

**Hemyock Parish Council**  
**Annual Meeting of the Parish Council**  
**held at Blackdown Healthy Living & Activity Centre, Hemyock at 7.30pm on 3 June 2026**

**Present**

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

Councillor P Doble opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed those present.

**003/1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were approved for Councillor Ward.

It was noted that the Parish Council had one vacancy.

**003/2. Declarations of Interest/Dispensations**

There were no declarations of interest other than those listed in the agenda under Item 2.

**003/3. Public Participation**

Members of the public raised the following points:

- Tree roots creating an uneven surface at Castle Park/Station Road. It appeared that there was now a stretch of pavement that could not be reported on DCC's Report a Problem Page.
- Had the tree on the patio at the BHLAC been removed.
- Label for the garden waste bin.
- Road surface by the road bridge – potholes had been marked 6 weeks ago but no work had taken place. The potholes were forcing cars and cyclists onto the wrong side of the road.

The matters were noted by the Parish Council and, where possible, the Clerk would follow up on the concerns.

**003/4. To approve the minutes of the meeting on 6 May 2026**

**PROPOSAL:** The council minutes of 6 May 2026 are approved as a true record of the meeting.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor Atkinson

**SECONDER:** Councillor Povah

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.

**003/5. Chair's Announcements**

The Chair thanked the Clerk for the work she had done over the past year.

**003/6. Finance**

In the absence of Councillor Summers, the Clerk ran through the financial report.

**6.1 Accounts for the Year 2025-26**

The Internal Auditor is reviewing the accounts for the year 2025-26 (pending final bank statements)

The AGAR documentation will be brought to a meeting on 24 June 2026 for approval.

**6.2 To agree income and expenditure and bank reconciliations for the year 2026-27:**

The bank statements were not available at the time of preparing the agenda but the figures have since been updated.

**INCOME (to 31 May )**

|                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
|                     | 31 May 2026              |
| Account ending 1298 | 10.60 (charges reversal) |
| Account ending 1308 | 0.00                     |

|                     |         |
|---------------------|---------|
| Account ending 1311 | 0.00    |
| Account ending 1324 | 170.00  |
| Pizza van           | £ 20.00 |
| Gun Club            | £150.00 |

#### EXPENDITURE – Invoices received 2026/27

##### Payments made in May

|           |                            |                |         |          |
|-----------|----------------------------|----------------|---------|----------|
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: I R Pike           | CEMETERY GRASS | -528.00 |          |
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: I & Y Pike         | REIMBURSEMENT  | -22.01  |          |
|           |                            | REIMBURSEMENT  |         |          |
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: I & Y Pike         | NOV            | -40.30  |          |
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: e ingledew         | P COUNCIL      | -153.00 |          |
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: Mrs S M McGeever   | EXPENSES       | -54.50  |          |
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: Mrs S M McGeever   | WAGES APR 26   | -896.42 |          |
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: hmrc cumbernauld   | 120PW00334133  | -329.51 |          |
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: Chrissie Parker    | HPC/0014       | -103.77 |          |
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: blackdown healthy  | INVOICE 4302   | -35.00  |          |
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: ashfords           | 909907 BHLAC   | -916.80 |          |
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: ICCM               | HEMYOCK PARISH | -110.00 |          |
|           |                            | HEMYOCK PC     |         |          |
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: TBC (Devon) Ltd    | CEMETER        | -99.00  |          |
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: Coomber Security   | HEMYOCK 257747 | -188.90 |          |
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: mddc               | 80032887       | -93.63  |          |
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: Mrs S M McGeever   | REIMBURSEMENT  | -84.19  |          |
| 12-May-26 | B/P to: I povah            | COUNCIL TOILET | -10.00  |          |
|           | Direct Debit (VALDA ENERGY |                |         |          |
| 06-May-26 | LIMIT)                     | VALDAENERGY    | -29.41  |          |
|           | Direct Debit (VALDA ENERGY |                |         |          |
| 05-May-26 | LIMIT)                     | VALDAENERGY    | -137.69 | -3832.13 |

#### EXPENDITURE – Invoices received for the year 2026/27

Invoices received in May for approval at the June 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. | 760.25 | I Pike       | Village maintenance £232<br>Cemetery maintenance £432<br>Village grass £80<br>Petrol £16.25 |
| 2. | 153.00 | E Ingledew   | Public Convenience                                                                          |
| 3. | 6.00   | S McGeever   | Giff Gaff subscription                                                                      |
| 4. | 841.32 | S McGeever   | Wages                                                                                       |
| 5. | 305.61 | HMRC         | PAYE/NI                                                                                     |
| 6. | 11.25  | S McGeever   | Mileage                                                                                     |
| 7. | 26.00  | S McGeever   | Expenses                                                                                    |
| 8. | 437.29 | Husqvarna DD | Robot mowers                                                                                |
| 9. | 29.87  | Valda DD     | Electricity – public convenience                                                            |
|    |        |              | Page 361                                                                                    |

| No  | Amount | Payee      | Reason                      |
|-----|--------|------------|-----------------------------|
| 10. | 119.32 | C Parker   | Inventory                   |
| 11. | 20.00  | BHLAC      | Meeting room                |
| 12. | 110.68 | Valda DD   | Longmead                    |
| 13. | 113.94 | PI         | Play park inspection        |
| 14. | 180.00 | IPL        | New drawings for footpath   |
| 15. | 390.06 | Brookridge | Village maintenance         |
| 16. | 21.00  | MDDC       | Event Licence (Hemyock Day) |
| 17. | 104.99 | Microsoft  | Subscription                |
| 18. |        |            |                             |

**PROPOSAL:** The council make the above listed payments.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor P Doble

**SECONDER:** Councillor Povah

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.

### Bank Reconciliations

The bank reconciliation for the Unity accounts were as follows:

| Bank account                 | Closing balance<br>30/04/2026 | Monies in | Monies out | Closing balance<br>31/05/2026 |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|------------|-------------------------------|
| Unity Trust Bank current 298 | 9337.20                       | 10.60     | 3832.13    | 5001.48                       |
| Unity Trust Bank deposit     | 72886.05                      | 170.00    |            | 73056.05                      |
| Unity Trust Bank GF          | 774.68                        |           |            | 774.68                        |
| Unity Trust Bank P3          | 1341.60                       |           |            | 1341.60                       |

The bank reconciliation report (all accounts) to 31/5/26 is given below:

|                                       |                    |                          |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| HSBC Comm Acc 51082116                | £317.72            | Statement date 22/5/26   |
| HSBC Deposit 51082132                 | £100,011.52        | Statement date 22/5/26   |
| United Trust Bank                     | £90349.21          | Matured 27/8/25          |
|                                       |                    | Interest to 30/10/26     |
| Unity Deposit 20371324                | £73,056.05         | Statement dated 31/05/26 |
| Unity GF 20371311                     | £774.68            | Statement dated 31/05/26 |
| Unity P3 20371308                     | £5,001.48          | Statement dated 31/05/26 |
| Unity Current 20371298                | £1,341.60          | Statement dated 31/05/26 |
| Skipton Building Society              | £99,031.95         | Matured 2/5/2026         |
| Nationwide Instant Access             | £5,295.96          | Matured 31/3/26          |
| Nationwide 35 day                     | £87,541.93         | Matured 31/3/26          |
| Cambridge Building Society CB01452546 | £85,196.93         | Advised 2/6/26           |
| <b>Total in Banks</b>                 | <b>£547,919.03</b> |                          |

The information for all accounts was now available to 31/3/2026 which meant that the 2025/26 accounts could be closed.

### 6.3 To receive information on S106 monies

Possibility of additional funding towards the cost of the trim trail project – ongoing

### **003/7. Planning**

#### **7.1 To consider** the following applications:-

The Parish Council noted that there had been no planning consultations issued for the Parish Council to consider.

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

The Parish Council noted the following decision:

#### **26/00500/TPO - REFUSED – 18 May 2026**

Proposal: Application to fell 1 Ash tree protected by Tree Preservation Order 91/00001/TPO

Location: 2 Castle Barton Culmstock Road Hemyock Cullompton

#### **7.3 To receive** information regarding enforcement issues:

No update has been received on any ongoing Enforcement issues.

### **003/8. Asset Management Reports**

#### **8.1 Longmead**

Councillor Ward has submitted a written report to the Parish Council to cover:

- a) Football Grant  
The application for funds to improve the football pitch was ongoing.
- b) Roof of Longmead Pavillion  
This was covered in the Clerk's report.
- c) In Post locker proposal  
The Parish Council considered the Football Team's request to have an In Post locker installed at the Longmead Pavillion.

The Parish Council considered a number of questions required answering before a decision could be made:

- Cost of widening the pavement (Councillor Povah had requested a quotation)
- Impact on the Post Office
- Did the locker have to be at the Longmead Pavillion or could it be located elsewhere in the village given its distance from the centre.

Councillors P Doble, Ward and the Clerk would seek to speak to Football Team and the Post Office.

Councillor Povah has submitted a map of Longmead to the Parish Council for consideration with regard to height barriers and other methods of preventing unwanted access. Councillor Povah considered that barriers to prevent access to the Junior football pitch may be the easiest solution given the number of entrances. A quotation had been requested to understand the potential cost compared to height restricted barriers on car parks etc.

Councillor Povah had also requested quotations for the following works:

- Repairing the manhole cover
- Concreting the area in front of the contains
- RE-concreting the area at the back of the MUGA which was breaking up
- Increasing car parking space at the Longmead pavilion car park

The Clerk advised that:

- a) Permanent license at Longmead Pavillion  
The policy documents were being written to take account of anti-social behaviour, Martyn's Law etc.

- b) Terms of Reference for the Longmead Advisory Committee  
The updated Terms of Reference had been circulated together with the draft schedules for checking the building and equipment. A formal decision would be required at the next meeting.
- c) Update on robotic mowers  
The robotic mowers were currently being mended by the supplier and were due back in situ shortly. A check schedule would need to be produced.  
Longmead surrounds would be cut by an outside contractor prior to Hemyock Day.
- d) Acoustic equipment  
The Longmead Advisory Committee wish to improve the acoustics in the building.  
Quotations for the work were awaited.
- e) Recycling bins for clothes  
The Clerk was awaiting a delivery date for the bins.
- f) Longmead roof  
The Clerk had circulated information to Parish Councillors from the Centre for Sustainable Energy who had agreed to fund Empowered to carry out a feasibility study on Longmead pavilion. The resulting study would provide detailed information on the potential for solar panels, batteries, car charging etc.

**PROPOSAL:** The Parish Council accept the funding for the feasibility study.

**PROPOSER:** Councillor Clist

**SECONDER:** Councillor A Doble

The Parish Council RESOLVED to accept the funding.

Ongoing actions:

Planning application for a Certificate of Lawfulness, as when time allows.

## **8.2 War memorial**

Councillor Povah advised he had nothing to report.

## **8.3 Cemetery**

The Clerk advised that work was ongoing to ensure that the land is registered and all planning obligations have been met prior to works being undertaken on the extension.

## **8.4 Blackdown Healthy Living and Activities Centre**

Councillor P Doble advised that he had nothing to report but noted that the tree was still in situ.

The Clerk had circulated the survey and activities report prepared by the BHLAC. It was agreed that Parish Councillors would send feedback to the Clerk so that a document could be produced for the next meeting.

**Action:** All

## **8.5 The Parish Store**

Councillor P Doble advised he had nothing to report.

## **8.6 The Commons**

Councillor Moon advised that the next Commons Management Committee meeting would take place in June.

Councillor Moon believed that the Gun Club lease should be renewed for a period of 5 years at an annual cost of £200. This represented a £50 increase on the previous lease and would cover some of the cost of topping the common given the Gun Club were no longer carrying out the work.

**PROPOSAL:** The Parish Council provide a 5 year lease at £200 per annum to the Gun Club  
**PROPOSER:** Councillor Moon  
**SECONDER:** Councillor A Doble

The Parish Council RESOLVED to accept the above proposal.

#### **8.7 Public Conveniences**

Councillor Povah advised that there was two parishioners opening and closing the Public Convenience.

The Clerk advised that the urinal had become blocked again and this would be sorted and the plumber was going to look to see if there was a method to prevent this happening so frequently.

#### **8.8 Car Park**

The Clerk advised that she was still waiting to hear from MDDC as to when the car park would be received.

More information on electric car chargers funded through DCC was also awaited.

#### **8.9 Village Maintenance**

Maintenance continued around the village and it was hoped the repairs to the Eastland railings would be completed shortly.

It was noted that the kissing gate had been broken due to vandalism and an urgent repair was required on health and safety grounds. The preferred contractor would be asked to carry out the work.

#### **8.10 Ground Maintenance**

Councillor Povah and the Clerk were continuing their work to put together a document of current hourly rates for those undertaking ground maintenance in the village.

### **003/9. Project Reports**

#### **9.1 Community Land (Cavanna)**

Councillor P Doble advised that he and the Clerk had walked the Community Land which had been sprayed. The results did not appear to address the concerns over docks, nettles and thistles which were seeding.

The Clerk would contact Cavanna and the appointed contractor, however, the individual the Parish Council has been dealing with had left Cavanna.

Questions raised by Parish Councillors on the transfer documentation had been sent to the solicitor and responses were awaited.

#### **9.2 Station Road Pavement**

Councillor Povah advised that he was now progressing to the planning application. The Clerk would be providing the previous application to follow given there was only a minor amendment to the original drawings.

#### **9.3 Connecting the Culm/DRIP**

Councillor P Doble advised that a meeting with Connecting the Culm would be arranged following the land purchase.

#### **9.4 Purchase of Land**

Questions raised by Parish Councillors on the transfer documentation had been sent to the solicitor and responses were awaited. Once satisfactory answers had been received, the purchase could be completed.

Once the Parish Council was responsible for the land, insurance would be put in place and signage would be erected. A public meeting would be called.

## **9.5 Building Maintenance**

Miss Lawrence had had a limited response from members of the Asset Management Advisory Committee and had started the work herself and would submit her findings to the Parish Council.

## **003/10. Community Matters**

### **10.1 Garages Youth Project**

Councillor Atkinson advised that there was nothing to report.

### **10.2 Hemyock Community Larder**

Councillor P Doble advised that there was nothing to report.

### **10.3 Hemyock Day/Lights Brigade**

Hemyock Day

The Clerk advised that the Temporary Event Notice had been obtained.

The organiser advised that all the paperwork had been completed but the amount of forms to be completed had increased due to the introduction of Martyn's Law. It may be necessary to employ a professional event organiser going forward.

The Parish Council advised that it would be open to a request for a grant to cover this cost.

The organiser was expecting a visit from the police resulting from Facebook posts and the Environmental Health Officer due to new regulations for take away food.

Lights Brigade

The recent fund-raising events had not covered its costs which was disappointing.

### **10.4 Footpaths**

Councillor Povah confirmed that the installation of the bridge on Footpath 19 would take place this summer.

### **10.5 Speedwatch**

The Parish Council felt they needed to support Speedwatch and this item would be brought forward to the next meeting.

## **003/11. Highways**

### **11.1 Road Warden Scheme**

#### **a. Road Warden**

The claim for PPE had been processed and the funds received.

The traffic cones were being delivered by the NHO.

The tarmac had been delivered to Councillor P Doble but would be taken down to Councillor A Doble for ease of access by the Lengths Man.

The Clerk was awaiting confirmation that the signs proposed by the NHO met Councillor Clist's requirements.

#### **b. 20mph applications/speed limits**

Information had been requested on 20mph applications but no response had been received from DCC.

Councillor Clist undertook to speak to DCC Highways.

### **11.2 Lengths Man**

No work had been undertaken in May but work would start on repairing potholes in June.

### **11.3 Highways matters**

DCC Highways policy on mirrors

The Clerk advised that she was still awaiting a meeting date from the NHO.

Barriers

The Clerk advised that she was still awaiting a meeting date from DCC Footpaths and Highways as to how the barriers could be adapted to provide better access for prams/wheelchairs etc.

The Parish Council felt they had a duty to improve access for residents and that this could come at a cost.

### **003/12. Police matters**

#### **12.1 Crime**

A report was awaited from the Neighbourhood Police Officer on the anti-social behaviour experienced in Hemyock and an invitation issued for a representative to attend a Parish Council meeting.

**Action:** Clerk to follow up

#### **12.2 Councillor Advocate Scheme**

Councillor Clist advised that there was a focus on rural crime.

### **003/13. MDDC Report**

Councillor Clist had not submitted a report but would forward Councillor DuChesne's monthly report to the Clerk.

### **003/14. DCC report**

Councillor Clist had not submitted a report but would give a verbal update after the meeting had closed.

### **003/15. Public Relations**

Councillor Talbot advised that Hemyock Day had been supported by posts by the Parish Council.

Information on the MUGA and the Housing Needs Survey would be published over the coming weeks.

### **003/16. Clerk Update/Correspondence**

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

#### **Maintenance of the park below Lower Millhayes**

Given this was MDDC land, the Clerk proposed this come off the agenda and the Parish Council RESOLVED to agree.

#### **Station Road Drainage**

The drains in the highways had been cleared but the cause of flooding was thought to be on private land.

Councillor Povah had supplied the Clerk with a map of the area.

#### **Emergency Plan**

The draft Emergency Plan and details of Emergency Community Hubs had been circulated to Parish Councillors.

Councillor A Doble advised that he was preparing feedback and the Clerk called on other parish councillors to do the same.

An updated Emergency Plan would then be taken to a Public Meeting – date to be agreed.

#### **Neighbourhood Plan**

Information on drafting a Neighbourhood Priority Statement had been circulated to Parish Councillors. The Housing Needs Survey would go live later in June.



### **Blackdown Hill Parish Network**

Information had been circulated to Parish Councillors and given the Finance Committee had not met, the following proposal was made:

**PROPOSAL:** The Parish Council make the recommended payment of £25 to the BHPN  
**PROPOSER:** Councillor Summers  
**SECONDER:** Councillor Clist

The Parish Council RESOLVED to accept the above proposal and the Clerk would set up the payment.

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

No further information had been provided.

### **MDDC Assets**

The MDDC form detailing expression of interest in assets of community interest had been completed.

### **MDDC Local Plan**

The Parish Council noted that MDDC were preparing a new Local Plan.

The scoping consultation was open from 26 May to 5pm on Friday, 10 July 2026.

Members of the Parish Council would send their thoughts to the Clerk who would prepare a document for consideration at the next meeting.

**Action:** All

Information on the consultation would be published on the website and social media.

### **003/17. Matters raised by Councillors/meetings attended**

Councillor Summers noted the tree was still on the BHLAC patio.

Councillor Clist had attended a service at Holcombe Rogus on behalf of the Parish Council.

Councillor Povah advised that the barrier on the bridge at Millhayes had been thrown in the river. As it was considered a Health and Safety issue, the Parish Council would undertake to mend the bridge.

### **003/18.Items for the next agenda**

Cemetery administrative training.

### **003/19. Dates of the next meetings:**

|              |                               |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 24 June 2026 | Signing of the AGAR paperwork |
| 1 July 2026  | Full Parish Council meeting   |

Councillor P Doble gave his apologies for the July meeting.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair