Hemyock Parish Council

28 October 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 November 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 7 October 2026** Actions arising from those minutes	4-6
5	**Chairman's Announcements**	7
6	**Finance**	8-11
7	**Setting the Budget and Precept**	12
8	**Planning**	13
9	**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	14
10	**Project Reports** Community Land (Cavanna) Station Road Pavement Connecting the Culm/DRIP Purchase of Land Building Maintenance Biodiversity	15
11	**Community Matters** Garages Youth Project Hemyock Community Larder Hemyock Day/Lights Brigade	16

	Footpaths (P3) Speedwatch	
12	**Highways** Road Warden Scheme Lengths Man Highways matters	17
13	**Police Matters** Crime Councillor Advocate Scheme	18
14	**MDDC Report** Report from Councillor Clist	N/A
15	**DCC Report** Report from Councillor Clist	N/A
16	**Public Relations**	N/A
17	**Clerk update/correspondence**	19
18	**Matters raised by Councillors/meetings attended (not for decision)**	N/A
19	**Items for the next agenda**	N/A
20	**Date of the next meeting**	20

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.

ITEM		PAGE
4	**To approve the minutes of the meeting on 7 October 2026**	7

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 October 2026 were circulated to all Parish Councillors after the meeting and published on the website. Those minutes have also been re-circulated to Parish Councillors with the agenda for this meeting.

The key points from the Public Forum are detailed below:

007/3. Public Forum

Subject	Question	Action
Purchase of the River Land	Would dogs be allowed off the lead on the new land?	The Parish Council would be holding an open meeting once the purchase of the had been completed.
Bin at Longmead	Amount of rubbish Bin is falling over	Monitor
Defibrillators	Two sets of pads expiring Oct 26, one set of pads expiring Dec 26	Ordered
Play equipment	Rubber feet required	Ordered
Cutting of the hedges at Longmead	Clear up debris	Being actioned
Path at the back of properties at Station Road/Castle Park	Overrun with brambles	Cut back
Pencross Hill	Height of hedges	Clerk contacted DCC
Website	See Finance	

The key actions from the Parish Council meeting are detailed below:

007/6. Finance

Item	Action
Payment of September invoices	All invoices have been paid
Bank reconciliation for Month 6	Signed by the Chair
Insurance	The recommendations made by the insurance company have been carried forward to this meeting. Considered by Finance Committee. See recommendations
Internal Auditor	Letter of contract signed
Website	Meeting with provider to take place – not possible due to time constraints
Grants	Grants were considered by the Finance Committee. See recommendations

007/7. Planning

Item	Action
Plan Mid Devon – Local Green Space consultation	All Parish Councillors to send their thoughts to the Clerk
Mid-Devon District Council – Housing and Economic Needs Assessment	All Parish Councillors to send review and send their thoughts on each potential site to the Clerk to co-ordinate
Plan Mid Devon	Next consultation: January 2027

007/8. Asset Management Reports

8.1 Longmead

Item	Action
Natwest Bank Account to be closed	Signatory asked to close account and booking payments to be revised
WiFI	Clerk to obtain quotations. See Finance
Grant to improve football pitches.	Councillor Ward to update
Maintenance of the football pitches	Referred to the Finance Committee
MUGA: Repairs	Referred to the Finance Committee
MUGA: Brushing it after use	Referred to the Longmead Advisory Committee
MUGA: Signage	Referred to the Finance Committee
Security Checks	Referred to Finance Committee and Longmead Advisory Committee
Car park quotations	Referred to the Finance Committee
Clothing Bank	Location requested from Longmead Advisory Committee
Booking System	Pending decision on website
Licence	Pending discussions with other clerks on use of pavilions – Rate and VAT implications Referred to Finance Committee/Clerk
Solar Panels	The assessment is almost complete – Clerk to report to the December meeting.
Leap Area	All Parish Councillors to consider the way forward for the area
Tennis Area	Hedges had been cut
Defining Longmead's Boundaries And The Need For Fencing	Referred to the Finance Committee
Complete Ground Maintenance Programme For Longmead	Referred to Longmead Advisory Committee
Going Forward Location of bike ramps Entrance to the new land Entrance to the Cavanna land	All Parish Councillors to consider the way forward
Dead tree at Longmead	Quotations being obtained

8.3 Cemetery

Action plan to be updated/Clerk

8.4. Blackdown Healthy Living and Activities Centre

To be considered at the next meeting following the Finance Committee meeting.

8.6 The Commons

Gate post/Councillor Moon

8.7 Public Conveniences

CCTV cameras/Councillor Povah

8.8 Car Park

Ongoing actions:
Re-surfacing of the car park by MDDC.
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

8.9 Village Maintenance
Handrail at Eastlands/Contractor contacted

007/9. Project Reports
9.1 Community Land (Cavanna)
Liaison with Cavanna/Clerk
Liaison with solicitors/Clerk

9.2 Station Road Pavement
Quotations/Councillor Povah

9.4 Purchase of Land
Liaison with solicitors/Clerk

9.6. Biodiversity
Clerk to write strategy for understanding biodiversity of all Parish Council land and ways to increase biodiversity.

007/10. Community Matters
10.4 Footpaths
Installation of the new bridge on Footpath 19 was ongoing.

10.5 Speedwatch
Call for volunteers in the next edition of the Pump.

007/11. Highways
11.1 Road Warden Scheme
Tarmac ordered.

Change of speed limit request
Letter of support sent.

007/16. Clerk Update/Correspondence
Clerk/Follow up discussion on the possibility of a Park Run.

ITEM		PAGE
5	**Chairman's Announcement**	7

Clerk Review:
Review circulated.

Longmead:
Resignation of the cleaner at Longmead – effective 1 December 2026

From the Finance Committee:
Proposal: The Finance Committee recommends that an informal meeting be called to allow councillors to discuss the action plan. A resident survey should then be carried out.
PARISH COUNCIL TO MAKE A DECISION

Actions taken between meetings:
Turbary
Falling trees cleared at the Turbary (Health & Safety)

Meeting with the Tennis Club:
Decision required on the hedges between the Tennis Courts and the Play Area

ITEM		PAGE
6	**Finance**	8-11

6.1 To agree income and expenditure and bank reconciliations:
The information provided reflects the bank transactions to 28 October 2026.
An update will be given at the meeting to reflect the month end.

INCOME (to 28 October 2026)

Account ending 1298 £61500.00 (Precept)
Account ending 1308 £ 0.00
Account ending 1311 £ 0.00
Account ending 1324 £ 74.14
Exe Valley Pizza £20.00
Wayleave £54.14

Two transfer of £5000 each were made from the deposit account to the current account.
One transfer of £60000 was made from the current account to the deposit account.

EXPENDITURE – Invoices received 2026/27

Payments made to 30 September 2026

01-Oct-26	MDDC DIRECT DEBITS	1251581	-56.00	
01-Oct-26	HUSQVARNA UK LIMIT	8QNN4F.Z10000UE95M	-437.29	
05-Oct-26	VALDA ENERGY LIMIT	VALDAENERGY	-96.30	
06-Oct-26	VALDA ENERGY LIMIT	VALDAENERGY	-28.31	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: c houghton	HEMYOCK PC	-443.50	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: south west water	5017292201	-98.02	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: south west water	1699 4921 01	-26.71	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: R Taylor	PARISH COUNCIL	-145.00	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: Ben Macauly	129	-350.00	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: J Stevens Contract	INVOICE 0440	-300.00	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: pkf littlejohn llp	DV0179 HEMYOCK	-756.00	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: brookridge timber	318614	-390.06	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: Ben Macauly	123	-200.00	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: Scott Reed Supplie	3712	-264.00	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: Rebecca Thomson	SEPTEMBER HOURS	-182.00	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: Chrissie Parker	HPC/0018	-351.34	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: Blackdown Healthy	PARISH COUNCIL	-20.00	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: s aldworth	2568	-485.20	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: Starboard Systems	HEMYOCK 22386	-792.00	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: DCT	HEMYOCK PC	-50.00	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: Mrs S M McGeever	MILEAGE	-41.25	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: hmrc cumbernauld	120PW00334133	-393.96	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: Mrs S M McGeever	WAGES SEP26	-1043.95	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: Mrs S M McGeever	EXPENSES	-32.00	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: e ingledew	P COUNCIL	-144.00	
12-Oct-26	B/P to: I R Pike	CEMETERY GRASS	-360.00	-7486.89

Unity Accounts to 28 October 2026

Bank account	Closing balance 30/09/2026	Monies in	Monies out	Closing balance
Unity Trust Bank current 298	1627.20	71500.00	67486.89	5640.31
Unity Trust Bank deposit	154196.59	60074.14	10000.00	204270.73
Unity Trust Bank GF	782.28			782.28
Unity Trust Bank P3	1354.75			1354.75

Invoices to pay for October (approval at the November 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.	TBA	I Pike	Village maintenance Cemetery maintenance
2.	TBA	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
7.	26.00	S McGeever	Expenses
8.	**437.29**	**Husqvarna DD**	**Robot mowers**
9.	**29.82**	**Valda DD**	**Public convenience**
10.	**149.81**	**Valda DD**	**Longmead**
11.	20.00	BHLAC	Meeting room
12.	456.02	C Parker	Inventory/Business Continuity Plan
13.	91.00	R Thomson	Longmead cleaning
14.	496.00	Nico Page	Footpaths
15.	360.00	TBC	Topping - Longmead
16.	495.00	TBC	Hedges - Longmed

Bank Reconciliation

All bank accounts to 30 September 2026

HSBC Comm Acc 51082116	TBA	Monthly statement 22/10/26
HSBC Deposit 51082132	TBA	Monthly statement 22/10/26 Interest
HSBC Deposit	TBA	Monthly statement 22/10/26
United Trust Bank	90349.21	Next interest Oct 26
Unity Deposit 20371324	TBA	Monthly statement
Unity GF 20371311	782.28	Monthly statement
Unity P3 20371308	1354.75	Monthly statement
Unity Current 20371298	TBA	Monthly statement
Nationwide Instant Access	5295.96	Matured 31/3/26
Nationwide 35 day	87541.93	Matured 31/3/26
Cambridge Building Society CB01452546	85196.93	Matured 31/3/26
Total in Banks	TBA	

6.2 VAT

The VAT reimbursements are being prepared – 2023-24 ongoing, 24-25 and 25-26 ready to send.

6.3 Insurance
Recommendations had been:
The Parish Council make use of the Hiscox Risk Academy to insure that knowledge is up-to-date.

- **Risk Academy Platform Demo Video**

Multiple users can be added via a bulk upload.

The Parish Council get renewed valuations for each building:
Cardinus Risk Management provide desktop valuations which usually cost £180 + VAT
Action: The Finance Committee consider this option

The Parish Council undertake a tree survey as part of its autumn review.
Action: The Clerk to obtain quotations

6.4 Website
Update from Clerk – meeting taking place after agenda produced

Purchase of Parish Online to undertake maps for the Emergency Plan and utilise the asset facility would be £180.00.

6.5 Recommendations from the Finance Committee
The minutes of the Finance Committee have been circulated to Parish Councillors:

CURRENT YEAR:

1. The Finance Committee recommends that monthly budget information is published alongside the agenda for each meeting.

PARISH COUNCIL TO MAKE A DECISION

2. Looking at the current budget and expenditure, the Finance Committee RESOLVED to put the following recommendations to the Parish Council:

- The Parish Council make a grant payment of £600 to the Parish Pump in this financial year.
- The Parish Council make a grant payment of £1500 to the Food Larder in this financial year.

PARISH COUNCIL TO MAKE A DECISION

RESERVES:
Proposal:
MUGA: The sum of £3,430.00 is transferred from General Fund to the MUGA fund to bring the balance on the capital fund to 0 (zero)
PARISH COUNCIL TO MAKE A DECISION

Proposal:
RIVER LAND: The Finance Committee recommends the following sums be vired:

- The 'sinking fund' of £51,600 is transferred to a new River Land fund capital fund.
- The 'future project fund' of £68,500 is transferred to a new River Land capital fund.

These two amounts provide for £120,100.

- The 'Cavanna land' fund currently stands at £75,000 these funds came from the overage payment for the purchase of land. £49,900 of this fund should be transferred to a new River Land capital fund.

This amount would bring the River Land capital fund to £170,000.

A sum of £5000.00 had been set aside in the 2026/27 budget for solicitor's fees.
The Finance Committee recommends that this sum is also vired to the River Land capital fund.
There will be a shortfall in the solicitor's fund which can be met from the General Fund.
PARISH COUNCIL TO MAKE A DECISION

In line with the 2026/27 budget, the following amounts would be placed in reserves:

MDDC Assets	£10,000
LONGMEAD ROOF (SOLAR)	£10,000
PLAY PARK REPLACEMENT	£ 5,000
MUGA REPLACEMENT	£ 5,000
NEW CEMETERY PATH	£ 5,000

PARISH COUNCIL TO NOTE

PROMPT AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS:
The Clerk should have the delegated authority to set up employee and self-employed payments prior to a Parish Council meeting if that meeting was not on around the first day of the month.
PARISH COUNCIL TO MAKE A DECISION

GRANTS:
BHLAC
The Finance Committee concurred with the Parish Council that a full energy survey should be undertaken before substantial expenditure was made so that if additional solar panels were added this could be linked into a battery, air conditioning etc.

Proposal: The Finance Committee recommends that the Synergy quote be accepted to add valves and thermostats to radiators to cut the consumption of heating oil. The cost is £4450.00
PARISH COUNCIL TO MAKE A DECISION

Youth Club
Proposal: The Finance Committee recommends that a grant of £500 be given to the Youth Club.
PARISH COUNCIL TO MAKE A DECISION

Mary Waldron Trust
The Finance Committee felt that the Trust should explore other possible co-operation with the Second Poor Charity or the Clayhidon Charity before requesting monies from the Parish Council.
PARISH COUNCIL TO NOTE

OTHER MATTERS:

1. **Proposal:** The Finance Committee recommends that Mrs Parker's hours be increased from a maximum of 20 hours per month to a maximum of 40 hours per month at £15.00 per hour.

PARISH COUNCIL TO MAKE A DECISION

LONGMEAD
The Finance Committee considered there was insufficient time to cover Longmead at this meeting and would meet again in November.

ITEM		PAGE
7.	**Setting the budget and precept**	12

Both the Clerk and the Chair had produced a budget under the constraints of the significant increase in 2026/27 and whilst some amount had differed slightly both had reached a figure or approximately £130,000 which represented an increase of £7,000 or £7 per year per Band D household.

On the 26/27 worksheet this amounted to £141.84 per Band D household.

The Finance Committee had carried out a detailed review of the costs centre and budget amounts presented at the meeting.

Within known expenditure, the Finance Committee recognised that some expenditure would come from reserves and these amounts whilst shown in the budget were excluded from the precept calculation.

The Finance Committee RESOLVED to put the following recommendation for the Parish Council:
Proposal: The precept for 2027/28 be set at £130,000.
PARISH COUNCIL TO MAKE A DECISION

Options:

a) Accept the Finance Committee's proposal
b) Ask the Finance Committee to review the budget in light of comments made by the Parish Council

A revised budget to reflect the discussions and the recommendation of a precept of £130,000 was circulated to the Finance Committee before being sent to the Parish Council for consideration at its November meeting

ITEM		PAGE
8.	**Planning**	13

8.1 To consider the following applications:-

There have been no planning applications received in October.

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

26/01046/FULL – APPROVED – 2 OCTOBER 2026
Proposal: Variation of Condition 2 of planning permission 24/00783/FULL (Conversion and extension of barn to self-build dwelling and erection of a link-to garage with store) to allow the substitution of approved plans to incorporate integrated solar panels on the main barn roof Location: Land and Buildings at NGR 311821 115118 (Cracklehayes Barn) Hemyock Devon

8.3 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 matters:
Plan Mid Devon – Local Green Space consultation
All Parish Councillors to submit thoughts to the Clerk
Deadline for response: 7 January 2027

Mid-Devon District Council – Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment
All Parish Councillors to submit thoughts to the Clerk to start preparing a response for the next full consultation of Plan Mid Devon (see below)

Plan Mid Devon
Next full consultation – January 2027

ITEM		PAGE
9	**Asset Management Reports**	14

9.1 Longmead
The Finance Committee will meet in November to consider all items listed in the report from the minutes of the October meeting.

Bring forward to the next meeting.

9.2 War memorial
Nothing to report.

9.3 Cemetery
Clerk adding the steps needed to extend the cemetery to the Action Plan which requires discussion by the Parish Council as to timescales.

Councillor Ward to report on trees which can be managed and burnt by the Parish Council.

9.4. Blackdown Healthy Living and Activities Centre
Report from Councillor P Doble

The Finance Committee's recommendation will be considered under Finance.

Report on
- 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. Authorisation to complete the lease sent to the solicitor.

9.5 The Parish Store
Councillor P Doble – nothing to report

9.6 The Commons
Report from Councillor Moon – gate post

9.7 Public Conveniences
Report from Councillor Povah
CCTV cameras

9.8 Car Park
Report from the Clerk
- Date for resurfacing still awaited
- Lighting on footpath from the Car Park to Redwoods Close plus trip hazard – ongoing
- DCC have appointed a contractor – information from the meeting circulated – now awaiting decision as to which car parks have made the list for the installation of electric car charges
- Baptist Church are taking action on the wall in October.

9.9 Village Maintenance
Maintenance continues around the village.

9.10 Ground Maintenance
Report from the Clerk
A full maintenance programme is being put written together with a list of contractors.
Part of the Action Plan

TEM		PAGE
10	**Project Reports**	15

10.1 Community Land (Cavanna)

Report from the Clerk

- The Parish Council is still awaiting a response from its solicitor to clarify further points raised.
- The Parish Council recommended that Cavanna plant a ground cover crop pending the re-spraying of the fields in the Spring. Response awaited

10.2 Station Road Pavement

Progress report from Councillor Povah

10.3 Connecting the Culm/DRIP

Nothing to report.

10.4 Purchase of Land

Draft contract circulated to Parish Councilors

10.5 Building Maintenance

Councillor Povah to provide an update.

10.6. Biodiversity

Consideration of ways biodiversity can be increased in the parish.
Due to work on the budget and precept, this item is deferred to the December meeting.

ITEM		PAGE
11	**Community Matters**	16

11.1 Garages
Councillor K Atkinson – Nothing to report

11.2 Hemyock Community Larder
Councillor P Doble - Nothing to report

11.3 Hemyock Day/Lights Project

11.4 Footpaths (P3)
Report from Councillor Povah
Closure of footpath 19 for repairs
State of footpath 23 – have requested it be cleared

11.5 Speedwatch
Call for volunteers

ITEM		PAGE
12	**Highways** - traffic issues and pavements	17

Road Warden
Report from Clerk

- Road Warden/Flood Warden
  The cones have been delivered

- 20mph applications/speed limits
  Update from Councillor Clist

- Flood Warden Scheme
  Information circulated to Parish Councillors

- Hedgerow reports
  Overgrowth on hedgerows has been reported.
  DCC response: We do not consider the height as a defect, however if they are encroaching into the carriageway and reducing the width, then we can notice the landowner. Could you please report the overgrown vegetation online, an inspection can be carried out and issue a notice issued if appropriate.

- Road by the footbridge
  Repairs have taken place

Lengths man
Report awaited

Highways Matters:

Change of speed limit request
Response sent

DCC Highways policy on mirrors
Meeting requested.

Barriers
Meeting requested.

ITEM		PAGE
13	**Police Matters** - Councillor Advocate Scheme	18

13.1 Crime

ASB

The police have provided information on the number of ASB incidents reported and given the indication that there are a number of ongoing investigations.

Councillor Ward to report on 'Observes on patrol, Mid Devon'.

13.2 Councillor Advocate Scheme

Report from Councillor Clist

ITEM		PAGE
17	**Clerk update/Correspondence received**	19

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

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.
The final report for the MDDC funded Housing Needs Survey has been circulated.

MDDC Assets
Expression of interest submitted. It is understood that further information will be received shortly and that MDDC is going ahead with the disposal of assets.

Neighbourhood Health: The Rural Picture
Swimbridge Village Hall | 2nd December, from 2pm
This event will be followed by **Devon Communities Together's AGM**, with

Giant Tree Circle
The Giant Tree Circle is a community tree planting project building a Giant Circle of Trees across England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and Northern Ireland, with its centre on Anglesey in North Wales. A symbol of hope, sustainability and togetherness.
They are looking to plant 5,000 trees in 2026/2027
Parts of the Hemyock Parish Council area sit on the Circle, and they would likie to look at community involvement which could include planting native trees on community or council land, connecting us with landowners, schools and community groups, or simply helping us spread the word.

Litter picking equipment
The equipment has been sponsored by a local company, AltEnergy.

Hemyock junior/senior parkrun
Meeting taking place

Remembrance Wreath
Councillor Povah to report

Consultation on Tiverton Town Centre
Please find details of a consultation by Mid Devon District Council regarding Tiverton town centre.
Tiverton Framework for the Future | Let's Talk Mid Devon

Application to designate a Neighbourhood Area for Culmstock Parish
Mid Devon District Council has received an application from Culmstock Parish Council to designate the parish of Culmstock as a Neighbourhood Area.
A copy of the Culmstock Neighbourhood Area application can be viewed on our website Culmstock Neighbourhood Plan - MIDDEVON.GOV.UK

		PAGE
19	**Date of the next meeting**	20

Date of the next meetings:

2 December 2026

Dates to be decided:

Asset Management Working Group (consider documentation from Miss Lawrence)

Action Plan Meeting

Commons Meeting

Emergency Plan

Finance Committee – November