Present: Councillor Bulled (Chairman); Councillor Dunn (Vice Chairman); Councillor Geen (left the meeting at 9.10 pm); Councillor Kelland; Councillor Milne; Councillor O’Brien; Councillor Palfreyman; Councillor Peek; Councillor Procter; Councillor Smaldon; District Councillor Edgell; County Councillor Yabsley (joined the meeting at 8.00 pm) and the Parish Clerk, Noel Brooks

032/03/17 1. Apologies: None

033/03/17 2. Declaration of Interests: Cllr Dunn in respect of Planning Application: 62552; Cllr Kelland in respect of Planning Application: 62605 and Chairman Bulled in respect of Planning Application: 62258.

034/03/17 3. Devon and Cornwall Constabulary: No representative was present. PCSO Bray had reported that since mid February there had been: a broken down vehicle on the A361; sheep attacked at Yarde Down; an articulated lorry parked in a dangerous location on the A361; the destruction of a bat roost; refuse bags left in a lay-by at Stitchpool Farm, near Yarde Down and in another lay-by closer to Heasley Mill - bags containing cannabis plants had been seized by the police and destroyed; and, sheep loose on the A399. Chairman Bulled had reported, on-line, the issue of deposited black bin-bags at five locations due to her concern that this was fly-tipping and potentially drug-related. The police were liaising with Environmental Health with a view to picking up the remaining bags and having them forensically tested.

035/03/17 4. Representations From The Public: Mr A. Darley wondered whether or not it would be feasible for the Parish Council to organise a village litter-pick. Action: The Clerk is to investigate both the legal, insurance and cost implications and include this issue on the April 2017 Agenda for debate.

036/03/17 5. Planning

Planning Applications For Consideration Received Since Last Parish Council Meeting

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<tr>
<th>Case Ref</th>
<th>Proposal &amp; Address</th>
<th>Comment</th>
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| 62258    | Lower Poole Barns, Fore Street, North Molton EX36 3HL  
Variation of Condition 2, (Approved Design), 12 & 14 (Permitted Development Rights) 15 (Tree & Hedge Management) & 27 (Parking Provision) Attached To Planning Permission 50080 (Extension of Time Limit For Implementation of Planning Permission 41090 - Erection of 23 Dwellings Together With Associated Off Site Highway Works) To Allow For Amended Site Layout & Design (Amended Plans) | Cllrs were unable to comment due to a lack of clarity on what the current plans were. The information on the Planning Portal was not clear - this was not fair on the public. The Clerk is to request sight of clear current plans and an explanation on what the changes are. Chairman Bulled stood down as Chair with Vice Chairman Dunn chairing the debate. |
| 62513    | Land AJ Poltimore Inn, East Street, North Molton EX36 3HR  
Outline Application For The Erection Of Four Detached One-Bedroom Units To Provide Ancillary Accommodation For Inn Some Matters Reserved (Appearance Layout) | Supported  
Vote: 8 For & 2 Against |
| 62538    | South Bank, Back Lane, North Molton  
Erection Of Garage Together With Conversion Of Loft To Form Additional Living Accommodation | Supported |
Land Off Bendle Lane, North Molton EX36 3JL
Agricultural Building Works Prior Notification For Extension
To Existing Steel-framed Building For Additional Fodder Storage

East Marsh Farm, North Molton
Prior Approval For Change Of Use Of Agricultural Building
To Dwelling (Class QA)

Top Cottage, The Square, North Molton
Listed Building Application For Siting Of Floating Porch/Canopy
Above Front Door

Planning Applications Advised Since Last Parish Council Meeting

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case Ref</th>
<th>Proposal &amp; Address</th>
<th>Decision</th>
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037/03/17 6. Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 8th February, 2017 - Approved unanimously.

038/03/17 7. Clerk’s Report Re: 8th March, 2017 Minutes

Section 106 Allocation on Planning Application: 59487 (Old House Barns) - The Clerk had requested NDC to extend the consultation period to 9th March, 2017 for the issue to be included on the Parish Council’s March Agenda - this request had been turned down by NDC resulting in a Special Meeting of the Parish Council on 23rd February. The outcome of such meeting is detailed in the minutes of even latter date.

Damaged Wall Stones From Jubilee Gardens Area Onwards - The Clerk had e-mailed Mr Sables at Highways confirming that, kindly, Cllr Palfreyman would be repairing the wall stones free-of-charge.

Re-painting of Disabled Road Marking Outside Two Gables in Upper East Street (Enq. No: 17966699) - Hazel at DCC’s Customer Service Centre had confirmed that the allowed maximum timescale for completing this type of work was twenty weeks - the work would be completed in May.

Raised Manhole Cover Damaging Vehicles in Old Road, Lower Poole - The Clerk had e-mailed Paul Young emphasising DCC’s responsibility and requesting a timescale for completion of the road surface. The Clerk had made it clear that it would be unacceptable to await completion of the proposed new development before executing this work - a response was awaited.

Slippery Road Surface For Horses Descending The Hill From Roberts Field On The Newly-surfaced Part Of The Old Road, North Molton - The Clerk was in liaison with the BHS’s Director of Access, Mark Weston on this issue - direct intervention with Highways had been requested and a response was still awaited after the issue had been chased.

Roberts Field S. 106 Un-paid & Un-secured Open Space Funds (50080) - The Clerk had been in liaison with Damian Hunter of NDC’s Legal Team. He had reported that NDC’s barrister had indicated that there were ‘reasonable prospects’ of NDC taking injunctive action to recover the outstanding Public Open Space Contribution (circa £28.5k).
However, he had advised that there were a couple of matters, which needed to be dealt with before the issue of any proceedings.

At the 8th March, 2017 Planning Committee Meeting NDC had agreed to allocate the maximum legally-allowable £47,282.00 as the off-site contribution on Case No: 59487 (Land To The South Of Old House Barns) - as this was a greater sum than recommended by officers (£26.880k), it was agreed that some of the Roberts Field Contribution, if ever recovered, would be ear-marked for the new school in South Molton. Chairman Bulled thanked Cllrs Edgell & Yabsley for their endeavours in helping to achieve, in principle, the maximum allowable off-site contribution on Case No: 59487 for the benefit of parishioners whilst acknowledging that the funds would not become payable until the tenth house had been built on Land to the South of Old House Barns site. District Cllr Edgell congratulated the Chairmen of both the Sports & Community Centre & the Parish Council on their representations to the Planning Committee as being instrumental in the final decision taken.

Memorial On New Road - The Clerk had been in liaison with Exeter Police Sergeant Rob Kelland who would be meeting with the people who had erected the memorial with a view to imparting the Parish Council’s position as documented in previous minutes. He would revert.

Application To Join The Snow Warden Scheme - The Clerk had chased Highways with a view to initiating training - Cllr Geen, the proposed Snow Warden, had not received any contact or training from Highways. The Clerk would continue to chase DCC.

BT Phone Box Adoption (The Square) - On 19th February, 2017, the Parish Council had completed on the adoption of the phone-box - BT had removed the phone and attendant electrical equipment. **Action:** The Clerk is to include the issue of its future usage as an April 2017 Agenda item.

Tap Fund 2015/6 Hedge-trimming - The Clerk had applied for the net of VAT £261.00 funds from NDC.

Drainage Works - Roads Priorities List - The Clerk was awaiting a finalised list from Chairman Bulled & Cllr Geen.

TAP Fund 2016/7 - Drainage Works

The Clerk had received an invoice from contractor, Ian Woollacott, for the full net of VAT sum of £961.40 to enable the former to claim the TAP Fund maximum of even sum for drainage works. Cllrs Geen & Peek confirmed that work had commenced with a survey having been undertaken. **Action:** The Clerk is to claim the TAP Fund maximum agreed sum on or before the deadline date of 15th March, 2017 - payment to Mr Woollacott would be held in abeyance until confirmation had been received that all the works in respect of the invoice had been undertaken.

Community Enhancement Fund - The Clerk had provided Victor Gough of DCC with the forecasted cost breakdown.

North Molton Victory Hall - Action For Clerk To Send a Letter to The Committee With the Parish Council’s Response - this had been superseded by a request from the Hall’s Committee members to attend the March Meeting of the Parish Council - some Committee members from the Hall had turned up at the March Meeting but had left the Meeting before the issue had been discussed! **Action:** The Clerk is to send a letter to the relevant parties along the lines agreed in the 8th February, 2017 Minutes.

Risk Assessment - The Clerk had placed the agreed document on file.

Laurel’s Playground - Potential Discrimination Against The Disabled Caused By ‘No Dogs Allowed’ Sign. -
the Clerk had investigated the matter in some detail and informed cllrs of advice received from DALC, RoSpa and the Guide Dogs Association. **Action:** The Clerk is to include this issue as an April Agenda item to allow cllrs further time to consider the matter and the public to make its representations.

039/03/17 8 Matters Arising From The 8th February, 2017 Minutes Not On This Agenda - None

040/03/17 9. Items For Discussion

**The Future of North Molton Victory Hall** - This issue is covered above.

**Parish Councillor Vacancy** - Unanimously, cllrs agreed to co-opt Mr Miles Platt of Heasley Mill to the position of Parish Councillor. **Action:** The Clerk is to arrange the necessary paperwork.

**Highways Project Team Update** - Cllr Milne reported that the Highways Committee had met recently in Heasley Mill whose residents had been very helpful in identifying the issues following flash-flooding involving the culvert situated between Heasley Mill Village Hall and the river. **Action:** Cllrs considered paying for a survey to be carried out on the culvert but agreed for Cllr Yabsley to broach the issue in the first instance with Highways at his forthcoming meeting with Richard Sables with a view to DCC taking on the survey and possibly any attendant work. Cllr Milne reported that quotes were being obtained for drainage works in respect of the Parish Council’s agreed Roads Priorities List with a view to utilising the TAP Fund and Communities Enhancement Fund.

The issue of the poor condition of the Old Road at Burcombe Hill had been discussed. **Action:** Cllr Yabsley agreed to investigate the situation with Richard Sables of Highways and would revert.

Cllrs discussed the Road Warden Scheme and agreed, unanimously, not to join such scheme. Cllr Yabsley was of the opinion that this would not prejudice the Parish Council’s current Community Enhancement Fund application due to the low number of parishes within the scheme. In respect of proposed weed-spraying, cllrs agreed unanimously and in broad principle, for two men to be employed for two days when appropriate. **Action:** Chairman Bulled is to inform the contractor of this broad decision. In respect of Highways works taken on by the Parish Council, cllrs agreed for Highways Committee members to obtain quotes for any work and for the Clerk to instruct the relevant contractor once this had been agreed at a full Parish Council Meeting.

**Appointment of 2016/7 Internal Auditor** - Cllrs agreed to defer this issue to the April 2017 Meeting.

041/03/17 10. Chairman’s Report/Urgent Matters Brought Forward by The Chairman - Chairman Bulled gave a brief outline of the forthcoming (from June 1st) changes to NDC’s waste recycling service as follows:

- a weekly food waste collection service (food waste would no longer go in green or black wheelie bins; it would be collected alongside a weekly recycling service);
- a paid-for garden waste collection service (to allow those who wanted to use it to continue receiving this non-statutory service); and,
- a trial of a major push on recycling in a chosen area (not North Molton) to see if NDC could reduce the amount destined for landfill, alongside a trial of three weekly rather than fortnightly collection of black bins.

Chairman Bulled reported that The Heasley Mill Village Hall Committee was unsure of the extents to the Village Hall plot and as to whether or not the car park was included within the trustees’ ownership. **Action:** The Clerk is to confirm to the Committee that the car park is owned by the trustees.

Chairman Bulled had continued with her litter-picking work in the parish.

There had been a request for the Parish Council to write a letter of commendation regarding weed-spraying work which had been undertaken by South Molton Town Council. **Action:** The Clerk is to investigate the detail of why this was being requested and the implications for the Parish Council and revert.
042/03/17 11. Finance

Barclays Community Account  Balance as at 28th February, 2017:  £2,061.52
Barclays Business Premium Account  Balance as at 28th February, 2017:  £5,828.36

i) Receipts:  £0.00

ii) Payments:
   a)  Clerk’s Net Monthly Pay & Expenses - £332.34 - Net pay: £282.24 plus contribution to telephone & office costs of £15.00 and travel expenses of £35.10;

iii) Any other accounts received after preparation of agenda: None

Clrs agreed to pay the above sum.

043/03/17 12. Correspondence - None

044/03/17 13. Reports

Laurel’s Playground - Cllr Kelland reported that inclement weather had inhibited work on the rendering and re-painting of the walls.

045/03/17 14. Matters Brought Forward by District Councillor & County Councillor - District Cllr Edgell informed clrs that the intended increase in the District Council’s share of council tax which represented 10% of the total council tax ‘take’ was officially 1.99% without a referendum. However, under a special provision for rural districts this was increased to 2.98% without the need for a referendum, bringing in a further £50k in receipts.

County Cllr Yabsley reported that DCC had agreed to raise its share of the council tax by the above 1.99% with a further 3% on top of this which was allowable under social care provisions.

Date and Time of Next meeting: Wednesday 12th April, 2017 at 7.30pm to be held in The North Molton Victory Hall, Fore Street, North Molton.

The Meeting closed at 9.34 p.m..