

**Minutes of a Meeting of Silverton Parish Council**  
**held Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 7.30 p.m. in the Silverton Community Hall**

**Present:** Parish Cllrs A Melville, F Derbyshire, V Maylan, K Faulhaber, J Wright, & E Trebble

Mr Wise + District Cllr B Deed

**Minute 113461**            **To note any Declarations of Interest**

None received

**Minute 113462**            **To note any apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr S Cross

**Minute 113463**            **Meeting open to any questions from members of the public – 10 mins**

Mr Wise stated that Babylon Lane was still in a dangerous condition with a crop of potholes which are only going to get worse as time goes by. Cllr Wright confirmed he had sent an email to County Cllr Squires after the January meeting with a google map showing the location of the road. Mr Wise said he felt the road from Poundlands to Babylon needs a width restriction signs to stop large lorries using it and damaging the road surface. He queried if an access onto the motorway could be constructed at Killerton. Cllr Deed informed the meeting that J28 will not be fit for purpose when the area is developed and there may be scope for a further junction (J28A?) but the costs of such a scheme would be a main consideration to this being agreed in the future.

**Minute 113464**            **Minutes of the meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

The Chairman proposed the Minutes of the meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 be accepted as a true record. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with all Councillors present in favour.

**Minute 113465**            **Minutes of the Budget Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

The Chairman proposed the Minutes of the Budget Meeting be accepted as a true record. Cllr Wright seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with all Councillors present in favour.

**Minute 113466**            **Review of Action Plan**

Item 2 – (Trees) Having received no response from DCC and the Parish Council intending to make an application under the Queens Green Canopy scheme it was agreed to delete this item from the Action Plan

Item 3 – (New Banking facilities) The Chairman stated he and the Clerk were conscious this item must be addressed as soon as possible.

Item 7 – Old Fire Station. Cllr Wright informed the meeting that although the Parish Council had agreed to carry out the temporary repairs there was much more involved before a plan

could be brought forward for the Council's consideration. He had received an outline valuation for the building of between £15-£40k. It was accepted this was an unusual site. Cllr Wright stated the Sub-Committee need to put ideas together and think very carefully on the way forward. It was noted that the Book Swap was taking a lot of space on the Little Rec and a suggestion was put forward that perhaps this could be moved into the Old Fire Station. It was agreed the Sub Committee would meet and put forward potential ideas to the March meeting.

Item 8 – (Skate Ramp) this item to be deleted

Item 10 – (Goal Post installation) Cllr Wight indicated that Sam Campbell had carried out a site meeting but was unable to find the original posts. He had not undertaken installing goal posts previously but Cllr Wright stated he had been diligent in carrying out his research. KePring were an experienced firm in installing goal posts and have informed Cllr Wright that the installation would need be carried out within a week of the first grass cut of the grass. The quotations received were considered:

KePring - £700.00

Sam Campbell - £1,207.20

Countrywide Grounds Maintenance - £2,758.98

After discussion Cllr Wright proposed the quotation submitted by KePring be accepted. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with all Councillors present in favour.

Item 11 – (removal of Rope Bridge) - on Agenda

Item 12 – (Recycling Bin in Recreation Field) it was noted this bin was overflowing and the Clerk will check as to who is responsible for emptying the bin

Item 13 – Clerk reported that the scheme for applications for tree planting in October would be opening "in the Spring" and she is monitoring the site and will apply for a Pack when these are released

Item 15 – (BT payphone). BT has confirmed this will be repainted in during the Spring/Summer and a new door fitted.

**Minute 113467      Discussion with District Councillors J Wright and B Deed on any relevant issues**

A monthly report prepared by District Cllr Deed had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. District Cllr Deed gave an update on the information provided by Mr Gove. A £150 rebate of Council Tax will be received by everyone in Bands A-D but only once the householder had made a payment of Council Tax of at least £150. MDCC will pay these funds which will be recouped from Government funds.

If Councillors had any questions for District Cllr Deed he asked if these could be sent to him at least 4 days before the meeting where possible if order that he could make any necessary enquiries in order to be able to give a full response.

The Chairman stated he had read the Mid Devon Issues Consultation (Local Plan for MDDC) and queried whether a response from the Parish Council or from individuals carries most weight. District Cllr Deed confirmed the Consultation was structured towards responses from individuals but the Parish Council could also respond.

District Cllr Wright confirmed the Local Plan was out for consultation and he would be putting links onto Facebook so parishioners were aware and would be encouraging people to respond and give their views. Finance was currently a big issue with the Local Authority with various budgets being set which is a complicated process. With regard to Broadband, he had attended a meeting recently regarding broadband in Devon and the organisers had indicated they would be willing to attend a meeting. The crisis regarding the cost of living was also a large issue. He had heard nothing back from the Planners regarding the application at Silverdale. An application has been submitted in relation to Co-cars with the next step proving there is sufficient demand for the cars.

### **Minute 113468**      **Planning**

*Cllr J Wright took no part in the following planning discussions as he is a District Councillor for the Ward and wishes to remain independent of the Parish Council so as to be able to represent parishioners if asked*

#### (a) Applications:

##### 22/00138/HOUSE – Bycott, School Road, Silverton – Erection of extensions

Cllr Faulhaber proposed the Parish Council supports the above application. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 5 in favour – Cllr Wright did not vote.

##### 22/0039/HOUSE – Orchard House, 18A Applemede, Silverton – Erection of shed

Cllr Maylan proposed the Parish Council supports the above application. Cllr Faulhaber seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 5 in favour – Cllr Wright did not vote.

#### (b) Approvals / Refusals

**APPROVAL** – Prior notification for the change of use of an agricultural building to 1 dwelling under Class Q – **Little Copse, Silverton**

**LISTED BUILDING CONSENT** – external alterations including installation of motion sensors on front, side and rear elevations and on rear office outbuilding – **Lavender Cottage, 34 Fore Street, Silverton**

**APPROVAL** – retention of 4 motion sensors with cameras and EV charging unit – **Lavender Cottage, 34 Fore Street Silverton**

**APPROVAL** – enlargement of external door, replace utility window with door and installation of roof lights – **22 King Street, Silverton**

**LISTED BUILDING CONSENT** – for alterations to doors/windows, new roof lights to tiled roof and reconfiguration of some internal walls on ground and first floor – **22 King Street Silverton**

#### (c) Any other Planning matters

(a) WITHDRAWN - Certificate of Lawfulness for raised flat roof over garage –**16 Coach Road, Silverton**

**Minute 113469**      **Finances**

(a) Monthly invoices

- (i) Chq No: 002599 - Mrs S Woodland – Clerk’s wages (£631.99) + expenses (£46.13) - £677.92
- (ii) Chq No: 002600 – Mrs S Woodland – new laptop - £499.00
- (iii) Chq No: 002601 – Mr D Marsden – Contractor’s monthly invoice (£300.00) + weeding (£24.00) - £324.00
- (iv) Chq No: 002602 – E.ON Next – electricity to Air Ambulance landing site - £18.23
- (v) Chq No: 002603 – Silverton Community Hall – NP expenses - £136.50
- (vi) Chq No: 002604 – RSK Hi-Line Limited – tree works - £1,728.00
- (vii) Chq No: 002605 – Miss O Kennard – NP expenses - £133.97
- (viii) Chq No: 002606 – CANCELLED
- (viii) Chq No: 002607 - Miss O Kennard – NP expenses - £180.37
- (ix) Chq No: 002608 – Miss O Kennard – NP expenses - £23.66

The Chairman proposed the above invoices be paid. Cllr Trebble seconded the proposal A vote was taken with all Councillors present in favour.

(b) Other financial matters

(i) To note charge to be made by MDDC re Play Area Inspections

The Chairman reported that the Clerk had received emails from MDDC relating to unbilled Play Area Inspections/ROSPA Reports for the financial years 2019/20 (£427.75), 2020/21 (£427.75) and 2021/22 (£360.00). MDDC had accepted this had been their error and if back dating payments would cause the Parish Council a problem MDDC may have to waive the fees as it was their error. The Chairman had instructed the Clerk to respond to MDDC saying back dating would cause the Parish Council a problem as the budget had now been set but recover for this year and going forward would be acceptable.

District Cllr Deed asked the Clerk to forward copies of the email to him.

(ii) To reconsider grass cutting tenders

The Chairman informed the meeting that the following tenders had been received:

Sam Campbell - £6,950.00

Mark Upcott - £6,200.00

Parsons - £6,890.00

After consideration it was felt that the tender received from Parsons was professional and set out exactly what work was to be undertaken and the time scales. Cllr Derbyshire proposed the Tender from Parsons be accepted. Cllr Trebble seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with all Councillors present in favour.

(iii) To consider revised quotation by Sutcliffe Play re repairs to Children's Play area

A revised quotation had been received from Sutcliffe Play in the sum of £568.06 to cover various works highlighted in the ROSPA report. A further quotation may be necessary to cover the closing of the gates as they have hydraulic closures which may need to be replaced and could be expensive.

The Chairman proposed the revised quotation in the sum of £568.06 be accepted. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with all Councillors present in favour.

**Minute 113470**      **Update by Chairman of Big Rec Project**

Cllr Maylan informed the meeting that she had heard from Viridor that the Committee had successfully passed the first stage of the grant application. The second stage would be considered in March and an assessor will be carrying out a site meeting prior to that date. She said that the Committee had originally hoped to apply for £30,000.00 but everything had to be itemised in the application and Viridor only accept the cheapest quote. The application includes Gym equipment, a pergola and a picnic table. The cheapest quote received was circa £25,503.00 and if successful this would be the grant provided by Viridor. Silverton Parochial Trust had now confirmed it will provide £30,000.00 towards the Project. An application had been made for the Locality Grant from County Cllr Squires of £2,000.00. Mrs Sleep is organising fund raising and the marketing of the Project.

With regard to the Skate Ramp it was agreed to obtain quotations for the replacement piece on the half pipe and use the information from the ROSPA Report as the specification.

With regard to a handrail for the steps, Cllr Faulhaber had prepared a plan to be used for tenders. Cllr Maylan queried the height of the rail and this was confirmed to be one metre which is the usual specification for a handrail. Cllr Maylan asked if an additional lower rail could be added for younger children to be able to use and Cllr Faulhaber confirmed he would re-draft the plan. After discussion the Chairman proposed the handrail is included within the Big Rec Project. Cllr Maylan seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with all Councillors present in favour.

The Committee had concerns regarding the sump which is desperately in need of emptying and the Clerk confirmed she would chase both County Cllr Squires and DCC for an update.

**Minute 113471**      **Neighbourhood Plan update**

It was noted that Cllr Trebble had resigned as Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee due to work commitments but remained a member of the Committee. The Chairman gave thanks to Cllr Trebble for the work she had carried out as Chairman and informed the meeting Mr Bill Croome would be chairing the Committee until the end of March when the position of Chair would be further considered.

The Committee continue to work on the comments received from Parishioners after which the policies will have to be considered in order to correspond with those of MDDC. The Locality Grant

also has to be spent by the end of February with any balance to be refunded.

**Minute 113472**      **Correspondence**

- (a) MDDC Local Plan Consultation Regulation 18 – The Chairman proposed individual councillors respond to the Consultation using the on-line form. If any Councillor has any particularly strongly feelings about any issue they can bring back this back to the March meeting and a letter may be formulated from the Parish Council depending on other Councillors' views.
- (b) To note email received from Mr Brewer re condition of Roach Lane which Clerk forwarded to DCC/County Cllr Squire for information.
- (c) It was agreed to forward a copy of Mr Gove's email relating to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations to Mrs Jane Isaac for her information .
- (d) With regard to the proposed road closure between Ellerhayes and the village for works to be carried out to the wall of the Old Stables, it was felt this was disproportionate to have the road closed and a traffic light system should be implemented. If the road is closed this would cause significant problems. It was agreed the Clerk would pass on the Council's views to the Regional Highway Officer and County Councillor Squires.

An email had been received from Seddons Estate Agents indicating they had recently worked with Bradninch Town Council to create "20 is plenty" signs to erect on the main road in the Town. Seddons were offering Silverton Parish Council the same opportunity to have boards produced for free. Cllr Wright stated he felt that maybe other businesses in the village may prefer to cover the cost of the board in order to have the publicity these would generate and proposed the Parish Council offer local businesses the opportunity to sponsor signs before considering the offer from Seddons. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken and all Councillors present were in favour. It was agreed the Clerk would respond to Seddons thanking them for the offer and confirming the Parish Council would revert to them in due course.

**Minute 113473**      **Matters brought forward by the Chairman**

Cllr Derbyshire stated that Footpath 2 (Roach Lane to Butterleigh Road) had been used by horse riders. DCC had originally placed stakes at both ends of the Footpath to deter the use of the path by horses but 3 stakes had disappeared from the Roach Lane End. She had checked with the County Council and it had not removed the stakes. Notices have been erected and there is no evidence horse riders have used this Footpath since.

Meeting closed at 9.08