

## WASHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

### The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 21st January 2020 in Washfield Memorial Hall at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Cllr's R Arnold (Chair), M Balment, J Boundy, J Mock and R Webber.

**In attendance:** District Cllr A Moore and the Clerk, Mrs J Larcombe.

**51/01/20. To receive apologies.** Apologies were received from County Cllr Mrs P Colthorpe.

**52/02/20. Disclosure of interest in item on the Agenda.** There were no disclosures at this point.

**53/02/20. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 as an accurate record of the Meeting.** The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting and they were duly signed by the Chair.

**54/02/20. Matters arising from the minutes.** There were no matters arising.

**55/01/20. To discuss whether there is any interest in the Parish Council Vacancy.** There is no interest at present.

#### **56/01/20. Planning**

**a) To make a recommendation on any planning applications received before the meeting.**

**19/01904/HOUSE** Installation of 2 side and 1 rear dormer in dwelling, raising roof of garage with external staircase to provide playroom area: Pond House Stoodleigh. Comment: Washfield Parish Council support the granting of approval for this application.

**b) To note the withdrawal of 18/01710/Full Conversion of agricultural barn to residential dwelling Location: Land and Buildings at NGR 292593 116970 (Pilemoor Lane) Washfield.** The withdrawal was noted. This is likely to be because of the approval of application 19/01053/Full.

**c) To note any decisions on planning applications made by MDDC.**

**19/01053/Full** Erection of a dwelling following demolition of barn at Pilemoor Lane. Decision: conditional approval granted.

**d) New MDDC email address for Town and Parish Council planning questions.**

As of 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020, Development Management has a new system for logging and dealing with all Parish enquiries in respect of planning to help ensure a consistently high standard of response times for enquiries made into development management. This new system has been implemented to ensure that all Parish calls/emails are tracked and not lost, and to ensure that the appropriate response times are adhered to. Parish Clerks/Councillors are more than welcome to try and contact the planning officer directly by phone/email, however MDDC are not able to track those calls. The most efficient way for MDDC to deal with an enquiry is to email using the following address [cllrplanenq@middevon.gov.uk](mailto:cllrplanenq@middevon.gov.uk) The following should be included in an email to help MDDC be more efficient in dealing with the Council call more quickly:

- Your name, contact number(s), and Parish email address (if not shown in email sent in)
- The application number(s), or site address
- Your question(s) or enquiry

Once MDDC receives an email they will log the call and provide a call reference in a response by email.

Alternatively MDDC can be called on 01884 255255 - ask for the Planning Support Team. The Support Team will ask for the information above and log the details over the phone on your behalf. There will always be a notification with a call reference which should be used if MDDC need to be contacted again. Customer First are also able to log an enquiry for you over the telephone if required.

All enquiries will be assigned to the relevant planning officers where they are available, and if not another officer will endeavour to respond/help where possible. MDDC aim to deal with enquiries within 10 working days.

**e) Any other planning matters.** There were no other planning matters.

### 57/01/20. Highways

**a) To report on any highways work carried out in the parish and to note any highways work needed.** Cllr Arnold, as Chair of Washfield Parish Council, was contacted by a member of Stoodleigh Parish Council asking if it was okay to report mud on the road at Emmerford Cross. At Emmerford Cross the drain is still higher than the road surface and water is running across the road onto Stoodleigh Drive causing ice when the temperature drops below freezing. Highways have dug out a space for some of the water to run away. It is understood that Cllr Stanley is chasing this up with the relevant authorities.

It was reported that there are a number of potholes in the parish, a number of which have been marked for repair.

At the entrance to Worth House the road was marked with blue paint for three weeks before the road was suddenly closed during the day for repairs. There was no notification the road was going to be closed and it was claimed that it was an emergency.

The bridge parapet at Hatherland is still damaged.

The road surface is very poor and there are lots of potholes between Cotleigh Cross and New Bridge.

The culvert at Emmerford is still awaiting repair.

The bin outside the village hall is not being emptied again.

**b) Any other highways matters.** No other highways matters.

### 58/01/20. Finance

**a) To approve any payments.** It was resolved to ,make the following payments:  
Mrs J Larcombe - £74.70 Clerk's salary (Chq no 521)

Washfield Memorial Hall - £60.00 hire of room for meetings (Chq no 523)

**b) To agree the Churchyard Grant.** Cllr Balment declared a personal and It was agreed to give a grant of £500 to Washfield PCC (Chq no 522). The Council will review the amount of the grant next year with the hope that they can keep it at the same amount.

**c) To consider the budget for 2020-21 and agree the Precept.** The Council

considered the draft budget prepared by the Clerk and this was agreed. It was agreed to request a precept of £1,505.00.

**c) Update on proposal for using S106 funding to purchase benches & picnic tables.** There is £5,879 left in this MDDC fund. It was proposed that 6 benches and 1 picnic table be purchased from TDP at a cost of £6,024 + VAT. The balance will be paid by the Parish Council, who will be able to reclaim the VAT. The picnic table and 3 of the benches will be sited on the Village Green. One bench will be sited on the grass triangle at Keepers Cottage, another on the verge at Beauchamp and the sixth on the verge at Hatswell. It was agreed to make the application to fund this proposal.

**59/01/20. County & District Cllr Reports.** There was no County Cllr Report.

Cllr Moore said MDDC was focusing on the budget. There is still work to do on the 2020-21 budget as there is a shortfall of £177,000 at present.

There was a lot of discussion about car park charges before a decision was made on changes but this has come back to Council for further discussion following a petition of 2000 plus signatures protesting about changes to charges for parking in Tiverton.

The new Cabinet has decided not to proceed with the plan agreed by the previous Council to open out the access to the Tiverton Pannier Market from Fore Street. Tiverton Town Council has said that they didn't want the agreed scheme and it will be looked at again.

Comments on the amendments to the Local Plan need to be made by 17<sup>th</sup> February.

District Cllr John Daw, a respected councillor and former Chairman of MDDC died recently.

**60/01/20. Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence.** A letter has been received from Mrs Tania Weeks, DCC Public Rights of Way Officer, regarding the opening of the Definitive Map Review of Public Rights of Way in Washfield parish, and asking to attend a parish council meeting. It was agreed to ask her to speak at the Annual Parish Meeting. First choice of date is Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April and reserve date is 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

There was no further correspondence.

**31/01/20. Public Questions.** There were no members of the public present.

**32/01/20. Date of the next meeting.** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020.