MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTH MOLTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8th AUGUST 2012
IN THE VICTORY HALL

Present Councillor Dunn, Councillor Gammon, Councillor Mather, Councillor Procter, Councillor White, Councillor Stanley, Councillor Bulled, Councillor Janes, District Councillor Edgell, County Councillor Yabsley Mr Goodman Mayor of South Molton, and the Clerk

402/8/12 1. Apologies  Councillor Henderson (work commitment) motion proposed to sanction the above absence proposed Councillor Gammon seconded Councillor Janes all agreed.

403/8/12 2. Declaration of interests. Councillor Dunn planning NDDCS4387 Councillor Dunn to leave room Councillor Bulled to take over, Councillor Bulled additional correspondence regarding Lower Poole.

404/8/12 3. Devon and Cornwall Constabulary  Clerk read out report from Devon and Cornwall Constabulary as follows: Logs/call – complaint re hedge cutting with not enough signs passed to Highways, 1 statement request from another force, one information log/call, sheep worrying Brinsworthy Farm a few sheep have been killed by a dog, no idea whose dog it could be dog not actually seen, 1 sudden death (no suspicious circumstances), suspicious vehicle near Fyldon a low loader that drove off when approached VRM details turned out to be incorrect, 2 domestic incidents which have resulted in crimes being generated, 2 concerns for welfare for same individual – dealt with by ambulance.

Reported crimes: - two domestic incidents, stolen generator Brinsworthy Farm, shed broken into at Sports Club (strimmer petrol, socket set, spade and tractor keys stolen. Increase in rural farm crime generally in past month a quad was stolen and a 4 x 4 farms in Knowstone area, is also happening over mid and east Devon.

405/8/12 4. Representations from the public Councillor Dunn – flytipping at Kinsford Gate. Clerk to report.

406/8/12 5. Approval of the minutes of the Meeting of North Molton Parish Council held on Wednesday 11th July 2012  Amendments to 390/7/12 and 397/7/12 motion proposed to approve minutes subject to these amendments, proposed Councillor Stanley seconded Councillor Bulled, all agreed.

407/8/12 6. Clerks Report Audit – books now returned from Geoff Collier. Two points raised by Mr Collier could not find authorisation for cheque payments 252 £30 and 251 £50. Clerk has checked and these were authorised under minute reference 255/9/11 and 231/7/11. Benches – insurance have confirmed that there will be two separate excess deductions of £100 which will result in very little insurance being paid out. New benches made from recycled plastic will cost between £350 and £450 each. Councillor White asked if we could not make the benches if the materials were supplied. Clerk to check with insurers if they are happy with this and report back. Letters received in response to correspondence re Mole View and Feoffees wall confirming these will be dealt with.

408/8/12 7. Matters arising from these minutes not on Agenda

Councillor Gammon reported that he had spoken to Liz Wilde regarding painting the wall in the playground and she will be happy to do this but has one similar project on the go at the moment so Laurels Playground will be done when this is completed. Councillor Mather handed round a paint chart and councillors decided to paint the wall a base colour of grey before further work.

Clerk advised that she had telephoned and emailed Joe Penfold and left messages regarding the weeds growing through the tarmac but had not received a response as yet.

Councillor Stanley advised that he had now received the sign for no dogs, no smoking, no drinking and this was in place,. Clerk advised that she had paid cheque to Councillor Stanley for £12 to reimburse as Councillor Stanley had paid this in cash.

Councillor Gammon reported that the residents of flat 1 Old School had been picking up litter in the playground and he had provided a bin in the playground for disposal. Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks to residents of Flat 1 for keeping playground tidy.
Councillor Bulled asked if Council were still happy to pay a contribution to the Young Farmers for their petrol used for the building of the beacon. Motion proposed Councillor Bulled seconded Councillor Janes to pay £60 to Young Farmers for petrol costs. Councillor Gammon noted a declaration of interest in this respect.

409/8/12  8.Items for Discussion

I) Laurels Playground  Done above.

II) Parish grant (should read Town and Parish Fund)  to wait until District and County Councillors arrive.

III) Vacancy for Clerk  Councillor Dunn advised that he had received one application so far with another applicant having telephoned and spoken to him who will be sending a cv in due course. Councillors agreed to set up a sub committee comprising of Councillor White, Councillor Dunn, and Councillor Stanley to interview and deal with this matter. Closing date of 25th August was agreed for applications with interview to be carried out last week of August beginning of September. Clerk agreed to stay on and prepare and carry out September meeting with new clerk being invited to this and then taking over after September meeting as there will be insufficient time to hand over paperwork etc for September meeting.

410/8/12  9.Chairmans Report/Urgent matters brought forward by the Chairman  None.

411/8/12  10.Planning

Applications granted :

NDCC3521 and 53512 Conversion of outbuildings to form 3 units of holiday accommodation recreation room and garage/store alterations to access and alterations to farmhouse at Litchaton Farm East Buckland

NDCC3441 Listed building application extension and alterations to swan House North Molton

NDCC3925 extension to dwelling and formation of decking 14 Broad Close

NDCC4082 Demolition of existing and erection of new mot workshop at JJ Garages North Molton

Notification of grant proposed slurry store Higher North Radworthy Heasley Mill

Applications for consideration :

NDCC4415 listed building application for installation of photovoltaic panels on roof of outbuilding at Swan House North Molton – motion proposed to decline this application as considered unsightly and inappropriate for listed building in conservation area. Proposed Councillor Mather seconded Councillor White, all agreed.

NDCC4416 erection of ground mounted solar photovoltaic panel array (4 rows 100kw) at Burcombe Farm North Molton – motion proposed to approve this application proposed Councillor Gammon seconded Councillor Stanley, all agreed.

COUNCILLOR DUNN LEFT THE ROOM AND COUNCILLOR BULLED TOOK THE CHAIR

NDCC4387 solar pv development consisting of ground mounted solar panels comprising 35,116 modules, power inverter system transformer substation security fencing and associated access gates at Hacche Barton South Molton – motion proposed to decline this application due to visual impact proposed Councillor Mather seconded Councillor White, all agreed.

COUNCILLOR DUNN RETURNED TO THE ROOM AND TOOK THE CHAIR

Mayor of South Molton left the meeting.

412/8/12  11.Finance

Balance of Community account stands at £788.09 as at 31.7.12

Balance of Bonus account stands at £4441.94 as at 31.7.12
i) Receipts – £174.50 from History Society for 50% of web site received since preparation of agenda.

ii) Payments Clerks salary £178.38 plus contribution to telephone costs £10 total £188.38

Motion proposed to pay the above proposed Councillor Procter seconded Councillor Stanley, all agreed.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR EDGELL AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR YABSLEY ARRIVED.

413/8/12 Correspondence

A) Devon and Cornwall constabulary – clerk read out letter to councillors – to be filed.

B) QEll Field status – clerk to forward to Sports Club.

C) DALC payments by Parish Councils consultation – clerk outlined new proposal for electronic payments instead of two signatures to cheques. Councillors discussed and agreed to respond that they would not be happy with this and would retain two signatures to cheques procedure.

Additional correspondence received after preparation of agenda:

1. Hannah Harrington minutes of meeting of 5th July to be passed to JD.

2. Earth Elements re generating energy – poster to be put on board.

3. DALC training Rising to the Challenge – no interest.

4. NDDC training re Code of Conduct – no interest especially as Council have adopted NALC code.

5. NDDC notification of erection of replacement agricultural building at Lower Poole Farm. COUNCILLOR BULLIED LEFT THE MEETING. Councillors were read the letter from NDDC relating to this matter. No action to be taken as this is for information purposes only.

6. DALC agm notice and application. No representation from NMPC.

COUNCIL AGREED TO GO BACK TO ITEM 8ii as District and County Councillors now present.

8ii) Councillor Dunn outlined that under the proposed procedure for the removal of the Parish Grant Council would lose 35% of their income. The Town and Parish Fund is something very different and is not connected. County C councillor Yabsley advised that parishes will apply to South Molton Town Council not District Council. South Molton Town Council and Witheridge Parish Council are considering joining together to apply for the funds so that they can buy into a contractor to carry out grass cutting and weed control as this is now not covered by County Council. Councillor Mather proposed a motion to write to South Molton Town Council to suggest that North Molton join with them and Witheridge to access funds for the same purpose of weed control and grass cutting, all three could then buy into a contractor to carry out work in all three parishes. Motion proposed to contact South Molton Town Council as above, proposed Councillor Mather seconded Councillor White, all agreed. Clerk to copy in District Councillor Edgell and County Councillor Yabsley.

All newsletters to be placed in green bag.

414/8/12 Reports District Councillor Edgell asked if we had heard any more regarding the Active Villages campaign. Advised that Youth Club, Sports Club and Skittles team had all received what they had asked for.

Councillor Procter had reported a blocked drain in Back Lane but there is now another. Clerk to report.

415/8/12 Matters brought forward by District or County Councillor County Councillor Yabsley reported that there had been an analysis done of waste and recycling. In the bins covered 54% of waste in those bins was recyclable material. Devon has a 55% recycling rate.
District Councillor Edgell advised re the letter regarding Lower Poole.

**Date and Time of Next meeting**: 12th September 2012 North Molton Victory Hall 7.30pm

Meeting closed 9.30pm