MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTH MOLTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10th April, 2019 IN THE VICTORY HALL

Present: Councillor Bulled (Chairman); Councillor Dunn (Vice Chairman); Councillor Darley; Councillor Geen; Councillor Kelland; Councillor Milne (arrived 7.40 pm); Councillor O’Brien; Councillor Peek (arrived 7.55 pm); Councillor Procter; Councillor Smaldon, County Councillor Yabsley (arrived 8.20 pm) and the Parish Clerk, Noel Brooks

385/04/19.1 Apologies: Cllr Butt & District Cllr Edgell - all agreed.

386/04/19.2 Declaration of Interests: Chairman Bulled in respect of the Lower Poole Phase II Development - Item 9b and Planning Application: 66372 - Vice Chairman Dunn took the Chair on these issues with Chairman Bulled leaving the room for the debate and any vote. Cllr Smaldon in respect of Planning Application: 66384 - Cllr Smaldon did not take part in the debate and voting on this case.

387/04/19.3 Devon and Cornwall Constabulary: No issues were raised.

388/04/19.4 Representations From The Public: Cllr Smaldon raised the Old School Management Committee’s concern regarding the lack of a bin in Laurel’s Playground which clrs agreed to consider under ‘Reports’, below. Chairman Bulled had received complaints regarding fallen branches in New Road. She had contacted the landowner involved, Mr Stucley, who had taken measures, kindly, to clear the debris - he had also intimated that he would be arranging a survey of the condition of the trees on his land potentially affecting the highway. Cllr Darley made representation regarding the potential danger to horses due to an uncovered gulley pot on the stretch of road from Kensall Cross just before Ley Cross. There was a bollard indicating an issue but the matter warranted urgent remedial action by DCC. Action: The Clerk is to e-mail Tom Vaughan of DCC and copy-in the Highways Manager, Richard Sables regarding this uncovered gulley issue. Cllr Milne reported another similar issue in Bendle Lane where there was a sizeable hole to the left of a drain cover in the middle of the road. Action: The Clerk is to report this issue in Bendle Lane to Tom Vaughan of DCC, copying-in the Highways Manager. Vice Chairman Dunn reported that a car with no number plates had been parked for more than six months on the road in Oakford Villas by the garages. Action: Cllr Procter is to e-mail the Clerk with the owner’s home address. Action: The Clerk is to report the issue to the local police.

389/04/19.5 Planning

Chairman Bulled referred to her recent attendance at a planning course held by DCC where the position on site visits had been clarified in that they should be arranged through and led by the NDC Case Officer with impartiality maintained at all times.

Planning Applications For Consideration Received Since Last Parish Council Meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case Ref</th>
<th>Address &amp; Proposal</th>
<th>Decision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>66372</td>
<td>Land At Main Road, North Molton, Devon</td>
<td>Supported - 1 Abstention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Outline Application For Up To 45 Dwellings With Associated Public Open Space, Landscaping &amp; Infrastructure (All Matters Reserved Except Access)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66399</td>
<td>Locks Upcott, North Molton, Devon EX36 3JR</td>
<td>Supported</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prior Approval For Change of Use From Agricultural Building To Dwellinghouse (Class C3) And Other Associated Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66438</td>
<td>Swan Cottage, The Square, North Molton, Devon EX36 3HP</td>
<td>Supported</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Notification Of Works To Trees In A Conservation Area In Respect</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Planning Applications Advised Since Last Parish Council Meeting

Case Ref | Address & Proposal | Decision
--- | --- | ---
66128 | Locks Upcott, North Molton, Devon EX36 3JR
Application For A Lawful Development Certificate For Proposed Agricultural Vehicular Access Together With Erection Of 2 Storey Rear Extension | Approved

66158 | 9 Broad Close, North Molton, Devon EX36 3JD
Extension & Alterations | Approved

65886 | Land At High Bullen Cross, North Molton, Devon
Variation Of Condition 6 (Approved Use Of Building) Attached To Planning Permission 64037 (Erection Of One Supervisory Rural Workers Dwelling And One Storage And Kennel Building (Amended Description)) To Allow For Reworking Of The Condition | Approved

65870 | Barton Pitts, North Molton, Devon EX36 3EX
Erection Of One Unit Of Holiday Accommodation | Approved

390/04/19.6 Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th March, 2019 - approved, unanimously by those clrs who had attended the meeting.

391/04/19.7 Clerk's Report on the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th March, 2019 and any other important matters arising from previous Minutes

Rubbish Emptyted Onto Park Bench in Heasley Mill Road by Contractor - Chairman Bulled reported that gamekeepers had kindly released the seat which had been undamaged and was fit-for-purpose again. The contractor had intimated that permission had been sought to ‘dump’ the material at that point with the intention of stabilising the muddy surface.

Non-functioning Street Light Between Back Lane and Oakford Villas - Cllr Procter informed clrs that the light had no identifiable number for reporting purposes but that it would appear to have been an intermittent problem with the light currently working - clrs agreed to monitor the situation.

Sewage Issues Affecting the River Mole by the Bridge - On 26th March Steve Short of DCC reported that DCC had been working with NDC's Environmental Health Dept and the Environment Agency regarding this issue as it had been unclear as to whether or not there had been an illegal connection into DCC's drainage system. A CCTV survey of the drainage system was being arranged and a report of the findings would be forwarded to both parties.

Ascertaining the details of King's Nympnt Parish Council's Recent Defibrillator Contract with SWAS - On 26th March, the Clerk had forwarded to clrs the broad details of King's Nympnt Parish Council's latest defibrillator arrangements together with costs for their perusal. Clrs agreed that their decision on this issue on 11th July, 2018 would prevail with the situation monitored.
or Purchase: The Clerk had forwarded the warranty periods to clrrs on 8th April - The one year warranty on the electric screen was not seen as a problem by Purple Cat Ltd as the screens were considered reliable with one screen ever having failed beyond the warranty - the most likely time for failure was on delivery due to transit damage - the additional insurance premium for all risks on cover of £1,622 inclusive of VAT was £13 a on top of the current premium of £289.37 - clrrs all agreed for the Clerk to increase the premium by £13.00 p.a. when necessary. Action: The Clerk is to obtain two quotes from W.H. Buckingham Ltd and James Electrics Contracting Ltd in Barnstaple for the installation of the electric screen in Victory Hall for a decision by clrrs at their 15th May, 2019 meeting.

Handling of Data on Website vis-a-vis Local Contacts - The Clerk had omitted to put the long-term future of the handling of such data on the April Agenda and invite Richard Carder of History Society to such meeting; he would do so for the 15th May Meeting.

Exmoor National Park Authority’s Response to North Molton Parish Council’s Consultee Responses Dated 13th February, 2019 Regarding Planning Applications 62/49/19/001 & 002 - Longstone Wells, Heasley Mill, North Molton, Devon EX36 3HA - In accordance with the Parish Council’s decision on 13th March, the Clerk had replied to the Planning Authority with its continued objection to the applications in order to bring the cases to Committee which could then consider the full extent of the owner’s overall intentions for the site following the numerous, piecemeal and retrospective applications which had been made to date. The Clerk understood that the cases would be considered by Committee in May. The Clerk had forwarded a copy of the Claywater Planning Group’s e-mail dated 19th March to clrrs and out of courtesy had responded by welcoming the clients to the parish and explaining the broad reasoning behind the Parish Council’s decision to object to the applications and the Planning Authority’s decision to lodge the recent applications with the Planning Authority’s Committee. The Clerk had informed the Planning Consultant of the date, time and venue for NMPC’s April meeting where representation could be made to parish clrrs.

392/04/19.8 Matters Arising From The 13th March, 2019 Minutes Not On This Agenda - None

393/04/19.9 Items For Discussion

Laurels Playground - ROSPA Playsafety - Safety Inspection Report - Actions Required - Cllrs agreed that the minor issues in the report would be covered by the application below for S.106 funding.

Lower Poole Development - Phase II - S.106 Public Open Space (POS) ‘Committed Sum’ - Decision Required on a Project for Laurel’s Playground - Cllrs considered the overall expected POS ‘committed sum’ (£57,029), the likely extent of applications for funding from the other interested parties and the various options for the playground. Action: After a detailed debate, cllrs agreed for the Clerk to apply to NDC for £25,000 to cover a steam clean of the surface of the playground, the complete re-surfacing of the area, the purchase of a new Fort-style multi-play unit and new padding for the current goalposts.

Highways Project Team Update, HMCEF Application Progress & Actions /Approvals Required - Cllr Milne reported that the 2017-18 priorities for edge-ploughing and gulley clearing plus twelve priorities brought forward from the previous year had been completed - the gullies cleared still needed to be logged on the control map. Cllr Geen expressed concern that not all of the ‘levelling’ had been carried out and recommended that a Parish Council deputation along with the contractor assess the work requested and completed - it was agreed that this was a matter for the Highways Team to resolve with the contractor. The Clerk reported on the reticence by DCC in approving the Parish Council’s HMCEF application for £5k which had been made back in the autumn. Late in the day, DCC had requested further detailed information which Cllr Milne and the Clerk had duly supplied only to be further thwarted by DCC’s fresh insistence that that hedge and verge-trimming be removed from the request for funds on the grounds that DCC was still available to carry out related emergency work with landowners being responsible, in any event. The Clerk had responded to DCC by explaining that the Parish Council was match-funding the HMCEF £5k through this year’s Precept and that all of the £5k under the HMCEF could be utilised solely for drainage works - the Clerk was told by one of the DCC HMCEF officers concerned that a memorandum would be written.
Community Speed Watch Update - Cllr Peek reported that there had been no progress on his application to join the scheme.

Adopted BT Phone Box Update - Chairman Bulled reported that work had been held in abeyance pending the Parish Council’s 15th May, 2019 Meeting when the future responsibility for the handling of the relevant data would be fully discussed with the History Society’s Chairman, Richard Carder.

Arrangements For Annual Meetings - Actions - The Clerk had contacted all of the regular parties for their attendance/input at/for the Annual Meeting of the Parish of North Molton. Cllr Procter was expecting an annual report from the Heasley Mill Village Hall Committee.

394/04/19.10 Chairman’s Report/Urgent Matters Brought Forward By The Chairman - Chairman Bulled thanked the parish councillors who had put themselves forward for re-election and noted that the election was uncontested with the remaining three positions to be filled by the co-option process. Action: The Clerk is to place Co-option on the 15th May, 2019 Agenda. Chairman Bulled reported that she had been nominated to take part in the District Council Election following Richard Edgell’s retirement from such office. Action: The Clerk is to invite District Councillor Edgell along to the Annual Meeting of North Molton Parish Council by way of thanking him for his services to the parish Council. Chairman Bulled thanked the three out-going parish councillors for all of their work for North Molton Parish Council - they would be welcome to put themselves forward for co-option if, on reflection, they should decide to continue as parish councillors. Chairman Bulled had attended a recent Planning Course run by DALC which had been very interesting - DALC had confirmed that a future Group training session on Planning could be arranged. Chairman Bulled had attended the recent Community Led Housing Course and would e-mail cllrs a copy of the details involved.

395/04/19.11 Finance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Type</th>
<th>Balance as at: 29th March, 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barclays Community Account</td>
<td>£9,991.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barclays Business Premium Account</td>
<td>£6,044.47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Receipts:

a) HMRC - VAT Re-claim - (1/4/18 - 31/1/19) - £591.07 - 8/3/2019
b) History Society - Web Fee - Re: Inv: 004 - £36.79 - 22/3/2019
c) Business premium Account - Interest - £3.01 - 4/3/2019

Payments:

a) Clerk’s Net Monthly Pay & Expenses - £509.29 - Net Pay: £329.64 plus contribution to telephone & office costs of £15.00, travel expenses of £25.65 (mileage:57) and £139.00 to purchase the Apple TV Box under the Epson Projector Project.
(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) HMRC - £174.00 - PAYE Due In April 2019 For January - March 2019
c) DALC - £254.17 - Membership Renewal 2019-2020 - INV:7704
d) DALC - £48.00 - Planning Course on 26/3/2019 - Inv:7543
e) Playsafety Limited - £82.20 - Annual Inspection Report On Laurels Playground - Inv. No: 40583

f) Woollacotts (South West) Ltd - £686.40 - Inv. No: INV-0051 - Drainage Works

g) Purple Cat Ltd - £1,483.39 - Pro-forma Invoice No: 41938 - To Purchase Audio Visual Goods

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

Unanimously, clrrs agreed to pay the above sum.

396/04/19.12 Correspondence - None

397/04/19.13 Reports

Laurels Playground - Cllr Smaldon expressed the further concern of the Old School Management Committee regarding the lack of a bin in the playground. Sherri Lynch had agreed to empty a bin weekly provided the Parish Council agreed to provide black bin liners. **Action:** Cllr Darley is to supply, kindly, a suitable bin free of charge and obtain bin liners at the Parish Council’s expense - all agreed.

398/04/19.14 Matters Brought Forward by The County & District Councillors - None

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

Wednesday 8\(^{th}\) May, 2019 at 7.30 pm - Annual Meeting of North Molton Parish Council

Wednesday 8\(^{th}\) May, 2019 at 8.00 pm - Annual Meeting of The Parish of North Molton

Wednesday 15\(^{th}\) May, 2019 at 7.30 pm - North Molton Parish Council - Normal Monthly Meeting

The Meeting closed at 9.35 pm