**Present:** Councillor Bulled (Chairman); Councillor Dunn (Vice Chairman); Councillor Darley; Councillor Geen (left at 9.26 pm); Councillor Kelland (left at 8 pm); Councillor Milne; Councillor Palfreyman; Councillor Peek; Councillor Procter; Councillor Smaldon; District Councillor Edgell and the Parish Clerk, Noel Brooks

**200/03/18 1. Apologies:** Councillor O’Brien & County Councillor Yabsley - agreed unanimously.

**200/03/18 2. Declaration of Interests:** None

**202/03/18 3. Devon and Cornwall Constabulary:** The Clerk had not received a report in March for onward transmission to cllrs. Cllr Kelland had spoken with a local police officer concerning the dogs stolen recently within the parish - dogs had been found in other parts of the country but there had been no progress to date on the North Molton cases.

**203/03/18 4. Representations From The Public:** Chairman Bulled had received a representation requesting a speed restriction on New Road between Borner’s Bridge and North Molton village due to the danger to pedestrians. After a considered debate, cllrs decided not to take any action - they considered the road to be too dangerous for pedestrians and horse-riders at any speed level. Chairman Bulled had been asked by Pete Brown of Molland Farm whether or not signs to deter large vehicles from using the stretch between Molland Cross and Holewater Cross could be put in place. **Action:** The Clerk is to raise the issue with County Councillor Yabsley with a view to having signs put in place. Vice Chairman Dunn voiced his concern that NDC hadn’t picked up all the refuse on the previous Thursday even though there had been no snowfall at that point in time. **Action:** The Clerk is to e-mail NDC with this concern, highlighting that parishioners had had to wait four weeks for a bin collection as a result of this drop in agreed service levels. Cllr Palfreyman had received representations regarding the difficulties and danger caused to pedestrians by the parking of a caravan and cars on the pavement at Oakford Villas. **Action:** Cllr Kelland is to visit the home-owner concerned with a view to seeking amicable ways to resolve the issue. Cllr Procter raised the issue, again, concerning the slippery and dangerous path from Back Lane to Oakford Villas. **Action:** The Clerk is to chase NDH for action on this on-going issue.

**204/03/18 5. Planning**

**Planning Applications For Consideration Received Since Last Parish Council Meeting**

- **64583** Gunbarrell Shed, Lane To Stitchpool Farm, Stitchpool, Heasley Mill
  - Retrospective Application In Respect Of Change Of Use Of An Agricultural Building & Associated Land, To A Mixed Use Of Agriculture & Firewood Processing To Include Internal & External Storage Use Class B2 (General Industrial) & B8 (Storage & Distribution (To Include External Storage) Supported - 9 In Favour And 1 Against With The Proviso That The Usage Be Restricted To A Closed B2 & B8 And Applicable Only To Agriculture And Firewood Processing.

**Planning Applications Advised Since Last Parish Council Meeting**

- **64279** Poltimore Inn, East Street, North Molton, Devon EX36 3HR
  - Erection of Observatory Approved

- **63909** Riverside Caravan and Camping Park, North Molton EX36 3HQ
  - Provision of 10 Additional Caravan Touring Pitches Approved

- **63362** Lower Poole Barns, Fore Street, North Molton, South Molton, Devon EX36 3HL
  - Approval Of Details In Respect Of Discharge Of Withdrawn
Conditions 7 (Energy), 8 (Northern Boundary Treatment), 18 (Noise),
19 (Contamination), 26 (Infrastructure Including Roads & Drainage)
& 29 (Access Road) Attached To Planning Permission 50080

62/49/17/002 Heasley House Hotel, Heasley Mill, North Molton
Approved
(Exmoor) Proposed Conversion Of Building To Form One Unit Of Holiday
Accommodation And Staff Accommodation (Previously Approved
Under Application 62/49/17/005 And 62/49/11/006LB Together With
New Biodisc Treatment Tank And Outfall)

62/49/17/003LB Heasley House Hotel, Heasley Mill, North Molton
Approved
(Exmoor) Listed Building Consent For Proposed Conversion Of Building To
Form One Unit Of Holiday Accommodation And Staff Accommodation
(Previously Approved Under Application 62/49/17/005 And
62/49/11/006LB Together With New Biodisc Treatment Tank And Outfall)

62/49/17/004 Mineswood, Road From Fyldon Cross To Heasley Mill,
Withdrawn
(Exmoor) Proposed Change of Use of Former Methodist Church to
Two Holiday Lets Together With Associated Works

205/03/18 6. Approval of the Minutes of The Meeting of North Molton Parish Council Held on 14th
February, 2018 - approved unanimously by those cllrs who had attended the meeting.

206/03/18 7. Clerk's Report on 14th February, 2018 Minutes

Inadequate Salt & Grit Supplied by DCC - The Snow Warden, Bill Geen, had received delivery of the remaining
salt quota for the parish.

S.106 Open Space Funding Priorities For North Molton - In the light of possible funding being required
towards a new burial facility for the Parish, the Clerk had put NDC on warning that the priorities for the Parish
might need to be changed to reflect the main new priority being this issue. The Clerk had also raised the
question of whether or not a new burial facility would qualify for a Commuted Payment Levy.
NDC responded on 6th March, 2018 with the Planning Dept’s view that a new burial facility would be unlikely
to receive S.106 funding for many reasons. Unanimously, cllrs agreed to hold the matter in abeyance until an
actual piece of land became available for purchase.

Availability of Land For A New Burial Ground - Chairman Bulled had reported that there had been an initial
unenthusiastic response from the most likely landowner who had thought that there was still room for
manoeuvre with the existing space involving the moving of headstones at the eastern end which was an
option under re-consideration by the Church. Notwithstanding this, the landowner would continue to
consider the proposition.

Simultaneous gulley-clearance and edge-ploughing to Avoid Flooding - Cllr Milne reported that the reason
this had not happened had been purely down to logistics, but that the contractor had tied the two activities in
close together, in any event.

Overgrown Hedge at 22 Oakford Villas - (Enq. No: 171051471) - The Clerk had chased DCC for a progress
report on this issue on 30th January but had received no response to date. The Clerk had raised this with DCC
by e-mail on 21st February but had received no response to date. Cllr Procter reported that whilst the work
had been executed to a satisfactory standard in that there was no obstruction to the public, it was not
aesthetically- pleasing. On a practical level, the case was now closed.
Further HMCEF Application For £5,000 - The Clerk reported that the monies had been received on 26th February, 2018.

Memorial in New Road - The Clerk had spoken with one of the landowners involved and had e-mailed the landowner, subsequently, to obtain consent to proceed along the lines previously agreed by the Parish Council. To date, the Clerk had not received a reply. **Action:** The Clerk would chase the landowner for a response.

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 - The Clerk had e-mailed Paul Young of DCC requesting him to arrange a meeting between County Cllr Yabsley, his good self and Cllr Geen in order to clarify the issues affecting DCC which were preventing progress with a view to setting the shortest possible timescale for the drafting and signing of a revised S.106 Agreement which could bring circa £57k of Public Open Space monies to the local community. **Action:** The Clerk is to phone County Cllr Yabsley with a view to asking him to liaise with Paul Young to set up such meeting.

TAP Fund Application 2017.18 - £1,057.10 - The Clerk had forwarded a completed claim form and scanned supporting invoices to NDC on 14th March, 2018 for payment - NDC had acknowledged receipt of the claim form.

Written Letter of Support Required by All Saints Church for Its ‘Community Enterprise’ - The Clerk had sent such letter on behalf of North Molton Parish Council on 28th February, 2018.

Un-cashed Grant Cheque - Royal British Legion - £30.00 - Drawn in October 2017 - Vice Chairman Dunn would continue to chase Darren Prendergast.

207/03/ 18.8 Matters Arising From The 14th February, 2018 Minutes Not On This Agenda - None

208/03/18 9. Items For Discussion

North Molton Churchyard - The latest position is covered above under the Clerk’s Report.

Highways Project Team Update - Cllr Milne reported that all Priority 4 & 5 roads had been edge-ploughed with 66 of their 89 gullies cleared - invoices had been received for this work. The remaining 23 gullies would be cleared and billed in the next financial year. Further drainage work for 2018-19 could include the edge-ploughing of all Priority 6 roads but a contractor had advised that it might be more prudent to tackle other gulley and easement work. North Molton Parish Council had helped both Chittlehamholt and Bishop Nympton Parish Councils by sharing with them their knowledge and experience concerning the management of road drainage work and their understanding of the mechanics of the Highways Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund. In the light of the Parish Council undertaking drainage work which was the responsibility of DCC, but not being adequately addressed by DCC in a practical sense, Cllr Geen and other members expressed their desire for a member of the Highways Project Team to have direct access to the local Highways Manager in order to avoid duplication of work and to whom he/she could liaise with on urgent issues such as flooding at Five Barrows. Cllrs agreed to raise this issue with County Cllr Yabsley at their April meeting.

Publicity & Communication By The Parish Council - Establishing The Way Forwards - Cllr Milne raised the broad possibility of producing a bi-annual newsletter to communicate better to the public what the Parish Council was doing and achieving for their benefit. Amongst the ideas proffered were: articles in South Molton News; production of an ‘in-house’ newsletter with dissemination by post and supported by advertising; use of the Parish Council’s website; articles and comments in the ‘In Touch’ magazine; Facebook and Twitter. **Actions:** Chairman Bulled is to obtain a copy of Brayford PC’s newsletter and ascertain attendant costing information - Cllr Milne is to do the same for Chittlehamholt. **Action:** The Clerk is to ascertain any Parish Council website implications from the website’s administrative manager.

Adopted BT Phone Box Update - Cllr Palfreyman reported that the renovation was being held in abeyance until weather conditions improved in order not to waste the expensive paint procured for such purpose.
Action: Chairman Bulled agreed to contact the local school for ideas from the children as to potential usage.

North Devon and Torridge Local Plan 2011-2031 – Proposed Main Modifications - Unanimously, cllr's agreed that the modifications did not affect the parish, directly. They agreed that no response was required by the Parish Council.

Possible Community Governance Review by NDC - Following advice from District Cllr Edgell and a considered debate, cllr's agreed that there was no need to request any change to the parish boundary.

Traffic-sensitive Street Review - This involved DCC listing certain roads for non-closure for works at certain times of the year on justifiable grounds such as the tourist season or special events. Cllr's agreed that no submission was required for North Molton.

Living Options Devon - Request for Support Letter Regarding TAP Fund Application - Cllr's were generally not aware of having received supporting information on this request. They expressed concern that TAP Fund monies were only relevant to local councils and that other parties applying could restrict funds to such bodies. District Cllr Edgell postulated that the TAP Fund application might be for minimal unutilised funds at the end of the current year in which case cllr's agreed with one against and one abstention that they would be happy for the Clerk to support such application by letter/e-mail on their behalf. Action: The Clerk would investigate the basis of the TAP Fund application and comply with cllr's' wishes if the application were for unutilised TAP funds.

209/03/18 10. Chairman’s Report/Urgent Matters Brought Forward By The Chairman - Action: Chairman Bulled proposed that the Clerk express the Parish Council’s thanks, through the Minutes, to all the farmers, game-keepers, local shop and members of the public for keeping the parish moving during the recent snowfall - agreed unanimously. Chairman Bulled gave thanks to Mr S. Pepper for clearing away the dog poo at the bottom of Holdridge Lane.

210/03/18 11. Finance

Barclays Community Account Balance as at 28th February, 2018: £13,322.44
Barclays Business Premium Account Balance as at 28th February, 2018: £6,029.42

i) Receipts: £5,000.00 - Devon County Council - Highways Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund - 26th February, 2018

ii) Payments:


iii) Any Other Accounts Received After Preparation of Agenda:

a) I.C. Woollacott - £1,755.00 - Drainage & Ditching Works - Invoice No: 0153664
b) I.C. Woollacott - £300.00 - Drainage Works (Twitchen) - Invoice No: 0153665
c) Playsafety Ltd - £79.80 - Annual Playground Inspect. Fee - Invoice No: 33721
d) Darren Phillips - £6,138.00 - Drainage Works - Invoice No: 17695

T/a Forks 2 U

Unanimously, cllr's agreed to pay the above sums.

211/03/18 12. Correspondence - None

212/03/18 13. Reports - Laurels Playground - Cllr Procter reported that the leaf build-up required clearance.
213/03/18 14. Matters Brought Forward by The District Councillor & County Councillor - District Councillor Edgell reported that the Parish Grant would not be reduced in the financial year 2018-19. TAP funding would continue (the Clerk would check on the application criteria involved as it was thought that drainage work would no longer be eligible). The Local Cllr Grant of £1k between his five parishes would also remain. An additional £6.5m funding had been secured for extra Highways works on all of Devon’s roads with a specific £3m of that ear-marked for drainage works.

Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting: Wednesday 11th April 2018 at 7.30 pm in The Victory Hall, Fore Street, North Molton

The Meeting closed at 9.36 p.m.