Minutes of the Meeting of North Molton Parish Council

Held on Wednesday 11th July, 2018 in the Victory Hall

Present: Councillor Bulled (Chairman); Councillor Dunn (Vice Chairman); Councillor Darley; Councillor Kelland (left 9.30 pm); Councillor O’Brien (left 9.30 pm); Councillor Peek; Councillor Procter; Councillor Smaldon; District Councillor Edgell; County Councillor Yabsley (left 9.18 pm) and the Parish Clerk, Noel Brooks

259/07/18.1 Apologies: Cllrs Geen & Milne - all agreed.

260/07/18.2 Declaration of Interests: Chairman Bulled in respect of Lower Poole Phase II - Vice Chairman Dunn took the Chairman’s role on the related debates.

261/07/18.3 Devon and Cornwall Constabulary: No July Newsletter had been received - there were no issues for referral.

262/07/18.4 Representations From The Public: Cllr Smaldon had received a representation from the Old School regarding the leaves and weeds in Laurels Playground - it had been suggested that the Parish Council pay for NDC’s green bin service. Action: Laurels Playground Representative, Cllr Darley apologised for not yet addressing the issue due to pressure of work but he would endeavour to attend to the issue as soon as possible - there would be no need for the Parish Council to incur the green bin expenditure as he would arrange, kindly, for the green waste to be disposed of.

263/07/18.5 Planning

Planning Applications For Consideration Received Since Last Parish Council Meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case Ref</th>
<th>Address &amp; Proposal</th>
<th>Closing Date For Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
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Planning Applications Advised Since Last Parish Council Meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case Ref</th>
<th>Address &amp; Proposal</th>
<th>Decision</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>64773</td>
<td>Barn At South Leigh Farm, South Molton</td>
<td>Approved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prior Approval For Proposed Change Of Use Of Agricultural Building To Single Dwelling House &amp; Associated Operational Development (Class Q, A &amp; B)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64778</td>
<td>2 Hillside View, The Square, North Molton, Devon EX36 3HP</td>
<td>Approved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Listed Building Application In Respect Of Replacement Of Rotten Window With Timber Window Only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63360</td>
<td>Land South Of Old Barns, North Molton, Devon</td>
<td>Approved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Erection Of 1 Industrial Unit (Amended Plans &amp; Documents)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64981</td>
<td>Misty Meadow, 1 East Street, North Molton, Devon EX36 3HR</td>
<td>Approved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Extension to Dwelling</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64919</td>
<td>1 Old House Barns, North Molton, Devon EX36 3HG</td>
<td>Approved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Erection of Porch</td>
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264/07/18.6 Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th June, 2018 - approved, unanimously by those cllrs who had attended the meeting.
265/07/07 Clerk’s Report on the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th June, 2018 -

Request For North Devon Homes (NDH) To Consider The Possibility of its Empty Garages Being Utilised to Alleviate The Current Parking Problem In The Oakford Villas Area - Action: Following NDH’s agreement to allow parking either in or outside its unrented garages in Oakford Villas provided no obstruction was caused and vehicles so parked were roadworthy, taxed and insured, the Clerk is to forward a list of such garages to clrs to enable them to make an informed decision at their next meeting on the best way to proceed.

Request For Signage To Deter Large Vehicles From Using The Road Between Molland Cross and Holewater Cross - County Councillor Yabsley had visited the stretch of road concerned with the Highways Manager. He had re-emphasised the importance of the issue and would continue to keep it on the radar but no timescale had been set to date to practically address the issue.

Section 106 Agreement Open Space Monies - Lower Poole Phase II - Work Continuing On Site Despite Non- adherence to Original S.106 Terms and With No Revised S.106 Agreement In Place - covered under items for discussion, below.

Publicity & Communication By The Parish Council - Establishing The Way Forwards - The Clerk had placed the Chairman’s amended Annual Report on the website as agreed.

Collapsed Road Outside Village Shop Due To Pothole Fillings - County Cllr Yabsley was aware of the issue.

20 MPH Warning Sign By The School - The Clerk had written to the school regarding the algae and vegetation obscuring the sign and its possible, faulty, flashing functionality. The School had confirmed that these matters had been referred to DCC.

Housing Needs Survey - The Clerk had applied to The National Lottery for an Awards For All Grant of £3,201.00 - the cost of the Survey - the funding decision would not be known until early October. Action: Following advice from District Cllr Edgell, the Clerk is to check with Sue Southwell as to whether or not funds could be made available more quickly by some form of governmental grant.

266/07/18.8 Matters Arising From The 13th June, 2018 Minutes Not On This Agenda - None

267/07/18.9 Items For Discussion

The Future of Heasley Mill Village Hall - Clarifying The Legal Responsibilities - Mrs Blackmore explained that two of the six current Committee members running the Hall were looking to stand down from their posts with others thinking along similar lines. Although the Hall was still being used and was financially viable, they had been struggling to find new Committee members without whom the Hall would cease to function. The Clerk referred to the Conveyance and Trust Deed dated 3rd April, 1974 where Lady Stucley, upon request by the already existing Heasley Mill Village Hall Management Committee, had transferred ownership of the Hall and car park area to the Parish Council as Custodian Trustee subject to a Trust Deed and its two schedules placing the management of the Hall under the responsibility of the Hall’s Committee members. On the grounds of future financial non-viability of the Hall or any other reason, the Committee members could decide formally at one of their meetings to either sell or let the Hall and place the proceeds in a similar Trust arrangement for similar benefit to the parishioners of North Molton subject to Charity Commission regulations and the law. The Committee would be required to invite parishioners to a meeting setting forth the Committee’s proposals. Support of 75% of the parishioners present at the meeting would be required at the meeting for the proposals to be progressed. The Committee would be well-advised to seek legal advice on the way forwards - in order to assist the Committee members in this process the Clerk provided Mrs Blackmore with a copy of the relevant Conveyance and Trust Deed. Action: The Clerk is to scan the Conveyance & Trust Deed and e-mail this to clrs for their accommodation and assimilation.
Defibrillator Lease Renewal - Decision Required On How The Facility is To Be Provided in The Future - Prior to the meeting, the Clerk had provided clrrs with a comparison of costs over an eight year period between lease renewal for the existing defibrillator with the South Western Ambulance Service (SWAS) and the outright purchase of a new Stryker/Physio Control CR2 (SWAS-approved) appliance. After a considered debate involving the Landlord of the Poltimore Inn where the current SWAS defibrillator is housed, clrrs agreed unanimously to neither renew the current lease with SWAS nor buy a new defibrillator on the grounds that SWAS would probably not withdraw the existing defibrillator due to its presence assisting the SWAS with its response times and the likely negative public response to any such withdrawal. Should the SWAS set a date for withdrawal of the appliance then the Parish Council would reconsider the position - all agreed. According to the Landlord, SWAS had recently replaced the appliance’s battery.

Lower Poole Development - Phase II - Update and Actions Required - The Clerk had written to the parties agreed at clrrs’ June meeting and forwarded the MP’s response. Jean Watkins had confirmed to the Clerk that the matter had been referred to the Enforcement Team which had been experiencing staffing-level issues. District Cllr Edgell clarified that until the developer had signed the revised S.106 Agreement, the revised Planning Permission would not be granted by NDC - the developer would not be in a position to sell any homes/plots until this was in place. If an Enforcement Notice were issued and the developer appealed, the advice was that HM Government wouldn’t support it because it wanted houses built. County Cllr Yabsley confirmed that no house sales could take place until Building Control had been signed-off by one of the private companies the developer would be employing. It was not clear as to whether or not NDC had involved Environmental Health over potential Health & Safety issues at the site. **Action:** The Clerk is to write to Case Officer Jean Watkins at NDC requesting an update on progress by the end of July concerning the signing of the S.106 Agreement, clarification as to whether or not Environmental Health had been/would be involved at the site due to Health & Safety concerns and, if so, an update on its findings and clarification as to which private Building Control firm had been appointed for the site and whether or not such firm had provided any sign-offs to date.

The Road-naming For The Lower Poole Phase II Development - Suggestion of Name Required - Historically, the area concerned had been known once as both Little Meadow and Great Meadow - Lower Poole Farm had once been occupied by Hilda Mary Winsor. **Action:** After a considered debate clrrs agreed, unanimously, for the Clerk to inform NDC of its choice of name for the development: Winsor Meadow - this would tie in thematically with the Phase I development known as Roberts Field.

Parish Councillor Vacancy - Update On Progress - No one had applied for the post to date - it would continue to be advertised.

Highways Project Team Update - Chairman Bulled reported that the Parish Council’s contractor, Ian Woollacott had carried out hedge-trimming works at various locations. In connection with the Snow Warden role, Rob Mitchell had offered, kindly, to the Parish Council, usage of his salt spreader.

**Communities Together Fund 2018-19** - Cllrs agreed unanimously for the matter to be placed on the August Agenda.

Adopted BT Phone Box Update - Chairman Bulled reported that ex-Parish Councillor, Stephen Palfreyman had started work on the refurbishment.

268/07/18.10 Chairman’s Report/Urgent Matters Brought Forward By The Chairman - Chairman Bulled had reported the incomplete pothing work on the road to Heasley Mill to DCC. Chairman Bulled had also reported to County Cllr Yabsley and to DCC on-line, a wall at Broad Close which had been damaged by a delivery van - DCC had carried out the necessary repairs within twenty four hours which had been commendable. The Chairman had also reported to North Devon Homes the unsightly overgrown grass at Jubilee Gardens and Oakford Villas and was awaiting a date for the cutting thereof. Roberts Field was looking very tidy with newly-planted rose
bushes which had been commendable, also. The Parish Forum meeting had been rescheduled for Thursday 26th July.

269/07/18.11 Finance

Barclays Community Account  Balance as at 30th June, 2018: £ 11,046.96
Barclays Business Premium Account  Balance as at 30th June, 2018: £  6,035.44

Receipts: £3.01 interest - Received on 4th June on the Barclays Business Premium Account

Payments:

a) **Clerk’s Net Monthly Pay & Expenses - £378.40** - Net Pay: £347.20 plus contribution to telephone & office costs of £15.00 and travel expenses of £16.20 (mileage: 36);
   (Please note that the detailed calculations in respect of the Clerk’s salary and expenses are made available to parish councillors at each meeting and are, in any event, subject to annual independent audit. Members of the public are welcome to inspect the figures at such meetings and during the agreed statutory period.)

b) **South Molton Town Council - £600.00** - Inv: 8671 - Weed-killing For North Molton by SMTC;

c) **HMRC - £123.00** - PAYE Due in July 2018 In Respect of the Period: Apr-Jun 2018;

   iii) Any Other Accounts Received After Preparation of Agenda: None

Unanimously, cllrs agreed to pay the above sums.

270/07/18.12 Correspondence - None

271/07/18.13 Reports - Laurels Playground - covered above under ‘Representations From The Public’.

272/07/18.14 Matters Brought Forward by The District & County Councillor - None

Date, Time and Venue of The Next Meeting To Be Held In The Victory Hall, Fore Street, North Molton:

Wednesday 8th August, 2018 at 7.30 p.m..

The Meeting closed at 9.38 p.m.