Present: Councillor R. Peek (Chairman); Councillor J. Dunn (Vice Chairman); Councillor Barron; Councillor E. Bulled; Councillor A. Darley; Councillor Milne; Councillor R. Procter; Councillor R. Smaldon; District Councillor E. Bulled and the Parish Clerk, Noel Brooks

499/12/19.1 Apologies: Cllrs R. Butt; B. Geen & County Councillor J. Yabsley - all agreed.

500/12/19.2 Declaration of Interests: Councillor Darley Re: Planning Application: 70819 - Cllr Darley stood down from the debate and vote on this case.

501/12/19.3 Devon and Cornwall Constabulary: None

502/12/19.4 Representations From The Public: Councillor Milne had received a representation regarding speeding by vehicles in the village and the feasibility of applying for a 20 MPH Zone which Vice Chairman Dunn noted had been applied for in the past with such application having failed. Councillor Darley noted that councillors would be reconsidering the AutoSpeedWatch initiative in March 2020.

503/12/19.5 Planning:

Planning Applications For Consideration Received Since Last Parish Council Meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case Ref</th>
<th>Address &amp; Proposal</th>
<th>Decision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70819</td>
<td>Stitchpool Farm, South Molton, Devon EX36 3EZ Siting of 6 Containers For Storage</td>
<td>Objection - cllrs voted unanimously against this application on the grounds that insufficient information had been provided regarding what was to be stored.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Planning Applications Advised 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>62/49/19/002 (Exmoor Nat.Pk)</td>
<td>Longstone Wells, Heasley Mill, North Molton, Devon EX36 3LQ Proposed Formation Of A New Access Track And Associated Landscaping. Retrospective. As Per Amended And Additional Plans (Full)</td>
<td>Approved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70527</td>
<td>Hall House, Lambscombe Farm, North Molton South Molton, Devon EX36 3JU Removal of condition 2 (holiday occupancy restriction) attached to planning permission 23617 to allow for full residential use</td>
<td>Refused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70188</td>
<td>The Barn, 37a East Street, North Molton, Devon EX36 3HR Notification Of Works To Trees In A Conservation Area In Respect Of Crown Reduction Of 1 Thorn, 1 Prunus And 3 Birch Trees And Removal Of 1 Holly Tree</td>
<td>Approved</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

504/12/19.6 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of North Molton Parish Council held on 13th November, 2019 - approved, unanimously by those cllrs who had attended the meeting.
Potential Danger Of Aquaplaning To Road Users Caused By Poor Drainage From Borners Bridge Leading On To New Road and On New Road At Burcombe Wood - The Clerk had e-mailed DCC’s Highways Manager but had received no response to date - Action: The Clerk is to continue to chase the issue.

Planning Application: 70660 - Sunnyside Back Lane - Erection of 3 Dwellings - The Clerk had requested a further extension to the time allowed for consultation - he had also requested a site visit. The Case Officer would be putting a stop on the application as she had various issues which she would be taking up with the agent involved - she envisaged that a site visit might not be necessary if a fuller explanation were provided within revised documentation - she would keep the Clerk posted. The Clerk had chased the Case Officer on 26th November for an update but she was still awaiting a response from the Agent. Action: The Clerk is to continue to chase the matter.

Planning Application: 70719 - South Leigh Farm - The Clerk had written an e-mail to Ken Miles of NDC complaining of the inaccessibility before the Parish Council’s Meeting of the documents relating to this case. The Clerk had received no response to date - Action: The Clerk is to continue to chase NDC.

Exploration of Possibility For Additional Car Park For North Molton On DCC-owned Land Adjacent to Roberts Field and Opposite The Lower Poole Phase II Development - The Parish Council was still awaiting the outcome of DCC’s investigation into the feasibility of this suggestion. Action: The Clerk is to chase County Councillor Yabsley on this issue.

Issues Arising From The Footpath Warden’s Report 2019 - The Rights Of Way Officer had apologised for his delay in replying. He was still awaiting a response from the owners regarding the bank of soil at the bottom of Footpath 4 - Action: The Clerk is to continue to chase the matter. The current Definitive Map showed the footpath going through the farm yard - Action: Councillor Bulled is to contact the owners of Pitt Farm, notifying them of who to contact in order to arrange for the footpath to be diverted around the farm.

Provision by County Cllr Yabsley to the Clerk of Contact Details for Both Local Rural and other crime reporting for inclusion on Cllr Listing and Website - County Cllr Yabsley had provided the Clerk with the e-mail address of local policeman, Steve Theobald who the Clerk had contacted with a view to obtaining the full details involved but had not had a response to date. Action: The Clerk is to continue to chase for this information.

Listing Of Raised Pavement In East Street & Cobblestones Outside The Village Shop - Councillor Procter read out various concerns raised by the owners of April Cottage. Vice Chairman Dunn provided reassurance in that Devon County Council would continue to be responsible for maintenance outside the curtilage of the said property regardless of whether or not the listing took place. Vice Chairman Dunn would be contacting Historic England with a view to arranging the listing/s.

Co-option - The Clerk welcomed Claire Barron as a new member of North Molton Parish Council - he wished her a rewarding and productive time in office.

AutoSpeedWatch - The Clerk had placed this in the Outlook Diary for inclusion as an issue on the March 2020 Agenda;

HMCEF Application - The Clerk had applied for £5,000 under the Scheme - the application would be determined by DCC in March 2020.

Laurels Playground - Safety Of The Walls - The Clerk had written letters to both the Feoffees and the owner of Court Hall expressing the Parish Council’s concern over possible safety issues involving their walls forming part of the perimeter to the play area and seeking assurance that the walls were, indeed, safe. The Clerk had not received a response to date. Vice Chairman Dunn had been informed by the Feoffees’ Chairman that a builder would be instructed to inspect the walls. The Clerk had also referred the overall issue to both RoSpa and the Parish
Council’s insurer for further guidance. RoSPA was of the opinion that the Parish Council was ‘on the right track’ in asking for the walls to be inspected/seeking assurance as to their safety. Additionally, RoSPA had recommended for the large adjacent trees to be inspected by a qualified arborist. The Parish Council’s insurer had maintained that the owners would be liable for any damage or injury caused by their walls/trees. For a successful third party claim against the Parish Council, such body would need to be found liable & negligent for any incident. The Clerk had referred the matter to DALC for guidance and was awaiting a response.

506/12/19.8 Matters Arising From The 13th November, 2019 Minutes Not On This Agenda - Councillor Darley noted that he had asked for the Clerk to query with RoSpa and the Parish Council’s insurers as to whether or not the padding on the goalposts in Laurels Playground could be removed as per advice from ‘tkplay’. Action: The Clerk is to contact RoSpa and the insurer for their recommendations/guidance concerning the proposed removal of the goalpost padding.

507/12/19.9 Items For Discussion:

Parish Councillor Vacancy Update - Following the appointment of Claire Barron to the Parish Council, Chairman Peek commented that there was still one further vacancy to fill;

Agreement Required For Adjustment of Precept For 2020-21 Due To Withdrawal of Grant Assist; - After a considered debate, parish councillors agreed on a vote of 6 For and 2 Against for the 2020-21 Precept application to be increased by £25.00 to accommodate the withdrawal of the Grant Assist. Action: The Clerk is to apply for a 2020-21 Precept of £14,488.74.

Arrangements To Be Agreed For Provision Of A Christmas Tree In The Square - Chairman Peek thanked all those involved, including Kevin and Arthur, for the erection of the Christmas Tree in the Square - the lighting would be arranged, kindly, by ex Parish Councillor, Stephen Palfreyman, on 12th December;

Highways Project Team Update - Councillor Milne reported that new contractor, J. Butt, had already tackled some of the flooding ‘black-spots’ in the parish. Contractor, Forks2U had been contacted regarding areas requiring ‘levelling out’ which once completed and invoiced would be duly paid for by the Parish Council. By chance, Councillor Smaldon had met DCC’s local Highways Manager on Burcombe Hill and had discussed various drainage issues - one of the problems had appeared to be a blocked BT drain causing it to overflow - he would be contacting BT with a view to the company resolving the issue. Another issue involved continuously rising water from the hedge bed with such water flowing across the road - The Highways Manager had explained that the problem, along with many similar issues in the county, could not be dealt with at present, due to the bad weather. Action: After a considered debate, councillors agreed for the Clerk to make a formal Freedom of Information Act request to DCC for a list of the gullies which DCC had recorded for the Parish of North Molton together with information on which of these gullies were overdue on their scheduled programme for cleaning/clearing/maintenance and by how long they were overdue for such work;

Laurels Playground Project Team Update - This is covered under the Clerk’s Report above;

Adopted BT Phone Box Project & Updating Of Website Contact Data For Amenities, Groups & Artisans; - Councillor Bulled informed councillors that her work on this would continue in the New Year.

508/12/19.10 Chairman’s Report/Urgent Matters Brought Forward By The Chairman - Chairman Peek had nothing to report.

509/12/19.11 Finance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account</th>
<th>Balance as at 30th November, 2019:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barclays Community Account</td>
<td>£11,677.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barclays Business Premium Account</td>
<td>£6,050.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Receipts: None
i) Payments:

a) Clerk’s Net Monthly Pay & Expenses - £361.50 - Net Pay: £338.40 plus contribution to telephone & office costs of £15.00 and travel expenses of £8.10;

ii) Any Other Accounts Received After Preparation of Agenda:

J. Butt - £360.00 - Invoice: 0911 - Re: Drainage Work on Local Flooding ‘black-spots’

Unanimously, clrs agreed to pay the above sums.

510/12/19.12 Correspondence - None

511/12/19.13 Reports - None

512/12/19.14 Matters Brought Forward by The District Councillor - District Councillor Bulled had attended the recent Parish Forum which, inter alia, had covered basic information on the planning process and had considered slow internet broadband speeds in places like Brayford where the download speed was only circa 0.8 mbps.

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

Wednesday 8th January, 2020 at 7.30 p.m..

The Meeting closed at 8.35 p.m..