

Minutes of the meeting of Morteohoe Parish Council held via Microsoft Teams on Monday 15th February 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

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

Clerks: S Hocking and J Keiff

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

Apologies for absence: Councillors Richards

22/2021 Public Speaking – Mr A Green Update on Open Reach and Broadband Provision – Mr Green informed members of progress on the ongoing work by Open Reach to lay fibre cables on Chapel Hill . Having spoken to engineers present on site, Mr Green has been informed of problems regarding the installation of cables with existing ducting either blocked or inadequate. Initial thoughts to install overhead cables has been turned down on technical practicalities and every effort is being made to ensure all new cabling will be undergrounded.

Removal of Poles in the Chapel Hill – Mr Green informed members of recent meeting with householders in the area with Mr D Edgecomb (North Devon A.O.N.B.) and Western Power about the possibility of undergrounding other services in the area. So far, householders have signed up for the provision of underground services to their properties. If successful, the underground cabling of wires would lead to the removal of telegraph poles. Mr Green asked for the Council's support in going ahead with this project and that a letter of support be sent to Mr Edgecomb 30/2021 *Correspondence - Members offered their support for this scheme and welcomed the burying of any cables and removal of poles anywhere in the Parish.*

B Rosen – Fortescue Development – Mr Rosen enquired whether the Council had taken into account the impact on local services and traffic if the proposed development were to take place. *Members pointed out that the proposed development had not yet been submitted as a formal planning application*

23/2021 Police Report Morteohoe/Woolacombe & Westdown, Includes Mullacott & Bittadon
Violence without Injury 3 Burglary Dwelling 1 Criminal Damage 1
Public Order Offences 1 Other Offences 1 Non-Notifiable Offences 1
Total: 8 Crimes

24/2021 Declaration of Interests

72538 The Cedars – Councillor Wilkinson declared an interest in this application

72825 Tartooga - Councillor Barron declared an interest in this application

30/2021 Correspondence i) Luncheon Club - Councillor Duffield declared an interest in this matter.

25/2021 Minutes:

It was Proposed to APPROVE as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on January 17th 2021 at 7.00 p.m. in the Council Chamber. Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

26/2021 County Council Report

North Devon Link Road – Councillor Davis reported that she had had the pleasure of turf cutting as Devon County Council’s Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Development, to mark the start of the A361 improvements between South Molton and Portmore roundabout at Barnstaple.

Contractor [Alun Griffiths](#) will be carrying out the work to widen sections of the road in order to provide better and safer overtaking opportunities and improve journey time reliability.

Eight junctions will also be upgraded to improve safety, and facilities for pedestrians and cyclists will be introduced with new segregated pedestrian/cycle crossings of the road at Bishops Tawton and at Landkey Junction. Work is initially starting in a number of locations which will be widened along the link road and temporary traffic lights will be in place for the first few weeks while both sides of the carriageway are cleared on these stretches.

Once these work sites are established, two-way traffic flow will be maintained but a 40mph limit will be introduced to protect the workforce and members of the public. The scheme, which is due to be completed by the end of 2023, is expected to boost the local economy and it will also accelerate plans for 6,700 new homes in the region.

Every effort will be made to minimise traffic delays but unfortunately it will be unavoidable while this work is carried out. However, the long-term benefits will outweigh the short-term disruption.

Coronavirus updates from Devon County Council - The link below may be of interest to residents with the situation changing and many interested in what is happening locally this link is a useful starting point for questions and the current situation in Devon.

The link takes you to the Covid-19 pages on the Devon County Council 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/>

Mass vaccination programme

- Work is continuing across the county at pace to deliver the local mass vaccination programme. The CCG is producing [regular vaccination briefing notes](#) and I shall endeavour to circulate these as they are published. People aged 70 and over and **the clinically extremely vulnerable have begun to [receive invitations for vaccinations](#) as of the 18 January, alongside frontline Health and Care staff and the over 80s who were the initial priority groups.**
- **With so much going on and at such pace it can be hard to keep track with developments. To date there are three main ways the vaccine is being delivered in Devon:**
 - **All four of the county’s main hospitals – in Plymouth, Exeter, Torquay and Barnstaple – are giving the vaccination to priority groups in line with national guidance**
 - **GP practices are working together in groups to set up local vaccination centres. Across the county, 20 centres are now in operation, serving all 123 of Devon’s GP practices**
 - **GP-led facilities are delivering the vaccine to residents and staff in care homes**

Barnstaple Community Testing Centre, opening this Wednesday, 17 February. - The Test centre is setting up in the car park at Barnstaple’s Taw View, Civic Centre, on North Walk

road, and will be open 9am to 5pm, seven days a week, with extended hours 7am to 7pm on Mondays and Thursdays.

It will provide lateral flow tests for anyone who leaves the house to work or volunteer, and who comes into contact with others.

The purpose of community testing is to identify people likely to have the virus, so that those testing negative can continue their day while still following public health rules. Anyone testing positive is instructed to go home and self-isolate.

The tests are for people who may not know they are carrying the virus. One in three people with coronavirus do not show any symptoms and could be going about their day passing it to others unknowingly. People who can't work from home and who are in contact with others regularly are encouraged to take these quick tests twice a week to prevent the potential spread of the virus.

The results are back with you within the hour. If you test positive, you'll be asked to self-isolate for ten days. If you're negative, you can continue your day while still adhering to public health rules – keep your social distance, wear a face covering when indoors in a public space, and wash your hands regularly. Community Testing Centres are for people who are not showing any symptoms and who aren't already accessing regular testing, through their employer for example.

To book a rapid test and to find out more about Community Testing in Devon, visit devon.cc/testing

Children's Services. - With the third lockdown services are very busy. Last month 825 children were in care, and the pressure on Early Help is very high. Some additional funding from COVID 19 funds is supporting this pressure. The Edge of Care Service, which is mostly support for teenagers and families, is starting to make a difference. Social work staff on the front line are starting to be vaccinated and this will continue to be rolled out over the coming weeks.

Schools are having a difficult time. There are more children in school in this lockdown. It has settled a bit now and we are seeing an average of about 30% of children in school. There has been concern about some children not having suitable devices, to learn virtually at home.

The DfE has made available additional devices (laptops or tablets) available for

- **disadvantaged children in years 3 to 11 who do not have access to a device and whose face-to-face education is disrupted disadvantaged**
- **children in any year group who have been [advised to shield](#) because they (or someone they live with) are clinically extremely vulnerable**
- **disadvantaged children in any year group attending a hospital school**
- **Disadvantaged children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)**

Disadvantaged children in this context are those with:

- **with no digital devices in their household**
- **whose only available device is a smartphone**
- **with a single device in their household that's being shared with more than one other family member**

This offer applies to maintained schools, pupil referral units, academy trusts and hospital schools, as well as sixth-form colleges who have enrolled 14 to 16-year-olds.

Secondary Schools can request the devices now and it is anticipated primary schools will have access over the coming weeks. Local Authorities can also make requests for specific children.

The number of devices schools can request is determined by the DfE and is based on the number of children in years 3 to 11, the number of children in on free school meals (FSM) and the number of devices the school has already received. (These laptops are in addition to

the approximately 4000 DfE funded laptops for vulnerable children without access and other disadvantaged children that were distributed by the LA and schools during the summer term. A further allocation was made directly to schools in the autumn term.) Orders should arrive within 5 days of the request.

The DfE is also providing support for pupils who have no internet access or who cannot afford increased data charges. Information on this scheme is available here. ([Increasing data allowances on mobile devices to support disadvantaged children](#) -

It should be noted that Parents, carers and pupils cannot apply for digital devices or internet access through this scheme themselves. They should contact their school to discuss requirements for accessing remote education.

There are also several charities donating devices. The advice is that parents must talk to their school about the need for help.

The pandemic has been going on for ten months and staff in child social care and schools have been brilliant, but everyone is getting tired.

Drive to combat holiday hunger in Devon continues for February half-term

Devon Recycling Centres are still open, with restrictions. - Our recycling centres are still open, although the resale areas within them are closed.

The national lockdown advice right now is for us to stay at home as much as possible and only to make journeys out of the house for essential reasons only.

Therefore, we are encouraging you to think about how you can reduce the amount of waste you create.

- Try to postpone projects at home that produce waste that would normally require you to make journeys to recycling centres
- If you do produce waste that you would normally dispose of at a recycling centre, can you temporarily store it at home safely instead, until we're out of the current lockdown restrictions
- Remember that garden waste and other recyclable material can be removed as part of your usual curb side collections

If you make a visit to the recycling centre, please expect them to be operating differently during this lockdown period.

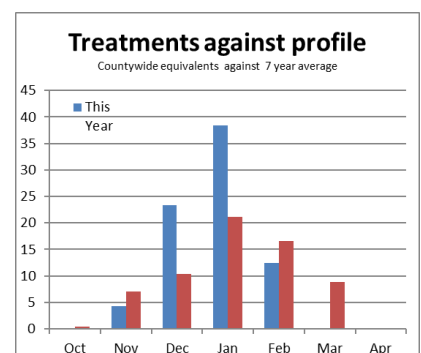
Restrictions are in place, including social distancing, which may lead to queues. If queues do start forming, we may need to restrict vehicles from joining the queues towards the end of the day and if queues become a safety hazard on the public highway, we may need to temporarily close the site.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/waste-disposal-and-recycling/>

Highways Update. -

Winter is certainly here, although the lowest road temperature for this season is still the -7.2°C on Dartmoor on 31st Dec.

The graph right highlights the number of treatments this year (blue) compared to the average of the last 7 years (red). So far, we have used 50% more salt this year at over 15,000 tonnes and we are currently restocking the salt barns.



Lockdown traffic flows average out at about 36% below the equivalent day last year. The flows do vary and what was noticeable was last Sunday after a bit of snow on Dartmoor, the A386 (near Roborough) flows were up by 23%, where as the A361 (near South Molton) was

57% down. Cycle figures are also being monitored and unlike the first lockdown when there were significant increases, mainly due to leisure trips, what we are currently seeing is a small reduction. With people working from home there are less commuter trips, but the leisure trips haven't increased due to the less favourable conditions.

Assistance to NHS with COVID vaccination centres - The Network Operations Team have been supporting the NHS with their deployment of Vaccination Centres by:

- Supplying salt and grit bins where requested
- Increasing salting routes to take in most centres where not already on the network
- Enabling the NHS to achieve an acceptable Traffic Management Plan for Westpoint and working with TCS to allow local buses to divert through the site.
- Supporting with VMS where appropriate.

Muddiford Road Closure -

Dates are 22nd February- 22nd March. It will be a complete closure that is including weekends and evenings. This closure is not for Devon County Council to carry out road maintenance but for Euroforest who want to fell trees in Plaistow Wood

27/2021 Planning

72786 Variation of condition 2 (period of occupation 15th March to 31st October) attached to planning permission 13406 (Proposed variation of condition B attached to NI 9040 to allow use of bungalows from 15 March to 15 January each year (Nos. 1-6 & 21-24) to allow for 12 months holiday occupancy at

23 Fortescue Bungalows Woolacombe Station Road Woolacombe Devon EX34 7HQ Grid Ref: 248380; 143978

Members had no objections to this proposal providing the building complies with building standards. *Proposed APPROVAL. Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY*

72783 Demolition of existing conservatory, erection of extension and decking

at 6 Woolacombe Rise Woolacombe Devon.

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

72795 Extensions to dwelling together with conversion of loft to additional living accommodation

at Gull View Beach Road Woolacombe Devon

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

72538 Erection of two holiday lodges (Phase 1) at

The Cedars Poole Lane Woolacombe EX34 7AP

Members noted the comments made by the North Devon A.O.N.B on this application but felt that the application did fall within the policies of DM18. They were however concerned at the choice of materials within the application and felt that more traditional elevations were required for the buildings. *Proposed APPROVAL. Seconded. PASSED 4 in favour 2 abstentions and one against.*

72825 Extension to dwelling at

Tartooga Sands Apartments Bay View Road Woolacombe.

Members felt that there were a number of discrepancies contained within the plans and on official documents. They suggested that more information was required and information corrected before they could make any decision.

Planning Permission Received:

Planning Refusal Received:

Planning Inspectorate Notification:

Site Address: Gonville House Hotel, The Esplanade, Woolacombe, EX34 7DJ

Description of Development: Demolition of building and erection of five flats together with alterations to vehicular access and creation of ten parking spaces

Application Reference: 71363

Appellant's Name: Forsa Developments Ltd.

Appeal Reference: APP/X1118/W/20/3258340

Appeal Start Date: 10th December 2020

Hearing date: 10:00 a.m. on Thursday 25th February 2021.

Road Closure: Notification of Road Closure – Mortehoe – Lower Clay Park Road 8th – 19th February to allow installation of B.T. new fibre cabling on behalf of Openreach.

28/2021 District Council Report –

North Devon World Surfing Reserve Bid – Councillor Wilkins reported on recent meetings to promote the bid which would be taken to the Strategy and Resources Committee to seek the full support of N.D.C. The scheme would meet the criteria to help combat climate change and cooperate objectives set by the council and County Council .

Barnstaple High Street Regeneration – the scheme has received a government grant of £6.5 million . Plans were being made to address the shortfall in the funding identified as necessary in the recent scheme for the area.

Affordable Housing - Discussions were continuing with Acorn Developments regarding the 106 agreement (affordable housing) conditions attached to current building project in West Down .

29/2021 Questions for the National Trust – Mr South informed members about the N.T. ongoing work in the Parish at present.

Planting and Pruning of Fruit Trees in Woolacombe Allotments – Mr South agreed to assist in these tasks and to discuss possible dates.

TIC Shed – Mr South reported of the work to dig out an area for the provision of a storage shed for the mobility equipment currently stored within the Tourist Information Centre.

30/2021 Correspondence i) Letter from J Hartnoll Re: Parking Provision Mortehoe and Litter bins – *Members agreed to include Mrs Hartnoll's request into suggestions for possible changes to the Parking Regulations . They also agreed to appeal for business sponsorship of new bins for the village centre.*

ii) Plastic Free Campaign – Letter from A M Eveleigh – *Contents noted.*

iii) Letter from Dr J Dodds Re: Mortehoe and Woolacombe Luncheon Club - *Councillor Wilkenson indicated that he would help support the purchase of a new dishwasher for community use out of his Community Councillor Grant for the coming financial year.*

iv) Update fro D Edgecomb Re; Overhead line removal. – *Contents noted*

v) Email from A Green Re: Removal of Telegraph Poles on Chapel Hill – *Members thanked Mr Green for his efforts on the scheme and expressed support for any removal of overhead lines and poles within the Parish . It was agreed to send a letter of support for the scheme to Mr Edgecomb North Devon .A.O.N.B.*

31/2021 Register of Outstanding Matters/ Matters Arising from the Minutes

Footpath 8/Coastal Path - D.C.C. continue to monitor the path. An alternative route will be considered following geological and surveyors reports.

Doctors Steps- have been repaired and additional drainage installed.

Street Lights - four lights on the Esplanade are no longer working. The Street lighting team report that the design of these lights has caused complications and that repair and replacement of whole units will take some time.

North Morte Road - a defective light outside Belvedere has been repaired.

Chichester Park - Councillor Davis has assisted with the organising of the fitting of shield to a street light following complaints from a nearby resident.

Blocked Drains – following the work on the collapsed drains at the entrance to North Morte Road, flooding is still occurring in the area adjacent to the Post Office and entrance to the car park. Highways have identified blocked gullies and will jet the drains as soon as possible. Further investigation will take place of the drains in this area.

Missing Signs – Highways indicate that the replacement of the damaged or missing signs at the Fortescue and Convalescent Corner will be replaced shortly.

Goal Posts – will be installed next week

Cemetery – all the hedges at the Cemetery have been cut.

North Morte Road – NDC have intervened to empty/remove the large overflowing private rubbish bin at the start of the Lighthouse Road following many complaints.

Community Councillor Grant – an application has been successful for the provision of a bench seat for Morteheo Play area. This has been done in conjunction with West Down in order to save on delivery costs. Payment for the seat is due prior to delivery and will be authorised at the meeting on Monday unless anyone objects

Combesgate Toilets - following the very large water bill received at the end of the 2020 season, the decision was made by the Council to fit concussive taps to prevent wastage. Mr Harrison has submitted an estimate for the work.

Community Fruit Trees – have arrived and are presently being looked after by the National Trust.Mr South has offered to advise and assist.

Snow Warden - Councillor Richards has resigned from his position as snow warden for Woolacombe. Mr Richards Junior has agree to take over the responsibility

Water Fountain – notification has been received that grants are available again for the provision of water fountains. Provisional talks took place last year with NDC on the legal and plumbing arrangements necessary for the installation of a fountain on the side of the Red Barn Toilets.

Council Deeds for the T.I.C. building – a legal document (with an amendment to the Council’s deeds for the building) has been signed on the Council’s behalf to allow for the building of shed to house mobility equipment. The digging out of the site will continue this week.

32/2021 Meadow Playing Fields

Skateboard Ramp Path - Estimates for the creation of the path to the skateboard ramp have been received from both Mr K Davis and Simpsons. Members expressed doubts whether the

path would serve the purpose in the extremely wet area of the Meadow. *It was agreed to defer any decision until more research into different options had been undertaken.*

Football Club and Building materials – *It was agreed to discuss the planned work for the creation of a dug out at the pitch with the football club and to use the materials for other projects if the scheme was not going to take place*

Installation of the Goal Posts - will take place this week as agreed at the January meeting.

33/2021 Provision of Bus Shelter Woolacombe Station Road - *Members thanked Councillor Davis for her offer of a grant towards the provision of a bus shelter and agreed to choose a suitable shelter in the near future.*

34/2021 Corona Virus: Matters Arising

Temporary Pedestrianisation of West Road - Traffic Order - *Members agreed to apply for the Temporary Traffic Order to allow for increased social distancing in the village centre. It was agreed that the order should commence on 1st April until the end of September. This arrangements to allow for maximum flexibility in the need to erect the barriers. It was also agreed to write to traders to investigate possible donations toward the installation of planters Proposed. APPROVAL. Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY*

Members thanked Councillor for her help in the payment of the £800 legal costs for the scheme.

It was also agreed to ask Mr K Davis to act as the accredited person to arrange the setting up the barriers when necessary in accordance to the law.

35/2021 Matters Brought Forward with the Consent of the Chairman

Airband - Councillor Davis agreed to contact Mr Barron D.C.C. to pass on complaints regarding the delays in the role out of the service and the lack of information from the company regarding April deadlines.

Pot Hole, South Street - members were informed that arrangements were being made for the repairs and resurfacing of the pothole and area on this private section of the pavement.

Marisco – the clerk was asked to contact the owners of the building regarding falling masonry during recent high winds.

36/2021 Cheques and payments for approval and Signature.

The following payments were approved and signed at the meeting. The R.F.O. provided a list of payments in conjunction with bank statements which were also checked and approved prior to the meeting:

15	S.W.W.	£211.81
15	Bridgmans	£142.87
15	Barum Friend Security	£ 78.60
15	Reformed Plastics	£369.00
15	Countryside & Garden	£965.50
15	Bloom Brothers	£880.00
15	Jewsons Ltd	£ 3.59
15	Jewsons Ltd	£ 39.38
15	Odlings	£150.00
15	J Keiff	£244.09
15	S Hocking	£1272.72
15	PAYE Month 11	£335.50

Correspondence not requiring discussion is available in the Council Chamber

Part 3
Confidential Matters

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: March 15th

The meeting ended at 9.40 p.m.