

**Minutes of the meeting of Morteheo Parish Council held online via Microsoft Teams on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020 at 7.00 p.m.**

**Present: Members; (Chairman) D Duffield, O Bell, J Dicker , M Wilkinson, K Cook, and S Woodman.**

**Clerks: S Hocking**

**Also Present: A Davis (D.C.C.), P South (N.T.) and 3 members of the public.**

**150/2020 Apologies for Absence: Councillors: J Richards, D Barron, R Ley and J Keiff**

**151/2020 Public Speaking – there were representations to speak**

**152/2020 Police Report - Morteheo/Woolacombe & Westdown, Includes Mullacott & Bittadon.**

**Crime Figures until September 1<sup>st</sup> :Violence with Injury 2; Violence without Injury 2; Sexual Offences 1 ; Other Theft 2 ; Criminal Damage 1; Public Order Offences 1; Possession of Drugs 1**

**153/2020 Declaration of Interests - None**

**154/2020 Minutes: *It was Proposed to approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 7 p.m. via Micorsoft Teams link. Seconded. APPROVED UNANIMOULSY***

**155/2020 County Council Report**

**Road Works A3123 – Berry Down – will be taking place over the next few weeks. The £400,000 works were delayed by the lockdown .**

**Covid Information Service -** The link will take you to the Covid-19 pages on Devon County Councils Website, it has daily updated information as to positive cases within the area, information about testing and track and trace. <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/coronavirus-data/>

**Recycling Targets –** Councillor Davis reported that the recycling rates across the County had risen significantly in recent months to 56% . Councillor Davis drew attention to the excellent work carried out at the Recycling Centres in the area which had opened as soon as possible and had remained open providing a good service to local communities.

**N.D.C. Rubbish Collection -** members also recognised the service provided by the district council in the collection of litter and greatly increased volume of food takeaway containers.

**Parking In Woolacombe -** Councillor Davis reported on the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September with Highway officers and the Parish Council -(see 162/2020 Parking Review)

**156/2020 Planning**

**71970 Conversion of barn to function / events space at  
North Morte Farm North Morte Road Morteheo  
Woolacombe Devon EX34 7EG**

Members welcomed the development of the redundant building. ***Proposed APPROVAL  
Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.***

**72000 Demolition of building and erection of 5 flats with revised access and creation of 10 parking spaces to the rear at Gonville House Hotel The Esplanade Woolacombe Devon EX34 7DJ**

Members had no objections to this application. *Proposed APPROVAL. Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY*

**72075 Removal of part of front boundary wall (2 sections) and gates to allow for off road parking to both dwellings at 5 & 6 Adas Terrace Morteohoe Woolacombe Devon.**

Members had no objections to this application but requested that the stone removed from the current wall should be relocated and incorporated in the new wall at the rear of the car park. *Proposed APPROVAL. Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.*

**Planning Permission Received: None**  
**Planning Refusal Received: None**

**Planning Appeal Ref: APP/X1118/W/20/3251093 3 & 5 Hartland House Apartments, The Esplanade, Woolacombe, N. Devon EX34 7DJ The development proposed is balconies to apartments 3 & 5. Decision 1. Appeal Decision: The appeal is dismissed.**

**157/2020 District Council Report**

**Planning – Europa Park** - approved for full time occupancy

**Golden Coast** - approved for Water Park.

**Site Meeting at Honey Farm** - is due in the near future .

**Gonville House Open Space Allocation** - members confirmed that the Council's identified projects would be the Meadow Playing Fields Pavilion and Skateboard Park. Members queried whether funding could be put towards access for Rockham Steps.

**Regeneration of Barnstaple Town Centre** – Councillor Wilkinson informed members of forthcoming money to discuss the government scheme for the regeneration of town centres including the Pannier Market.

**Parish Council Agenda** it was agreed to change the current Register of Outstanding Matters to Matters Arising from the Minutes.

**158/2020 Questions for the National Trust**

**Skateboard Ramp** – members thanked the National Trust for their assistance during the planning and building of the ramp.

**Fruit Trees** – Mr South agreed to help advise in the maintenance of the existing fruit trees in the orchard and in the planning and choice of any additional trees installed.

**159/2020 Correspondence: i) Letter from Bryony Paul (N.D. Biosphere Re:**

**Planting of Fruit Trees** - members agreed to the planting of more fruit trees in the allotments and suggested trying to obtain local and historic Devon varieties if possible.

**ii) Letter from E Rowlands Re: Community Solar Scheme** – the clerk was asked to investigate how much interest there may be in the community in becoming involved in the scheme.

**iii) Update Re: North Devon Marathon J Burton Redgrove** – *Members were pleased with the amended layout and systems put in place in order that the event could go ahead in the present circumstances and wished the organisers every success.*

**iv) Email Re: Private Outside Lighting in North Morte Road** - *the clerk was asked to pass on the complaint to the Environmental Health team at NDC*

**v) Letter from M Harrison Re: Police Advocate Scheme** - *contents noted*

**vi) Request from Combe Martin Angling Club** – *members agreed to allow a socially distanced angling competition to take place on the night of September 26<sup>th</sup> and for members to park on Marine Drive Car Park*

### **160/2020 Register of Outstanding Matters**

**Chapel Hill** – road repairs will be undertaken by County Highways. The work will probably require a road closure

**Landslide in North Morte Road** - the Highways team have been to inspect the bank and are satisfied that the owner has taken appropriate action and will not therefore, be intervening in the matter.

**Airband Update** - there are no dates available yet for a meeting with the representative from Airband about possible measures for Morteheo.

**Seaxburh Developments Public Consultation** - The company have secured the Fortescue function space for an in-person exhibition on 13 Oct, alongside the virtual exhibition which has been extended to run for a week (9-15 Oct.)

### **161/2020 Coronavirus Update**

**Safer Summer Team** - the clerk was asked to enquire as to the evaluation of the success of the scheme across the region. Members reported back that the consensus of opinion was that the marshals were hampered by the lack of any powers to directly help with many of the problems arising in this Parish .

**Covid Second Spike** – members reported that the majority of visitors were adhering to the new guidelines and rules although social distancing was not always seen as a priority amongst visitors.

### **162/2020 Parking Review**

**Meeting with Councillor A Davis and James Bent Highways traffic Regulation – Update from the meeting held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> at 9.30 a.m.** Councillor Davis and Highways Office James Bent joined the Council for the Monday morning meeting at 9.30 a.m. Amongst the matters discussed were the Residential Permit scheme in Woolacombe ; The Esplanade ; Chapel Hill and any other areas of the Parish.

**Other Issues** - signs; relining work and other matters members might like to put forward.

#### **Points made by Councillor Davis:**

1. Devon County Council are unable to hand over public highways to any other body as DCC are the highway authority.
2. **South Street Residential Scheme** - could be increased if that is what the community want.
3. **Price of Permits** The permits in currently are £30/year, this is for any on street residents scheme in Devon. We would not be introducing any new scheme which charged different rates in different communities in Devon.
4. **Sub-contracting the scheme to the Parish Council** - this is not possible as the highway authority is the statutory authority and the streets are part of the Highway network

## **The Esplanade:**

1. **Changes to the Regulations** - will be looked at again particularly the 'No return after 4 hours' but the banning of certain vehicles is not possible as The Esplanade is part of the public highway not a car park .
2. **Booking system** – is not possible. If a vehicle is legal they all have a right to use the highway.
3. **Penalty Charges** - are the same throughout Devon

*It was agreed to set up a working party with Councillor Davis and Highways officers to discuss the possible ways forward and to review all areas of parking and signage within the community.*

## **163/2020 Skateboard Review**

**Draft Signs for the Ramp** – *members suggested amendments to the draft signs.*

**Ramp** – has been finished and has passed a ROSPA inspection . The ramp can be opened when signage and insurance is in place .

**Insurance** - the clerk reported on the conditions put forward by the Parish Council's insurers and informed members that an increase in the premium would be anticipated to cover the value of the ramp.

**Update from Councillor Dicker - Volunteer Hours** - . Excluding people organising and preparing things off site, volunteers have done approximately 454 hours to date onsite. This has been achieved through 36 volunteers, mainly from our parish, and one paid site manager in charge of building the ramp to follow a compliant design format.

Works have included transporting the ramp here, ground works to put the ramp on and preparing and repairing the original ramp for assembly here on our site, provision and assembly of new timbers and painting wood surfaces. People have travelled from as far away as Torrington.

The ramp is a MPC sponsored project but it has become a major community project undertaken by volunteers, the majority of which are from our Parish.

**Thanks** - *Members thanked Councillor Dicker for his work over many years in order to bring about the new facility. It was agreed to place a notice in the W & M News and website to thank all those involved and both Councillor Davis and Wilkinson for the financial help they had given towards the scheme.*

**164/2020 Renewal of the Parish Council Insurance** – *Members approved the amended schedule and renewal of the lease . Proposed. Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.*

## **165/2020 Parish Council Audit**

**Internal Audit Report from Mrs V Drew and Account Summary** - *The clerk reported that a meeting between the Chairman , RFO, Clerk and Mrs Drew took place on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 10.30 a.m. and that no matters of concern were raised by the auditor. Proposed the Approval of the Audit Return and the accounts as presented at the April Finance meeting 2020 . Seconded APPROVED. UNANIMOUSLY.*

**Thanks to Mrs Drew** - *Members thanked Mrs Drew for her 18 years of service to the Council and agreed to present her with a 'thank you' gift for her help over the years.*

## **166/2020 Matters Brought Forward with the Consent of the Chairman**

**Marine Drive** - the high number of overnight campers on the car park over the previous weekend was noted following the withdrawal of security patrols.

**Business Relief Fund** - it was agreed to ascertain if the relief fund had been applied for.

**167/2020 Cheques and payments for approval and Signature.**

Joan Broxholme	Pavilion deep clean	£90.74
PLandscape	grass cutting	£1,230.00
Came & CO	Local Council Scheme	£2,221.60
Vanguard 2000	Car Park security 2020	£3,465.00
Bloom Brothers	grass cutting & strimming	£680.00
Jewson Ltd	wire nails	£6.02
Crown Estates re Knight Frank Rental Acc	Foreshore rent 1/10-31/3	£1,250.00
ABW Engineering	pavilion pat testing	£39.60
A.F.S. Fire & Security	AFS- fire safety	£73.86
A.F.S. Fire & Security	AFS- fire safety	£163.56
Mark Harrison	vandalism repairs	£56.87
Mark Harrison	fit new toilet seat	£55.95
Jewson Ltd	sand/ cement re skateboard park	£100.92
Gordon WIndow Cleaning	contracts cleans re august	£1,674.00
National Trust	meadow rent 29/9-24/3	£210.00
Ricoh UK	photocopier rent /usage	£103.66
Pete Starbuck	mowing/ strimming	£1,421.00
EDF	car park hut electric 10/6-8/9	£120.58
Sally Hocking	salary	£1,362.87
Janet Keiff	salary	£320.02
Roy Walker	salary	£1,440.25
Dave Hodges	salary	£1,373.15
HMRC	paye mth 6	£1,215.32
		<u>£18,674.97</u>

**Part 3  
Confidential Matters**

**168/2020 Affordable Housing Update** – Councillor Watson informed members that the Board had been formally re-elected with Councillor Woodward being elected as Chairman, Samantha Waters as Secretary and Treasurer Councillor Bell.

**Bank Account** - delays in the setting up of the account owing to the Covid 19 are continuing with Community Land Trusts in other areas experiencing the same problems. It was agreed that the Parish Council account could be used if necessary.

**Appointment of Housing Association and Architects** – Mr Watson from Wessex Community Land Trust has put forward a number of standard questions for future interviews which will be adapted and amended to fit the needs of our project. Clarification on these questions will be required before they are put forward for consideration by candidates. Further meetings are due to take place on 1<sup>st</sup> October .

**169/2020 Crown Estates Lease** - it was agreed to monitor the beach to see if recent storms had caused any movement of the sand. The clerk informed members that the M.O.D. had been contacted again to see whether they were able to help in any way.

**Renewal of Lease** – members agreed that pending the results of the decision of the M.O.D. the renewal of the lease should be held in abeyance .

**170/2020 Groundsman’s Contract** – it was agreed to carry on with the existing arrangements with both Mr Starbuck and Mr Courtney and that both should be given

additional work to carry out routine tasks normally carried out by the groundsman. It was agreed to extend the areas of work for both men to ensure that essential safety checks and any outstanding repairs are carried out.

**Large Grassed Public Areas** – the clerk reported that the cutting of the Meadow, the seafront and Marine Drive have been carried out by Landscape and Grounds Maintenance as and when required and when finances have permitted.

In June this year members asked me to obtain quotations regarding the grass cutting and maintenance of the three areas. Three companies were shown the areas and given the same specification. Tivoli Services has since withdrawn leaving quotations from:

#### **Landscape & Grounds Maintenance**

<b>Seafront Combesgate Green and Greensward</b>	<b>£285.00 per cut +VAT</b>
<b>Meadow Field and Pavilion</b>	<b>£65.00 “ “</b>
<b>Marine Drive strip</b>	<b>£175.00 “ “</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£525.00 per cut + VAT</b>

**Greenbank (same areas as above) Total £693 00 + VAT**

*Members agreed to appoint Landscape and Grounds Maintenance to continue as existing with the grass cutting as and when is considered necessary. Proposed, Seconded . PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.*

#### **Correspondence to Note:**

- 1. ‘Everyone’s Tomorrow’ – Newsletter from Senior Council Of Devon**
- 2. Devon Senior Voice - Newsletter.**
- 3. Health Watch Voices**

**Yours faithfully**

*Sally Hocking*

*The minutes of previous meetings are available from the Parish Clerk*

*The order of the agenda items may be altered with the consent of the chairman*

**Date of the next meeting: October 19th 2020 Parish Council Meeting 7.00 p.m.**

**The meeting ended at 9 00 p.m.**

