



Hemyock Parish Council

25 February 2026

To: All Members of Hemyock Parish Council

Dear Councillor

You are duly summoned to attend a meeting of **Hemyock Parish Council** to be held at The Healthy Living & Activities Centre, Riverside, Hemyock on **Wednesday, 4 March 2026**. The meeting is open to the press and the public.

Yours sincerely
Susan McGeever
Parish Clerk

AGENDA

ITEM		REPORT PAGE
1	Apologies for absence	N/A
2	Declarations of Interest/Dispensations	3
3	Public Participation (limited to 10 minutes, 2 minutes per question)	N/A
4	To approve the minutes of the meeting on 4 February 2026	4-15
5	Chairman's Announcements	N/A
6	Finance	16-18
7	Planning 25/0731/MOUT Land At Abbey Road Dunkeswell - Outline application for residential development for up to 65 dwellings (all matters reserved except for access) Link - 25/0731/MOUT Outline application for residential development for up to 65 dwellings (all matters reserved except for access) Land At Abbey Road Dunkeswell This application was refused by EDDC last July and has just gone to appeal. Appeal reference - APP/U1105/W/26/3377572. Link: Reference: APP/U1105/W/26/3377572 Appeals: 25/01113/FULL Proposal: Reinstatement of existing building to dwelling (Class C3) with associated alterations, landscaping and parking Location: Land at NGR 312090 115702 Culm Davy Hemyock Devon Appeal Ref: 6005161 Appellants Name: Mr J Rogers Link: Appeal open for comment - Comment on a planning appeal - GOV.UK	19

8	Asset Management Reports Longmead War memorial Cemetery Blackdown Healthy Living and Activities Centre The Parish Store The Commons Public Conveniences Car Park Village Maintenance Ground Maintenance	20-22
9	Project Reports Community Land (Cavanna) Station Road Pavement Connecting the Culm/DRIP Skatepark Assistance for the Clerk Building Maintenance	23
10	Community Matters Garages Youth Project Hemyock Community Larder Footpaths (P3)	24
11	Highways	25
12	Police Matters Crime Councillor Advocate Scheme	26
13	MDDC Report Report from Councillor Clist	N/A
14	DCC Report Report from Councillor Clist	N/A
15	Public Relations	27
16	Clerk update/correspondence	28
17	Matters raised by Councillors/meetings attended (not for decision)	N/A
18	Items for the next agenda	N/A
19	Date of the next meeting	29

This agenda displayed on the noticeboards provides the topics that will be under discussion at the next Parish Council meeting.

The full agenda published on the Parish Council website includes all the reports listed on this agenda ([Meetings & Agendas - 2026 - Hemyock Parish Council](#)) or a copy can be obtained from the Clerk (clerk@hemyockparish.gov.uk).

ITEM		PAGE
2	Declarations of Interest/Dispensations	3

To receive any declarations of interest relating to business to be conducted at this meeting and
To consider any dispensation requests and confirm any relevant dispensations.

- Agenda Item 7 Planning – Mr Clist is a member of the planning committee of Mid Devon District Council and chooses not to participate in any planning application consultation.
- Agenda item 8 Asset Management Reports - Mr Doble and Mr Ward may have a personal interest as both are members of Longmead Management Committee

ITEM		PAGE
4	To approve the minutes of the meeting on 4 February 2026	4-15

Hemyock Parish Council
Meeting of the Parish Council
held at Blackdown Healthy Living & Activity Centre, Hemyock at 7.30pm on 4 February 2026

Present

Councillors P Doble (Chair), Atkinson, A Doble, Parish, District & County Councillor Clist, Councillors Moon, Povah and Ward together with Mrs S McGeever (Clerk).

Councillor Doble opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were approved for Councillors Madge, Moon, Summers and Talbot.

2. Declarations of Interest/Dispensations

Councillor Clist as a member of Mid Devon District Council and Devon County Council chooses not to participate in any planning application consultations.

Councillors P Doble and Ward were both members of Longmead Management Committee and Councillor P Doble was a Trustee of the BHLAC.

3. Public Participation

Members of the public raised the following points:

- Litter picking

A group of 12 volunteers would undertake litter picking in the village. All risk assessments had been completed.

- Grass at St Margaret's Brook

Works appeared to have taken place including the installation of a new telegraph pole

- State of the roads/drains

Clearing of drains and repairs to potholes should be prioritised

- Play Park

Further repairs were necessary

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting on 7 January 2026

PROPOSAL: The council minutes of 7 January are approved as a true record of the meeting.

PROPOSER: Councillor Ward

SECONDER: Councillor Atkinson

It was RESOLVED by those who had been present at the meeting that the minutes were a true record of the meeting, and they were duly initialled and signed by the Chair.

5. Chair's Announcements

The Chair thanked Mr I Pike for his work around the village.

The Chair also thanked all those who had been involved in the MUGA and replacing grit in the bins around the village.

The Chair put forward the suggestion that the Annual Parish Meeting be held at Longmead. Prior to the meeting, there would be an opportunity to meet the sport's club and walk Open Spaces. The meeting would be followed by a picnic.

6. Finance

In the absence of Councillor Summers, the Clerk ran through the financial information provided:

6.1 To agree income and expenditure and bank reconciliations:

The information reflects the bank transactions to 31/01/2026.

INCOME (to 31 January 2026)

	January
Account ending 1298	5850.00
Cemetery £850	
Transfer £5000	
Account ending 1308	0.00
Account ending 1311	0.00
Account ending 1324	
Pizza van	£20
Cemetery	

EXPENDITURE – Invoices received 2025/26**Payments made in January to 31/01/26**

02-Jan-26	Direct Debit (MDDC DIRECT DEBITS)	1251581	-53.00	
05-Jan-26	Direct Debit (HUSQVARNA UK LIMIT)	8QNN4F.Z10000M6GH0	-437.29	
05-Jan-26	Direct Debit (VALDA ENERGY LIMIT)	VALDAENERGY	-165.32	
05-Jan-26	Direct Debit (VALDA ENERGY LIMIT)	VALDAENERGY	-29.24	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: Mrs S M McGeever	EXPENSES	-54.50	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: I R Pike	CEMETERY GRASS	-334.50	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: e ingledew	P COUNCIL	-171.00	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: Mrs S M McGeever	WAGES DEC25	-976.64	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: hmrc cumbernauld	120PW00334133	-364.78	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: Chrissie Parker	HPC/0010	-169.31	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: NALC	1096	-42.00	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: woodquist	HEMYOCK COUNCIL	-282.00	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: Starboard Systems	HEMYOCK 12541	-792.00	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: blackdown healthy	INVOICE 1490	-1516.00	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: sutcliffe	7701	-1581.18	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: c houghton	HEMYOCK 9.12.25	-19.50	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: dalc	7069	-84.00	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: Enerveo	900059178	-462.00	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: pennon water	1699492101	-29.10	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: pennon water servi	5017292201	-73.02	
13-Jan-26	B/P to: Mrs S M McGeever	ANNUAL PARISH MEET	-41.14	-7677.52
29-Jan-25	Direct Debit (HUSQVARNA UK LIMIT)		-437.29	
31-Jan-26	Service Charge		9.00	-8123.81

Invoices to pay for January (approval at February meeting):

Rates:

Car Park £636.23 1 x £53.23 11 x £53.00 Amount payable £636.23
(Direct Debit)

The Parish Council reviewed the invoices for payment listed below:

PROPOSAL 1: As previously agreed, the MUGA invoice would be paid on completion of the works as per the contract.

PROPOSER: Councillor Clist

SECONDER: Councillor Atkinson

DECISION: All in favour

PROPOSAL 2: All remaining invoices should be paid.

PROPOSER: Councillor Doble

SECONDER: Councillor Ward

DECISION: In favour, one abstention related to contractors being financial involved with a councillor.

No	Amount	Payee	Reason
1.	256.00	I Pike	Cemetery maintenance Village maintenance
2.	162.00	E Ingledew	Public Convenience
3.	6.00	S McGeever	Giff Gaff subscription
4.	15.99	S McGeever	Google play
5.	997.86	S McGeever	Wages
6.	373.94	HMRC	PAYE/NI
7.	33.75	S McGeever	Mileage
8.	26.00	S McGeever	Expenses
9.	437.29	Husqvarna DD	Robot mowers
10.	29.96	Valda DD	Electricity – public convenience
11.	115.59	C Parker	Inventory
12.	16.00	BHLAC	Meeting room
13.	110.00	RBL	Wreath
14.	106.87	Valda DD	Longmead
15.	470.00	N Page	Footpaths Autumn
16.	323.00	N Page	Footpaths Spring
17.	46.40	Police Crime Commissioner Devon and Cornwall	Collision information
18.	380.00	Hearne Electrical	Public convenience refurbishment
19.	67964.40	DCM Surfaces	90% of MUGA resurfacing
20.	505.93	Netball UK	New netball posts
21.	86.82	S McGeever	Fencing for cemetery

The
ICO

direct debit for £52.00 was collected on 5 February 2026.

Bank Reconciliations

The January statements for Unity Trust Bank provided the following information:

Bank account	Closing balance 31/12/2025	Monies in	Monies out	Closing balance 31/01/2026
Unity Trust Bank current 298	9196.20	5850.00	8123.81	6922.39
Unity Trust Bank deposit	111668.86	20.00	5000.00	106688.86
Unity Trust Bank GF	770.71			770.71
Unity Trust Bank P3	1334.72			1334.72

Given the delay in receiving some of the bank statements, the bank reconciliation report (all accounts) for January 2026 would be brought to the February 2026 meeting.

The ten-month budget report based on transactions through Unity Trust Bank was provided to Parish Councillors. There were no questions raised. All other accounts were savings accounts and no part of day to day transactions.

Page 307

6.2 Precept

The Precept paperwork has been submitted.

As the Band D charge had increased by more than £20, MDDC had required the Parish Council to provide a reason to the government for the increase.

The Parish Council noted Hemyock was the largest centre and facilities were used by outlying villages. Local Government Reorganisation could see the Parish Council take on further non-statutory assets to preserve them for residents.

The following statement was agreed:

Hemyock Parish Council RESOLVED to raise its precept from £98000 to £123000 for 2026/27 after taking into consideration the increasing costs associated with the maintenance its assets including but not limited to Longmead Pavilion (including playing fields, MUGA, play park and tennis courts), the Blackdown Healthy Living and Activities Centre, the Garages and Cemetery. These facilities are widely used by residents both in Hemyock and surrounding villages. The Parish Council also considered the potential impact of Local Government Reorganisation and the ongoing

discussion regarding the possible acquisition of Mid Devon District Council's non-statutory assets in the parish and the need to take on non-statutory services. The Parish Council is also responsible for Open Spaces and commons.

6.3 To receive an update on the application for bank cards (Financial Regulations)

Update – the Clerk had just been advised that the bank require two years accounts before processing the application.

6.4 To receive an update on the change of key contact for Unity Trust Bank and changes for other bank accounts

Changes to the accounts can only take place by signatories.

Action: Clerk to seek clarification from DALC over the feasibility of the Clerk being a signatory to facilitate changes to the bank accounts.

In the absence of Councillor Summers, the following information was recorded:

HSBC – Update from Councillor Summers (online access required for the Clerk)

Cambridge Building Society – signatory work ongoing

Nationwide – verification of accounts ongoing

Skipton Building Society – address change achieved / signatory work ongoing

United Trust Bank – Councillor Summers setting up online banking

Unity Trust Bank – deleting signatory work ongoing

6.5 To receive information on S106 monies

There is £5,358 available in S106 largely related to Landscaping and provision of park furniture at Higher and Lower Millhayes Open Spaces. These open spaces are currently non-statutory assets attributed to MDDC.

The possibility of using these funds for a sensory garden at the BHLAC would be investigated.

The funds should be used by the end of the 2026 financial year.

An update is awaited on other S106 matters from MDDC who are awaiting further information from developers.

6.6 To receive requests for grants

- Mid Devon Mobility - forms awaited

7. Planning

7.1 To consider the following applications:-

Councillor Povah advised that he had not prepared a report given that both applications were simple to assess:

Page 308

26/00017/HOUSE

Proposal: Erection of single storey extension following demolition of existing lean to extension; replacement canopy to west elevation; demolition of existing garage; erection of carport/workshop

Location: Culm Pyne House Hemyock Cullompton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 313795 / 114846

Parish: Hemyock 26

PROPOSAL: The Parish Council is content with this application.

PROPOSER: Councillor Doble

SECONDER: Councillor Atkinson

DECISION: In favour with Councillor Clist abstaining

24/01565/FULL

Proposal: Erection of chapel of rest, associated facilities and double garage following partial demolition of existing building

Location: Pring & Son Funeral Directors, Hemyock Cullompton

Grid Ref: 312775 : 113446

Parish: Hemyock 26

The Parish Council noted the changes to the application and the comments by the Tree Officer in relation to the oak trees. It was possible that a Tree Preservation Order would restrict access to the site.

The National Planning Policy Framework called for local rural employment and this application would provide for employment/

PROPOSAL: The Parish Council is content with this application.

PROPOSER: Councillor Ward

SECONDER: Councillor A Doble

DECISION: In favour with Councillor Clist abstaining.

Revised drawings – deadline for comments 11 February 2026

7.2 To receive the following decision notices/appeal decisions:-

No decision notices have been received.

7.3 To receive information regarding enforcement issues:

Any update from Enforcement would be dependent on if action has been taken or a retrospective planning application is received.

Other planning matters:

Mid Devon District Council Caravan site and mobile homes policy consultation

The relevant documentation has been circulated to parish councillors for consideration before the meeting and a response will be discussed at the meeting. Deadline 8 April 2026.

The Parish Council RESOLVED to submit its response following discussion at the March meeting.

8. Asset Management Reports

The Parish Council noted the Clerk's report.

8.1 Longmead

The Terms of Reference for Longmead Advisory Committee would be put forward to approval at the March meeting following discussion on its full purpose.

Page 309

Councillor Ward advised that the Committee had met on 21 January 2026 and discussed the MUGA which was currently used by 5 junior teams, 1 senior team and a junior netball team. The possibility of advertising boards at the MUGA had been discussed.

Update on matters brought to the Clerk's attention:

- a) Options for having a permanent license at Longmead Pavillion
An individual had come forward to be the nominated licensee whilst the Parish Council organised training for a nominated person.
Action: Clerk to continue application.
- b) Online booking system for the facilities at Longmead Pavillion
The Clerk had met with a member of the Longmead Advisory Committee to ascertain the requirements for the online booking system. This information would be relayed to the webmaster.
Action: Clerk
- c) Inventory of equipment at Longmead
A list of the assets had been received and this information would be passed to the working group.
- d) Terms of Reference for the Longmead Advisory Committee
See note above.
- e) Quotes for upgrading the football pitches in the spring
Councillor Ward advised that work was ongoing.
Action: Councillor Ward
- f) Update on robotic mowers
The robotic mowers were currently away for servicing.
- g) Update of MUGA refurbishment (2G surface ordered) and an opening ceremony
The MUGA is now in operation but there is still some sand to lay. The company had been advised of the Parish Council's regarding potential damage done by the weight of sand left on the surface over the Christmas period

and that the seams could be felt and was there a possibility of them lifting. An undertaking from the company that all guarantees would remain valid was awaited.

A request had been received for a MUGA brush at a cost of £202.80. Given the importance of maintaining the new surface the following proposal was made:

PROPOSAL: The MUGA brush be purchased.

PROPOSER: Councillor P Doble

SECONDER: Councillor Ward

DECISION: All in favour.

A maintenance procedure needed to be put in place.

h) Play park repairs

Mr Pike advised that the repairs had required further spare parts which had been ordered.

i) Acoustic equipment

The Longmead Advisory Committee wish to improve the acoustics in the building.
No quotes received to date.

j) Recycling bins

Clerk awaiting information from Longmead Advisory Committee but had provided information on clothes recycling bins.

Page 310

k) Longmead roof

A quote of £3756:00 plus VAT had been received to repair/replant the sedum roof.
The Clerk was also in discussion over the possibility of grants to install solar panels.
Councillor Clist asked that research be carried out to understand if the sedum roof could be removed or whether it had to be a permanent feature.

l) Netball posts

To netball nets had been purchased and delivery was awaited.

Ongoing actions:

Planning application for a Certificate of Lawfulness – to be actioned when time allows

Longmead Car Park

Councillor Povah advised that, as requested, he had contacted the contractor as to costs to concrete the area by the service gate and the second container as well as mend the manhole cover.

The quote received was £3165.00 to complete all actions required to finish the car park.

PROPOSAL: The remaining works to the Longmead Car Park should be completed.

PROPOSER: Councillor P Doble

SECONDER: Councillor Atkinson

DECISION: In favour with one abstention.

8.2 War memorial

Councillor Povah advised there was nothing to report.

8.3 Cemetery

Hedging

The Clerk had purchased the fencing required by Councillor Ward.

Hedge Cutting of extension

A contractor has been appointed and it would take place as soon as the ground was dry enough but before the DEFRA deadline.

Spoil Tip

An email had been sent to all funeral directors/stone masons asking that the new soil tip be used.

Bier House
Councillor Doble advised that he had nothing to report.

Path to extension
Councillor Doble advised that he had nothing to report.
Action: Clerk to ascertain if any planning was required,.

Moving to online records
Councillor P Doble advised that he hoped the work would start in the new year.

Brown bin
The bin had not been received.
Action: Clerk to follow up

8.4. Blackdown Healthy Living and Activities Centre

The Clerk reported as follows:

- Tree felling - the land has been too wet to take the equipment on site
It appeared these trees were also overhanging the solar panels .
A fallen tree at seating area would cost £250.00 plus VAT to remove.

Page 311

PROPOSAL: A post be put on social media to see if anyone wished to cut up the tree for logs.

PROPOSER: Councillor Atkinson

SECONDER: Councillor P Doble

DECISION: In favour with one abstention.

- Riverbank
The report had been received and Connecting the Culm were looking at funding work but this would be tied in to other projects in the village.
- Renewal of DCC lease for offices.
The Parish Council paid the costs of the sub-lease with the BHLAC last time, does it wish to do the same for this time – the lease is until October 2029. Cost circa £1500 plus VAT.

PROPOSAL: The Parish Council pays its own costs.

PROPOSER: Councillor Ward

SECONDER: Councillor K Atkinson

DECISION: In favour with one abstention.

8.5 The Parish Store

Councillor P Doble advised that he had nothing to report.

8.6 The Commons

In the absence of Councillor Moon it was noted that the collision information relating to the broken gate had been received at a cost of £46.40.

It was also noted that there was significant water coming from the road at Shuttleton due to blocked drains. The blocked drains would be reported to DCC Highways. The potholes were so bad that the school minibus was being re-routed.

8.7 Public Conveniences

Councillor Povah advised that further work had had to be undertaken to repair the floor.

The external doors were warped and one door would not closed.

The proposal was to replace the doors with UPVC doors at a cost of approximately £1900. Given that one door could not be closed properly, this was considered a Health & Safety/Safeguarding issue.

PROPOSAL: The doors at the public convenience be replaced subject to planning response

PROPOSER: Councillor A Doble

SECONDER: Councillor K Atkinson

DECISION: In favour with one abstention.

Action: The Clerk was asked to check with planning that UPVC doors could installed

If the doors were replaced then new keys would be required.

8.8 Car Park

The Clerk was still awaiting dates for the re-surfacing of the car park.

A report on the lighting on footpath from the Car Park to Redwoods Close had been received together with identification of trip hazard.

Action: Clerk to report to DCC/MDDC as appropriate

DCC are moving closer to appointing an electric car charger contractor/partner.
Baptist Church were taking action on the wall in the Spring.

8.9 Village Maintenance

Maintenance continues around the village.

Page 312

Outstanding issues:

- Handrail at Eastlands – quote awaited for the wooden rails and posts.

8.10 Ground Maintenance

Councillor Povah and the Clerk had started work on the document containing preferred contractors and current hourly rates.

9. Project Reports

The Parish Council noted the Clerk's report:

9.1 Community Land (Cavanna)

Report from the Clerk

- Information from solicitor (Part 2)
- Proposal from Cavanna – information from the meeting on 28 January 2026 (Part 2)
- Proposed purchase of additional land (Part 2)

9.2 Station Road Pavement

Councillor Povah asked that the Parish Council authorise a new map to go alongside the contracts which would then allow the documentation to be signed and the Station Road pavement would then move forward at a cost of £150.00 plus VAT.

PROPOSAL: The new drawing be commissioned

PROPOSER: Councillor Ward

SECONDER: Councillor Clist

DECISION: All in favour

Councillor Povah asked that the Parish Council authorise a new planning application for the Station Road pavement at a cost of £475.00 plus VAT.

PROPOSAL: Subject to both contracts being approved and confirmation from MDDC Planning and DCC Highways that the pavement could be commissioned, the planning application could be submitted

PROPOSER: Councillor P Doble

SECONDER: Councillor Clist

DECISION: All in favour

Action: The Clerk to contact MDDC and DCC

9.3 Connecting the Culm/DRIP

Memorandum of Understanding (cameras)

A copy of the documentation has been received.

Floodgate at The Garages

Due to be installed in next 2-4 weeks.

9.4 Skatepark

In the absence of Councillor Summers no update was given.

9.5 Assistance for the Clerk

Mrs Parker is happy to provide assistance once the inventory is complete. This would include chasing quotes etc.

9.7 Building Maintenance

A building maintenance plan had been started in 2020 but not followed. The Parish Council RESOLVED to agree the principle having a budgeted, maintenance plan for all assets and that funding may be required to achieve this.

Page 313

Councillor P Doble advised that Miss P Lawrence had offered to chair the working group tasked with assessing the Parish Council's assets. The working group would consist of Peta Dayus-Jones (BHLAC) and Andy Brooke (Longmead) and Karen Pinder (Garages) had agreed to join the working group.

PROPOSAL: The working group be set up and Terms of Reference written. The Councillors on the working group would be Councillors Atkinson and Povah.

PROPOSER: Councillor P Doble

SECONDER: Councillor A Doble

DECISION: All in favour

Councillor Clist advised that he had been hoping to identify a building surveyor to assist with this work. It was felt a call could go out on social media.

10. Community Matters

10.1 Garages Youth Project

The Clerk advised a request to replace the doors with UPVC had been received with the costs being met by Garage funds.

PROPOSAL: Subject to confirmation from MDDC Planning that UPVC could be used, the Parish Council should approve the new doors.

PROPOSER: Councillor P Doble

SECONDER: Councillor A Doble

DECISION: All in favour

Action: The Clerk to contact MDDC Planning

Councillor P Doble advised that there was nothing to report.

10.2 Hemyock Community Larder

Councillor P Doble that the community larder continued to popular with residents.

10.3 Footpaths (P3)

Councillor Povah advised that he had now received the survey paperwork from DCC for the year 2026/27 and this had been distributed to the volunteers who walked the paths.

The Clerk advised that a purchase order for £1160 to pay the minor annual grant and also the major grant for 20025/26 covering maintenance of the footpaths had now been received.

11. Highways

The Parish Council noted the report from the Clerk who apologised for the delay in claiming reimbursements.

Lengths man

The Clerk advised that Mr Houghton would be happy to move to a regular payment per month for road warden tasks such as clearing drains and filling some of the smaller potholes that DCC do not attend to.

Councillor Povah advised that a meeting had taken place and the initial work would involve clearing ditches.

PROPOSAL: The Parish Council allocate a sum of £300.00 per month for the Lengths Man with a review in six months.

PROPOSER: Councillor P Doble

SECONDER: Councillor Ward

DECISION: All in favour

The Clerk would order tarmac and Councillor A Doble advised that he could store it.

Flood Risk Management (26/27 January 2026)

The Clerk was compiling a report for DCC.

DCC Highways policy on mirrors

Meeting requested – no update.

Parklands Play Area

The hedge between 2 Parklands and the Parklands Play Area appeared to have been cut.

Barriers

The Clerk advised that DCC had responded and the situation was quite complicated. A meeting may be the best way to solve the issues.

Action: Clerk to organise a meeting.

12. Police matters

12.1 Crime

A report was awaited from the Neighbourhood Police Officer on the anti-social behaviour experienced in Hemyock.

12.2 Councillor Advocate Scheme

Councillor Clist advised he had nothing to report.

13. MDDC Report

Councillor Clist noted the report circulated from MDDC Councillor DuChesne and asked that the Parish Councillor respond to the National Planning Policy Framework consultation and MDDC's consultation on mobile homes.

14. DCC report

Councillor Clist advised that DCC had improved its Childcare and balanced the budget for 2026/27 and he had asked for a provision towards rural roads. A peer review process was currently being undertaken.

15. Public Relations

Public relations and social media

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

Report from Clerk

The recommendation was that all councillors use gov.uk emails and these had been set up.

16. Clerk Update/Correspondence

The Clerk brought the following information to the attention of Parish Councillors:

Maintenance of the park below Lower Millhayes

No update received

Station Road Drainage

Ongoing but drains cleared.

Emergency Plan

This is a work in progress and will require an Open Meeting for residents. The 2012 Emergency Plan has been circulated to councillors.

Date to be set.

Neighbourhood Plan

Councillors Doble and Ward had attended the Neighbourhood Plan meeting on 20 January 2026 and the presentations had been circulated to councillors.

Page 315

Discussion was required on:

- A Planning Statement (the Clerk would circulate further information) and
- A Neighbourhood Plan

Blackdown Hill Parish Network

Information from the BHPN had been circulated.

Housing Needs survey

The Clerk was awaiting an update from Devon Communities Together/MDDC

Use of an image and request for payment on Hemyock.org

Nothing further to report at this time.

Assertion 10

The Clerk referred to the webinars she had attended on Assertion 10 and a report and recommendations would be brought to the next meeting and would include a Bring Your Own Device policy.

The course documents had been circulated to councillors.

Going forward, it was important that those handling parish council documentation were aware of the need to meet Assertion 10 requirements.

Biodiversity Education for Councils - CPD-Accredited Training: Actioning Your Council's Biodiversity Duties

The cost is £595 (early rate £495) which the Clerk has been told is quite high but if the expertise is solid it would give a very good grounding. Details of those speaking has been requested.

Councillor Bradshaw also undertakes conferences.

Venue – Truro

Date – 22 April 2026

Bring forward.

MDDC Assets

The Clerk was meeting with MDDC.

DALC Newsletters

Bring forward.

Planning Training for Town and Parish Councils

Date:- Thursday 26th March 2026

Time:- 18:00 – 20:30

Location: Microsoft Teams or in person at Phoenix House, Phoenix Lane, Tiverton, EX16 6PP

DCRF SPRING FORUM

Thursday 26th March - 10am - 4pm

Teign Valley Community Hall, Christow, EX6 7WA

17. Matters raised by Councillors/meetings attended

Councillor P Doble called for volunteers to be part of a Parish Council team at the Hemyock PTFA quiz on 28 February 2026.

Councillor P Doble advised that paperwork would be circulated for the annual Clerk Review.

Councillor Povah advised that an oak tree appeared to have been felled adjacent to Cavanna.

The foot bridge had still not been mended by DCC.

Page 316

18. Items for the next agenda

As detailed in these minutes.

19. Dates of the next meetings:

Full Council Meeting - Wednesday, 4 March 2026

Dates to be set for:

Asset Management Working Group

Action Plan Meeting

Skatepark Meeting

Finance Committee - February

Signed _____ Date _____
Chairman

Page 317

Part 2

Cavanna Open Space Land

Members of the Parish Council had met with Cavanna and the contractor appointed to carry out the remedial work and was awaiting an updated schedule of work to include spraying the area.

It was evidenced that the bunds put in place to prevent runoff in the first field needed to be redistributed and the clay deposited on the second field was retaining water and making the upper section boggy.

Given that both Vice-Chairs and the Finance Chair were not present, the final offer with regard to remedial actions, no movement on the contract and information from the solicitor relating to contracts was still awaited, the Parish Council did not feel able to take a decision on the way forward at the meeting. Cavanna had agreed an extension.

Purchase of Land

The solicitor had advised that the registration of land parcels was taking longer than expected.

The Clerk would continue to liaise with Cavanna, the solicitors and MDDC on the S106 Agreement and contracts.

Page 318

ITEM		PAGE
6	Finance	16-18

6.1 To agree income and expenditure and bank reconciliations:

The information provided reflects the bank transactions to 25/02/2026. An update will be made at the meeting to cover payments/receipts to 28/02/2026.

INCOME (to 25 February 2026)

	January	
Account ending 1298	1160.00	(P3 Scheme)
Account ending 1308	0.00	
Account ending 1311	0.00	
Account ending 1324	0.00	

EXPENDITURE – Invoices received 2025/26

Payments made in February to date

02-Feb-26	MDDC DIRECT DEBITS	1251581	-53.00	
03-Feb-26	VALDA ENERGY LIMIT	VALDAENERGY	-106.87	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: I R Pike	CEMETERY GRASS	-256.00	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: e ingledew	P COUNCIL	-162.00	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: Mrs S M McGeever	EXPENSES	-81.74	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: Mrs S M McGeever	WAGES JAN 26	-997.86	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: hmrc cumbernauld	120PW00334133	-373.94	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: Chrissie Parker	HPC/0011	-115.59	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: blackdown healthy	INVOICE 4213	-16.00	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: royal b legion	HEMYOCK PC	-110.00	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: n page	HEMYOCK NOV 25	-470.00	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: n page	HEMYOCK JAN 26	-323.00	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: Police	RSR36726505000	-46.40	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: ca hearne	INVOICE 6352	-380.00	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: Netball	WEB170284-003	-505.93	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: Mrs S M McGeever	REIMBURSEMENT	-88.82	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: Mrs S M McGeever	REIMBURSEMENT	-226.80	
05-Feb-26	B/P to: l povah	KEYS	-56.50	
05-Feb-26	ICO	ZA226788	-47.00	
06-Feb-26	VALDA ENERGY LIMIT	VALDAENERGY	-29.96	-4447.41

Invoices to pay for February (approval at March meeting):

Rates:

Car Park	£636.23	1 x £53.23	11 x £53.00	Amount payable	£636.23
(Direct Debit)					

No	Amount	Payee	Reason
1.	208.00	I Pike	Cemetery maintenance £96 Village maintenance £112
2.	162.00	E Ingledew	Public Convenience
3.	6.00	S McGeever	Giff Gaff subscription
4.	TBA	S McGeever	Wages
5.	TBA	HMRC	PAYE/NI
6.	TBA	S McGeever	Mileage

No	Amount	Payee	Reason
7.	26.00	S McGeever	Expenses
8.	437.29	Husqvarna DD	Robot mowers
9.	23,67	Valda DD	Electricity – public convenience
10.	101.45	C Parker	Inventory
11.	16.00	BHLAC	Meeting room
12.	93.69	Valda DD	Longmead
13.	67964.40	DCM Surfaces	90% of MUGA resurfacing
14.	3775.80	DCM surfaces	5% of MUGA resurfacing
15.			
16.			
17.			
18.			
19.			

Bank Reconciliations

The February statements were not available when agenda was produced – updated information will be brought to the meeting and included in the minutes.

Bank account	Closing balance 31/01/2026	Monies in	Monies out	Closing balance 25/02/2026
Unity Trust Bank current 298	6922.39	76160.00	4447.41	78634.98
Unity Trust Bank deposit	106688.86		75000.00	31688.86
Unity Trust Bank GF	770.71			707.71
Unity Trust Bank P3	1334.72			1334.72

Details of the other bank accounts will be circulated prior to the meeting when statements are available

A bank reconciliation report (all accounts) will be prepared in Scribe for February 2026, circulated to Parish Councillors for review prior to the meeting and are to be signed by the Chairman.

The eleventh-month budget report will be available at the meeting together with a provisional budget.

6.2 To receive an update on the application for bank cards (Financial Regulations)

Update – Clerk has just been advised that they require two years accounts – ongoing.

6.3 To receive an update on the change of key contact for Unity Trust Bank and changes for other bank accounts

Changes to the accounts can only take place by signatories.

Clarification from the Devon Association of Local Councils:

Banking and internal controls procedures are an important safeguard for the public money held by the council and should be regularly reviewed by the council to ensure they are fit for purpose.

When it comes to authorisation of payment by cheque, or on-line, DALC suggests that the bank mandate should require at least 2 councillors to sign all cheques and payments; the clerk/RFO should only be a signatory in conjunction with 2 other councillor signatories. Whilst not all councillors will be bank signatories, all councillors remain responsible for the council finances.

Councils can make payments either electronically or by cheque, and there should be a system in place to reduce the risks of error or fraud. All payments must be authorised by the council or under delegated authority. All payments should be supported by invoices and/or receipts.

NALC's Model Financial Regulation 2025 <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/resource/model-financial-regulations-england.html> sets out a section on internet banking, and you may want to consider reviewing Hemyock's Financial Regulations to incorporate any changes made to how electronic payments are authorised.

Section 7 covers electronic payments and sets out for example,

7.1. Where internet banking arrangements are made with any bank, [the RFO] shall be appointed as the Service Administrator. The bank mandate agreed by the council shall identify [a number of] councillors who will be authorised to approve transactions on those accounts and a minimum of two people will be involved in any online approval process. {The Clerk may be an authorised signatory, but no signatory should be involved in approving any payment to themselves.}

The Parish Council currently has the Clerk as the Service Administrator and four council members who can authorise payments. Two council members must authorise the payments set up the Clerk.

HSBC – Update from Councillor Summers (online access required for the Clerk)

Cambridge Building Society – signatory work ongoing

Nationwide – verification of accounts ongoing

Skipton Building Society – address change achieved / signatory work ongoing

United Trust Bank – Councillor Summers setting up online banking

Unity Trust Bank – deleting signatory work ongoing

6.4 To receive information on S106 monies

There is £5,358 available in S106 largely related to Landscaping and provision of park furniture at Higher and Lower Millhayes Open Spaces.

An update is awaited on other S106 matters that have not yet been received by MDDC.

6.5 To receive requests for grants

- Mid Devon Mobility - forms awaited

6.6 Trade Waste

MDDC are moving to annual payments for Trade Waste and the contract has been completed and returned to them.

ITEM		PAGE
7	Planning	19

7.1 To consider the following applications:-

There are no applications for consideration.

7.2 To receive the following decision notices/appeal decisions:-

25/0731/MOUT

Land At Abbey Road Dunkeswell - Outline application for residential development for up to 65 dwellings (all matters reserved except for access) Link - 25/0731/MOUT | Outline application for residential development for up to 65 dwellings (all matters reserved except for access) | Land At Abbey Road Dunkeswell

This application was refused by EDDC last July and has just gone to appeal.

Appeal reference - APP/U1105/W/26/3377572.

Link: [Reference: APP/U1105/W/26/3377572](https://www.gov.uk/applications-to-appeal-a-decision/reference/APP/U1105/W/26/3377572)

Dunkeswell Parish Council have asked that Hemyock Parish Council support them in objecting to this application.

Deadline for comments: 17 March 2026

Appeals:

25/01113/FULL

Proposal: Reinstatement of existing building to dwelling (Class C3) with associated alterations, landscaping and parking

Location: Land at NGR 312090 115702 Culm Davy Hemyock Devon

Appeal Ref: 6005161

Appellants Name: Mr J Rogers

Link: [Appeal open for comment - Comment on a planning appeal - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/applications-to-appeal-a-decision/submit-comment/appeal/25/01113/FULL)

Deadline for comments: 24 March 2026

7.3 To receive information regarding enforcement issues:

Any update from Enforcement would be dependent on if action has been taken or a retrospective planning application is received.

Other planning matters:

Mid Devon District Council Caravan site and mobile homes policy consultation

The relevant documentation has been circulated to parish councillors for consideration before the meeting and a response will be discussed at the meeting.

Response to National Planning Policy Forum consultation.

ITEM		PAGE
8	Asset Management Reports	20-22

8.1 Longmead

The Parish Council has made the decision to take the finances back in house and have the Longmead Management Committee as the Longmead Advisory Committee.

Consideration needs to be given to the wording of the Terms of Reference and the modus operandi for handling the accounts. The draft Terms of Reference circulated by the Longmead Committee provide a good starting point. **A meeting is required.**

Update on matters brought to the Clerk's attention:

- a) Options for having a permanent license at Longmead Pavillion
Application nearing completion
- b) Online booking system for the facilities at Longmead Pavillion
Ongoing
- c) Inventory of equipment at Longmead
Received
- d) Terms of Reference for the Longmead Advisory Committee
See note above regarding an informal meeting.
- e) Quotes for upgrading the football pitches in the spring
Grant submitted by Councillor Ward
Action: Councillor Ward
- f) Update on robotic mowers
Nothing to report
- g) Update of MUGA refurbishment (2G surface ordered) and an opening ceremony
The MUGA is in use but there is still a need to lay the remaining sand.
A finish date has been requested
- h) Play park repairs
Further new parts required
- i) Acoustic equipment
The Longmead Advisory Committee wish to improve the acoustics in the building.
Quotes requested.
- j) Recycling bins for clothes
Contract received
- k) Longmead roof
Work is ongoing to identify if the living roof can be removed and replaced by solar panels. There are two solar panels on the roof but this will be nearing their life expectancy
- l) Netball posts
Purchased and fitted

Ongoing actions:

Planning application for a Certificate of Lawfulness – to be actioned when time allows

8.2 War memorial

Nothing to report.

8.3 Cemetery

Hedging

Materials received and hedging to be planted by Councillor Ward.

Hedge Cutting of extension

A contractor has been appointed. Cost: £55 per hour. Will be completed before 1 March 2026.

Spoil Tip

Nothing to report

Bier House

Update

Path to extension

This will be required during the course of the next 12 to 18 months at current burial rates.

Quotes required

Moving to online records

New Year

Brown bin

Actioned but not received. Clerk has chased.

Any further updates from Councillor A Doble.

8.4. Blackdown Healthy Living and Activities Centre

Report on

- Trees (the land has been too wet to take the equipment on site plus advice awaited on trees overhanging the solar panels) – chasing email sent and fallen tree at seating area (£250.00 VAT) – did the PR campaign work
- Riverbank (report received - Connecting the Culm are looking at funding and this will be tied in to other projects in the village)
- Renewal of DCC lease for offices. Solicitor has been advised the Parish Council will pay its own costs.

8.5 The Parish Store

Update from Councillor P Doble

8.6 The Commons

Report from Councillor Moon

Collision information received.

8.7 Public Conveniences

Update from Councillor Povah on the works to repair works/refurbishment of the public convenience.

Update on opening and locking the public convenience

8.8 Car Park

Report from the Clerk

Awaiting dates for the works to commence.

Lighting on footpath from the Car Park to Redwoods Close plus trip hazard - ongoing

DCC are moving closer to appointing an electric car charger contractor/partner.

Baptist Church are taking action on the wall.

8.9 Village Maintenance

Maintenance continues around the village.

Outstanding issues:

- Handrail at Eastlands – the quote for the wood rails etc is £385.78 inc VAT

8.10 Ground Maintenance

Councillor Povah and the Clerk are putting together a document of current hourly rates for those undertaking ground maintenance in the village. This is an ongoing process.

ITEM		PAGE
9	Project Reports	23

9.1 Community Land (Cavanna)

Report from the Clerk

- Information from solicitor (Part 2)
Amended proposal from Cavanna (Part 2)
A report will be circulated to Parish Councillors prior to the meeting to set out the information received from the solicitor, Cavanna and MDDC (Planning and S106)
- Proposed purchase of additional land – initial report received and no red flags to prevent purchase – the final report will be circulated to councillors when received

9.2 Station Road Pavement

New map has been sent to the solicitor.

Awaiting signed documentation from both parties.

MDDC have confirmed that there are no new planning regulations that would influence the planning application.

DCC have been contacted for confirmation they are still content for the pavement to be actioned.

9.3 Connecting the Culm/DRIP

Memorandum of Understanding (cameras)

Completed

Floodgate at The Garages

Being fitted 6 March 2026

9.4 Skatepark

Update from Councillor Summers

9.5 Assistance for the Clerk

Mrs Parker is happy to provide assistance once the inventory is complete.

9.7 Building Maintenance

A building maintenance plan had been started in 2020 but not followed up. The Parish Council RESOLVED to agree the principle of having a budgeted, maintenance plan for all assets and that funding may be required to achieve this.

Following information received from Councillor Clist, the Clerk is speaking to In-house Training Consultancy Limited who will be able to assist with the development of a 10-year building maintenance programme.

Further details will be brought to the meeting.

Action: Councillors Atkinson, Povah/Clerk and Miss Lawrence

ITEM		PAGE
10	Community Matters	24

10.1 Garages

Report from Councillor P Doble

Report from MDDC:

Typically, in Conservation Areas the introduction of uPVC doors/windows is resisted and timber joinery is preferred, as this is a traditional material which contributes to the character and appearance of the area. Historic England has published advice on replacement windows and doors, with the following passage about uPVC:

'Replacement plastic (PVC-u) windows pose one the greatest threats to the heritage value of historic areas, particularly in towns and villages. Despite attempts at improving the design of these windows they are instantly recognisable because they cannot match the sections and proportions of historic joinery.'

The full advice document from Historic England can be found here: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/traditional-windows-care-repair-upgrading/heag039-traditional-windows-revfeb17/>. I would advise that where there are existing timber windows/doors within a Conservation Area, on a Listed Building or nearby that these are either retained, if of significance themselves, or replaced with accurate copies in order to preserve the special interest of the heritage asset.

Hemyock does not have a Conservation Area. You can view all our Conservation Areas at the following webpage with an interactive map: <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/residents/planning/conservation/conservation-areas/>.

There are several listed buildings within Hemyock itself, the best resource to view this is the map search at Historic England which can be viewed here: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/map-search/>. A notable feature is the Scheduled Monument of Hemyock Caste and the several listed buildings within the site or nearby within the churchyard of the Grade II* listed Church of St Mary (list entry number: 1169390).

Whilst not a specific planning restriction, such as removing permitted development rights, any development nearby a heritage asset should seek to preserve the setting and the significance of the asset. This is most often associated with the development of structures next to listed buildings and the local authority must demonstrate that special regard has been given to preserving the significance of the asset, and its setting. Setting is the surroundings of a heritage asset, and this is not a fixed extent.

Clarification of works in the ANOB is awaited.

10.2 Hemyock Community Larder

Report from Councillor P Doble

10.3 Footpaths (P3)

Report from Councillor Povah

The P3 payment of £1160 has been received.

ITEM		PAGE
11	Highways - traffic issues and pavements	25

Report from Clerk

- Road Warden
Claim being made for equipment purchased.
Claim being made for cones

- 20mph applications/speed limits
Update from Councillor Clist

Lengths man

CH has met with Councillor Povah and is undertaking work as per the decision at the last meeting.

Request for tarmac - actioned

Flood Risk Management (26/27 January 2026)

Clerk compiling a report for DCC

DCC Highways policy on mirrors

Meeting requested.

Barriers

DCC have responded and the situation is quite complicated. A meeting may be the best way to solve the issues.

ITEM		PAGE
12	Police Matters - Councillor Advocate Scheme	26

12.1 Crime

Incident at the Public Conveniences

The police are going to respond on the anti-social behaviour that has been reported. Chased.

12.2 Councillor Advocate Scheme

Report from Councillor Clist

ITEM		PAGE
15	Public Relations	27

Report from Councillor Talbot on public relations and social media.

Nothing to report

ITEM		PAGE
16	Clerk update/Correspondence received	28

Items received have been circulated to the Parish Council and included on the agenda as appropriate.

Maintenance of the park below Lower Millhayes

No update received

Station Road Drainage

Ongoing but drains cleared.

Emergency Plan

Draft Emergency Plan and details of Emergency Community Hubs circulated to Parish Councillors.

Date to be set for a public meeting

Neighbourhood Plan

Further information on drafting a Planning Statement circulated to Parish Councillors.

MDDC funded Housing Needs Survey confirmed.

Blackdown Hill Parish Network

Information circulated

Use of an image and request for payment on Hemyock.org

Update to be given at the meeting

Assertion 10

Course documents circulated to councillors.

A full report with actions and policies will be brought to the March meeting.

Biodiversity Education for Councils - CPD-Accredited Training: Actioning Your Council's Biodiversity Duties

The cost is £595 (early rate £495) which the Clerk has been told is quite high but if the expertise is solid it would give a very good grounding. Details of those speaking has been requested.

Councillor Bradshaw also undertakes conferences.

Venue – Truro

Date – 22 April 2026

MDDC Assets

Further information awaited.

Planning Training for Town and Parish Councils

Date:- Thursday 26th March 2026

Time:- 18:00 – 20:30

Location: Microsoft Teams or in person at Phoenix House, Phoenix Lane, Tiverton, EX16 6PP

DCRF SPRING FORUM

Thursday 26th March - 10am - 4pm

Teign Valley Community Hall, Christow, EX6 7WA

		PAGE
19	Date of the next meeting	29

Discussion on format for the Annual Parish Meeting.

Wednesday, 13 May 2026

Date of the next meetings:

1 April 2026

6 May 2026

Dates to be decided:

Asset Management Working Group

Action Plan Meeting

Skatepark Meeting

Finance Committee

Emergency Plan