

Minutes of the meeting of Morteohoe Parish Council held online via Microsoft teams on Monday 17th August 2020 at 7.00 p.m.

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

Clerks: S Hocking and J Keiff

Also Present: A Davis (D.C.C.) and 13 members of the public present

132/2020 Apologies for Absence: Councillors: J Richards, Bell and Barron

133/2020 Public Speaking – L Brailsford (Seaxburg Developments) Re: Proposed Consultation on possible development at Morteohoe – Ms Brailsford outlined to those present, the salient points regarding the proposed development (now at the Pre-planning stage) and asked members for advice regarding methods of public consultation for the scheme. Measures currently proposed included online consultation, a mail shot the hiring of a marquee to be erected in the Meadow (with members permission) at some time in October .

(141 ii Correspondence - Members agreed that the Meadow could be hired for this purpose providing all necessary measures could be taken to make sure the event was Covid Compliance)

There were no other representations to speak at the meeting. -

134//2020 Police Report - Reported Crimes for Woolacombe, Bittadon, West Down and Mullacott -

Violence with Injury 1 Violence without Injury 3 Burglary Non-Dwelling 1 Vehicle Offences 1

Other Theft 2 Criminal Damage 2 Public Order 1 Non notifiable Offence 1

135/2020 Declaration of Interests – None

136/2020 Minutes:

It was Proposed to approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on July 20th 2020 at 7 p.m. via Zoom link Proposed. Seconded APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

137/2020 County Council Report -

Street Marshals - have been asked not to intervene in the enforcement of parking regulations in Woolacombe following a number of complaints from members of the public and the Civil Parking Enforcement team .

Electric vehicle questionnaire - Drivers are being asked to help deliver a network of electric vehicle (EV) charging points across Devon by revealing their driving habits and attitudes towards EV in an online questionnaire. Devon County Council (DCC) is working with district councils and the private sector on two projects which aims to deliver more than a 100 EV charging points across Devon. Now DCC has launched three online questionnaires, each one targeted to a specific group, to gauge the public's attitudes towards EV. Drivers are asked to choose a questionnaire that best describes their current circumstances – electric vehicle owner, a taxi driver or non-electric vehicle owner. The questions are wide-ranging and include driving habits, where people store their vehicles, mileage, what they drive, engine size and if they would consider buying an electric vehicle. The answers will help identify potential demand and locations for charge points and numbers and types

of charge points. The results of the questionnaire will also form the basis of a funding bid for a third EV scheme. The surveys are part of the Deletti programme which is part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund. Electric Vehicle users; click [HERE](#) to go to the questionnaire
Taxi or private hire operators; [HERE](#) to go to the questionnaire
Non-electric vehicle users; click [HERE](#) to go to the questionnaire.

Child benefit for new parents - Parents in Devon are being urged to claim Child Benefit, even if they have not yet been able to register the birth of their newborns due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. New Child benefit claims between April and July this year are down by 49,637 compared to the same period last year. Usually you need to register the birth of your child before you can start claiming Child Benefit, but with the coronavirus pandemic forcing registry offices to close or operate at severely reduced capacity, the government announced in April that parents could still claim even if the birth hadn't been registered to ensure they don't miss out. However, claims can only be backdated by three months, so if you had a baby early on during the lockdown and haven't yet registered the birth yet, time is running out. It's important that new parents claim as soon as they can to receive the maximum support available. First time parents will [need to fill in Child Benefit claim form CH2 found online](#) and send it to the Child Benefit Office. If they haven't registered the birth because of COVID-19, they should add a note with their claim to let them know. If you already claim Child Benefit for another child, you can complete the form or add your new-born's details over the telephone on 0300 200 3100. You will need your National Insurance number or Child Benefit number

Devon Together - Residents may have received a [Devon Together newspaper](#) through their door in recent days. This one off newspaper developed in partnership by DCC, Devon CCG and the Police and Crime Commissioner provides a range of updates and information to residents on the local response to COVID-19 and how the system is preparing for recovery. The newspaper also signposts to a number of resources to support people to stay healthy and well. **Proud**

to Care update - Our COVID-19 Proud to Care campaign ran from 26 March to 5 July, piloting a new approach of placing applicants directly into employment, alongside our usual direct recruitment via the Proud to Care jobs board. To date, 88 Healthcare Assistants have been employed in the DCC footprint, 71 of whom are permanent recruits. A further 58 were recruited to Healthcare Assistant roles with the NHS. This has been a phenomenal success and provides a huge boost to this valuable workforce.

Reminder- reporting a highway issue <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

138/2020 Planning

71816 Retrospective application for a conversion of double garage into living/office space at 4 Channel View Morteohoe Woolacombe Devon.

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

71914 Siting of mobile home for holiday use together with ancillary works including levelling of the site, Installation of septic tank, 2 hot tubs & a shed for hot water tank with fencing (part retrospective) at Highlands Woolacombe Station Road.

Members felt that the works needed further adjustments in order to protect the amenities and privacy of adjoining neighbours. Members felt that planning policies DM01 and DM25 had not been met and that more screening was necessary to prevent an adverse effect on neighbouring properties.

Proposed REFUSAL Seconded PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

71618 Extension of holiday maisonette and Sub Division to Create Two Holiday Flats at Blue Horizon Upper Claypark Morteohoe Woolacombe Devon EX34 7EA

Members voiced concern regarding the parking provision at the property and felt that the existing parking was inadequate for an additional apartment. They also raised concerns at the possible increase in traffic from the property onto the narrow confines of Upper Clay Park Road with its limited egress and access. They were of the opinion that the application represented an over intensification of the plot ***Proposed REFUSAL Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.***

71945 Extension & alterations to dwelling at 87 Chichester Park Woolacombe Devon EX34

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

71898 Extension to and conversion of garage to form additional living space together with re-siting of parking bay at 33 Chichester Park Woolacombe Devon EX34 7BZ

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

71950 Extensions & alterations to dwelling at 5 Chichester Park Woolacombe Devon

Members raised concerns at the possible visual impact and size of this development. ***Proposed APPROVAL. Seconded PASSED UNIMOUSLY***

Planning Permission Received: None

Planning Refusal Received: None

Permitted Development: 1124

Proposal: Follow up pre app for installation of skateboard ramps Location: Meadow Playing Field South Street Woolacombe Devon EX34 7BB

139/2020 District Council Report

Public Consultation on Dog Fouling and control – Councillor Wilkinson informed members that the consultation had been extended until August 14th .

Strategy and Resources Meeting - Councillor Wilkinson informed members that an electric car charging point would be installed in Morteohoe Car Park with the help of an NDC grant aided scheme. There would be ongoing investigations as to whether charging points could be installed elsewhere in the Parish.

Channel 5 News - had asked Councillor Wilkinson for an interview regarding the impact of increased numbers of tourists on the area. Councillor Wilkinson praised the community effort and the joint work of all agencies to keep the services and villages tidy and clean. The

clerk was asked to write a letter to NDC to praise the work of the refuge and rubbish collection staff for the provision of extra bins and sterling work in keeping standards so high.

140/2020 Questions for the National Trust

Rockham Steps - Mr Fairhurst informed members that they were aware of the alternative path that members of the public were using down to the beach and that a further geological survey would be undertaken at the beach. The Trust were very much aware of the importance of the beach as an amenity for Morteheo residents and visitors.

Coastal Communities Group - had also identified the provision of a safe access to the beach as a priority

Woolacombe Dunes - Mr Fairhurst informed members that regular patrols were still being undertaken despite the limitations of staff numbers to pick up increased volume of litter and to deter illegal camping.

141/2020 Correspondence: i) Letter from Mr P Small Re: Parking on the Esplanade. Contents noted

ii) **L Brailsford Seaxburh Dev. Re Public Consultation** – *Members thanked the representatives of the company for their involvement at the meeting and agreed to the erection of a marquee in the Meadow as a venue for public consultation providing all Covid restrictions were duly followed.*

iii) **Letter from A Shelley Re Government Announcement on Planning** – *Contents noted.*

iv) **North Devon Marathon _ letter and representation from J Burford Redgrove (North Devon Hospice)** *Members asked a number of questions regarding the safety measures introduced in the re-arranged event including questions regarding the new route, parking, arrangements for spectators and possible impact on the village. The organisers agreed to keep the council fully updated on all aspects of the event and the changing measures to conform to the changing government Covid regulations on such events.*

v) **Letters from Dr B Rosen Re: Council Tax and Rockham Steps** – *Members echoed the frustrations expressed by Dr Rosen regarding the high numbers of business rate payers in domestic settings. Members informed Dr Rosen that this loophole had been caused by a government loophole rather than any decision made by local government and that letters had been sent in the past to M.P's*

Rockham Steps - *Members assured Dr Rosen that efforts were continuing to find a safe route down to the beach.*

vi) **Request from P Little Re Fund Raising event** – *Members agreed to Mr Little's request to set up a stall in front of the Tourist Information Centre for charitable purposes.*

142/2020 Register of Outstanding Matters

Morteheo Resident's Car Park - N.D.C. advise that the car park can be locked between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 a.m. All permit holders have been given the combination code for the lock. The system seems to be working well.

Cemetery Parking – is being monitored. On three recent occasions there were either no or very small numbers of vehicles parked at the car park. These included visitors to the cemetery.

Combesgate Toilet - the men's toilet at Combesgate was vandalised and out of action for two days awaiting repair.

Skateboard Ramp – no decision has been made regarding the future of the ramp at Bideford. An update is expected soon.

Play Area Inspections – the annual inspections have brought to light several problems on both areas mainly due to the three month closure of the areas both in the condition of the grass and equipment. The problems highlighted in the report are being addressed.

143/2020 Coronavirus Update

Daily Teams meeting - the clerk reported that a daily meeting took place which coordinated officers from the Police, Street Marshals, N.D. District Council and Bideford councils and representatives from other communities.

Matters Arising in Woolacombe - Street Trading – the marshals have reported problems of queuing and blockage of the pavement. The matter has been taken up by N.D.C. licensing and public health inspectors

Other Traders – have been advised regarding the management of queues for outlets.

Complaint to Police and Crime Commissioner Re: Taxi Ranks and Marshals : this matter is being investigated.

Taxi Ranks in Woolacombe - Members may recall that the existing ranks were created in 2010 following extensive public consultation and a petition signed by 149 local people regarding objections to the location of the then taxi rank in Barton Road.

Covid19 Safety Banners - two banners have been produced reminded people of public safety and social distancing etc. The Woolacombe Bay Hotel have given permission for one to be erected on the metal railings in Barton Road .

144/2020 Rubbish and Recycling Collections

Rubbish and Recycling Problems in Morteheo – The clerk reported that three letters or emails had been received regarding the accumulation of recycling and domestic waste bins in Morteheo . *It was agreed to raise the matter with N.D.C.*

ii) **Letter from R Worth Re: Rubbish Collections at Europa Park** - *it was agreed to raise the issue with N.D.C. and to monitor the situation.*

145/2020 Matters Brought Forward with the Consent of the Chairman

Woolacombe Play Area – *Members agreed to the placement of a table at the area and the clerk was asked to thank the donor of the seat.*

Meadow Cutting - *It was agreed to cut the Meadow on a fortnightly basis until further notice.*

Barton Road Bin – the clerk was asked to report the damaged bin to NDC

Dog Bins on Tarka Trail – it was agreed to contact West Down Parish Council to pass on a request for dog bins on the trail.

146/2020 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:

Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	annual playground inspections	210.60
PLandscape	cut 22/7	450.00
Jewson Ltd	bark for play areas	366.94
Odlings Ltd	wall tablet/ reynolds	85.20
Bloom Brothers	grave digging	960.00
ABW Engineering	pavilion electrical repairs	153.97
A.F.S. Fire & Security	annual fire equipment service	69.00

Simpsons Excavating Contractors Ltd	stone levelling 17/7	326.40
National Trust	Mortehoe Play Area rent	15.00
Pete Starbuck	grass cutting/strimming	348.50
Pete Starbuck	general maintenance	854.00
Woolacombe & Mortehoe Luncheon Club	transport and expenses contribution	241.38
Gordon WIndow Cleaning	combesgate pre-season clean/ cleans March	216.00
Gordon WIndow Cleaning	combesgate pre-clean/ cleans May	405.00
Gordon WIndow Cleaning	Combesgate cleans June	1620.00
Gordon WIndow Cleaning	Combesgate cleans July	1674.00
Sally	Screwfix/ padlocks	41.98
Fircroft Sign	Mullacott Signs/ MD signs/ war defense signs/combesgate toilet signs/ play area signs.....	1176.00
Hmrc	month 5 paye	1079.52
	salaries	1272.92
	salaries	304.87
	salaries	1095.85
	salaries	1370.01
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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
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: September 21st 2020 Parish Council Meeting 7.00 p.m.

The meeting ended at 8.55 p.m.