



MINUTES

Committee: Parish Council
Date: Tuesday, 10 January 2023
Time: 7:00pm
Venue: Community Club

Present

Cllr Vivienne Hodges (Chairman)
Cllr Mike Warner (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr Gordy Keep
Cllr Jan Evans
Cllr Catherine Fileman-Wright
Cllr Malcolm Chudley
Cllr Rose Mogeni
Cllr Richard Short
Cllr Mike Jeffery

Also Present

Samantha Parkin (Clerk)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

01/2023 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Dodd, Cllr Simpson and Cllr Farrand-Rogers.

02/2023 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS / REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

No declarations of interest or requests for dispensation were received.

03/2023 MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr Warner, seconded by Cllr Fileman-Wright and **resolved to accept and sign** the minutes of the meeting held on 13th December 2022 as a correct record.

04/2023 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

County Councillor Brook was unable to attend the meeting. The council noted it was disappointed not to have received a reply from Cllr Brook regarding the councils' application for a 20mph speed limit. The council will ask County Councillor Brook to reply to the previous correspondence.

05/2023 MATTERS ARISING

It was noted the council has written to Mel Stride MP to ask him to support the 20's Plenty campaign.

It was noted the council has signed up to the 20's Plenty campaign.

It was noted the council has asked County Councillor Brook to support a formal application to Devon County Council for a 20mph speed limit.

It was noted the Clerk has asked the community to report any traffic issues to the council to support a review of speed limits. Cllr Fileman-Wright reported that she had a recent near miss due to congestion in the town centre.

06/2023 CHAIRMANS DISCRETION

The Chairman noted the council office will be in the Library on a Tuesday morning from 10-12 to allow better public access. The Chairman invited councillors to attend.

The Chairman reminded the council that there is an election in May; the council agreed to attend coffee mornings and Friendly Fridays to promote the elections.

07/2023 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Jeffery reported that there had been no meetings. Cllr Evans commented that she was impressed with the improved refuse collections. Cllr Jeffery explained that TDC had increased drivers pay to attract more drivers.

08/2023 OPEN SPACES REPORT

The Open Spaces monthly report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The report was noted and is attached at appendix 1 on page 6. The Open Spaces committee will meet to discuss the Sentry's biodiversity area.

09/2023 CLIMATE CHANGE & ECOLOGICAL WORKING GROUP REPORT

Cllr Fileman-Wright informed the Council that January's Green Tip of the Month focussed on making the best use of the energy in your home.

10/2023 INTERNAL FINANCIAL REGULATOR REPORT

Cllr Evans had checked the accounts for November.

11/2023 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The Council considered its monthly schedule of payments.

It was proposed by Cllr Jeffery, seconded by Cllr Fileman-Wright and **resolved to approve** the schedule of payments at appendix 2 on page 6.

12/2023 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from the Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd informing the council of the appointment of external auditor appointment for the 2022-23 financial year for the 5 year period until 2026-27.

Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue service replying to the councils' letter regarding the public consultation and the Freedom of Information Request – Number of call outs.

Cllr Jeffery noted his concern regarding the recording of fire shouts and he suspects the Fire Station will eventually close.

Cllr Fileman-Wright had analysed the data provided and noted that Bovey Tracy's fire shouts had been consistent, Chagford's had increased and Moretonhampstead's had decreased, she felt there was a sense of diversion of resources to Chagford. Cllr Fileman-Wright felt that an explanation of the data should have been provided.

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Jeffery and **resolved to**

1. **carry** out a more in-depth analysis of the information received regarding number of fire shouts to see what further insights that gives the council and respond to the letter received from Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue service.
2. **Invite the** Moretonhampstead Watch Manager to a council meeting to talk to us about the station.
3. **Follow up** on the councils' commitment to advertise the stations recruitment drive.
4. **In due course**, invite the Regional Manager to a council meeting.

Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from Bruno Peek LVO OBE OPR pageant master advising the council of when a Beacon can be lit in 2023. The council has no plans for a Beacon in 2023.

Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from a cemetery plot owner requesting that the current rules be updated.

Cllr Hodges summarised the correspondence and asked the council if it was prepared to reconsider the rules. The council discussed and noted it was a contentious issue.

It was proposed by Cllr Warner, seconded by Cllr Hodges to keep the rules in place but make one exception that on this occasion the council will allow the slate headstone and review the cemetery rules at the next Finance and Policy committee meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Chudley, seconded by Cllr Jeffery to amend the original motion to 'keep the rules as they are and make no alterations.' The amendment failed with a vote of 4 in favour and 4 against; the Chairman had the casting vote.

The original motion stands, and it was **resolved to keep** the rules in place but make one exception that on this occasion the council will allow the slate headstone and review the cemetery rules at the next Finance and Policy committee meeting. Cllrs' Jeffery and Chudley voted against the motion and there was one abstention.

Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from the Churchyard boundary wall owners informing the council of the planned repairs.

Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from the Pensions Regulator requesting the council complete their consultation regarding the draft of their revised defined benefit (DB) funding code and approach to Fast Track. Cllr Evans agreed to investigate.

Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from Mel Stride MP replying to the councils' letter regarding the 20's Plenty For Us campaign.

Cllr Short stated that the reply was a typical MP response and expressed disappointment that Mel Stride MP had not answered the questions.

It was proposed by Cllr Short, seconded by Cllr Fileman-Wright and **resolved to write** to Mel Stride MP and ask him to answer the questions.

13/2023 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

The council discussed Cllr Dodd's concerns. Cllr Short advised that if there was a National Order repeater signs would not be required. However, if Devon County Council agree to the council's 20mph request repeater signs would be required in the 20mph zones.

The council discussed the Parish 20mph Expression of Interest application to Devon County Council and the Clerk noted that the council needs County Councillor Brooks support. The Clerk will write to him and advise that the council are applying and would like his support.

The council thought that the 20mph limit should apply to the following roads: Station Road, Betton Way, Cross Street and Ford Street.

It was proposed by Cllr Warner, seconded by Cllr Evans and **resolved to fill out** the the Parish 20mph Expression of Interest application and pursue Cllr Brook for a response. There as one abstention.

14/2023 CHRISTMAS WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

The draft minutes of the Christmas working group held on 7th December 2022 were noted.

It was proposed by Cllr Hodges, seconded by Cllr Warner and **resolved to agree** to a summer event to raise funds for the 2023 light switch on event.

15/2023 ALLOTMENT MATTERS

The quote for the removal of ash trees affected by ash dieback in the allotment had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Cllr Short thought that the council should write to the shared boundary owner to inform them of the ash dieback and ask them for permission to enter the adjacent land and perhaps contribute to the removal of the affected trees.

Cllr Keep agreed to obtain more quotes.

16/2023 HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

The final version of the Housing Needs Survey and covering letter had been circulated prior to the meeting. The council discussed the survey and shared concerns that some people might not complete the survey. Cllr Fileman-Wright noted that a lot of work had been done to the survey to simplify it following the councils' prior concerns.

The council agreed to publicise the survey prior to delivery and stress the importance of it; the council need the community to complete the survey to help the council evidence the need for affordable homes in the new development. The council will also work with local groups to help the community respond to the survey.

17/2023 REPORTS

Cllr Evans informed the council she had attended a meeting with a representative of the Sports Centre and a representative of Wellmoor.

Cllr Fileman-Wright informed the council she is a Trustee of Moretonhampstead Development Trust (MDT) and a member of the Wellmoor Steering Group, she will update her register of interests.

Cllr Fileman- Wright reported on the recent MDT AGM which was well attended. Some of the initiatives such as Friendly Fridays are going down well but a small number of business owners believe it could be undercutting their trade. At a follow-up meeting with business owners Wellmoor offered to seek further funding so that the Friendly Friday scheme could be held at other venues.

Cllr Fileman-Wright noted questions had been raised over the funds held by MDT relating to the Moretonhampstead Business Association. There were some calls for it to be reinstated but it needs a business leader to restart it.

Cllr Fileman-Wright noted there would be a board of Trustee member in early February to discuss the issues raised at the AGM. Cllr Fileman-Wright updated the council on Wellmoors winter hardship fund and a new initiative, Daytripper's. She also noted that Wellmoor had been in touch with the Sports Centre to host the Men in Sheds initiative as a result of the MDT AGM.

Cllr Mogeni updated the council on the Youth Club and noted that they are struggling with staff following the resignation of a staff member.

18/2023 TIDY TEIGNBRIDGE GRANT

The draft application to the Tidy Teignbridge Local Area Clean-Up Fund 2023-2024 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Cllr Evans gave an overview of the grant. Cllr Hodges noted that the Teignbridge District Council parish sweeper was keen to clear the weeds but is no longer allowed to use chemical weed killer. He asked the council to investigate sustainable weed killers and support its use. The council decided to apply for the grant to clear the areas not included in the TDC parish sweepers' area. It would also investigate cleaning the Sentry seating area.

It was proposed by Cllr Warner, seconded by Cllr Mogeni and **resolved to apply** for the fund.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm.

TO DO ACTIONS

- Clerk to make payments
- Clerk to make the agreed actions and replies to correspondence
- Clerk to write to Cllr Brook and ask him to support the council's request for a 20mph speed limit
- Open Spaces committee to discuss the sentry biodiversity area
- Clerk to fill out the Parish 20mph Expression of Interest application
- Clerk to write to allotment share boundary owner to inform them of the ash dieback and Cllr Keep to obtain more quotes
- Clerk to apply for the Tidy Teignbridge grant

MPC Minutes 10.01.2023 Attachment no.1 – Open Spaces Report

Inspection carried out by: Sam Parkin (Clerk)

Date: January

Area	Comments	Action
The Sentry	Biodiversity area – needs a cut, written out of open spaces contract, no response received from biodiversity group	Needs cutting
Churchyard	Looks good.	None
The Play Area	Looks good.	None
The Henge	OK	None.
The Pound	OK	None.
Cross Tree	Looks good.	None.
Geneva Island/War Memorial	Wreaths looking tired.	Remove wreaths.
Wheelwright's wheel	Needs weeds removing.	Remove weeds.
Allotment	A few trees have ash dieback – tree surgeon has had a look and advised they are not dangerous but will need felling.	Quote received.
Seats/benches/Lamp posts	Looks good. Coronation bench needs weeds removing.	None. Remove weeds from bench.
Gates and Railings	Looks good.	None.
Bus Shelter	Looks good.	None.
Recycling	Cardboard bank full – reported.	None.

MPC Minutes 10.01.2023 Attachment no.2 – Schedule of Payments January 2023

MANDATORY PAYMENTS FOR December 2022	AMOUNT (inc VAT)	PAYMENT METHOD
MDT (office rent) - paid 01/01/2023 <i>LGA 1972 s.111</i>	£379.48	Direct debit
S PARKIN (Clerk's salary 1 December - 31 December 2022) – paid 30/12/2022 <i>LGA 1972 s.112</i>	£1,135.18	Online Transfer
PENINSULA PENSIONS (employer's and employee's contribution) –paid 30/11 <i>LGA 1972 s.112</i>	£341.32	Online Transfer
HMRC (PAYE and NI) – next payment Jan <i>LGA 1972 s.112</i>		Online Transfer
Plusnet (telephone and internet – paid 03/01) <i>LGA 1972 s.111</i>	£23.93	Direct Debit
OTHER PAYMENTS AUTHORISED 10 January 2023		
Hire of the Community Club – 06/12/2022 and Garden Waste service <i>LGA 1972 s.111 and Open Spaces Act 1906 s.10</i>	£65.00	Online Transfer
Old Mill – Q3 payroll services <i>LGA 1972 s.111</i>	£110.86	Online Transfer
ONLINE BANK CARD PAYMENTS FOR December 2022		
Coop – Batteries <i>LGA 1972 s.111</i>	£4.95	Card payment
Microsoft – Microsoft 365 Business Standard <i>LGA 1972 s.111</i>	11.28	Monthly payment
TOTAL	£2,072.00	

LGA 1972 = Local Government Act 1972

6. Signed.....

07 February 2023