MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTH MOLTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY  
11th MARCH 2015 IN THE NORTH MOLTON VICTORY HALL

Present  Councillor Dunn,( Chairman), Councillor Peek, Councillor Bulled ,Councillor Procter,  
Councillor Gammon, Councillor O’Brien, District Councillor Edgell and the clerk.

495/3/14 1.Apologies  County Councillor Yabsley, work commitments.

496/3/14 2.Declaration of Interests. Cllr Edgell as a member of the ENP Planning  
Committee re a planning application to be considered.

497/3/14 3.Devon and Cornwall Constabulary  No representative was present and no  
report had previously been passed to the clerk. As this was the second consecutive meeting  
at which this had happened, the clerk undertook to contact local police and remind them of  
the importance the council placed upon this report.

498/3/14. 4 Representations from the public.

Overgrown bank below Jubilee Gardens and Mole Cottages. NDH garages in East Street in  
need of repair and paint. Agreed: that the clerk write to North Devon Homes and County  
Councillor Yabsley, who was on the board of NDH, and to the responsible person with  
regard to Mole Cottages.

Litter on road between North Molton and the link road. Agreed: clerk to write to the  
relevant District Councillor, copied to Mr Basssett of NDC recycling. Also, to ask for  
assistance from NDC in closing the road while a working party, organised by the Parish  
Council, pick up the litter.

Vehicles turning right into Back Lane from the Heasley Mill road, against the No Entry sign  
painted on the road. Agreed: Clerk to contact South West Highways, copied to Cllr Yabsley,  
to request a sign on a pole at this junction.

Lower Poole development to Holdridge Lane still needs rubble and weeds removed, and the  
drainage system sorted so as to prevent water and ice damaging the road and causing  
accidents. Agreed: Clerk to contact NDC Planning Dept urging enforcement action.

The Local Plan drawn up by North Devon Council with regard to the possible future  
development of North Molton contained provision for an unsuitably high number of new  
dwellings. The Parish Council’s wishes with regard to the Development Boundary had not  
been fully addressed. Agreed: Clerk to contact NDC Planning Policy Unit re-iterating the  
desire of the Parish Council that plot NMO2 ( adjacent to the Sports and Community Centre)  
be withdrawn from the Development Boundary so as to better control any future  
development on that site.
Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of North Molton Parish Council held on Wednesday 11th February 2015 and special planning meeting held on Friday 6th March 2015. The minutes, as amended, were accepted, with one abstention.

500/3/14. 6.Clerks Report

The NALC Code of Conduct (dealing with the need for all Parish Councillors to declare any financial interests) had been sent to all members.

Paperwork to change the bank mandate, to reflect the change of Chairman, had been submitted.

Paperwork applying for funds to clean drains and gullies under the TAP fund had been submitted.

The minutes of a previous meeting had been amended on the village website.

Emails to South West Highways about the continuing need for better maintenance of roads in and around North Molton had been sent.

The clerk was awaiting forms and information with regard to the election in May. All councillors wishing to remain on the council after the election, would need to complete the forms and offer themselves for election. If more than eleven people wished to stand, there would be a contested election. If less than that number wished to stand, present councillors would be returned unopposed.

501/3/14. 7.Matters arising from these minutes not on Agenda

None

502/3/14. 8.Items for Discussion

i) Clerk’s salary and contract. Suitable amendments to the NALC model contract were agreed. Also agreed: that the clerk be employed at Level LC1 on Spine Point 15 of the NALC salary scale, and subject to an annual review. This gave an annual salary of £2,480.54, before tax. This was equivalent to £8.61 per hour, before tax, for 24 hours per month.

ii) The Standing Orders, based upon the NALC model agreed at the last meeting were distributed. Agreed: that these now constituted the Standing Orders of the Parish Council.

iii) Co-opting new members. Proposed: that Mr Bill Geen of Great Combeshead be co-opted as a member. Agreed, unanimously. Proposed; that Mr Terry Wallis of Oakford Close be co-opted as a member, subject to the completed paperwork being received. Agreed, with one abstention.

503/3/14. 9.Chairman’s Report/Urgent matters brought forward by the Chairman

None.
504/3/14. 10.Planning

Applications approved: 40m x 20m sand manege at Tabor Hill Farm, North Molton.

Applications refused – none.

Applications withdrawn – none.

Applications for consideration:

NDDC 58829 Erection of one rural enterprise dwelling at Cross Lane Yard Road from Bampfylde Cross, North Molton. No objections.


505/3/14. 11.Finance

Balance of Community account stands at £3,526.29 as at 27th February 2015

Balance of Business Saver account stands at £5,222.93 as at 27th February 2015

i) Receipts - None

ii) Payments

a) Clerks salary £142.78 plus contribution to telephone costs £10, total £152.78. Agreed.

b) Mark Baldwin, Welding and Fabrication, £389.45 for making and fitting gate to Laurels Playground. Agreed.

506/3/14. 12.Correspondence

a. A letter about a possible obstruction to the pavement in East Street. Agreed: Clerk to draft a letter to the relevant householder.

b. Emails from DALC about the General Election and effect upon Parish Council elections and co-options (dealt with at item 6)

c. Invoice from Mark Baldwin, (dealt with at item 11 above).

507/3/14. 13.Reports

The Laurels Playground was in good order except for the dustbin which had been moved and had lost its lid so that it now contained a lot of water. Agreed: Cllr Bulled to liaise with the local resident who had volunteered to look after the bin.

Cllr Procter reported that the Boots in Bloom organising group would be meeting soon and volunteered to attend on behalf of the Parish Council. Agreed.
South West Highways Pilot Study on reducing local road maintenance. Agreed: Cllrs Peek and Bulled would report back on this to the council with a view to presenting it at the Annual Meeting.

Cllr Bulled reported on Exmoor National Park plans to have five Parish members representing the forty-two parishes wholly or partly contained within the Park.

**508/3/14. 14.Matters brought forward by District or County Councillor**

Cllr Edell reported:

That the District Council was not planning to increase their share of the Council Tax, while the County Council was planning an increase of 1.99%, the maximum allowed.

The TAP fund (for funding joint projects undertaken by two or more Parishes) was likely to continue.

The County Council, as part of plans to improve the link road, were looking at installing a flyover at the Borners Bridge junction.

**Date and Time of Next meeting** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2015 at North Molton Victory Hall, 7.30pm.

Meeting closed 10.00pm.