

Minutes of the meeting of Morteheo Parish Council held in the Council Chamber, The Esplanade, Woolacombe, on Monday July 15th 2019 at 7.00 p.m.

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

Clerks: S Hocking and J Keiff

Also Present: Councillor Davis and 2 members of the public.

143/2019 Apologies for absence: None

144/2019 Guest Speaker

Andrew Pegg from Wessex Strategic Developments - Mr Pegg outlined the proposed outlying plans for the development which incorporated a traditional mix of housing which could be appropriate for the housing need of the community. These included affordable housing, retirement housing and seasonal worker accommodation. Mr Pegg stated that the plans also included investment on the drainage system and welcomed members view on what else may be desirable at the site.

Members queried whether the plans for the major development would be submitted for pre-planning advice and pointed out that the development was outside the development boundary and, at present, did not sit within any policy or the current local plan. They also drew attention to the very high second and holiday home ratio within the Parish and were averse to seeing a development which created even more.

Councillor Davis - *pointed out some inaccuracies within Mr Peggs statement and stated that the County Council would contribute with any advice or recommendations necessary when required*

145/2019 Public Speaking – Devon and Somerset Fire & Rescue Proposed Service Delivery Changes - Mr D Hawley - appealed for the council's help in opposing the proposed closure of the Woolacombe Fire Station. Mr Hawley reported that he had already collected 600 signatures on a petition against the closure and appealed to the council to lead a campaign.

Mr P Starbuck - echoed Mr Hawley's comments and felt that a public profile was very important in any campaign. He urged all to attend the public consultation and pointed out that the 48 page document was largely irrelevant to Woolacombe .

146/2019 Police Report

Crimes reported June 2019 Woolacombe&Morteheo: 5 x Assault ABH; 1 x Take a vehicle without owner's consent; 3 x Thefts ; 2 x criminal damage; 1 x Attempt burglary; 2 x Burglary ; 1 x Common assault; Total 15 crimes

147/2019 Declaration of Interests - Devon County Council (Various Roads, North Devon) (Waiting Restrictions) Amendment Order reference IMR/B13470-5713 Devon County Council Proposed 'No Waiting Zone' North Morte Road - Councillor Bell declared a personal interest in this item as a resident of the road

148/2019 Minutes:

It was Proposed to APPROVE as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on June 17th 2019 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber. Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

149/2019 County Council Report

A361 North Devon Link Road - Councillor Davis presented members with and information sheet on the road improvement scheme and explained the details of some of the new developments .

Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Services Delivery Operating Model Proposal – Councillor Davis voiced her objection to the proposed changes effecting the whole of North Devon and offered her support to any campaign the Parish Council promoted.

150/2019 Planning

66316 Siting of one log cabin to provide one unit of holiday accommodation at Borough Farm, Morteheo.

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

Planning Permission Received:

66713 Approval of details in respect of discharge of condition 3 (extraction system) & 4 (Sound insulation assessment) attached to planning permission 65921 (part change of use to first floor residential dwelling (C3) to provide additional seating and prep kitchen to restaurant (A3) at

The Captain's Table , 7 Gwendoline Terrace, West Road, Woolacombe.

66714 Erection of dwelling at

The Old Vicarage, North Morte Road. Morteheo.

66612 Siting of 1 non-illuminated welcome & orientation sign at

Land opposite water treatment plant, Marine Drive, Woolacombe.

65915 Extension& alterations to dwelling together with loft conversion (amended proposal) (further amended drawings) at

Homestead Cottage, The Esplanade, Woolacombe.

66656 Retrospective application for erection of extension to swimming pool building together with erection of two water slides at

Twitchen Holiday Park, Morteheo, Woolacombe.

66709 Extension to roof and conversion of garage together with internal alterations & formation of first floor side facing windows and doors at

Green Hills, North Morte Road, Morteheo, Woolacombe.

66580 Extension to dwelling & conversion of garage to provide additional living accommodation at

22 Hartland View Road, Woolacombe.

Planning Application Withdrawn: 66670 - Erection of balconies to apartments at 3 & 5 Hartland House Apartments, The Esplanade, Woolacombe.

Planning Refusal Received: None

151/2019 District Council Report –

Rural Policing - Councillor Wilkinson reported on his attendance at a meeting with Shaun Sawyer (Chief Constable for Devon and Cornwall Police) held at Alverdiscott. Mr Sawyer reported on an increase in many aspects of rural crime including poaching, theft, drugs, speeding and anti-social behaviour. A lack for resources had led to problems in both preventing and solving crimes.

Coastal Issues Conference – Councillor Wilkinson reported his attendance at this event held at Telford. It highlighted the problems associated with coastal rural communities and coastal

erosion and flooding. Recent research by the University of Plymouth on these topics was discussed.

25 Year Coastal Plan – N.D.C. are due to sign up to the plan.

Meeting with Head of Planning - Councillor Wilkinson will be meeting with Mr M Tichford to discuss the Coastal Plan and other issues including planning enforcement in the Parish.

152/2019 Questions for the National Trust - none

153/2019 Correspondence i) Tree Preservation Orders – letters

from P Lawley – *members noted the comments made by both the planning officer and Mr Lawley but felt that, as the planning officer had suggested, that the council did not have the capacity or technical resources to take on the task.*

ii) Letter from S Tracey C. E North Devon Health Care Re: Hospital Services in North Devon - *members were worried about the implications of the staff shortages for those needing the services at the hospital.*

iii) Letter from E Purcell Re: The Royal Hotel

Members confirmed that there had been no development at the hotel other than the removal of the contents of the building although permission had been sought for the development of flats at the rear of the building.

iv) Thank you letter from Mr and Mrs Byrne Re; Headlands View – contents noted

v) Request from S.W.W. Re Meadow – *members requested the work be carried out as soon as possible to allow restatement of the pitch before the commencement of the football season.*

154/2019 Register of Outstanding Matters

Parking Esplanade – D.C.C. state that the parking restrictions for the Esplanade are identical whether payment is made at the machine with cash or via the ‘Phone and Pay’ service. They also stated that vehicles that park for longer periods than the 4hour maximum can be reported via the D.C.C. ‘ Report a Problem’ service on the web site and enforcement action can be taken.

Marine Drive Toilets - The café confirmed that they are staying open every day until 4.30pm and the toilets are usually locked last thing. They suggested that the day the complaint was made could have been when builders were on site.

Drinking Fountain - I am not aware of any specific funding for water fountains I am afraid. Councillors could be approached to see if they would be willing to use their Community Grants but I am not aware of anything else. I think some organisations have used crowd funding and public donations as well.

106 Funding Priorities – the council’s preferred priorities for the next year have been submitted in the expression of interest form to North Devon Council. Reassurances have been received that any funding identified for specific projects will be protected.

Public Water Fountain – Mr Miles could not help with any funding for a public water fountain and has suggested an application through the district or county councillor’s grant schemes.

Parking Complaints re North Morte Road – Complaints have been received and passed on to the parking enforcement officers regarding the parking of builder’s vehicles on the road which obstructs traffic flow to North Morte Farm. There have also been complaints regarding parked cars on Chapel Hill and on the ‘Clearway’ sections on the Esplanade.

Dog Bins – the District Council have commenced the emptying of the bins at the start of July.

155/2019 13. Proposed Closure of Woolacombe Fire Station

Meeting 10th July with Fire Station Crews – Members proposed to formally protest the proposed cuts to the service and agreed the following:

- 1) *To invite a representative from the Devon and Somerset Fire Authority to the August Meeting.*
- 2) *To attend the public consultation on Wednesday 17th*
- 3) *To write to members of the Fire Authority, M.P. and other influential voices.*
- 4) *To hold a public meeting in conjunction with the fire service on July 31st at Woolacombe Village Hall*
- 5) *To erect and distribute posters and information regarding the proposed cuts.*
- 6) *To support the petition*

Proposed. Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Amongst the other point raised were:

Risk Assessment – these were not available yet as to how adequate cover would be provided for the closed stations across the North Devon area. It was felt that each proposal included in the 48 page document increased the risk to residents with little or no explanation as to what would go in replace the missing stations. Members felt that significant areas of North Devon would be left without adequate cover especially if the proposed reduction of the Barnstaple Station to part time retained fire fighters.

Accuracy of Figures presented – members queried the ways in which the figures presented by the authority were being presented and felt that they were unrealistic, misleading and disingenuous. Members were aware of the much larger numbers of call outs by the local station and the very valuable work that they did within the community and in support of other appliances and communities throughout the area.

Co –Responder Call Outs – the official figures showed that there had been 7 category 1 call outs from the Woolacombe Station

Costs of Scheme - members questioned the figures regarding the savings made by the scheme which included equipment and resources already provided within the recently refitted local station. Members felt that the real figures for the station were in the region of £41,000

Increased Risks in Holiday areas - members felt that the Fire Authority had not taken into account the risks involved by the influx of summer visitors to the area and had calculated that there were an additional 1,700 units of accommodation in the Parish catering for 10,000 additional residents in the summer. This did not take into account day visitors to the beach and surrounding area.

Recruitment of local Retained Fire Crews – it was pointed out that with 3 new recruits well into their training programme, the local station were almost up to a full crew whilst other local stations at Ilfracombe, Braunton, Combe Martin and Braunton were under- capacity. Members felt that all options for recruitment for retained crew had not been properly investigated and that more flexibility in contracts would attract more people.

(Councillor Bell declared a personal interest in this item)

156/2019 Parking Issues Woolacombe & Morteheo – i) Devon County Council (Various Roads, North Devon) (Waiting Restrictions) Amendment Order reference IMR/B13470-5713 Devon County Council Proposed ‘No Waiting Zone’

North Morte Road. Members Proposed Deferral on this decision until more local opinions on the matter had been sought.

ii) Parking Review Woolacombe - Members agreed to ask Councillor Davis again for the changes imposed in the current order in Woolacombe which included an all year ban on parking in parts of the village to be looked at again at the earliest opportunity.

157/2019 A.O.N.B 60th Anniversary Events - Members voice support for the proposed event and agreed to take promote and participant in the event in any way possible.

158/2019 Matters Brought Forward with the Consent of the Chairman

Street Trading - members confirmed that the request for the introduction of a Public Open Space Order in Woolacombe had been lodged with North Devon Council.

School Path – Councillor Duffield was thanked for cutting back the stinging nettles on the path.

Charity Football Match - the council were thanked for their help in the charity football match held in the Meadow over the previous weekend which had raised over £2,000 towards the charity ‘ Chasing the Stigma’

Speeding Traffic - the clerk was asked to request speed monitoring in Woolacombe to help remind motorists of the existing speed limits.

159/2019 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 at the meeting:

16	S Hocking	1263.64
16	K Ash	1190.29
16	D Hodges	1093.64
16	R Walker	982.39
16	HMRC	965.01
16	Gordon’s Window	816.00
16	Bloom Brothers	543.00
16	PLandscape	384.11
16	J Keiff	297.94
16	Kingsley Printers	105.00
16	Odlings	84.00
16	Simpsons	71.87
16	S.W.Water	40.52
16	S.W.Water	35.26
16	Integral Digital	708.00
17	Fircroft Signs	648.00

Part 2

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
- Devon Senior Voice - Newsletter.
2. 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: August 19th 2019 Parish Council Meeting at 7.00 p.m.

The meeting ended at 8.55 p.m.

