

**Minutes of Morebath Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 20 November 2018 in Morebath Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllr J Wescott (Chair) (\*), Cllr J Andrew, Cllr J Briden, Cllr T Conway, Cllr B Hatton, Cllr Mrs P Reed (\*), Mrs S Squire (Clerk). \* Cheque signatories

Also present: County Councillor Mrs P Colthorpe (until Minute No. 1819-056)  
District Councillor A Moore  
13 Members of the public

**1819-050 Apologies.** Cllr M Adams.

**1819-051 Declarations of Interest.**  
Cllr Mrs Reed declared a Personal Interest in Minute No. 1819-064 (c), request for a donation from St George's Church.

**1819-051 Dispensation to Councillors.** None.

**1819-052 Minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2018.**  
**Approved and signed as a correct record.**

**1819-053 Actions Arising.**

The Clerk confirmed that overgrown vegetation at Exebridge had been reported and dealt with.

The Clerk confirmed that congratulations had been conveyed to MDDC for improved communication regarding this year's grass cutting.

A response had been received thanking the Parish Council for the positive feedback.

The Clerk confirmed that congratulations had been conveyed to Mr S Kelland in connection with his work carried out for the Parish Council.

It was noted that a further grass cut had been carried out on 26 October after the Clerk had liaised with Councillors following a diary note.

**1819-054 Open Forum**

Representations were heard from parishioners regarding the Planning Application at Whitehall Farm (Gardens) to be considered under Minute No. 1819-062 (a). Concerns raised were access, increased traffic, privacy issues for existing residents and economic viability.

District Cllr Moore advised that should the Application be considered by the Planning Committee of MDDC, a lot of weight is placed on the Parish decision. In the event of the Application being considered at Committee, there is the opportunity for a Councillor and member of the public to speak.

The Application would be judged by planning legislation and objections must be on planning grounds.

It was noted that a previous Application had been refused. The applicant had addressed previous concerns in this Application.

**1819-055 Report of the County Councillor.**

- Works are taking place at Junction 27 of the M5 on the A361. Christmas arrangements were given.
- There is a consultation on school admission arrangements and DCC's Transport Policy
- There is funding available from the Investing in Devon funding allocation
- With District Council elections on 2 May and funding applications need to be completed by the end of March 2019
- A Food Waste Conference had been held and an analysis carried out to see what people were throwing away in black bags. Of the samples examined, 40.8% in black bags could have been recycled. 30% was food waste. 24% of bathroom products are not recycled. DCC is among the top 4 in the country for recycling.
- Ash Die Back. 20% of Ash trees (2 – 3 million) are thought to be or will be affected. If a tree is on a house owner's land, it is their responsibility. There are 6,300 Ash trees beside the highway, 3,000 on school sites and 4,000 on corporate sites.

**Bus drivers following scheduled route.** An email had been sent following details given at the last meeting. It was not known if the practice was continuing.

**Cone run up on the A361.** This query had been raised and the reply given was that the distances are laid down to follow, which has been the case.

#### **1819-056 Report of the District Councillor.**

- MDDC plan refurbishment work between Market Walk, owned by MDDC, and the pannier market in the new year. All units are occupied or in the process of being occupied to achieve optimum return.
- Work on the Premier Inn is on track.
- Local Plan. The document is in the process of review. In connection with the first review regarding Junction 27, the Inspector had advised that in principle, there was no objection to land allocation or an Eden 2 type project. Development in other areas were not flawed and Local Plan hearings would be held in February. It was hoped the Plan would be agreed by the Summer of 2019.
- Draft budget. Council Tax is likely to be increased by the maximum amount although no cuts to services were expected.
- State of the District debate would be held on 24 January which would focus on Brexit.

Regarding the Whitehall Farm (Gardens) Planning Application, Cllr Moore recommended that representations were submitted to MDDC when comments would be taken into account for this currently delegated decision Application. It was important to give material planning considerations and although Highways had commented, parishioners concerns can also be given.

Cllr Moore had spoken to the Planning Officer on the day of the meeting and some comments had been fed back to the applicant who was taking them seriously.

The Application could be called in by District Cllrs Moore or Stanley and further consideration would be given in this regard based on comments submitted. If it is called in, the Application would be considered by the Planning Committee on 9 January 2019.

Cllr Wescott asked if there had been rep-app discussions and was advised that these were private and confidential and the details could not be made public. The procedure was explained by Cllr Moore.

**1819-057 Report of the Police.** None.

**1819-058 Improvements to the centre of Morebath.**

**1819-059** Cllr Conway advised that one estimate for laying slabs leading to the post box, with planting, had been received and a second was expected. **Action: Next Agenda.**

The meeting was advised that the speed limit sign had suffered impact damage and a dog leg sign was suggested. Cllr Moore took the details.

An inspection cover lifted up on a grass verge when hedge cutting on the B3190 Lofton to Bampton road which would be reported.

The protective cover of the light switch in the Parish Council car park was missing and a replacement would be obtained.

**Action: Cllr Conway**

Cllr Conway would check with Cllr Adams regarding the surface of the Parish Council car park. **Action: Cllr Conway.**

1819-060

**Parish Plan.** Cllrs were tabled with copies. An Action Plan was not compiled when the last document was prepared.

To be an item on the January Agenda for Councillors to discuss an Open Day in the Spring. **Action: January Agenda.**

1819-061

**Litter Pick.** The event had to be cancelled due to poor weather. Some bags of rubbish had been collected over the last few days.

1819-062

**Planning.**

a. Planning Applications registered since the last meeting:

**18/01438/LBC – Willishayes, Morebath.**

Minute No. 1819-062 refers.

The following Applications were considered:

**18/01598/FULL – Erection of a self supporting tree house, replacement of existing summer house with cabin in stilts and change of use of existing shed / site adjoining garden for the siting of one cabin all for holiday use – Whitehall Farm, Morebath.**

**It was resolved to recommend refusal on the following grounds:**

**Change of use**

**Economic viability**

**Disturbance**

**Lack of impact of value to local business community**

**Action:** Cllrs Hatton and Andrew to draft a response from the Parish Council.

**18/01678/FULL – Erection of agricultural building for storing livestock manure at Quartley Farm, Bowdens Lane, Shillingford.**  
(adjoining Parish)

It was noted that the building was already in place.

**18/01735/FULL – Erection of single storey function room extension – Loyton LLP, Loyton Lodge, Morebath.**

**It was resolved to reply ‘no comment’.**

1819-063

**Planning Correspondence.**

The following MDDC Decision Notice was noted:

Planning Approval for 18/01438/LBC – Willishayes, Morebath.

1819-064

**Finance 2018/19**

## Morebath Parish Council

- a. The current financial position was noted.  
 NatWest Current Account as at 19 November 2018: £16,870.45
- NatWest Business Reserve Account as at 19 November 2018:  
 £6,209.56
- b. Allocation of reserved from the budget. No allocations were made.
- c. Requests for donations: Letters of application and a copy of the latest set of accounts had been received to comply with the criteria set for Parish Council's to follow when considering grant requests.

St George's Parish Church, Morebath  
 Cllr Mrs Reed declared a Personal Interest.

**Cllr Hatton proposed a donation of £500.00. Seconded by Cllr Conway. Unanimously agreed.**

Torrige, North Mid & West Devon Citizens Advice.  
 A reply to be sent advising the Parish Council would be pleased to support the organisation in a local capacity at a centre in Bampton or Morebath Village Hall.

- d. **Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:**

	Ch.No.	
• Mrs S Squire salary & HMRC	520/1	£254.25
• Mrs S Squire expenses (To include account book)	520	£ 41.30
• Mr S Kelland		Invoice not received
• MDDC Grass Cutting	522	£293.71
• Removal of hornets nest		Invoice not received
• Morebath Village Hall	523	£ 90.00
• St George's Church	524	£500.00

- d. To consider the 2019/20 Budget

**Cllr Wescott proposed the Precept remains unaltered at £5,926.66. Seconded by Councillor Hatton. Unanimously agreed.**

The 2019/20 budget to be an item on the January Agenda.

- e. Maintenance of the Old Railway Bridge site twice yearly.  
 Cllr Briden to ask Mr S Kelland. **Action. Cllr Briden.**

### 1819-065

#### Correspondence

- a. **MDDC.** Grounds Maintenance Service Provision Costs for 2019.
- b. **DCC.** Details of the Devon Community Grants Fund.
- c. **Devon Highways.** Road Closure on 28/1/19 at road from Petton Cross to Bonny Cross, Bampton, Junction with lane past Waterhouse Farm for Open reach Works – safety for engineer to work in underground structure.

- d. **South West Lakes Trust.** 2017/18 Highlights.
- e. **Clerks and Councils Direct.** November 2018.
- f. **MDDC.** Consultation on internal procedures – illegal encampments on MDDC land. Closing date for comments is 12 noon on 7/12/18.
- g. **Devon Highways.** Road Closure.
- h. **Grit salt.** Cllrs will collect to make available to parishioners.

**1819-066**

**Other items to note only.**

- a. **Budgets & Precepts Course attended by the Clerk.**  
A written Report had been circulated to Councillors.  
It was not possible to attend the Devon Home Choice and TTVS training.

**1819-067**

**Items for the next Agenda.**

Budget  
Parish Plan  
Update on planning applications

**1819-068**

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, 15 January 2019 at 7.30pm in Morebath Village Hall.

The meeting ended at 10pm.

**Summary of Decisions:**

- **Minutes of 11 September 2018**
- **Planning**
- **Donation of £500 to St George's Church**
- **Payments**
- **2019/20 Precept to remain unaltered**

**Signed as a correct record:**

**Date:**

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