MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTH MOLTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11th September, 2019 IN THE VICTORY HALL

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


458/09/19.2 Declaration of Interests: None

459/09/19.3 Devon and Cornwall Constabulary: Cllr Bulled had forwarded an alert which had been received from Devon & Cornwall Police concerning a recent spate of break-ins and thefts to outbuildings, garages and barns in the Tiverton and Crediton areas with chainsaws and strimmers being the targeted items, many of which had been taken from unsecured or open buildings - the perpetrators may well target the South Molton area and parishioners should be warned. If members of the public should witness what they might consider to be a crime in progress then they should not hesitate to call 999. Members of the public can sign up for Police Neighbourhood Alerts at: https://alerts.dcc.police.uk/pages/3983/1/Register.html

460/09/19.4 Representations From The Public: None

461/09/19.5 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>70171</td>
<td>The Old Chapel Road, From Yardewells Cross To Molland Cross, South Molton, Devon EX36 3EU - GRID REF: 271129; 133259</td>
<td>No Comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Demolition of garden store, plus extension and conversion of garage to form two bedroom holiday let.</td>
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Planning Applications Advised Since Last Parish Council Meeting

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<tr>
<th>Case Ref</th>
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<tr>
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462/09/19.6 Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of North Molton Parish Council held on 14th August, 2019 - approved, unanimously by those clrs who had attended the meeting.

463/09/19.7 Clerk’s Report on the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14th August, 2019 -

Potential Safety Hazard Caused By Off-set Centre White Line Road Markings Outside The Lower Poole Phase II Development On The Old Road - The Highways Manager had responded with ‘before and after’ photos writing that, with the BT Box as a reference point, the centre line was just about in the same position which was correct for vehicles wishing to turn right or go straight ahead - unanimously, clrs agreed to take no further action.

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.

Potential Safety Risk Caused By Garage Guttering Flapping In The Wind In The Alleyway Between Oakford


structure of the garage - clrs confirmed that the work had been completed. A decision on the future of the garages would be made by NDH at a later date.

**New Defibrillator At The Poltimore Inn** - The Clerk confirmed that spare pads would cost £130.68 inclusive of VAT. **Action:** After a considered debate, clrs agreed on a vote of 5 For and 2 Against for the Clerk to purchase a spare set of pads. **Action:** Unanimously, clrs agreed for the spare pads to be placed by the Clerk in the defibrillator’s heated housing unit with appropriate identification and instructions at the Poltimore Inn. **Action:** Unanimously, clrs agreed for the Clerk to de-register the defibrillator from the SWAS Registration Scheme.

**Issues Arising From The Footpath Warden’s Report 2019** - The Clerk had forwarded the Rights of Way Officer’s Report to clrs by e-mail. **Action:** After an in-depth debate, clrs agreed, unanimously, for the Clerk to request the Officer to contact the relevant landowner with a view to their removing the bank of soil at the bottom of the lane on Footpath 4 - such bank of soil was considered to be a potential hazard.

**S.106 POS Funding Application For Laurels Playground** - On 29th August the Clerk had e-mailed Lucy Wheeler at NDC confirming the Parish Council’s creation of a Project Team and putting her on notice that there was a likelihood of the £25k application being increased. The Clerk had e-mailed the Project Team with useful pointers.

**HMCEF £1k** - The Clerk confirmed that £1k was received in the Parish Council’s Barclays Community Bank Account from DCC on 6th August, 2019.

**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 made a note to provide the Clerk with this information. The Clerk would continue to chase County Cllr Yabsley for the details.

**Letter to DCC’s Chief Executive Re: The Failure of The Process Concerning The Parish Council’s 2018-19 HMCEF Application** - The Clerk had sent the letter as an e-mail attachment. The response from Meg Booth of DCC had been forwarded to clrs on 30th August, 2019. Unanimously, clrs agreed to take no further action as their disappointment with DCC’s, effectively, late withdrawal of funding had been duly registered.

**Listing Of Raised Pavement In East Street & Cobblestones Outside The Village Shop** - Vice Chairman Dunn would be contacting Historic England with a view to arranging the listing/s.

**Provision of Monthly Bullet Point List Of All On-going Drainage Issues To DCC’s Highways Manager** - **Action:** The Highways Team would produce such listing at its next meeting and regularly each month thereafter. The listing would identify all drainage issues and show which issues had been attended to by the Parish Council with attendant dates and which issues were outstanding where DCC should identify either when it had last worked on them or state when it would be carrying out works and what those works would be.

**Inclusion of Chairman Peek as an NMPC Barclays Bank plc signatory** - **Action:** The Clerk had obtained clarification of the process from Barclays Bank in Barnstaple and would commence the process.

**464/09/19.8 Matters Arising From The 14th August, 2019 Minutes Not On This Agenda** - Cllr Geen noted that clrs had not voted on the process concerning the handling of the Clerk’s overtime. Unanimously, clrs agreed on the process whereby the Clerk would monitor his workload on a monthly spreadsheet and liaise with the Chairman on any overtime considered due for inclusion on the monthly Agenda for full Parish Council approval.
Parish Councillor Vacancies - Update - Whilst there had been potential interest in the vacancies, no prospective co-optees had come forward to date;

Laurels Playground Project Team Update - Unanimously, cllr Bulled accepted the ‘Laurels Playground Working Party Report’ of 4th September, 2019 which was forwarded to cllr by Clr Bulled. Action: At least one of the members of the Team would endeavour to attend the Feoffees Meeting on 18th September in order to discuss the renovation of its wall which part surrounds the playground;

Highways Project Team Update - Clr Milne had contacted the contractor, Forks2U, regarding the levelling of the verges - no invoice would be paid until all the works had been completed, satisfactorily. Clr Geen emphasised the positive importance of reporting potholes on-line - DCC had responded quickly and efficiently to his recent logging of such issues;

Adopted BT Phone Box Update - Clr Bulled had been making progress in obtaining the updated information and, where necessary, GDPR consents for both the phone box project and website and would forward such details to the Clerk, once completed, for onward transmission to the Parish Council’s website administrator.

**466/09/19.10 Chairman’s Report/Urgent Matters Brought Forward By The Chairman** - Chairman Peek acknowledged receipt of the Housing Need Survey. Action: Unanimously, cllr Bulled agreed for the Clerk to arrange for the Rural Housing Enabler, Colin Savage, to attend the Parish Council’s October Meeting and to place the Housing Need Survey on October’s Agenda under Items for Discussion.

### 467/09/19.11 Finance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account</th>
<th>Balance as at 30th August, 2019:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barclays Community Account</td>
<td>£9,997.36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barclays Business Premium Account</td>
<td>£6,047.48</td>
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Receipts:

1) **DCC HMCEF - £1,000.00 - 6th August, 2019**

2) **Donation From Licensee of The Poltimore Inn (Charitable Funds Raised Within The Parish) Re: Defibrillator - £492.50 (cash) - 28th August, 2019**

Payments:

a) **Clerk’s Net Monthly Pay & Expenses - £377.70 - Net Pay: £338.40 plus contribution to telephone & office costs of £15.00 and travel expenses of £24.30;**

b) **I. C. Woollacott - £2,678.40 - Hedge Trimming Inv: 0024903.**

i) Any Other Accounts Received After Preparation of Agenda: **AED Locator (EU) Ltd - £130.68 - Inv: 03716 - Spare Pads For Defibrillator**

Unanimously, cllr Bulled agreed to pay the above sums.

### 468/09/19.12 Correspondence

The Chairman of the Heasly Mill Village Hall Committee had informed the Parish Council that GTH Estate Agents had quoted a sum of £450+VAT to carry out a fire insurance valuation on the Hall which the Committee had duly declined. The Clerk had provided the Chairman with a link of [https://www.villagehallinsurance.co.uk/survey](https://www.villagehallinsurance.co.uk/survey) where the Committee could obtain a free fire insurance valuation; there were other free options on-line. The fire insurance valuation was currently set at £232,262.00.
Chairman Peek had received a letter from a parishioner in Knowstone who had been endeavouring to find the whereabouts of a plaque in North Molton in relation to HMS Eggesford. Unanimously, clhrs agreed for Vice Chairman Dunn to pass the correspondence on to the History Society for investigation of the matter and a response to the correspondent with its findings.

**469/09/19.13 Reports - Back Lane, Water Leakage** - Clr Procter had referred a water leak to South West Water on 24th August - whilst the leak had been fixed it was thought that the gulley/drain might be blocked causing potential further issues - clhrs agreed for the Highways Team to add this to their drainage issues list for onward referral to DCC.

**470/09/19.14 Matters Brought Forward by The District Councillor** - District Councillor Bulled reminded clhrs of the forthcoming Parish Forum in Brynsworthy on 19th September. Central Government had been promising more money for District Councils but no specifics were yet available.

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

Wednesday 9th October, 2019 at 7.30 p.m..

The Meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

[signature]

9 Oct 19