

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20TH
APRIL 1995, AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WOODBURY**

Present : Cllr J Adams (Chairman of Woodbury Parish Council) and Cllrs Dr P. Austin, Mrs A. Follett, P Glanvill, G. Hallett, Mrs J. Logan, I Loman, J Pickering, N. Sanders, Mrs M. Smith.

C/Cllr J Glanvill and representatives from several parish organisations and approximately 110 members of the public were also in attendance.

The Clerk to the Parish Council, Ms J A Wright, took the Minutes.

Apologies were received from D/Cllr S Owen.

THE MINUTES of the Parish Meeting held on the 28th April 1994 were read by the Clerk and confirmed as correct.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT : Cllr Adams told the audience that the preceding year had probably been the busiest it had ever been in the eleven years he had been proud to serve on the Council, and he was proud to have been the Chairman of the Parish Council during its centenary year.

The Chairman then reported on the following topics.

1. The Beacon. In spite of representations by the Parish Council and Sir Peter Emery, MP, and great efforts by Clinton Devon Estates, it was not possible to persuade English Heritage to permit planting upon the Beacon. However extensive management and planting of the surrounding area had been carried out and the Chairman was grateful to Clinton Devon Estates for their efforts.
2. New Clerk. The Chairman was pleased to say that Ms Julie-Ann Wright had settled into the role of Parish Clerk with a great enthusiasm and has attended a number of courses on the role of the Council.
3. The Centenary. The Centenary Celebrations were the highlight of the month of July and the cohesion between residents of all three villages produced a wonderful community spirit. The Chairman thanked all those involved in the project.
4. Woodbury Salterton. The motorcross has now ceased at Greendale Barton, the paintball hopefully ended at Mill Park and the new youth club flourishes and the new bottlebank at the rear of the Digger's

Rest installed. Regrettably the Post Office and Stores is threatened with closure, but negotiations may be effected with the proprietor depending on the results of a current survey.

5. Woodbury Park Golf & Country Club. The Club has never been far from the front page news since June 1994 when Mr Mansell first floated his ideas. Certainly the project has provided employment for people in East Devon with the three main contracts being set locally. These are all contentious planning applications but Cllr Adams feels that what has been done so far has been within the realms of the planning permissions granted. The Pay & Play facilities continue to be available to all levels of golfers.
6. Woodmanton Pottery. This company continues to expand but a change in policy has resulted in the larger products and hopefully the heavier traffic being concentrated at their second factory in Bovey Tracey. Nonetheless Woodmanton continues to employ more and more staff from the East Devon area.
7. Allotments. There continues to be a great debate over a possible site for the new allotments and it will continue to be high on the list of priorities for the new council.
8. The Arch. Improvements to the control of traffic at the Arch and along Broadway are again high on the priority list of the Council, and this will be covered in more depth later. The growth of residential development between Exmouth and Woodbury Common contributes to our concerns about traffic, but as a parish we must remember that Exton suffers the A376 as Woodbury suffers the B3179.
9. Tree Planting. A success to record has been the tree planting at Stokes Mead and the Exton Play Area. My thanks to the tree wardens and the residents concerned.
10. Footpaths. The Parish Paths Partnership continues to flourish. A fifth map has recently been published and enthusiastically received. My thanks to Mr Eric Ware, Footpath Warden and the Rights of Way, P3 workers at Devon County Council.
11. Local Government Review. The largest majority of responses from those in East Devon is to remain in the two tier system, save for Plymouth becoming a unitary authority. Against the wishes of most of those in Devon, Torquay has also been recommended to become a unitary authority, it has been suggested that Exeter may also follow suit. If these options are granted then D.C.C will have less to spend on roads, education and social services etc. for the rural areas. The Parish Council has continued to press for the two tier system to remain.

Cllr Adams then mentioned the forthcoming elections and thanked those Councillor's who were retiring and wished the others the best of luck, then he thanked them and the County and District Councillors for their efforts during the last year.

PARISH COUNCIL'S ACCOUNTS: Cllr Sanders presented the accounts and commented on the small rise in the Precept which had been made to accommodate the forthcoming new allotments and the elections in May.

PAROCHIAL ACCOUNTS : Mr Eric Ware presented the Charity Accounts.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT : Cllr John Glanvill spoke about the Local Government review, and the concerns of D.C.C should Exeter also be granted unitary status. Cllr Glanvill then discussed the plans for the reduction in speed along the B3179 and reducing accidents at the Arch and pledged that he would endeavour to keep monies set aside at D.C.C to carry out this work. The development at the golf course was, in Cllr Glanvill's opinion, good for the area as it provided local jobs and created a tourist attraction. Finally, Cllr Glanvill thanked the Chairman and the Parish Council for their co-operation during the last year.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT : Cllr Owen sent his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting and enclosed a report which the Clerk read out. It mentioned that East Devon had retained it's position of being one of only four District Councils within England to be totally debt free, and that this had been achieved without any redundancies or cuts in service. The golf club development was also mentioned, with Cllr Owen stating that he hoped that there was much further potential for local employment. Cllr Owen also mentioned that as he was retiring from office at the elections, that he hoped that the new District Councillor would also form good links with the Parish Council and he thanked those people who elected him four years ago as he had enjoyed serving the district.

After a short interlude when tea and coffee was served, several community organisations gave their reports :-

1. The Cessation of Hostilities Committee - Cllr Mrs M Smith
2. The Woodbury Village Hall Committee - Mr V Dubuisson
3. Woodbury Tennis Club - Mr P Browne
4. Woodbury Cricket Club - Mr V Dubuisson
5. Dumbutu Community Link - Cllr J Pickering

6. The Exton Play Area Committee - Mrs E Shepherd
7. The Centenary Allotments Association - Mr A Latham
8. Christ Church - Mr H Fulls

WOODBURY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB : Mr R Mawson, the General Manager of the Club gave a short report on the plans, and Mr Mansell's hopes that as little disturbance as possible would be made to the surrounding environment and that he hoped that the people of Woodbury would come to be proud of the development.

THE ARCH - IMPROVEMENTS / TRAFFIC LIGHT SCHEME : Cllr Sanders detailed the County Council's plans for the Arch area and after a short discussion it was agreed that another meeting would be arranged shortly to look into the developments in more details and allow time for questions.

As Inspector Deacon had been called away, there was no report from the local police.

There being no further business, Cllr Adams thanked everyone for coming and declared the meeting closed.

by Gallett

24 - 4 - 96

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24TH
APRIL 1996, AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WOODBURY**

Present : Cllr G Hallett (Chairman of Woodbury Parish Council) and Cllrs Miss S Austin, P Bricknell, Mrs V Edge, Mrs A. Follett, P Glanvill, I Loman, N. Sanders, Mrs M. Smith, S Stokes and Mrs D Wilson.

C/Cllr J Glanvill and representatives from several parish organisations and approximately 20 members of the public were also in attendance.

The Clerk to the Parish Council, Ms J A Wright, took the Minutes.

Apologies were received from Cllr D Brown and Mr E Ware and Mr J Pickering.

THE MINUTES of the Parish Meeting held on the 30th April 1995 were read by the Clerk and confirmed as correct.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Cllr Hallett spoke to the meeting about the elections held last May when seven new councillors were elected. Sadly, one of the new councillors, Andrew Squires was unable to continue as he had been accepted into the police force, Nick Sanders was co-opted in his place. The Chairman then spoke about various topics that had occurred during the preceding year :-

1. Tree Warden - Margaret Parkinson retired in her role as Woodbury Tree Warden, and thanks were given to all her hard work. Andrew Latham is her successor. Mrs Eileen Shepherd kindly agreed to become Exton's Tree Warden, and Sally Elliott remains as the warden for Woodbury Salterton. Thanks were given to these three for their work during the year.
2. Footpath Warden - Mr Eric Ware retired from this role, and the Chairman welcomed Mrs Jane Tucker as his replacement. The Council's heartfelt thanks were given to Mr Ware for leaving the footpaths in such good condition.
3. The Arch & Traffic Problems - An open meeting had been held during the year with the Devon County Engineer in attendance and a very positive and open discussion took place when it was noted that the majority of those present wanted the through traffic to slow down. A temporary arrangement at the Arch and works to the gateways on the main Woodbury road would take place when funds allowed.

4. Gulliford Cemetery - Grants have now been obtained for a full survey and a specification is being drawn up. It is hoped that work will start this year to restore this site.
5. Allotments - This has taken a lot of the Council's time, but a committee has now been elected consisting of Cllrs Austin, Brown, Glanvill, and Loman, and Mr Joyce and Mrs Davey from the Association. This has now helped to conclude the site and much of the work and already there are only a few plot left to rent.
6. Planning - a) Woodbury Park Golf & Country Club has taken up a lot of members time, but this now seems to be coming to an end and is fully operational. b) Mill Park, WS: This has been a problem as many planning rules have been broken. However, things are hopefully being settled soon. c) Greendale, WS : This site has seen more industrial usage and a decline in the agricultural side of things during the past year. d) Caravan Sites : There have been several applications for new sites, and extensions of existing ones within the Parish. The main problem is seen as traffic as many of the lanes are narrow and inadequate for this type of vehicle. e) Woodmanton Pottery : There have been problems over water flowing onto the road, tree planting schemes and the car park area but these now seem to have been resolved and the business brings useful employment to the area.
7. Lanes - From Woodbury and Downs Corner to Woodmanton - These lanes have been ruined by heavy earth moving tractors and trailers and left in an unusable state. Repairs have now been carried out by the County Council and action is being taken by the County Solicitor.
8. Playing Fields - The Council is trying to keep this area in a good condition, things have to be repaired or replaced as the insurance company lays down strict criteria. The Exton Play Area is almost complete with new trees and a hedge being planted recently.
9. Cricket Field - This is also nearly finished and is well used. The pond area is now being restored and thanks should be given to those people involved in the project.
10. Cessation of Hostilities Celebrations - A wonderful day was spent in celebration of both VE & VJ Days consisting of a fete at the Cricket Field and a Service on the Green. This year another mini-fete will be held on the Cricket Field, and an Annual Service has been arranged for July.
11. Notice Boards - The new boards have been put up, and street maps to be put in place soon. This project was funded by EDDC.

The Chairman concluded his report by thanking his fellow members and Vice Chairman and the Clerk for their work and time.

PARISH COUNCIL'S ACCOUNTS: Cllr Hallett presented the unaudited accounts for the year ended 31st March 1996, and commented that the cost to the average household was only 23p per week. Cllr Hallett then referred those present to the handout that summarised the expenditure and also the forthcoming precept.

Several questions were then asked by the public : 1) What was the WS Land Transfer ? ; The Clerk explained that this transaction was related to the new Tay Homes and was a sum to be spent on capital projects. 2) Which play area was to benefit from the fund for new equipment ?; Cllr Hallett reported that this was mainly to replace the old equipment at the Playing Fields. 3) Why couldn't the Annual Parish Meeting be held prior to the Council setting the precept ?; The Clerk replied that the LGA 1972 laid down what the dates could be so outside the Council's control. 4) Why were the admin. costs of the Council nearly 40% ? ; The Clerk reported that the actual administration costs had actually been reduced by the Council from an average 25% over the last three years to 10%, and this figure was also predicted for 1996/97.

COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT : Cllr John Glanvill stated that if the County Council had put its charge up by 25% there would have been an outcry. He then spoke about the Local Government review, and the dismay felt over the enormous expenditure to date. concerns of D.C.C should Exeter also be granted unitary status. Cllr Glanvill then highlighted the County's budget cuts with education funds being ring fenced, but with highways suffering many reductions. The plans for the Arch may have to be delayed. Cllr Glanvill stated that he considered it to be a priority to see that planning contributed to the local economy, and that he had listened to the Parish Council's concerns over local planning issues. Low cost housing was also a priority but not to the detriment of Devon, and the overall number recommended in the Structure Plan had now been reduced. Cllr Glanvill felt that many of the empty houses in the area should be investigated before building new ones. He then commented on how well run and cost effective the District Council was run and that it continued to be debt free. There were to be new Dog Wardens within the district and a new, ambitious recycling program. Cllr Glanvill said that he felt sorry for the tenants of Mill Park, WS, as the condition of the site was out of their control, but that hopefully thing would be done soon. Cllr Glanvill then thanked the Council and the Clerk for their co-operation during the year.

Questions then followed from the public on many and various topics.

PAROCHIAL ACCOUNTS : Mr Eric Ware sent his apologies and so the Clerk presented the accounts and these were accepted by the meeting.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS REPORTS : a) Woodbury Primary School - unfortunately, Cllr Brown had been called away suddenly and sent his apologies that he had no time to give a copy of his report to the Clerk.
b) Woodbury Salterton Primary School - Mr Pickering also sent his apologies for his inability to attend the meeting, but submitted a lengthy report, including a report from the headmistress, which the Clerk read. Afterwards Cllr Mrs Smith requested that only the Governor be allowed to submit a report in the future.

Several community organisations then gave their reports :-

- a) Woodbury Twinning Association : Mr Peter Shortland gave the meeting a brief outline of the history of the society and its links with Bretteville Sur Oden in Normandy, France. He stated that the society was completely self financing, raising money from dances, barbecues etc. and that each family was warmly welcomed in France, and that this was fully reciprocated back here, and events were short on ceremony and long on personal interaction.
- b) Local History Society : Mrs Gill Selley gave a short presentation on the main aims of the society, highlighting many of the interesting items found within Woodbury and talks the society had arranged. She then gave the meeting details of forthcoming events and said that new members or visitors were welcome to attend.
- c) St Swithun's - electrification of the clock : Preb, Peter McGee began by thanking everyone for his warm welcome into the village, he then spoke on the history of the clock, and the fact that before its installation Woodbury had been many minutes behind London time! Preb, McGee also commented on the work that was now needed to repair the clock and to bring it up to date and that he hoped the Parish would see this project not as repairs to the church clock, but as repairs to the parish clock.
- d) Woodbury Young Farmers -Phillipa Tait gave an interesting presentation explaining where the local group came in the national organisation, and the many talks and visits that the club had attended over the last year. Miss Tait also spoke of the many competitions and fund raising events that the club had also participated in. She added that whilst the club had continued to expand they were still keen to welcome young people since it provided opportunities for personal and social development.
- e) Woodbury Environmental Group - Andrew Latham outlined the background to the group, and explained that it had only recently been formed to try to protect and enhance the local environment. He said that it was a working group and not a pressure group.

The first project was the restoration of the pond in the Cricket Field, and Mr Latham spoke of the work already completed, the grants obtained and the hopes of the group for the ponds future. He also said that further ideas for new projects may be traffic calming, new orchards and a community composting scheme, but other ideas and volunteers were very welcome.

Cllr Hallett thank all the speakers for their most interesting and informative presentations. He then welcomed Inspector Edgcumbe from K Division, Exmouth.

ANNUAL REPORT FROM LOCAL POLICE : Inspector Allan Edgcumbe reported that the Parish of Woodbury was on the whole a very safe place to live, and that on average there had been less than two crimes per week, and if you took away vehicle crime, especially related to that on Woodbury Common, these figures dropped to less than one crime a week. Inspector Edgcumbe then presented the meeting with several copies of the Annual Plan (1996/97) for the D & C Police Force that was the result of many focus meetings and internal consultations, and spoke of the key areas listed. He also mentioned the new telephone system with the 0990 number and explained the necessity of its installation and the teething problems that had been occurring. He reiterated that in an emergency one should still use the 999 emergency number. Inspector Edgcumbe then thanked the Chairman for the invitation to attend the meeting, and for the co-operation during the year. He then answered a few questions from the public.

GENERAL ITEMS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC : A local trader enquired about the status of the petrol station on the Arch as it was seen as an eyesore and possible danger. Cllr Hallett agreed that the Council would follow up the enquiry and would seek a solution to the problem. Another member of the audience asked who was responsible for cleaning the roads and footpaths as it did not appear to happen very often. The Chairman replied that both the District and County Council were responsible and that the Council would follow up the question of frequency.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and all the speakers once again for giving up their time.

He then declared the meeting closed at 9.30pm

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 22nd
MAY, 1997, AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WOODBURY**

Present : Cllr G Hallett (Chairman of Woodbury Parish Council) and Cllrs Miss S Austin, P Bricknell, D Brown, Mrs V Edge, Mrs A. Follett, I Loman, Mrs M. Smith, S Stokes and Mrs D Wilson.

Mr John Maidment, from East Devon District Council, Mrs J Tucker (Footpath Warden), Mr A Latham (Tree Warden), and representatives from the Lions Club and Victim Support and approximately 40 members of the public were also in attendance.

The Clerk to the Parish Council, Mrs J A Adams, took the Minutes.

THE MINUTES of the Parish Meeting held on the 24th April 1996 were read by the Clerk and confirmed as correct.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Cllr Hallett welcomed everyone to the meeting and then spoke about various topics that had occurred during the preceding year that had been highlighted in the first Annual Report which had been delivered to all the households in the Parish :-

1. The Environment Day. This had been held in November 1996 and had been a very successful event encouraging and informing everyone about the footpaths in the parish, and about the role of the Parish Tree Wardens.
2. Community Grants Scheme. The Council had now agreed to set aside a sum annually to give to clubs and organisations that applied.
3. Allotments. The allotments were now up and running and the site was well supported, with only one plot vacant.
4. Gulliford Dissenters Cemetery. The first phase of restoring the cemetery had now been completed, with the re-opening to be held on the morning of the 30th May - all were welcome to attend. Cllr Hallett gave his thanks to the Chairman and members of the Committee who had worked very hard to get this project going.

The Chairman concluded his report by thanking his fellow members on the Council and especially the Vice Chairman and the Clerk for their work and time.

PARISH COUNCIL'S ACCOUNTS: The Clerk read out a report on the finances stating that the 1996 / 97 financial year had seen a great change in the type of accounts now required from Parish Councils. The Accounts & Audit Regulations Act, of 1996 now meant that instead of the old simple style of a receipts and payments sheet, a full set of accounts to encompass an Income & Expenditure A/C, a Balance Sheet, a debtors list, asset list and accompanying supporting statement must now be completed. The Clerk then drew attention to the handout given to the members of the audience, and commented that these would also be available on each of the Parish noticeboards in December. The Clerk stated that the accounts show that the Council have once again successfully achieved their aim to reduce the running costs, bearing in mind that inflation has risen over this period, this prudent housekeeping will once again be strived for in the forthcoming year. Mrs Adams reported that the current year had seen the precept remain at £19,000, working out to 28p per household per week. For this 28p per week, the Council cuts the grass in the amenity areas and play areas, purchases new play equip, consults on planning applications (98 in the last year plus over 50 other planning queries and concerns), consults on behalf of the community on many other legal documents such as the Waste Management Plan and the County Structure Plan, liaises with other local authorities over concerns and problems brought to their attention and acts as a grant and funding body to many organisations, manages the allotments, four play areas, a Village Green and the Cricket Field and numerous other items of benefit to everyone. Bearing in mind that the members are all volunteers, and do not receive any payment for their time, or expense such as telephone calls and mileage. All in all good value for money. The Clerk then answered several questions regarding the accounts.

PAROCHIAL ACCOUNTS : Cllr Smith (a trustee of the charity) explained what the charity was, and the funds as at 31st March 1997. Cllr Smith stated that as the sum was now considered to be too low to be effective it had been decided that the charity would dissolve, with all monies going into the Devon Community Foundation. Residents in need within the parish would still be able to apply for a grant from this body.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS REPORTS : a) Woodbury Primary School - Cllr Brown reported on the school year listing several triumphs and successful events. Cllr Brown also spoke of all the hard work of the members of the PTFA who had raised money for new equipment, and also provided labour for cleaning the swimming pool and painting the classrooms. Cllr Brown reported that the headmaster and his staff were all committed to maintaining high standards though-out all aspects of the school and this was reflected with the excellent SATS result.

- b) Woodbury Salterton Primary School - Mr Pickering sent his apologies for his inability to attend the meeting, and submitted a report which Cllr Stokes read. Mr Pickering had highlighted the 150 year anniversary of the school, and the events carried out to celebrate this. Mr Pickering also reflected on the successful Ofsted Inspection and accomplishments of the school and pupils. Some of the key staff had been ill during the year, but back at work now and with this and the school restored it can look forward to another prosperous year.

COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT : Cllr Hallett gave apologies for Cllr John Glanvill for his inability to attend the meeting as he had just been elected as Chairman of Devon County Council, congratulations were given by all present. Cllr Follett then read a report he had submitted. Cllr Glanvill had reported on the tight budgets for the County Council and also regarding the Structure Plan and community policing. He asked for any concerns regarding public transport to be reported to him. On District matters, Cllr Glanvill stated that the re-cycling scheme had been very successful, and that the budgets were also satisfactory. Local planning and housing concerns were also highlighted. Cllr Glanvill then thanked the Parish Council for their support over the last year.

Hon. Footpath Wardens Report : Mrs Jane Tucker gave a brief run down of the work carried out on the footpaths in the parish. It was reported that all the paths were in good order and that a healthy balance was held in the P3 account, even though the grant from D.C.C had been cut. Two village walks had been well attended, one on Midsummer evening and one on New Years Day. More organised walks had been planned with details in the Woodbury News.

Hon. Tree Wardens Report : Mr Andrew Latham reported on the role of the Tree Warden and detailed some community projects that they had been involved in. Mr Latham also spoke of the new tree nursery, and about Tree Preservation Orders. The Free Tree Scheme which the Parish Council had initiated at the Environment Day was well supported, and the Council had agreed to repeat this scheme again this year with details being published in the Woodbury News in the Autumn.

Representatives from the Lion's Club (Exmouth) and the Victim Support Scheme then gave a brief explanation of the role of their respective organisations, giving details of support and also inviting volunteers to join them. Cllr Hallett then thanked the speakers for their most interesting and informative presentations.

The Chairman then welcomed Mr John Maidment from East Devon District Council

LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES : Mr Maidment gave a presentation on the development boundaries of the three villages in the Parish, and spoke of the District Council's role, working alongside the Parish Council and the residents to achieve a balance of new developments whilst enhancing and protecting the rural nature of the area. Mr Maidment spoke of the current review of the County Structure Plan which had placed pressure on the District to allocate space for new dwellings, and stated that the District Council may well come to the Parish in early 1998, to request views on extending the boundaries, and these should be discussed soon so that a majority view could be put forward. Mr Maidment then answered various questions regarding planning issues. Cllr Hallett thanked Mr Maidment for his time, and stated that he hoped that the picture regarding planning was now a little clearer.

There being no written resolutions received, the Chairman then asked for any general questions from the floor.

GENERAL ITEMS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC : Mr Eric Ware asked how the plans for the improvements to the Arch were going as nothing much had been heard for some time. Cllr Hallett replied that the Council would look into the situation.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and all the speakers once again for giving up their time.

He then declared the meeting closed at 9.35pm

Margaret A. Smith
7-5-98

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7th
MAY, 1998, AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WOODBURY**

Present : Cllr Mrs M. Smith (Chairman of Woodbury Parish Council) and Cllrs P Bricknell, D Brown, Mrs A. Follett, P Glanvill G Hallett, I Loman, S Stokes and Mrs D Wilson.

Mr John Maidment, from East Devon District Council, Mr John Richardson Dawes, and Ms Lynn Hurlock from Devon County Council, Mr Ken Mullins representing the Millennium Committee, Mr Paddy Flavin from Woodbury Golf & Country Club and approximately 120 members of the public were also in attendance.

The Clerk to the Parish Council, Mrs J A Adams, took the Minutes.

THE MINUTES of the Parish Meeting held on the 22nd May 1997 were read by the Clerk and confirmed as correct.

1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Cllr Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting and then spoke about Cllr Hallett stepping down from the position of Chairman of the Parish Council due to family commitments. Cllr Smith spoke about Cllr Hallett's hard work and experience as a member of the Council and thanked him on behalf of the Parish. Cllr Smith then spoke about the following topics :-

- **Hon. Wardens** - volunteers who look after the play areas, trees and footpaths in the Parish, on behalf of the Council Cllr Smith thanked them for their hard work during the last year.
- **Allotments** - a waiting list was now in existence and it was nice to see the facility was being well used.
- **Youth Club** - Now up and running and very successful. Cllr Smith thanked all those involved in its organisation for their efforts.
- **Job Centre Notice Board** - This project, initiated by the Parish Council, has been very successful during the short time it has been erected. The Council hope that local unemployed people will benefit from it.
- **Parish Maps** - The Council had ordered a reprint, and these would be available for sale shortly.

- The Arch - Since last year, improvements in this area were investigated by Devon County Council and there were two reasons why nothing further had happened (i) because residents of Woodbury could not agree with plans put forward in the time scale allotted by the County Council, and (ii) because there had not been enough serious accidents in the area, thus not warranting a higher place on the Major Works list.

The Chairman concluded her report by thanking her fellow members on the Council and especially the Vice Chairman, Cllr Philip Glanvill who held the fort whilst she was away in America and the Clerk for their work and time. As one final point, Cllr Smith announced that she was sad to say that the Clerk was leaving the employment of the Parish Council to take up a full-time post of Town Clerk to Ivybridge Town Council. Cllr Smith thanked Mrs Adams for all her hard work for the Parish of Woodbury and everyone wished her well in her new position.

PARISH COUNCIL'S ACCOUNTS: The Clerk read out a report on the finances stating that the 1996 / 97 had been presented to the District Auditor and were certified to fairly represent the financial position of the Council. The Council were congratulated on the presentation of the accounts, no mean feat when only 1 in 5 Councils in Devon had their accounts signed off due to the problems some experienced over the new style set of accounting that had to now be submitted. The Clerk then referred to the Income & Expenditure sheets that had been handed out to the audience and stated that time had not allowed the accounts to be presented to the Council, but this would be done on the 11th May 1998. The Clerk then spoke about the various items on this sheet and also about the current years budget which had seen the same precept as last year. However, the Clerk pointed out that although there was no raise in the precept, because of an increased number of households in the Parish, it had actually meant that there was a reduction in the sum charged to residents from £15.03 to £14.89 for a Band D property or only 27p per week. Finally, Mrs Adams stated that should any resident wish to have a full set of accounts, these would be available for a small charge to cover the cost of printing. There were no questions.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS REPORTS : The reports relating to :- Woodbury Primary School and Woodbury Salterton Primary School were read by Cllr Stokes on behalf of Cllr Miss S Austin who sent her apologies, for Woodbury School, and by Cllr Brown on behalf of Mrs V Davieson, for Woodbury Salterton. There were no questions.

COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT : Cllr John Glanvill spoke about his meeting with the Chief Constable regarding concerns over youth problems in the Parish. Cllr Glanvill stated that he was pleased that there was a marked improvement and in the reinstatement of Community policing. Cllr Glanvill then spoke on the following topics :-

- Proposed changes to the District boundaries - especially the effects on planning issues
- Walkidons Way - concerns over its protection were still being discussed
- Village Hall extension - concern over financial support from the County and District
- Planning - 1998 - 2001 - After the Examination in Public, DCC agreed not to discuss the question of a new settlement until the final figure has been put forward for Devon. If a new settlement is not wanted, then parishes will have to extend. In some cases there are valid reasons for accepting this expansion such as to protect the viability of schools and local businesses.

Cllr Glanvill then thanked the Parish Council and Mrs Adams for their support over the last year.

Cllr Smith then spoke about the Parish Council's concern over the increasing housing development in the area over the last few years. With the recent review of the County Structure Plan the pressure on East Devon District Council to find new land is increasing. The Chairman then reminded those present, that at the last Annual Parish Meeting (which had not been so well supported) the subject was debated and views were requested from the residents of the Parish as to whether more development in the three villages was needed or wanted so that the majority view could be known. As little response had been forthcoming then or during the year, the Parish Council had put the matter on the agenda again. The Parish of Woodbury is in such a desirable area, being so close to Exmouth and Exeter and the within easy access of the M5 it is very likely that we (the Parish Council) will be amongst the first to be asked by the District Council for our views on any suitable open areas. The sketches sent out by our Clerk show possible areas that might be thought suitable for development. The Parish Council have not been approached formally yet, although the majority of the areas in the sketches are ones that were put forward by the owners or their agents to the District Council in the review of the District Plan at the end of last year. Other areas are ones that have been mentioned to the Council.

It was hoped that the sketches would draw the Parishes attention to the subject as the Parish Council needed to have a view point based on what was wanted by the majority.

The Chairman then welcomed Mr John Maidment from East Devon District Council

LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES : Mr Maidment gave a presentation on the most recent work by the District Council on the Conservation Area in Woodbury, and explained about the forthcoming controls called Article 4 (2) Directions that would affect non-listed buildings that had been noted for extra protection. Mr Maidment spoke of the proposals put forward by the Parish Council which showed the properties that the Council felt needed this extra protection, and of an exhibition that would be staged soon which gave those details, and those of the District's proposals for Conservation Areas in general. After a few questions from members of the public on this subject Mr Maidment then spoke about the recent review of the County Structure Plan, giving details of what was put forward by the panel, and the procedures now being discussed by the County Council and District Council. Mr Maidment stated that even allowing for land where permission was already granted, and for windfall sites, over 2300 dwellings would still need to be located in East Devon. Mr Maidment reported that the District would soon be writing to all the Parishes in the area, putting forward questions regarding suitable sites. Mr Maidment also referred to the Rural White Paper which called for sustainable developments to reduce the need for a car, and to ensure that employment needs had been addressed. He pointed out that community life today was very different to that of twenty or thirty years ago. More retired people had moved into the area, leaving a lower occupancy rate with 1 or 2 people living in large houses. Families were also more dispersed. More dwellings were therefore needed to cope with these changes. Mr Maidment explained that the current development boundaries of the three villages in the Parish were still valid until 2001.

Cllr Smith then read a letter received from Mrs Brighthouse expressing her concerns over the proposed housing figures for Devon and for development in Woodbury. The Chairman then opened the debate up to the audience. A question was asked as to what authority the Clerk had had in sending the sketches to the newspapers. The Clerk replied that as the Proper Officer of the Council it was her duty to advertise the meeting to ensure that the Parish was aware of the topics for debate. At the end of the Parish Council meeting held in April, the Clerk had spoken of her proposal to send the sketches, as other parishes she knew of had done, and all of those Councillors present had not raised any comments or concerns. Mrs Adams then stated that she had typed a press release to go with the sketches and given a copy to Cllr Sanders

(Woodbury Ward) Cllr Follett (Exton Ward) and Cllr Smith (Chairman and Woodbury Salterton Ward member) a week before they were sent out so that any comments or changes could be made. As none were forthcoming Mrs Adams stated that she assumed all was well and posted out the press releases as had happened in previous years. Mrs Adams reported that she was saddened to see that the press had seen fit to print a different slant on the information that had been sent as the purpose had been to alert the residents of the Parish to the agenda item regarding the impending threat of housing development, to enable views to be heard so that the Parish Council was prepared. No comments of concern or support had been received during the last year despite the subject being aired at the last Annual Parish Meeting, nor at several times during the year when articles had appeared in the Woodbury News or local papers. The Parish Council did not need apathy when looking to form such an important viewpoint. Other various questions were put forward relating to the demand for housing and also new development for light business use so that the "travel to work" area was reduced. After a useful debate, a show of hands indicated that everyone present felt that all development in the parish should be resisted.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their views and asked that people write to the Parish Council with their comments as this would assist future debates. Cllr J Glanvill wanted it recorded in the Minutes that he took no part in the "vote" on housing and business development.

Cllr Smith then invited Mr John Richardson Dawes and Ms Lynn Hurlock, from Devon County Council, to give a presentation on the status of Rural Transport and Community Transport Schemes.

Mr Richardson Dawes explained the history to the County's transport network and stated that the Government had that day announced a £1.4 million allocation for Devon, to put towards enhancing rural transport needs. The Parish Council would be asked for their suggestions in the near future. Mr Richardson Dawes then explained the Concessionary Fares Scheme and its benefit to residents in the Parish. Several questions and suggestions were then put forward. Mr Hurlock went on to explain the need for Community Transport Schemes, and their co-ordination to ensure that needs were met. Ms Hurlock highlighted the successful Ring & Ride Scheme and other local community schemes such as "Shopmobility" which it was hoped to expand after further surveys.

Cllr Smith then invited Mr Ken Mullins to speak about proposals for celebrating the Millennium. Mr Mullins spoke about the few members of the Community who had come forward to plan the celebrations, and of the ideas being discussed as possible proposals. These ranged from competitions, fetes, displays, an event in each village and an Ecumenical Service. Mr Mullins urged those present to come forward with their comments on these suggestions, or even new ones and stressed that what was most needed was volunteers !

Cllr Mrs Smith thanked Mr Mullins for his precise presentation, and asked that the audience contact with Mr Mullins direct, or the Clerk with ideas or names of volunteers.

The Chairman then asked Mr Paddy Flavin, the General Manager of the Woodbury Golf & Country Club to talk about the environmental developments at the Club. Mr Flavin then spoke about the wish to open up the Club to interested people who wished to see what had occurred since the new ownership. Mr Flavin felt that the work they had carried out had been sympathetic to the surroundings, and a marked improvement on the portacabins that had been the Club Hut ! Mr Flavin then spoke of the large number of trees and shrubs that had been planted on the course, and of the increase in wildlife such as pheasants and deers. Local employment issues were then discussed when Mr Flavin stated that very few local people had come forward when jobs were advertised, this was disappointing as the Club would like to see more local people involved, especially youngsters who were interested in training in the leisure industry. Mr Flavin then spoke of the plans to change the tennis courts into a 55 bedroom hotel to meet the need of visiting players and visitors. He reported that plans also included an area to display the trophies and other racing memorabilia of Mr Mansel which it was hoped would attract visitors to the area. Mr Flavin finished by stating that he felt that they had achieved a golf course that has grown in stature and reputation and that it was something that the local community could be proud of. Mr Flavin invited members of the public to contact the Council if they were interested in a guided tour one evening in June or July, so that arrangements could be made. Mr Flavin then answered various questions relating to the Club.

The Chairman thanked Mr Flavin for his most informative talk.

There being no written resolutions received, the Chairman then asked for any general questions from the floor. No questions or other issues were raised. There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and all the speakers once again for giving up their time. The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Margaret A Smith
28.4.99

MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28th APRIL 1999 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WOODBURY

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs M Smith (Chairman), Cllrs Miss Austin, Mrs Follett, & G Hallett

County Councillor J Glanvill was also present, together with the Community Policeman, Woodbury and Woodbury Salterton Tree Wardens and the Footpath Warden, together with 11 members of the public.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th May 1998 were confirmed at being correct.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: The Chairman welcomed Councillors and the Public and reported that the Parish Council had enjoyed another very busy year with the changeover of Clerk going very smoothly. Overseeing the running of the Parish, dealing with numerous planning applications and ensuring that all the village amenities were kept tidy and safe with the help of the Honorary Wardens was a large part of the Council's duties. The wardens are a tremendous help to the Parish Council, covering trees, footpaths and play areas and the Council is very grateful to them. There are also several volunteers who attend forums such as the Exe Estuary Forum and the Rural Transport Forum, committees such as the Police Liaison Committee and also meetings of Woodbury and Woodbury Salterton School Governors. The Chairman also extended thanks to the Community Policeman, PC Jim Shanks and his colleagues for all their assistance during the year.

The two small committees dealing with the Gulliford Cemetery in conjunction with Lympstone Parish Council and with the allotments were then mentioned. Gulliford had received considerable grant aid in the recent past and had only repointing works and the provision of an information board required to complete the project. The Job Centre Notice board, initiated last year, had unfortunately been out of action for most of the year whilst it was being redesigned and rebuilt.

Considerable concern had been expressed during the year by local residents over the increased parking on the Broadway below the Post Office resulting in almost total loss of visibility for anyone attempting to cross over to the Arch from Gilbrook. The Chairman advised that this was due to be addressed in the near future by Devon County Council Local Services Department who would be providing lines to show where it is legal and illegal to park both on the corner of Broadway and Gilbrook and on the corner opposite on the Arch.

During the year the Parish Council had been pleased to assist the village of Woodbury by giving a grant to the Village Hall Committee to allow it to seek assistance from other grant aiding bodies on a matched funding basis. The extension was now up and running with everyone very pleased with the result.

At the beginning of the year the Parish Council was approached by the Credit Union with a request that they include the Parish in Exmouth's "common bond". This was discussed at Council and agreed. The request from the Woodbury Multi-Sports Area committee for the Parish Council to provide a piece of land suitable for a multi sports area in Town Lane was approved and a lease negotiated with Clinton Devon Estates. The Committee is now fund raising prior to commencing building work.

Last but not least, the Parish Council applied for, and received grant aid from East Devon District Council under their Rural Aid Scheme both last year and for the coming year. The Plantation in Woodbury Salterton benefited from a new path last year and a new surface will be provided in 2000 for the path up to the Recreation Field in Woodbury.

The Chairman then thanked all the Parish Councillors for their hard work over the last four years and Cllr Gordon Hallett in particular, standing down after 52 years of dedicated and devoted service. He will be a tremendous loss to the Council.

ACCOUNTS: The Clerk read out a report on the finances stating that the 1997/98 accounts had been presented to the District Auditor and were certified fairly to represent the financial position of the Council. The 1998/99 accounts would be presented to the Council at the June meeting when all the new Councillors and Co-optees would have taken their seats.

The budget for the current year had been set in January, when it had been recommended and agreed, that the precept should remain at £19,000. The Precept had not been raised for four years. Discounting general administration, the year's budget included £3000 for environmental costs and approximately £4000 worth of grants. The play areas had been allocated some £1500 and the Parish Paths Scheme £300. £265 had been set aside for the allotments to cover site rent and contingencies, £150 for the Gulliford Burial Ground and £250 towards the Millenium Fund. This fund now stood at £1000. Despite all the Council's best efforts, it had proved impossible to find sufficient

M. A. S.
5th Nov. 2000

interested parties to set up a Millenium Committee and it had therefore been decided at the April meeting that the fairest course of action regarding the division of the fund would be to invite applications for funding. This would be advertised on the Parish Noticeboards and in the Woodbury News. The closing date for receipt of applications would be 1st October 1999 and successful applicants would be advised in November 1999.

The Clerk then advised that the Parish had only eight candidates for twelve seats at the forthcoming local elections. Four representatives would have to be co-opted to the Council. Three seats are available in Woodbury and one in Exton. Anyone interested in joining the Parish Council was asked to contact the Council before 10th May when the first meeting of the new Council will be held.

COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT : Cllr John Glanvill gave a very interesting report including the following points:

- 1: Planning - no extension of present boundaries. He is doing his best to ensure no new settlements in this area.
- 2: Road Maintenance v Education. Education has been ringfenced over the last 3 years. More money must be spent on road maintenance. Three million pounds has been taken away from Devon & given to the Home Counties. There had been a budget increase of 8.3% at County level - no increase at District level.
- 3: Recycling in East Devon - new strategy to cover whole of East Devon area.
- 4: Crime & Disorder - partnership principle was important to follow on local policy issues.
- 5: County Budget: £3million for social services and care in the community for older people.
- 6: A376 scheme has been abandoned and other options are not on the "urgent" list.
- 7: Park Close - residents have a new Warden. People from Manchester and Birmingham are getting priority because of the points system. Preference should be given to local people.
- 8: Planning - decisions must relate to planning law and be based on that as an issue.
- 9: Pebblebed Issue - European Directive SSSI - Ratepayers should not have to foot the £10M bill.

Cllr Glanvill then thanked the Parish Council for its support over the year.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS' REPORTS :

Woodbury Primary School Cllr Miss Austin reported that Woodbury Primary School continued to thrive. The children had been performing at dance exhibitions and had had talks from various bodies including "Help the Aged" to raise the childrens' understanding and general awareness of the elderly. £135.50 had been raised by a sponsored walk for this charity. The school was sorry to lose Mrs Wilkinson to New Zealand but it was hoped that a new deputy head would be appointed shortly. Future events to be held included a Fashion Show on 7th May, a car boot sale in June and the Summer Fair in on 11th July. Village support would be much appreciated.

WOODBURY SALTERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL The report relating to Woodbury Salteron Primary School was read by the Clerk, in the absence of Mrs Davieson who had sent her apologies, as follows:

- 1: The new headteacher, Mrs Andrea Brown had completed a year in the position and had settled in well.
- 2: Literacy hour - This had been implemented this year and involved teaching an hour of literacy each morning following a very definite structure and curriculum content. It was proposed that a numeracy hour be introduced later in the year.
- 3: Computer Research - The school was one of six schools in Devon selected to take part in a special computer research project involving three donated computers which would be networked and accessed to the Internet.
- 4: Parent Teacher Association - the PTA had been responsible for an impressive programme of fund raising and social functions including a sponsored walk, Christmas Fayre, Jumble Sale & Disco. These events raised a considerable amount of money which had been used for additional PCs and other equipment for the school. They had also paid for two members to attend a child-care course. The link between the school and PTA was a valuable one and their support and hard work was much appreciated.

Numbers in the school had increased during the year and there were presently 79 children attending. Planning permission had been obtained with the help of the Parish Council for the swimming pool enclosure and maintenance and remedial work had been carried out on the school building during the year and a new mezzanine floor created.

Tribute was paid to the teaching staff for their professional commitment and dedication and the amount of time and effort devoted to the education of the children. Likewise the Governing Body was a committed one, giving freely of its time and expertise, supporting and working closely with school staff.

M.A.S

5.4.2006

HONORARY FOOTPATH WARDEN & TREE WARDEN REPORTS :

The Footpath Warden reported that no major new work had been done in the year but plenty of important routine work had been accomplished. Footpath FP3 had been diverted but had now been reinstated to its original line. Footpath FP4 to Rydon Lane was severely damaged but that had also been repaired. A new dog gate had been built at the Parsonage end of FP1. The midsummer walk was well supported with some 20 walkers and dogs rambling in the south west corner of the Common. New Year by contrast produced four walkers and three dogs. The financial position is healthy with over £1800 currently in hand including the year's DCC grant of £600. The Walks leaflet is still in abeyance but there is still hope for partial funding. Finally the Footpath Warden thanked the Parish Clerk, local farmers and landowners for continuing co-operation and help with the paths.

The Woodbury Tree Warden briefly outlined his activities during the year including tending the tree nursery at the allotments and liaising with DCC over tree planting etc. He felt that more liaison would be appropriate between all the wardens and requested a reinstatement of occasional meetings between them.

COMMUNITY POLICEMAN REPORT :

PC Jim Shanks reported that there had been considerable changes in the organisation of the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary deployment and allocation of resources during 1998/99. The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 had led to changes in responsibilities which are now shared by all agencies within community and local government.

- * Woodbury Parish falls within area 4 and the reintroduction of ward officers operating from Budleigh Salterton Police station.
- * A response capability is retained by the Sections at Exmouth Police Station operating 24 hours a day 7 days a week.
- * The Devon & Cornwall Special Constabulary continue to support both the response and ward officer patrols, in particular attending special events.
- * An audit report has been conducted which has produced a crime and disorder reduction strategy for East Devon

Objective 1 - to reduce the fear of house burglary by 5%

Objective 2 - to prevent any further increase in the growth of anti-social behaviour

Objective 3 - to reduce recorded incidents of vandalism

Objective 4 - to reduce the number of thefts of vehicles across the district

Objective 5 - to reduce drug misuse and the associated criminal behaviour disorder and fear in our communities.

- * A breakdown of the recorded figures for 1998 in Woodbury Parish show that the total number of reported crimes was 56 and in the first quarter of 1999 there have been 14. This indicates no change at the present time.
- * The Budleigh Officers (K50) intend to police their wards by the increase of foot and vehicle presence in the respective villages of each officer. The village shops, public houses, schools and public meeting places will be targeted and liaison between officers and the responsible persons placed on a personal basis.

PC Shanks concluded by thanking the members of the public in the Parish for the information that has led to the apprehension of offenders. Their assistance had resulted in the detection of reported crimes. Furthermore, the support and commitment of the Special Constables in Woodbury was very much appreciated.

RESOLUTIONS : No written resolutions had been received.

ANY OTHER ITEMS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC : The following items were raised from the floor:

1. Mr Eric Ware enquired whether the 7.30 and 8.45 buses from Exmouth & Budleigh could use Town Lane or Fulford Way in order to facilitate their use by the elderly residents of Park close. (Clerk to enquire)
2. Andrew Latham enquired whether anything could be done to find a venue to recycle plastic. (DCC is looking into this)
3. Miss Thompson enquired whether anything could be done to slow the traffic in Town Lane and on the Broadway.
4. Andrew Latham enquired whether an advisory speed limit of 20mph would have any effect.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and all the speakers for giving up their time. The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Margaret A Smith
5.4.2005

MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5th APRIL 2000 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WOODBURY

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs M Smith (Chairman), Cllrs Bricknell, R Brown, Mrs Follett, P Glanvill, Mrs Lewis, Limb & Stokes

Mr Geoff Poad & Mr John Maidment from EDDC were also present, together with County Councillor J Glanvill, PC Jim Shanks, 40 members of the public and 1 member of the press.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the meeting held on 28th April 1999 were confirmed at being correct.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: The Chairman welcomed Councillors and the Public and gave her report relating to the running of the Parish. She outlined the duties of the Council, one of which was the provision of funding for various causes in the Parish. The Millennium fund had been distributed and the Community Grant fund divided between Woodbury Salterton Primary School to assist with the purchase of their swimming pool cover and the Multi Sports Area Committee towards the funding for the sports area in Town Lane Woodbury. East Devon District Council had also done their bit towards assisting the Parish in various ways. In February almost 500 free trees were distributed to Parishioners via the Exton tree warden and free tree co-ordinator. East Devon District Council was also the instigator of the Issues Report - a report dealing with the provision of several thousand new homes in the area. That has led to the Parish Council setting up a working party to look into the viability of producing a Village Design Statement through which the Parish as a whole may take a pro-active part in the future planning development of the villages. Finally the chairman said a big thank you to all the voluntary wardens who do so much behind the scenes to look after the villages.

ACCOUNTS : The Clerk read out a report on the finances stating that the 1998/99 accounts had been presented to the District Auditor and were certified fairly to represent the financial position of the Council. The 1999/00 accounts would be presented to the Council at the June meeting. She continued that 1999 saw grant aided expenditure in the sum of approximately £3000 on the Recreation Field at Woodbury where a new tarmac path was installed and at the Gulliford Burial Grounds where a small sum for maintenance costs was recovered from East Devon. EDDC funds are to be made available this year to improve the entrance to the play area at Exton and to install a small fence and new hedging at the Woodbury Village Green play area. The budget for the current year had been set in January, at a figure of £19,000. In view of the increase in Parish population, this would result in a small drop in the public's council tax contribution of approx 60p since 1996. Other than general administration, the current year's budget included £3750 for environmental costs and approximately £4000 worth of grants. The play areas were allocated almost £2000 and the Parish Paths Scheme £300. £265 had been set aside for the allotments to cover site rent and contingencies, £150 for the Gulliford Burial Ground and £250 towards a new fund to assist with the maintenance on the clock on St Swithuns Church tower. Every year the Council sets aside £1000 as a community grant. Any bona fide group or society can apply for consideration for a part of the funds and application forms are available from June onwards for consideration at the October meeting.

COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT : Cllr John Glanvill gave a very interesting report on "Working for a Better Devon" representing a culture for change where the County Council must listen to local views instead of inflicting their own views. He also spoke about the Issues Report and the fact that Woodbury Salterton was within the Area of Economic Activity which might result in some new development in that area. There might be a new settlement at Broadclyst. Flood prevention was at the forefront of the County's mind as many properties had been flooded for the first time ever. They would try and get extra funding from Central Government for this growing problem. He finished his report by explaining that the 5.96% increase in rates was the lowest in the eight years that he had been on the Council and that the funds for education had been ring fenced for three years running. The state of the roads had been called into question although Woodbury was not too bad. Cllr Glanvill then thanked the Clerk & Parish Councillors for their support in the year.

COMMUNITY POLICEMAN'S REPORT : PC Jim Shanks reported that the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary had introduced changes in its organisation of resources during the previous year and they had also seen the introduction of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998. There would be civil rights changes enroute from Brussels to look forward to in the year 2000.

- * Woodbury Parish is in Area 4 and ward officers operate from Budleigh police station.
- * A response capability is retained by the Sections at Exmouth Police Station operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Margaret A Smith
26.3.2001

- * The Devon & Cornwall Special constabulary continue to support both the response and ward officer patrols, in particular attending special events.
- * There were 94 reported crimes in the KE3M Area and the results for the audit report into the crime and disorder reduction strategy for East Devon are as follows:

Objective 1 - to reduce the fear of house burglary by 5%

Outcome - House burglary was reduced by 75% from 1998

Objective 2 - to prevent any further increase in the growth of anti-social behaviour

Outcome - A reduction of incidents and complaints regarding the Arch & under-age drinking.

Objective 3 - to reduce recorded incidents of vandalism

Outcome - The number of recorded incidents is still too high and this problem is being addressed.

Objective 4 - to reduce the number of thefts of vehicles across the district

Outcome - The number of thefts from vehicles had been reduced by 16% since 1998.

Objective 5 - to reduce drug misuse and the associated criminal behaviour disorder and fear in our communities.

Outcome - A policy of "stop & search" at the Arch has been implemented which has resulted in persons being arrested for public order offences and the carriage of offensive weapons but to date no drugs have been located on persons in Woodbury.

Vehicle crime remains a problem throughout Devon & Cornwall and Woodbury Common has so far been the main target of car thieves in the Woodbury area.
PC Shanks concluded by thanking the Parish Council and parishioners for their support.

CHIEF PLANNING & TECHNICAL OFFICER EDDC : Mr Geoff Poad and Mr John

Maidment spoke on various issues, particularly relating to Planning and the Issues Report and the requirement for 3000 new houses in the Area of Economic Activity, in which area Woodbury Salterton was situated. The initial consultation produced 1300 replies and preliminary study put the option of placing 1000 dwellings in the villages low down the list. Figures up to 2016 suggest a dip in demand and the Council will continue to oppose this figure, but realistically there must be plans to cover it. To this end, the service providers of all kinds had met with the planners. EDDC was keen for consultation at all stages although alterations to the Local Plan at the next stage can only be to changes from the initial statement. Villages can take the initiative on planning by producing a Village Design Statement which Woodbury Parish Council had already decided to pursue. Such a Statement could eventually become supplementary planning guidance for new planning applications which would allow the village concerned to encourage designs in keeping with its character. Questions from the floor included the suggestion that dwellings above shops should be encouraged (this had been explored and insurance and access were significant drawbacks): a query as to whether a Village Design Statement might promote development (definitely not - it would be used to promote change) and a request for more information regarding the status of the AEA (part of the Structure Plan).

RESOLUTIONS : No written resolutions had been received.

ANY OTHER ITEMS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC : There were no further items raised by the public.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and all the speakers for giving up their time. The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Margaret A Smith
26.3.2001

MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 26th MARCH 2001 AT THE PARISH ROOMS, WOODBURY

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs M Smith (Chairman), Cllrs Bricknell, R Brown, Mrs Follett, P Glanvill, M Golby, M Gooding, N Sanders, B Limb & S Stokes

County & District Councillor J Glanvill (first three items), and six members of the public were also present.

Mrs Belinda Price, Clerk to the Parish Council took the Minutes.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the meeting held on 5th April 2000 were confirmed at being correct.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: The Chairman welcomed Councillors and the Public and thanked everyone for all the support they had given her over what had been a very difficult year for her. She continued by saying that the Parish Council had had another busy year overseeing the running of the Parish, dealing with numerous planning applications and ensuring that all the village amenities had been kept tidy and safe. Additionally there had been some house building directly onto a road in Woodbury which had involved the Clerk and Councillors in a considerable amount of time liaising with Highways and the Planning Authority in an attempt to keep the public as safe as possible. It might not always have seemed as if anyone was doing anything about the lack of pedestrian facilities etc but in fact a lot of time and effort was spent on it. She continued by reminding the public that one of the duties of a Parish Council is to providing funding for various causes in the parish. The community grant scheme which is distributed every year was been divided between Woodbury Primary School to assist with the painting of their playground; the scouts for the training of scout leaders and towards the purchase of tents and the Parish Rooms towards redecorating. This fund is distributed to bona fide groups/fund raising committees every October. East Devon District Council have also done their bit towards assisting the Parish in various ways. In February almost 500 free trees were distributed to Parishioners via the Exton tree warden and free tree co-ordinator and their Grass Roots Scheme has provided 200 trees and some of the labour to plant them in Exton play area. The Chairman then thanked all the voluntary wardens for their work behind the scenes looking after the villages and the Community Policeman for his work in the villages.

COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT : Cllr John Glanvill first spoke as the District Councillor, advising how frustrated he was regarding planning procedures at EDDC and mentioning that the Village Design Statement was an excellent way of ensuring that the Parishes' views and ideas were taken into account in the planning process. As the County Councillor he advised that the bridleways and footpaths should stay closed in an effort to curtail the spread of Foot & Mouth disease but that there were ample other facilities which would be open and miles of shoreline which visitors and residents alike could visit. It was improper of Central Government to say that the countryside is open for business. He advised that an extra £1M had gone into the pot for road maintenance and following the recent bad rainfall a further £0.5M had been made available. He continued that he approved of the new Executive System at Devon CC. Schools were well funded this year with a top up from government and the Police are at long last doing a good job at showing themselves around the villages. He finished by thanking the Chairman, Councillors and Clerk for all the work they did on behalf of the community. Questions from the floor included an observation that more information from Cllr Glanvill would be very welcome, particularly on subjects such as the Executive System. Cllr Glanvill replied that Devon CC would in future be making a monthly mailing to the Clerk which would be of interest to everyone.

ACCOUNTS : The Clerk read out a report on the finances stating that the 1999 / 00 accounts were currently being examined by the District Auditor so audited accounts could not be produced for the meeting. Copies of the Income & Expenditure sheet were made available but anyone requiring full copies of the audited accounts should contact the Clerk after the meeting. The accounts for 2000 / 01 would be presented to the Council at the June meeting. Millennium year 2000 saw grant aided expenditure in the sum of approximately £1000 at the Woodbury Village Green play area where a new hedge & fencing has been installed: at Exton play area with a new tarmac entrance and stone walling and at the Gulliford Burial Grounds where a small sum for maintenance costs was recovered from East Devon. EDDC funds are to be made available this year to install a fence along the stream at the Plantation, Woodbury Salterton and to upgrade the play equipment in the play area, also at Woodbury Salterton. Funding to upgrade the Exton play area equipment had not been received but this would be applied for once again in September.

ACCOUNTS

cont

The budget for this current year was set in January, when it was recommended and agreed, that the precept should remain at £19,000. This has not risen since April 1996 and in view of the increase in Parish population in effect results in a small drop in the council tax contribution of approximately 64p since 1996.

Other than general administration, the current year's budget includes £4350 for environmental costs and approximately £3000 worth of grants. The play areas have been allocated £1800 and the Parish Paths Scheme £300. £342 has been set aside for the allotments to cover site rent and contingencies, £150 for the Gulliford Burial Ground and £500 towards a new fund to assist with the costs associated with the Village Design Statement. In addition this year there are more substantial funds available for the repair and maintenance of the Parish Council assets.

Every year the Council sets aside £1000 as a community grant. Any bona fide group or society can apply for consideration for a part of the funds and application forms are available from June to the beginning of September for consideration at the October meeting. The clerk then invited questions relating to the accounts but none was forthcoming.

COMMUNITY POLICEMAN'S REPORT

PC Jim Shanks had been unavoidably detained and the Clerk read out his Report as follows:

Woodbury Parish is in area 4 and has 4 ward officers operating from Budleigh Salterton. The response capability is retained by the sections at Exmouth operating 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The crime and disorder reduction strategy for East Devon was as follows: (Last three year figures in brackets)

- * To reduce the fear of house burglary by 5%
 - * In the year 2000 there was an increase of burglaries, 50 above target (6:17:8)
 - * To prevent any further increase in the rate of growth in anti-social behaviour
 - * There was a reduction of incidents and complaints regarding the Arch and underage drinking but an increase of minor incidents involving youths in other areas of the villages, not drink related (31:48:26)
 - * To reduce recorded incidents of vandalism
 - * There were 10 recorded incidents of vandalism (13:5:9) High profile policing with traffic cars assisting the ward officers to reduce further these incidents have been implemented.
 - * To reduce the number of thefts from vehicles across the district.
 - * There had been a share of car crimes (38:31:31) Theft of motor vehicles (2:1:2).
 - * To reduce drug misuse and associated criminal behaviour, disorder and fear in the community.
- There has been one recorded incident of possession of drugs (class B - cannabis): one incident of drink-driving: stop and search in the area has resulted in the arrest of offenders for having an article with a blade, public order and alcohol related offences.

Vehicle crime continues to be a problem in the area although there has been a marked decrease in car crime in the last year - a drop of 200 incidents reported. With a base line of 100 and a comparison with the district area average of 105.7, we share a profile with villages such as Beer, Shute & Budleigh with a figure for Woodbury of 77.

The Clerk offered to forward any questions to the Community Policeman but there was none forthcoming.

RESOLUTIONS : No written resolutions had been received.

ANY OTHER ITEMS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC : There were no further items raised by the public.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and all the speakers for giving up their time. The meeting closed at 7.25pm.



13-3-02

WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON THE 13th MARCH 2002 AT THE VILLAGE HALL WOODBURY

Present : Cllr P Glanvill (in the Chair), Cllrs P Bricknell, R Brown, Mrs A Follett, M Gooding, B Limb & S Stokes

County & District Councillor John Glanvill, Mr John Varley & Mr Bungy Williams (Clinton Devon Estates), Mrs Jane Tucker, Mr John Balding & Mrs Sally Elliott (Footpath Warden & Exton & Woodbury Salterton Tree Wardens) and approximately 30 members of the public were also present.

Mrs Belinda Price, Clerk to the Parish Council took the Minutes

MINUTES : The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 26th March 2001 were confirmed as being correct.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT : Cllr Philip Glanvill commenced his report by thanking everyone for their help during the past year and especially the last eight months whilst the Chairman Margaret Smith had been unwell and he as Vice Chairman had been standing in. The Parish Council had had another busy year overseeing the running of the Parish, dealing with numerous planning applications and ensuring that the village amenities were kept safe and tidy. One of the duties of the Parish Council is to provide funding for various causes within the parish. This year the Community Grant Scheme had been distributed as follows:

1. St Andrew's Hall, Exton - to help prevent future flooding
2. Woodbury Football Club - for a secure storage unit
3. Woodbury Local History Society - as a contribution towards the Golden Jubilee celebrations
4. Holy Trinity Church, Woodbury Salterton - for replacement notice board
5. Woodbury C of E School PTFA for wooden seating in the playground

This fund is distributed to bona fide groups and fund raising committees every October and anyone requiring details should contact the Clerk by the beginning of September.

One of the highlights of the year was the completion of the draft Woodbury Village Design Statement. This document is the culmination of two years hard work by a small committee of councillors and parish residents led by its Chairman, Cllr Reg Brown.

East Devon's Environment and Planning Committee adopted the Village Design Statement at a meeting on 31st January this year making recommendation that the statement be adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance and used in the determination of planning applications in Woodbury parish and that the group be congratulated on their work and results. Indeed, the Chief Planning and Technical Officer's report states that additional copies will be printed and distributed as examples to other villages in East Devon. Every household in this parish will receive a copy free of charge later in the year.

Cllr Glanvill continued by giving thanks both to Terry & Diane Moger for their 26 years in the Post Office and to the Clerk for her work in assisting the smooth transition to the new owners. He reported that almost 400 free trees had been distributed to parishioners via the Exton tree warden and he thanked him and EDDC who supplied the trees.

He concluded by remarking upon the imposition by central government of a mandatory new Code of Conduct which all parish councillors must sign if they wish to continue as Councillors. He said that he felt that the imposition of such draconian measures mid term was an unnecessary burden for all and increased the bureaucracy already heaped onto Councillors who are only volunteers.

Finally Cllr Glanvill thanked PC Jim Shanks, the community policeman, all the voluntary wardens and the volunteers who keep an eye on the play areas and attend forums and committees and the Clerk and his fellow Councillors who have all given him tremendous support.

ACCOUNTS : The Clerk read out a report on the finances stating that the 2000/01 accounts had now been audited and referred Parishioners to the Income & Expenditure Account, copies of which had been circulated to all those present. She advised that the 2001/02 accounts would be presented to Council at the June meeting.

The year 2001 saw grant aided expenditure from EDDC in the sum of £1628 for fencing purposes and a capital grant, also from EDDC of £1778 towards new play equipment at the Exton and Woodbury Salterton play areas. This was match-funded by the Parish Council in the sum of £3136. Other funds received included a donation of £1858.80 from the Multi Sport Area Committee & £500 from the Community Safety Partnership for use in the building of the new BMX ramp area in Town Lane, a donation of £400 from "Wilt" towards equipment for one of the Woodbury play areas and a small sum from EDDC towards maintenance of the Gulliford Burial Ground.


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The budget for the current year was set in January when it was recommended and agreed that the Precept should increase slightly to £20107. This was the first rise since 1996 - evidence, should any be needed, of good housekeeping.

Other than general administration, this year's budget includes £4782 for environmental costs and £3000 worth of grants. The five play areas have been allocated a total of £2500 and the Parish Paths Scheme £300. £263 has been set aside for the allotments to cover site rental and contingencies, £150 for the Gulliford Burial Ground, £1500 for repairs & maintenance of PC assets and £500 to assist with any remaining costs relating to the Village Design Statement.

The Clerk concluded by drawing the public's attention to the PC noticeboards, one in each village where much useful information is displayed in the way of names and addresses, PC meeting dates and other events and important notices. She urged the meeting to keep an eye on the boards as they are always kept well up to date.

COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT : Cllr John Glanvill spoke of the trauma of foot and mouth and hoped that it was all behind us. He advised that at County level he had continued to put pressure on road maintenance in the Parish and had always had a good response from DCC area office at Sidmouth. He continued by saying that he had resisted the increase of Council Tax by 9.5% but funding was becoming increasingly difficult due to the lack of sufficient funding from central government. Education takes approximately half of the county £530M budget and has again been well provided for but the Social Services had major problems with spending on the elderly and maladjusted young people. There will be an overspend of £1.25M at least in the current year which will inevitably increase the problems next year unless extra funding is made available.

The disposal of waste is the largest growing problem and recycling and reducing the waste will be of paramount importance in the future. Landfill is fast running out and incineration, in principle, is being rejected.

Work at Exeter Airport which is fast expanding will continue and accelerate in the next 2 or 3 years. Exeter Airport is totally owned by the County Council and as such, Cllr Glanvill advised parishioners, he was a director.

The Structure Plan is now open for consultation and the implications of the proposed new community at Broadclyst are still causing concern.

Planning at District level is in a mess with numerous retrospective planning applications; Woodbury Salterton have had more than their fair share and Cllr Glanvill advised that he had had indications that there was something in the pipeline from central government in the future to address the issue.

Finally Cllr Glanvill advised that the Village Design Statement had been received with great acclaim by EDDC and he congratulated Cllr Reg Brown and his committee for all their efforts. He then sent his best wishes to the PC chairman, Mrs Margaret Smith who had been ill for some months.

REPORTS FROM THE HONORARY FOOTPATH WARDEN & EXTON TREE WARDEN : The Footpath Warden, Mrs Jane Tucker advised that her last report had been in April 1999 and that she would give a brief outline of events since then.

The summer of 1999 brought the annual battle with grass and rampant hedgerows and late in the summer, Moor Lane had a clearance and drainage treatment which improved the west end although the higher end still presents problems in wet weather. Later in the year the master transparencies of the original walks leaflets arrived and were printed by Optima Graphics.

2000 arrived and early in the year the 4000 walks leaflets were delivered. These were put on sale from retail outlets at £1 per pack after sponsors were found to fund the printing of the cover packs.

Early summer showed cattle damaged to FP5 compounded by a water mains leak and logging damage to BW2 (Rushmore).

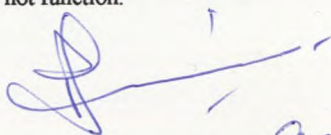
Winter brought annual surveys and much rain and saw the footbridge at the Exton end of FP4 washed away, closing the path for almost a year until a new and splendid footbridge was erected courtesy of EDDC.

2001 and Foot & Mouth Disease was confirmed in Devon on 27th February and one hectic day saw "keep out" notices printed, laminated and posted on all FP & BW entrances. On 2nd March notices from the Environment Agency regarding F&M and penalties for trespassing were distributed for general information to shops, pubs, etc. During the summer the paths were gradually re-opened - the untrodden grass had grown tremendously.

Winter 2001-02 and survey time came around again. Faded waymarks were replaced and many signposts were re-faced. With one notable exception the paths are in a generally acceptable condition, considering the time of year and a smart new kissing gate will hopefully soon be erected on the Broadway end of FP3.

Last week the condition of Walkidons Way was brought to my attention. Drainage work and road widening has badly damaged the hedgebanks. The Parish Council & ED Rights of Way office are aware of the situation and share the concern for the preservation of this ancient track.

Mrs Tucker finished by requesting volunteers to adopt a path and thanked the Clerk, Clinton Devon Estates and involved farmers and landowners without whose help and co-operation the Parish Paths Partnership could not function.


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The Exton Tree Warden, Mr John Balding spoke of the support received by the Tree Warden Scheme (now in its 10th year) from EDDC and advised that the 10th anniversary was commemorated by the presentation of a plaque to EDDC at the House of Lords by Michael Heseltine.

The Free Tree Scheme was once again successful in 2002 with a total of 387 trees being distributed by the three tree wardens, coordinated at Exton, with very positive feedback being received from the recipients of the trees. A total of just under 10,000 trees were distributed from EDDC overall – the expectation had been that the number requested would fall over the years but that has not proved to be the case.

Mr Balding then spoke of the very laudable efforts of the families of Exton who were encouraged to participate in the planting of approximately 800 whips and shrubs in the Exton Play Area. Once again these were provided by EDDC. The Woodbury Scouts then volunteered to 'rescue' some of these trees from the rampant weeds that grew up around them. Many thanks to Peter Pearce and the Scouts for all their efforts.

Mr Balding continued by advising that the Woodbury Salterton tree warden, Mrs Sally Elliott, ably assisted by Cllr Patrick Bricknell had moved 3 Hazel trees and 1 Rowan to the Upper Plantation from the tree nursery in Woodbury. A Beech was also moved to Bonds Lane Corner and 4 Birch and 1 Rowan to the border of the Woodbury Salterton Play Area. Sally Elliott was also the coordinator for the East Devon Hedgerow Project in January and February 2002 involving 'casting up and steeping down' of a hedgerow in Woodbury. Unfortunately this was poorly supported by Parishioners – possibly the outcome of poor publicity.

Finally Mr Balding drew Council Members attention to the content of the recent East Devon Local Plan – Policy Item D5: Trees on Development Sites wherein the following criteria states:

- a. New buildings must not be nearer than 5M from the 'mature crown spread' of existing trees
- b. No hard surfacing or undergrounding of services or subsoil works to be permitted under a mature canopy.

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT/AFFORDABLE VILLAGE HOUSING :

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT: Cllr R Brown started by pointing out that the reason why the Village Design Statement was on the Agenda was not because the Parish Council wished to claim responsibility for the achievements – quite simply it was felt that the occasion of the APM afforded an excellent opportunity publicly to express the PC's gratitude to the community for their part in the management of the Project and to express its pleasure to have been associated with this important Parish initiative which should have the most beneficial impact upon local planning in the years ahead. The VDS project is community-led with the support of the Parish Council and the Local Authority. Five Councillors have been part of an active group of over 40 Parishioners but it is this critical partnership factor (which could be unique in Woodbury's case) which has been essential for progress and to ensure, finally, that the document carries the force of law. Cllr Brown continued by pointing out that although he happened to be the Chairman of the Group, on the occasion of the APM he was merely the "Messenger Boy" - a spokesman representing the partnership, bring the community up to date with the latest details.

The final draft of the VDS was approved on 31st January by EDDC. There are some minor points to attend to but it is expected that the document will go to print within a few days with the published version of the Statement available for distribution to every household in approximately three to four weeks. Once everyone has seen it for themselves in the comfort of their homes, they will know, above all, that it is a Parishioners Charter for the future of the Parish. It was assembled with high regard, affection, care and pride. It covers history and its influence upon the character and fabric of the Parish. It covers our remarkable countryside (from estuary to beacon) and expresses very firmly our views and convictions attached to the environment, services, amenities, building and of course, especially, design of buildings, housing density and so on.

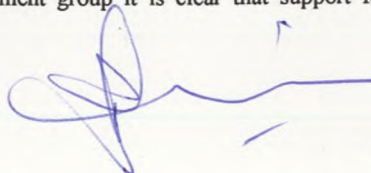
The conclusions specified in the Guidelines are entirely based upon the opinions of the parishioners; verifiable evidence from 30% questionnaire results and public debates. These records have been meticulously maintained by our secretary Nancie Grist and scrutinised by the Local Authority. All this has helped us to meet the legal criteria for acceptance as Supplementary Planning Guidance, set down by Government. Parishioners will soon see expressed very clearly in the statement, the likes and dislikes of the Parishioners.

When EDDC approved the Statement they did so with tremendous enthusiasm, describing it as "brilliant". - a benchmark for others who follow. The Members Committee congratulated the Group as a whole.

Cllr Brown concluded by thanking the PC for its active support. At this point he recalled Cllr Mrs Margaret Smith's encouragement to set up a formal working group which effectively gave it the initial legal authority. Additionally he thanked the small army of parish volunteers whose help was essential, together with the small hardcore who undertook the main task of management. They are as follows:

Nancie Grist, Gill Selley, Mike Golby, Sally Elliott, John Treasaden, Deryck Laming, Derrick Mead, Pat Bricknell, Vicki & Tony Weatherburn, Simon Stokes, Ada Follett, Graham Gerdes, Tony Thres, Chris Silverthorne, Richard Tancock and the late Pippa Thompson who's exquisite drawings provide a delightful enhancement at the centre of the Statement.

AFFORDABLE VILLAGE HOUSING: As a result of a survey carried out on behalf of the Parish Council by the Village Design Statement group it is clear that support for affordable housing in the Parish is

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substantial - (at least in two villages - Woodbury & Woodbury Salterton). This registers a positive response from potential applicants as well as many others agreeing with the principle. The Parish Councils' own response to this first survey was to invite the Rural Housing Trust to take the scheme to the next stage. It is a lengthy process which usually takes between four and five years from start to finish. The first part of this stage consists of talks between the RHT & EDDC - looking into grants, subsidies, planning issues etc. Another part is looking for site options and a third, most significantly, is giving persons who qualify for consideration the opportunity to apply. The first survey gave strong indications of general support. The next stage will confirm the actual number of serious applicants and their identities - confirming more precisely the scale of need. This in turn will influence the size of the development although it must be pointed out that it is never likely to exceed six properties. The Parish Council will be most concerned with design factors, type of property and location issues and ensuring that details conform to the guidelines featured in the VDS. The next step is to arrange a meeting for applicants to express their individual interest. These applications are dealt with in the strictest confidence. The PC is not included in the process of selection - only that of verification of applicants' credentials. Affordable housing can now become a reality! Cllr Brown then closed by drawing the meeting's attention to a display at the rear of the Hall of affordable housing projects in other parts of the country.

CLINTON DEVON ESTATES : The Chairman welcomed John Varley and Bungy Williams representing Clinton Devon Estates who gave a most interesting and informative review of the Estate, its strategy and an insight into the management of the Commons. The Clinton Barony was formed in 1299 and they have maintained a presence in Devon since 1550. Today's Estate results from land purchased in the 16th, 17th & 18th centuries. During that time the Estate has survived the Reformation, a civil war, the Industrial Revolution and two World Wars by always being ready to meet the needs of a transforming countryside. The Estate consists of three areas - Heanton Estate in North Devon and Clinton & Beer Estates in East Devon. It runs 5 farms of its own and lets 35% of its land to 40 tenant farmers. It manages 7 square miles of forests and owns and maintains the East Devon Pebblebed Heaths and many other sites of historical interest. The Estate runs 17 rural businesses and offers housing to 400 families in the area. Twenty five years ago agriculture generated 75% of its income - today it generates less than 20%. So what of the future? The Estate's strategy is to maintain the integrity of the Estates whilst seeking to maximise returns from the current asset base; develop new ventures which significantly enhance long term capital/income growth; engage with and influence the public debate to enable its strategy to be delivered; gain recognition as an exemplar of practice in all it does. Its mission is to secure the long term prosperity of the Estates and the people who live and work on them in ways which care for the countryside and assist the wider community.

The overall cost of managing the Commons (seven in all plus Mutters Moor - altogether 2800 acres) is in excess of £100,000 a year. In recent years the Estate businesses have cross subsidised the cost but with the reduction in Countryside Stewardship grant, the need to provide 29% of the HLF funding and the increased costs of providing public access, the costs requiring subsidy from Estates businesses will rise considerably, possibly to £60K in 2003/04. These increases are not sustainable.

Bungy Williams spoke on the Wardens' role. They clear all sorts of rubbish including cars, fridges, freezers and all sorts of unmentionables. They deal with conservation work in both winter and summer; winter scrub clearance, gorse coppicing, swailing and summer footpath and fire break mowing; repairing, clearing bracken, cattle grazing, car park maintenance and policing.

The Commons are a remarkable example of scarce lowland heath. With 75% of East Devon heath destroyed since 1900, the Estate's 2800 acres represents 80% of what remains - the lungs of East Devon. The proactive management of existing heath and its restoration allows various rare species of birds (such as the Dartford Warbler and Nightjar) and butterflies and insects (such as the Silver-studded Blue and the Southern Damselfly) to make their home on the Commons.

The Estate's focus for the future is to review and understand its medium term financial position; to implement phase one of the car park strategy - ie reduce numbers and identify ways of improving those remaining; to commence a programme of positive PR and interpretation/information; to agree a plan to increase revenues and to encourage public bodies (including RDA) and to deliver practical and financial support.

RESOLUTIONS : No written resolutions had been received.

ANY OTHER ITEMS RAISED BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC: Items raised by the Public included the speed of vehicles through the villages; the need for better maintenance and repair of footpaths and pavements and a suggestion that the whole Parish area should be the subject of a study into the feasibility of weight restrictions throughout the villages.

There being no other business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and all the speakers for giving up their time. The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

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A-3-03