MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTH MOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12th June, 2019 IN THE VICTORY HALL

Present: Councillor Peek (Chairman); Councillor Dunn (Vice Chairman); Councillor Bulled; Councillor Butt; Councillor Darley; Councillor Geen; Councillor Procter; Councillor Smaldon; District Councillor Bulled; County Councillor Yabsley (arrived at 8.50 pm and left at 9.30 pm) and the Parish Clerk, Noel Brooks

413/06/19.1 Apologies: - Councillor Milne - all agreed.

414/06/19.2 Declaration of Interests: None - District Councillor Bulled had been advised by NDC that she was eligible to listen in to the debate regarding S.106 POS monies in connection with the Lower Poole Phase II Development at Lower Poole.

415/06/19.3 Devon and Cornwall Constabulary: No issues were raised.

416/06/19.4 Representations From The Public: Cllr Procter had been approached by one of the residents at the western end of the Square who was seeking permission to plant either two evergreen trees or shrubs at the north and south end of what was the gravelled car park area. Cllrs had no objection to this request subject to County Council approval. Cllrs expressed concern that street parking might be being diminished by certain householders claiming spaces as their own and agreed to provide gentle reminders to anyone pursuing this course. Action: The Clerk is to contact DCC Highways with a view to obtaining its go-ahead for the above planting and also for the removal of the bush considered to be obstructing the view of the highway - all agreed. Cllr Procter had received a representation concerning the presence of rats seen running around the village, particularly in the Square. Whilst cllrs were not aware of any such problem they advised Cllr Procter to revert to the parishioner concerned with the advice to contact NDC’s Environmental Health Department concerning the matter should their concerns continue - all agreed. Cllr Procter thanked Cllr Darley for clearing up the alleyway between Oakford Villas and Back Lane. However, the garage guttering required attention as it was flapping in the wind, posing a potential safety risk. Action: The Clerk is to contact North Devon Homes requesting remedial attention to such guttering - all agreed. Cllr Geen raised the issue of the danger posed by drainage and subsidence problems on the A399 between Mockham Hill and Newtown Bridge. Action: The Clerk is to refer this road issue involving potential danger to road-users to DCC Highways - all agreed. Cllr Bulled made cllrs aware that part of the top of the high wall against the Court House in the Square had fallen out - whilst Cllr Darley had placed bollards in the road around the affected zone, it represented a potential danger to the public. Action: The Clerk is to refer the danger of the wall to DCC Highways with a view to it requesting the landowner to make the wall safe for road users - all agreed. Vice Chairman Dunn expressed concern regarding the danger posed to road users by subsidence/sinking on the left-hand side of the first bend on New Road from Borner's Bridge at the start of Burcombe wood. Action: The Clerk is to refer this matter to DCC Highways and copy in County Councillor Yabsley - all agreed. Cllr Bulled noted that whilst white-line painting had been carried out recently on Holdridge Lane, such painting on Fore Street including painting of the red strip required carrying out. Action: The Clerk is to write to DCC Highways requesting not only the repainting of the white lines and red strip (virtual pavement) on Fore Street but the re-painting of the white lines throughout the village - all agreed. The Clerk had received a representation concerning the sighting of Japanese Knotweed just past the lay-by on New Road. Cllr Bulled informed cllrs that the landowner was aware of the situation and would attend to it in the autumn which was the appropriate time for such works. Action: The Clerk is to let the parishioner concerned know of the landowner’s awareness of the situation and proposed remedy - all agreed.

417/06/19.5 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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>66573</td>
<td>Land Adjacent to Nadrid Farm, North Molton, Devon</td>
<td>Supported</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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>62/49/19/001</td>
<td>Longstone Wells, Heasley Mill, North Molton, Devon EX36 3LQ</td>
<td>Approved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exmoor Nat. Park</td>
<td>Retrospective External Alterations To farmhouse And Ancillary Barns</td>
<td></td>
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418/06/19.6 Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of North Molton Parish Council held on 8th May, 2019 - approved, unanimously by those clrs who had attended the meeting.

419/06/19.7 Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of The Parish of North Molton held on 8th May, 2019 - approved, unanimously by those clrs who had attended the meeting.

420/06/19.8 Approval of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th May, 2019 - approved, unanimously by those clrs who had attended the meeting.

421/06/19.9 Clerk’s Report on the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th May, 2019 and any other important matters arising from previous Minutes -

Roughness of Pavement Outside Victory Hall - Hazard to Wheelchair Users - The Clerk had contacted DCC which had denied ownership/responsibility. **Action:** The Clerk is to inform Michelle Bourne of this position - all agreed.

Quotes for The Installation of the Projector Screen in Victory Hall - The Clerk presented clrs with two quotes for such work. Unanimously, clrs agreed for the Clerk to instruct Theo Webster Electrical Services to carry out the installation at a charge of £100 with no VAT chargeable. **Action:** The Clerk is to arrange the installation of the projector screen using Theo Webster Electrical Services.

422/06/19.10 Matters Arising From The 8th May & 15th, 2019 Minutes Not On This Agenda - None

423/06/19.11 Items For Discussion

a) **Co-option Process Following 2nd May, 2019 Election** - The Clerk confirmed that Mr Darley had signed the necessary co-option paperwork and welcomed him back as a member of the Parish Council. The Clerk informed clrs that Gail Kelland had decided not to join the Parish Council - this had left two positions vacant. **Action:** The Clerk is to inform NDC’s Member Services of the position and advertise both positions forthwith - all agreed

b) **Exmoor National Park Authority - Postal Election 2019 - Five Parish Members To Be Chosen by North Molton Parish Council - Ballot Paper To Be Signed by Parish Clerk & R.F.O.** - Cllrs chose the following five parish members: Michael Ellicott; Jeremy Holton; Robin Milton; Sir Richard Peek and Maurice Pile. The Clerk signed the ballot paper on behalf of the Parish Council. **Action:** The Clerk is to post the ballot paper to Somerset Association of Local Councils to arrive by 18th June, 2019;

c) **Defibrillator at Poltimore Inn - Decision Required in Response to SWAS’s e-mail Scheduling the intended Removal of The Defibrillator by SWAS on 5th August, 2019 (originally 3rd June, 2019)** - The Clerk informed clrs that Gareth Clark and Debbie had agreed to match-fund the Parish Council on a defibrillator purchase using some of the charitable monies they had raised, subject to the purchase being outright with no lease arrangement and to their agreeing on the defibrillator chosen. After a considered debate, clrs agreed to purchase, unanimously, the *Heartsine* 350P/360P model with spare ‘resus’ kit, directional labels and training video at £850 exclusive of VAT.
Action: The Clerk is to gain agreement on this position with Gareth and Debbie and then arrange the purchase of the *Heartsine* defibrillator.

d) **Rural Worker and Succession Farm Dwelling Guidance Consultation - How Would The Parish Council Like To Respond?** - Chairman Peek informed clrs that *Exmoor National Park Authority’s* policy on this issue was already in place and that the *Guidance Consultation* was about how the policy was to be implemented - three drafts had already been produced by the Authority. Unanimously, clrs agreed to defer any response on this issue until their July Meeting. **Action:** The Clerk is to place this issue on the July Agenda. Chairman Peek is to provide a presentational overview at the July Meeting;

e) **Planting In The Square - Decision Required on How To Refurbish/Replace and Maintain the Wood-supported Flowerbeds - Action:** After a considered debate, clrs agreed, unanimously, for Chairman Peek to consult with Mr Fanthorpe over the possible provision of three new wooden flowerbeds for the Square.

f) **S.106 POS Open Space Funding Application For Laurels Playground - Update** - The Clerk had spoken with NDC regarding S.106 priorities and the funding for Laurels Playground. Of the first Lower Poole Phase II S.106 POS tranche circa £19k was available following expressions of interest from other parties to date. A further circa £23.5k of S.106 POS monies would become available on the recent Nadrid Farm planning application but legislation required a specific project to be written into the S.106 Agreement - NDC would take the Ward Member’s steer on the choice of project - such project could include part of the Laurels project but timescales for receipt of any monies from either Lower Poole Phase II (second tranche) and Nadrid Farm were unknown, making any decision difficult. **Action:** After a considered debate, clrs agreed, unanimously for the Clerk to inform NDC of its priority for tarmacing the Laurels Playground’s surface on safety grounds with reliance upon NDC and the Ward Member (District Councillor Bulled) to decide upon the channel through which the funding was to be achieved - the other works including new play equipment and the re-padding of the goalposts would also need to be considered but as a lesser priority;

g) **Highways Project Team Update & HMCEF Application Progress** - Both Chairman Peek and County Councillor Yabsley had made enquiries with the Leader of DCC and Head of Highways regarding the reduced HMCEF offer of £1k but had received no response to date. Unanimously, clrs agreed for contractor, Ian Woollacott, who was buying back his hedge-trimming business, to carry out last year’s hedge-trimming schedule on an hourly basis at the previous year’s rates without duplicating any of DCC’s work. A potential new contractor was being considered for some of the proposed drainage works. Cllr Bulled reported that weed-spraying in the Parish of North Molton had been delayed by South Molton Town Council due to staffing issues;

h) **Issues Arising From the Footpath Warden’s Report 2019 - Action:** The Clerk is to write to the relevant *Rights of Way Officer*, providing him/her with a copy of the Footpath Warden’s Report and requesting his/her attention to the high-lighted issues raised in it and, in particular, the fallen trees blocking Footpath No 1 and the incidence of rotten signposts and their required replacement. The Clerk is to invite the *Rights of Way Officer* along to the Parish Council’s July meeting to discuss progress on the issues raised;

i) **Updated Community Priorities for S.106 POS Funding** - This issue is covered above under (f) and in any event, the Clerk confirmed that NDC was well aware of current priorities and would liaise with the Ward Member on future priorities in the parish;

j) **Handling of Data on Website vis-a-vis Local Contacts - Update** - The Clerk confirmed that North Molton History Society had agreed to North Molton Parish Council solely handling personal data on the website, subject to a fixed contract. The Clerk also confirmed that no personal data was being hosted on the website and that any potential personal data on the website would be removed prior to the new contract coming into place.
the contact details for amenities, groups, artisans and obtain the necessary GDPR consents for the holding of personal data on the website in this connection - this work was being carried out as part of the Adopted BT Phone Box Project below where the facility was envisaged for use as an Information Centre for the village;

k) Adopted BT Phone Box Update - Vice Chairman Dunn had investigated, via Historic England, the benefits of listing street furniture such as the adopted BT Phone Box, the War Memorial and the raised pavement in East Street - such benefits could include prevention from removal, the facilitation of quicker repairs and the increased likelihood of grant funding for repairs, where appropriate. Action: The Clerk is to place this item on the July 2019 Agenda - all agreed.

424/06/19.12 Chairman’s Report/Urgent Matters Brought Forward By The Chairman - The Chairman reminded clrs of their commitment to post the Housing Needs Survey letters to North Molton’s parishioners forthwith. The Clerk reminded clrs that they needed to return any un-posted letters to Councillor Bulled to enable the organisers to calculate accurate statistical information.

425/06/19.13 Finance

Barclays Community Account Balance as 31st May, 2019: £11,426.06
Barclays Business Premium Account Balance as 31st May, 2019: £6,044.47

Receipts: None

Payments:

a) Clerk’s Net Monthly Pay & Expenses - £369.60 - Net Pay: £338.40 plus contribution to telephone & office costs of £15.00 and travel expenses of £16.20

Unanimously, clrs agreed to pay the above sum.

426/06/19.14 Correspondence - The Clerk had received letters of thanks from both Exmoor Young Voices and the Citizens Advice Bureau in respect of North Molton Parish Council’s grant funding. The Clerk had received a letter from the Heasly Mill Village Hall’s Management Committee requesting the Parish Council’s opinion on its intended items to be funded via the S.106 POS monies from the Lower Poole Phase II Development. It also sought the Parish Council’s opinion as to whether or not the ownership of the Hall included the car park. Councillor Bulled informed clrs that the Management Committee had received advice regarding the roles and responsibilities for the Custodial Trustee of the Hall, the Parish Council, and the Managing Trustees, the Management Committee and sought discussions with the Parish Council on clarifying such issues. Actions: Councillor Bulled is to obtain the written legal advice received by the Hall’s Management Committee regarding the Hall’s ownership and management and forward this to the Clerk for onward transmission to clrs. The ownership/management issue is to be placed on the next available Agenda when clrs would be able to decide on any course of action to be taken. The Clerk is to reply to the Hall’s Management Committee by informing it that the provision for the proposed defibrillator & storage unit, dishwasher, decorating and re-tarmacing would be unlikely to succeed as a S.106 POS application but that the Hall’s Management Committee should rely on the guidance of NDC which was the decision-maker. The Clerk is to confirm that the car park would appear to be owned by the Trustees of the Hall as per the Conveyance dated 3rd April, 1974, a copy of which had been previously made available to the Management Committee.

427/06/19.15 Reports

Laurels Playground - Cllr Bulled and her husband had made progress on clearing the weeds in the playground. Cllr Darley had kindly supplied the bin and Sherri was in possession of appropriate bags to assist with her kind commitment in helping to keep the play area tidy.
Ack Lane - Leaking Water Main - The Water Board was aware of the leak and would be providing Cllr Procter with a date for the carrying out of remedial works.

428/06/19.16 Matters Brought Forward by The District Councillor - District Cllr Bulled informed clrs that she had been receiving intensive District Councillor training. She would be liaising with local interested parties in coming up with a project/s in relation to the S.106 POS element relevant to the Nadrid Farm planning application.

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

Wednesday 10th July, 2019 at 7.30 p.m..

The Meeting closed at 9.50 pm  

[Signature]  10/7/19.