MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTH MOLTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY
8th APRIL 2015 IN THE NORTH MOLTON VICTORY HALL

Present Councillor Dunn, (Chairman), Councillor Procter, Councillor Bulled, Councillor Peek, Councillor Geen, Councillor Wallis, Councillor O’Brien, District Councillor Edgell, and the Clerk.


509/4/15 2. Declaration of Interests Item 10, planning application 5897, Cllr Bulled, as a neighbour of someone affected.

510/4/15 3. Devon and Cornwall No police representatives attended, but the clerk had received a summary of incidents that had occurred locally during the past few weeks. These were theft of fuel from a vehicle, whereby the fuel pipe was cut, and theft from a vehicle where access was gained by removing the entire windscreen. Theft of home heating oil from tanks in rural areas continues. The clerk undertook to contact local police again and try to get updates for the past two meetings for which no details had been sent, stressing the importance the council placed upon the police input.

511/4/15 4. Representations from the public None

512/4/15 5. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of North Molton Parish Council held on Wednesday 11th March These were approved, as amended, with two abstentions.

513/4/15 6. Clerks report The clerk had written to:

Mr Sables, about the memorial on the side of the road between North Molton and the link road. Agreed: That Mr Sables should be reminded of this bi-monthly. Also the problem of people driving from Heasley Mill direction turning right against the No Entry sign across the road in Back Lane, with a request for a No Entry sign on a pole at this junction. No reply yet.

Cllr Cann of NDC about the large amount of litter on the same road. At present, NDC efforts were concentrated on cleaning up the link road, due to be finished in two weeks. After this side roads would be cleared. NDC would not provide traffic controllers to regulate traffic while volunteers picked litter. Traffic control training was available at a cost of about £500.00 with equipment costing extra. Agreed: that training volunteers was not a viable, cost-effective option. The clerk undertook to regularly reinforce with Cllr Cann the need for the road to be cleared.

North Devon Homes, regarding Wilsons garages in East Street, which appeared in need of repair, and the bank below 1 Mole View which needed trimming. NDH would be examining the garages, and were disputing ownership of the bank. The clerk was pursuing this.

North Devon District Council, requesting action about the unfinished state of the Lower Poole development. This had already been considered by them (Enforcement reference 8623). The issues raised are being managed by Kevin Griffiths, Devon County Council, Highways Agreement Officer, Highways Development Management, Gas Lane, Torrington,
EX38 7BB. As a result of the Parish Council’s concerns the expediency of serving a Breach of Condition Notice would be considered.

NDC Planning Unit, regarding their proposed changes to the Local Plan which contained provision for an unsuitably high number of new dwellings (141). Also their failure to address the Parish Council’s concerns about the Development Boundary. A reply from Mr Austen of the NDC Policy Planning Unit stated that these concerns would be treated as a formal representation to the current public consultation on the local plan and that all comments received will be for an appointed Inspector to consider at Examination rather than for the Council to reconsider.

**514/4/15 7.Matters arising from these minutes not on Agenda** None.

**515/4/15 8.Items for Discussion**

i) North Devon and Torridge Local Plan Consultation on proposed main changes to the Publication draft. Representations from the public were heard with regard to this. Agreed: that the proposed number of houses (141) was far too high and seemed to go counter to arguments previously advanced by NDC Planning Unit about the proper and sustainable growth of the village. Agreed: that the clerk draft a representation as part of the final public consultation now taking place which was due to end on 1st May and that councillors be invited to suggest amendments prior to it being submitted. It was noted that details of how the public could make representations were on the village notice-board and website.

ii) Clerk’s contract. A vote was required to adopt the contract of employment drafted at the last meeting, subject to one item being removed. Agreed, that the contract as amended by adopted. One copy to be held by the clerk, one by the serving chairman.

iii) Mrs Kate Kellaway had expressed an interest in being co-opted onto the council but unfortunately had had to withdraw. The chairman expressed the hope that she would apply again in future.


Nothing to report. The playground appeared to be in good order.

**517/4/15 10.Planning**

Applications approved. ENP62/49/15/001 Erection of an agricultural building to house livestock and store equipment at Higher North Heasley Farm. ENP 62/49/15/002 Proposed lean-to replacement Higher North Radworthy, Heasley Mill.

Applications refused – none.

Applications withdrawn – none.

Applications for consideration: NDDC 58797 Retrospective application for erection of stables with yard and change of use of land from agricultural to equine at Pullens, East Street. The chairman opened the meeting so that members of the public could speak pro and
con the application, for 25 minutes. He then closed this public participation and discussion was limited to councillors. The application was agreed subject to having conditions applied which are enforceable, and which take into account the position within the settlement of the relevant property.

Particular points to be considered in these conditions are:
The intensity of use (stocking levels) of horse and/or ponies.
The need for an assessment of environmental impact.
Measures to control effluent.
The need for regular removal of dung, so as to avoid nuisance to neighbouring houses.
The importance of siting any dung heaps as far away as possible from neighbouring houses.
Control of vermin.
It was noted that, historically, horses had been kept at the premises.
Applications received after preparation of agenda: None.

518/4/15 11. Finance

Barclays Community account stands at £2,959.06 as at 31st March 2015. Barclays Business Saver account stands at £5,248.53 as at 31st March 2015.

i) Receipts – none.

iii) Payments

a) Clerks salary £165.32 plus contribution to telephone costs £10 total £175.32. Additionally, a PAYE contribution of £107.00 payable directly to HMRC was required.

b) Annual payment to Devon Association of Local Councils. £236.28.

c) ROSPA Playsafety Ltd, £78.00 for annual inspection fee.

All the above were approved unanimously.

519/4/15 12. Correspondence

a) Notice of annual audit - clerk would arrange.

b) Objections to application 58797. Dealt with under item 10 above.

c) BT adopt a kiosk scheme. As the village payphone was still used, this did not apply.

d) ROSPA Playsafety report – clerk read out relevant sections of the report, which concluded that the overall risk to any user was low.

520/4/15 13. Reports

Cllr Procter reported that plans for the annual ‘Boots in Bloom’ were being developed. This year’s charity would be “Chemo Heroes”.

Cllr Peek suggested that the TAP-funded work to clean gullies and drains be postponed until the autumn. Agreed.

521/4/15 14. Matters brought forward by District or County Councillor
Cllr Edgell reported that Lynton House in Barnstaple was now open and housing various departments that had moved from the Civic Centre.

**Date and Time of Next meeting** Wednesday 13th May AGM/Annual Parish Meeting and 20th May Parish Council meeting.

Meeting closed 10pm.