning decisions.

Councillor DuChesne noted the excellent recycling rate in Mid Devon. Councillor Furmedge acknowledge the excellent information circulated by MDDC.

Councillor DuChesne advised there was now a MDDC councillor for Community, People and Equalities.

MDDC's waste recycling unit was working extremely well and the amount of waste going to landfill had been reduced. It was understood, Government changes on recycling changes were awaited.

Councillor DuChesne had raised the cost of brown bins given that they were not really used during the winter months.

The Chairman put standing orders down so members of the Public could ask questions. No questions were asked and standing orders were reinstated and the Chairman thanked Councillor DuChesne for her work on behalf of the parish.

241-17 Devon County Council matters

Councillor Slade advised that no party had overall control of the County Council and appointments would be made on 22 May 2025 when he thought Councillor Brazil would be elected as leader. A collaborative approach would be required. Councillor Slade noted that 25 schools now offered free breakfast clubs.

241-18 Police Matters

Police Matters

Information had been circulated to Parish Councillors.

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Councillor Advocate Scheme

In the absence of Councillor Browse, no report was given.

241-20 Consideration of Mid Devon District Council's planning applications

Councillor Furmedge had circulated a compilation of the planning applications prior to the meeting and used this to address each application.

New applications:

25/00292/FULL

Proposal: Change of use of B2/B8 to Sui Generis to include the erection of office and store, detached double cart lodge for domestic use, replacement bat roosting building and associated works

Location: Crown Hill Timber Crown Hill Halberton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 299684 / 112870

Parish: Halberton 25

The Parish Council noted the comments and concerns received in the Public Forum and from residents via email.

The Parish Council was concerned as to the lack of information provided including:

- Outside of settlement
- Lack of adherence to planning policies
- Lack of clarity on purpose/use
- Traffic Statements and the actual numbers of traffic movements and impact on road safety together with a possible conflict with AD plant traffic
- Visual Splays
- Height of buildings
- Impact on the surrounding countryside and particularly the Grand Western Canal
- Achieving a bio-diversity net gain
- Impact on trees and root protection areas
- Residential unit tied to the premises/former timber yard
- Proximity to the AD Plant and associated health concerns (Environmental Agency)

The Clerk was asked to put together an objection statement and circulate it to members of the Parish Council for comment and subsequent submission on 14 May 2025.

Action: Clerk

The Parish Council RESOLVED to call the application in.

25/00367/LBC

Proposal: Listed Building Consent to re-thatch roof with water reed

Location: 91 High Street Halberton Tiverton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 301123 / 112854

Parish: Halberton 25

Following detailed discussion, the Parish Council resolved that it had no objections to this application despite the change from wheat to reed grass.

25/00475/HOUSE and 25/00476/LBC

Proposal: Erection of single storey extension to connect house to barn, erection of porch to north elevation, relocation of oil tank, removal of existing conservatory and internal/external alterations to doors and windows to house and barn

Location: Middle Coombe Farm Brithem Bottom Cullompton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 301056 / 110309

Parish: Halberton 25

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Following detailed discussion, the Parish Council RESOLVED that it had no objections to this application given the limited visibility to nearby residents.

25/00590/FULL

Proposal: Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 24/01026/FULL (Erection of 2 dwellings and garages following demolition of agricultural building to include formation of vehicular access and associated works) to allow substitute plans relating to additional roof light to each dwelling and changes to garage roofs

Location: Land and Buildings at NGR 298968 111744 Manley Farm Tiverton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 298948 / 111794

Parish: Halberton 25

The Parish Council noted that it had objected to the application preferring to see three small properties built. Given that MDDC had been mindful to approve the application, this variation was not significant and, therefore, the Parish Council RESOLVED to record that it had no objection to this application.

25/00431/HOUSE

Proposal: Erection of single storey front and rear extensions and external and internal alterations

Location: Cordwents Crown Hill Halberton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 300039 / 112593

Parish: Halberton 25

The Parish Council noted that there were no comments on the planning portal and given the location of the property RESOLVED that it had no objections to this application.

25/00622/PNCOU

Proposal: Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to 1 dwelling under Class Q

Location: Seckerleigh Farm Tiverton Devon

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 297326 / 109844

Parish: Halberton 25

Enforcement:

The Clerk had circulated details on an Enforcement Order that had been issued for Red Linhay by the Enforcement Team. An update was now awaited.

241-21 Consideration of Mid Devon District Council's Planning Decisions

The following decisions were noted:

25/00436/NMA – APPROVED – 2 May 2025

PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL AMENDMENT

Proposal: Non-Material Amendment for 24/01026/FULL to allow reduction in window sizes, change to timber cladding specification and change of roof specification

Location: Land and Buildings at NGR 298968 111744 Manley Farm Tiverton

241-22 Highways matters and the Road and Snow Warden Schemes

The Parish Council noted the information provided by the Clerk:

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

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c. Snow Warden Scheme

Councillor Batchelor now Councillor Campbell is the Parish Council's Snow Warden

d. Bollard on High Street

The broken bollard is being replaced.

e. Surface water at the pond

Reported to DCC – will look when it next rains.

f. Surface water at Chapel Close

Reported to DCC – will look when it next rains.

g. Tonnage signs on Willand to Halberton road

The signs have been turned round and DCC will rectify.

Councillor Batchelor asked that the Clerk write again to a property in Lower Town where the vegetation is forcing pedestrians into the road.

Action: Clerk

The Clerk advised that the 20mph signs had been turned around at the entrance to the High Street on the Sampford Peverell side and this would be reported to DCC Highways.

Action: Clerk

241-23 Amenity matters

The Parish Council noted the information provided by the Clerk as follows:

a. Platinum Jubilee Car Park

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

b. Footpaths

The PROW payment (£360.00) for 2024-25 had been received.

c. Cemetery

Action list:

- Open up the shed and review contents (Councillor Batchelor)
- Clean/repair benches
- Complete letters on grave lowering
- Completer letters on memorial stone audit
- Install noticeboard (Councillor Batchelor)

The broken fencing had been mended and the hedge height taken down as requested by the ground maintenance team.

Councillor Batchelor noted that the items on the action list needed to be completed.

Action: Clerk to provide quotes for recyclable benches

Councillor Slade asked that the gates be put back on the list as they required cleaning again.

Action: Councillor Batchelor and the Clerk to obtain quotes for sand blasting and re-painting.

d. Defibrillators

The defibrillators were all in working order and a training session had been arranged by Ash Thomas Village Hall.

Action: Councillor Graham/Clerk

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e. The Orchard Car Park

The Clerk understood that four car parking permits had been approved with effect from 1 May 2025 leaving one space unoccupied.

Action: Clerk to liaise with MDDC

f. Ground Maintenance

The Clerk had asked that the permissive paths be cut on request rather than every month to reduce costs. The Greenway path would be cut this month.

Councillor Graham requested that further work be done at the Pond Area.

Action: Clerk

g. Parish Maps

The maps have been received and a further update would be required if the Footpath 7 extensions A & B were approved which was looking increasingly likely.

Action: Clerk to monitor.

h. Postbox at Pethertons

Request to re-instate post box has been refused – this has been challenged and a response awaited.

i) Pond Area

See Ground Maintenance above, further work required.

241-24 Recreation and Amenities Working Group

The Clerk reported as follows:

a. The Mead

A request to use the football pitch had been received from Cullompton Rangers junior team.

Action: Clerk to set up a meeting

Actions:

Quotes for the footpath from the car park to The Mead.

Quotes for potential teenage equipment for the area.

b. Community Growing Area

Councillor Campbell advised that the first crops had been planted.

A key issue was the availability of water.

Action: Councillor Campbell to provide the Clerk with pictures who would write to DCC regarding possible option and Southwest Water regarding costs of installation.

S106 funding totalling £1205.00 is available.

Action: Clerk to submit application

c. Halberton Children's Recreation Ground

i) The installation of the new equipment was complete. An opening ceremony should be arranged.

Action: Councillor Batchelor/Campbell to provide Clerk with a date

ii) monthly safety report

Councillor Campbell was carrying out the monthly safety reports.

iii) ROSPA report

Councillor Campbell advised that the fencing required repairing.

d. Fund raising

There was a shortfall on the play equipment.

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e. Mid Devon Wildlife Warden Scheme

f. Ideas for solar farm cooperation

Items e. and f. would be taken off the agenda until there was actions to be taken.

241-25 Community items

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

Councillor Furmedge advised that work was ongoing on the migration and approach for shared data.

Councillor Furmedge would contact all councillors to ensure that emails were working.

b. Anaerobic Digester Liaison Committee

The Parish Council that new planning applications may delay the meeting.

Action: Clerk awaiting response

c. Flies in Halberton

EHO notice in place – update from Health Officer circulated to councillors.

d. Emergency Plan

The Clerk is liaising with Councillor Batchelor to put together a draft plan updating the existing plan to the new format. A meeting will be held for residents and funding applied for.

e. Neighbourhood Plan

Funding is available to start the process of an neighbourhood plan (£10,000). The Clerk was hoping to organise a meeting with a planning consultant who could outline the processes.

f. Signs for Footpaths

Awaiting third quote and looking to ensure all fittings are correct.

g. Parking in the Lower Town

No further update

241-26 Newsletter Working Group

The Clerk had circulated information on the status of the Newsletter Working Group together with the minutes of the meeting held on 6 May 2025.

The Working Group were happy to move to Advisory Committee status which would require the Parish Council delegating the content of the magazine to the Clerk.

Revised Terms of Reference would be brought to the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

Issue 179 would go to print on 20 May 2025.

Councillor Batchelor asked that more robust delivery system be put in place to ensure continued distribution when regular volunteers were unavailable.

241-27 Traffic

The Parish Council noted the report on the agenda as follows:

Flashing lights at the school in Lower Town
Clerk awaiting date to pick up lorry sign.

Action: Clerk to monitor

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The pavement at Church Path
Ongoing

VAS units

Councillor Furmedge gave a short presentation on the April data collection.
The solar panels had meant the batteries had not needed to be manually charged.
Councillor Furmedge had not received the spare batteries/chargers and keys.

Potential pavement at The Hickory Inn
Nothing to report

Lorries on the Halberton to Willand road
Ongoing

Lorries between Halberton and Brithem Bottom
Ongoing

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.

Portable Air Quality Monitor

Councillor Furmedge

- Propose only report/agenda item if progress being made

241-28 Financial accounts

a. Financial report for the year 2024/25

The internal audit is being undertaken and will be reported at the June meeting together with the AGAR paperwork.

Year-end figures from Scribe had been circulated to Parish Councillors prior to this meeting and the accounts would be published on the website.

Councillor Batchelor noted that most items were within budget and that there was no significant overspend and thanked the Clerk for her work on a setting the budget and managing it.

The Clerk was authorised to undertake an analysis of the Utility Warehouse bills.

b. Financial report for the year 2025/26 (April)

A request to publish the budget information has been received and the document will be placed on the website.

Current account

Opening balance 31/3/25	£ 4631.60	
Receipts		
Newsletter	£ 835.00	
Precept	£19450.00	
Utility Warehouse	£ 691.87	£20976.87

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Payments

Service Charge		-6.00	
B/P to: DALC	HALBERTON 6473	-603.71	
B/P to: R Saunders	SCHOOL GATE	-70.00	
B/P to: Rob Furmedge	CLOUD/FASTHOSTS	-48.00	
B/P to: HMRC	070/AZ13079	-140.28	
B/P to: Mrs S McGeever	WAGES MAR 24	-643.13	
B/P to: Brightsea Print	HALB-INV 113598	-926.00	
B/P to: Upcott	Mar-25	-910.00	
B/P to: DCC	14586/55300817	-37.50	
B/P to: DCC	14586/55300816	-37.50	
B/P to: Stanbury Rural	0788/17/3/25	-2049.22	
B/P to: Culm Valley CT	HALBERTON	-40.00	
B/P to: Playsafety Ltd	HALBE001 86237	-96.00	
		-	
Transfer to 20502397		15000.00	
Direct Debit (MDDC DIRECT DEBITS)	1277346	-42.14	
			-20649.48

Closing balance 30/04/25 **£ 4958.99**

Reserve account

Opening balance 31/03/25	£20154.22
Receipts	
Transfer	£15000.00
Payments	
Closing balance 30/04/25	£35154.22

The cumulative bank reconciliation form produced in Scribe would be brought to the meeting to be signed by Chairman.

c. Payments to approve (Council):

Komplan (playground)	£13672.78
Upcott (ground maintenance)	£ 830.00
S McGeever (wages)	£ 679.30
HMRC (PAYE/NI)	£ 234.38

C Graham (newsletter)	£ 50.00
Google (workspace)	£ 38.20
R Saunders (cemetery repairs)	£ 110.00
Devon County Council (Mead rent)	£ 75.00

Councillor Furmedge proposed and Councillor Slade seconded the proposal that the above payments be made.

Action: Clerk

d. Halberton Children's Recreation Ground

Bank accounts ongoing.

e. Unity Debit Card

Re-submitted

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f. Clerk Review

Date to be set in June.

g. Utility Warehouse

See above re analysis of bills.

The appointment of a new supplier – Valda Energy – had been completed.

241-29 Members business including meetings attended, and miscellaneous matters (not for decision)

Nothing to report.

241-30 Items for next meeting

None.

241-31 Meeting dates for 2025/26

The Parish Council would continue to meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Dates for 2025/26

Parish Council meetings

10 June 2025	8 July 2025
12 August 2025	9 September 2025
14 October 2025	11 November 2025
9 December 2025	13 January 2026
10 February 2026	10 March 2026
14 April 2026	12 May 2026

Annual Parish Meeting

14 May 2026

Two meetings a year would be held at Ash Thomas.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Date: _____

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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	16 - 17

a. To receive a report from the MDDC Council Member

Planning

At time of writing (1st June) the Tidcombe Hall enquiry is in full flow. The hearing will continue Tuesday and Wednesday and conclude on Thursday 5th June, then the deliberations will take place. It could be many months before we receive a decision.

25/00660/MFUL | Erection of an agricultural livestock building (1544 sqm)

This is a new application – May 2025 which seems, in part, to be designed to address the fly issues.

VE Day

In addition to ordinary meetings & Cabinet meetings I attended the Victory in Europe (VE) Day ceremony held outside Phoenix House 8 May. Children of all ages were invited to design a colourful, vibrant poster that captured the spirit of celebration. The winner received a commemorative flag and a fish and chip supper for the family!

MDDC Cabinet

Cabinet members, along with senior officers form the leadership team have extra responsibilities. As a result of the Devon County Election and assignment of Cabinet responsibilities our MDDC Cabinet make up has changed.

Following their appointments to the Devon County Council Cabinet Cllrs Simon Clist and James Buczkowski have stepped down from their MDDC Council roles. Cllr James Buczkowski is now Devon County Council's Cabinet Member for Finance. Cllr Simon Clist is now Devon County Council's Cabinet Member for Assets and Resources. Below is the new Cabinet Team, which underscores its commitment to the Council's Corporate Plan 2024-2028 and the priorities of local communities.

Full list of Mid Devon District Council Cabinet Members and roles.

Cllr Luke Taylor, Bradninch: Leader of the Council

Cllr Natasha Bradshaw, Upper Culm: Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change.

Cllr John Downes, Crediton Boniface: Cabinet Member for Governance Finance and Risk.

Cllr Gwen Duchesne MBE, Halberton : Cabinet Member for Parish and Community Engagement.

Cllr Matt Fletcher, Cullompton Vale: Cabinet Member for People Development

Cllr Steve Keable, Taw Vale: Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration

Cllr Jane Lock, Cannonsleigh: Cabinet Member for Housing, Assets and Property Service

Cllr Josh Wright, Silverton : Cabinet Member for Service Delivery and Continuous Improvement

Cllr David Wulff, Tiverton Castle: Deputy Leader, Cabinet Member for Quality of Living, Equalities and Public Health

MDDC election results

Martyn Stratton was elected Liberal Democrat representative for Clare and Shuttern ward

An election for the vacancy for **Crediton and Lawrence** will take place 26 June.

State of the District Debate: Evening of 17th July

The Council will run an event at Phoenix House similar to that in 2024 to include the subject of Local Government Reorganisation. Details will be announced soon.

Positive posts

Something to celebrate: Our community centres are pretty spectacular and rank highly against others. A social value report shows us to be in the top 25% of the country and a value added survey shows that they equate to £4.2 million pa.

A big well done to all of us. Did you know that we in MDDC rank 12 nationally for our recycling? The money generated is around £1million – which off sets other costs. It's brilliant news – a big **WELL DONE TO US ALL!**

If you visit the MDDC portal you can get a waste reminder which will send you an email each week to let you know which bins to put out.

[My Mid Devon](#)

Energy Boost Mid Devon

Energy Boost Mid Devon is a partnership project between ECOE Advice and mid Devon District Council. Funded by the Council's climate change and sustainability budget, it boosts expert advice available to Mid Devon homes and it provides a £15,000 Energy Efficiency Fund to help those who can least afford the home improvements. Call the free ECOE Advice helpline 0800 772 3617 or email healthyhomes@ecoadvice.org.uk for impartial energy advice. See <https://sustainablemiddevon.org.uk/events-and-news/energy-boost-mid-devon/>.

MDDC Green Enterprise Grants

This new scheme offers capital grants from £500 to £5,000, covering up to 50% of eligible project costs. It is open to small and medium sized local businesses who want to reduce their carbon footprint. Projects should be fast to deliver and ready to go and must have a maximum project budget below £25,000. Further details at: <https://letstalk.middevon.gov.uk/green-enterprise-grants-2025>

Splash into Summer

Paddling pools at Westex Park, Tiverton (and Newcombes Meadow Crediton) reopened Friday 23 May. Mid Devon District Council is significantly investing in **Active Tiverton** (formally Exe Valley Leisure Centre) with upgrades to its poolside changing facilities – expected to be completed by 6 June when there will be a fresh modern and more comfortable environment.

Gwen DuChesne
GDuChesne@middevon.gov.uk

b. Grand Western Canal Group (Councillor Browse)
Report at the meeting.

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
7	Devon County Council matters To receive a report from the DCC Council Member	18

The Clerk has emailed Neale Raleigh who is the new Devon District Councillor for Tiverton East and Mr Raleigh will be attending the meeting and giving a verbal update.

The following information is available on the DCC website.

Correspondence address:

c/o County Hall
Topsham Road
Exeter
Devon
EX2 4QD

Email: neale.raleigh@devon.gov.uk

Committee appointments

- [Council](#)
- [Mid Devon Highways and Traffic Orders Committee](#) (Vice-Chair)
- [Public Rights of Way Committee](#)

Term of Office

02/05/2025 - 03/05/2029

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
8	Police matters To consider any correspondence from the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Council Advocate Scheme	19

Police Matters

Information circulated to Parish Councillors

Councillor Advocate Scheme

Councillor Browse to report

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
9	Vacancies on the Parish Council To consider and, if agreed, approve any applications received.	20

All paperwork for Councillor Slade has been completed and MDDC notified.
No new applicants have come forward.

A call for councillors was included in the latest Newsletter.
Would it be worthwhile to put posters up on the Noticeboards?

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
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.	21 - 22

New applications:

25/00590/FULL

Proposal: Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 24/01026/FULL (Erection of 2 dwellings and garages following demolition of agricultural building to include formation of vehicular access and associated works) to allow substitute plans relating to additional roof light to each dwelling, variations to windows and doors and changes to garage roofs

Location: Land and Buildings at NGR 298968 111744 Manley Farm Tiverton Devon

Grid Ref: 298948 : 111794

Parish: Halberton 25

Change of Description and Revised Drawings

The change compared with the original consultation is that the rear lounge doors are windows.

Deadline for comments: 2 June 2025 – extension to 11 June 2025

25/00292/FULL

Proposal: Change of use of B2/B8 to Sui Generis to include the erection of office and store, detached double cart lodge for domestic use, replacement bat roosting building and associated works

Location: Crown Hill Timber Crown Hill Halberton Tiverton

Grid Ref: 299684 : 112870

Parish: Halberton 25

Deadline for comments: 4 June 2025 – extension to 11 June 2025

25/00660/MFUL

Proposal: Erection of an agricultural livestock building

Location: Land at NGR 300663 112446 Bycott Farm Lower Town Halberton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 300682 / 112516

Parish: Halberton 25

Deadline for comments: 17 June 2025

25/00714/FULL

Proposal: Erection of slurry store with building with fitted flexible cover

Location: Land at NGR 298773 109325 Oburnford Farm Cullompton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 298732 / 109290

Parish: Halberton 25

Deadline for comments: 23 June 2025

25/00622/PNCOU

Proposal: Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to 1 dwelling under Class Q

Location: Seckerleigh Farm Tiverton Devon

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 297326 / 109844

Parish: Halberton 25

INFORMATION ONLY**25/00668/PNCOU**

Proposal: Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to indoor sport, recreation or fitness use (Class E)

Location: Building at NGR 301845 112550 (Watton Farm) Halberton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 301877 / 112612

Parish: Halberton 25

INFORMATION ONLY**25/00745/PNCOU**

Proposal: Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to 1 dwelling under Class Q

Location: The Pethers Crown Hill Halberton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 299994 / 112558

Parish: Halberton 25

INFORMATION ONLY**Enforcement**

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

There are currently 13 enforcement issues in the parish of Halberton. Two meetings have been held with the enforcement officer. A request for an update on Enforcement has been requested.

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
11	Consideration of Mid Devon District Council's Planning Decisions	23

The following decisions have been received:

25/00542/PNDEM – APPROVED – 9 May 2025

Proposal: Prior Notification for the demolition of an agricultural barn

Location: Land and Buildings at NGR 297367 109834 Seckerleigh Farm Tiverton Devon

24/01658/FULL – REFUSAL – 16 May 2025

Proposal: Erection of a detached garage and stables

Location: Land at NGR 301608 112527 The Cottage Halberton Devon

25/00246/FULL – APPROVED 19 May 2025

Proposal: Change of use from agricultural land to B8 open storage yard and associated hardstanding, fencing, lighting, drainage works and biodiversity net gain habitat enhancement

Location: Land at NGR 305296 112051 Anthony Way Hitchcocks Business Park Uffculme

25/00482/FULL – APPROVED – 21 May 2025

Proposal: Retention for the use of first floor gym and office as ancillary accommodation

Location: Langlands Farm Uffculme Cullompton Devon

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
12	Highways matters and the Road and Snow Warden Schemes	24

a. Potholes

Repairs continue to take place across the Parish.

b. Road Warden Scheme

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

Councillor Furmedge – strimmer training on hold awaiting response from P3 scheme

Lower Town pavements etc.

Update on work undertaken, clearing area as you come into the High Street, working party and letters

c. Snow Warden Scheme

Councillor Campbell

d. Bollard on High Street

The broken bollard is being replaced.

e. Surface water at the pond

Reported to DCC – will look when it next rains.

f. Surface water at Chapel Close

g. Tonnage signs on Willand to Halberton road

The signs have been turned round and DCC will rectify.

h. Speed limit signs

The signs have been turned round and DCC will rectify.

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
13	Amenity matters	25 - 26

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

Awaiting update on EV Charges

b. Footpaths

Councillor Furmedge – nothing to report

Clerk – confirmation of footpaths 7a and 7b awaited – new map will then be produced

c. Cemetery

i) Grave lowering completed

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) Gravel pathways

Councillor Batchelor to report

v) Benches

The following companies provide economical recycled benches. Cost depends on size and type:

[Benches and Seats](#)

[Recycled Plastic Park Benches - Recycled Bench Seats - Glasdon UK](#)

[Sustainable Benches | DCW Polymers Ltd](#)

This last company is based at Marsh Barton and the Parish Council have purchased their benches before.

d. Defibrillators

Update from Councillor Graham.

Action: Councillor Graham/Clerk

e. The Orchard Car Park

Four of the five spaces have been taken.

A notice will be put up on the car park railings advertising the final space.

Is another mail drop required?

f. Ground Maintenance

The Clerk has circulated the work undertaken in May to the Parish Council.

Consideration to be given to the need to continue to cut grass during the winter months.

g. Postbox at Pethertons

Request to re-instate post box has been refused – this has been challenged.

h) Pond Area

Update

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
14	Recreation and Amenities Working Group	27

Councillors Batchelor, Browse, Campbell and Fairclough to raise any issues relating to:

a. The Mead

Football Team

Footpath from Platinum Jubilee Car Park to Mead

Teenage equipment

b. Community Growing Area

Article for DCC

Submission for S106 monies.

c. Halberton Children's Recreation Ground

i) Opening of new equipment

Decision on additional insurance.

ii) monthly safety report

iii) ROSPA report actions

Report on fencing

Report on the ROSPA inspection.

d. Fund raising

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report Pages
15	Community items	28

To consider any other community matters.

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

- short presentation
- update on status of migration

b. Anaerobic Digester Liaison Committee
New application may delay meeting.

Action: Clerk awaiting response

c. Flies in Halberton
EHO notice in place

d. Emergency Plan
The Clerk is liaising with Councillor Batchelor to put together a draft plan updating the existing plan to the new format. A meeting will be held for residents and funding applied for.

e. Neighbourhood Plan
Clerk organising a meeting of Parish Councils with a planning consultant and Devon Communities Together

f. Signs for Footpaths
Awaiting third quote and looking to ensure all fittings are correct.

g. Parking in the Lower Town
No further update

h. Government Planning Reforms
Councillor Furmedge - short presentation
Should Halberton Parish Council make representation?
Links to Neighbourhood Plan and MDCC Training on 28 July 2025

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
16	Newsletter Advisory Committee	29

Councillor Graham and Councillor Slade

Issue 179 had been published and distributed

Ratify decision to move to Advisory Committee and delegate content to the Clerk

Approval of updated Terms of Reference

Next meeting : 1 July 2025

Next issue: 180 August/September

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
17	Traffic	30

Joint Traffic Group: Councillor Batchelor, Browse and Slade

Ongoing Halberton matters:

Flashing lights at the school in Lower Town

Awaiting date to pick up sign

Purchase of school signs

Action: Clerk

The pavement at Church Path

Ongoing

VAS units (Councillor Furmedge)

- Review of April data collection

Potential pavement at The Hickory Inn

Ongoing

Lorries on the Halberton to Willand road

Ongoing

Rose Cottage Bridge

As and when re-surfaced

Lorries between Halberton and Brithem Bottom

Ongoing

Community Speed Watch

Councillor Browse has undertaken the training.

Action: Councillor Browse/Clerk to organise a meeting

Portable Air Quality Monitor

Councillor Furmedge

- No progress this month

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Item		Report pages
22	Financial accounts 2025/26	31-32

a. Financial report for the year 2025/26

Current account

Opening balance 01/05/25 £ 4958.99

Payments

31-May-25	Service Charge	-6.00	
		-	
27-May-25	Kompan - recreation ground	13672.78	
27-May-25	Carol Graham - newsletter	-50.00	
27-May-25	R Saunders - cemetery	-110.00	
27-May-25	Mrs S McGeever - wages	-679.30	
27-May-25	Upcott - ground maintenance Apr	-830.00	
27-May-25	DCC COUNTY FUND	-75.00	
27-May-25	HMRC - PAYE	-234.38	
01-May-25	Direct Debit (MDDC DIRECT DEBITS)	-43.00	
01-May-25	Direct Debit (MDDC DIRECT DEBITS)	-19.25	-15719.71

Receipts

PROW	£ 360.00	
Newsletter	£ 156.50	
Cemetery	£ 35.00	
Utility Warehouse	£ 1246.45	
Transfer	£15000.00	16797.95

Closing balance 31/05/25 £6037.23

Reserve account

Opening balance 01/05/25 £35154.22

Receipts

Payments

Transfer £15000.00

Closing balance 31/05/25 £20154.22

The cumulative bank reconciliation form produced in Scribe would be brought to the meeting to be signed by Chairman.

b. Payments to approve (Council):

Google (Workspace)	£ 15.28
Upcott (grass maintenance)	£1200.00
Source for Business	£ 26.35
HMRC (PAYE/NI)	£ 234.58*

S McGeever (Wages)	£ 679.10
C Graham (Newsletter)	£ 50.00

*Clerk to contact HMRC as letter received to say account in credit by £166.91.

Valda Energy – Direct Debit in place £19.40 (2/6/25)

Other matters:

Devon Communities Together - should the Parish Council join (£50 per annum)

b. Halberton Children’s Recreation Ground

Bank accounts

c. Unity Debit Card

Re-submitted

d. Clerk Review

Update Councillors Batchelor/Furmedge

e. Utility Warehouse

Review of all invoices to be carried out.

See rebate of £1246.45

f. Valda Energy

Direct debit set up

First payment £19.40