

The members of Morebath Parish Council are summoned to a Parish Council Meeting of

**Morebath Parish Council**  
**on Tuesday, 31 January 2023 in Morebath Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

MEMBERS: Councillors A Wilson (Chairman), T Conway, Mrs P Reed, K Stone, J Wescott.

**Clerk: Sue Squire**

**Invited**

**Cllr Richard Chesterton** - County Council Representative  
**Cllr Ray Stanley** - District Council Representative  
**Cllr Andrew Moore** - District Council Representative

Members of the public are also invited to attend and have the opportunity to speak in Item 8 only.

**AGENDA**

**1. Apologies.**

**2. Declarations of Interest.**

Councillor Wilson will declare a Prejudicial Interest in the payment relating to clearing the surface of the car park and weed killing prior to the entrance being resurfaced.

**3. Dispensation to Councillors**

**4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22 November 2022.**

To be agreed as a correct record.

**5. Actions Arising / Updates:**

**5.1 Section 106 Application for Play Equipment**

**5.2 Website**

**5.3 Online banking – Councillor Conway**

**5.6 Clerk's Contract of Employment.** This is no longer an item due to the resignation of the Clerk.

**6. Open Forum:** Members of the public are limited to three minutes per item.

**7. Reports.**

**7.1** County Councillor R Chesterton. Written Report circulated to Councillors. To update on the enquiry regarding the small lane between the A396 and B3227 (Minute No. 36.1 of 27.09.22 refers).

**7.2** District Councillors A Moore and R Stanley

**7.3** Mrs S Squire, Parish Clerk. Written Report on her attendance at a DALC Webinar 'Preparing for Elections'.

**8. Planning.**

**8.1 To consider the following Application:**

**23/00075/FUL – Variation of condition 7 planning permission 05/01589/FULL relating to holiday occupancy to allow full residential use of Rose Barn, Exebridge.**

[The deadline date for the Parish Council's response is 3 February 2023.](#)

**8.2 Planning Correspondence:** To note the following MDDC Decision Notices:

**APPROVAL for:**

- **Certificate of Lawful Use or Development – Blackbridge Farm, Morebath, EX16 9AS**

**REFUSAL for:**

- **Application 22/01234/FULL – Erection of a replacement dwelling with garage / workshop and landscaping following demolition of existing – Gilberts Lodge, Morebath.**

## **9. Finance.**

### **9.1 Balances to be tabled.**

**The updated reserves as at the end of January 2023 will be circulated to Councillors.**

### **9.2 Payments to approve:**

- Mrs S Squire Salary and Expenses £219.41
- HMRC £51.80
- A Wilson Clearing surface of car park and weed killing in preparation for tarmacing £192.00
- DALC Attendance of Cllr Stone at a Webinar £ 18.00

**9.3 Appointment of External Auditor for 2022/23 to 2026/27.** To note that P K F Littlejohn LLP has been appointed and it will be recalled that this firm has been the external auditor for the last 5 years.

**9.4 Ministerial Statement regarding Precept referendum.** Parish Councils will not be capped when deciding the Precept for the 2023/24 financial year.

**9.5 2023/24 Precept.** To note that the Clerk has submitted the Precept request as agreed at the last meeting in the sum of £6,100.00 to MDDC which has been acknowledged.

## **10. Correspondence.**

**10.1 MDDC.** Further letter from Deputy Chief Executive – public expenditure.

**10.2 Ian Fraser.** Email of thanks for the Parish Council's support relating to a new High School for Tiverton. It has been announced by DCC that a new School has been agreed.

**10.3 MDDC.** Premises Licence application submitted by Harebells, Whitehall Garden, Morebath. The deadline for representations is 13/2/23.

**10.4 Mason Kings.** Letter requesting the Parish Council to consider financial support for a defibrillator.

## **11. Items raised by Councillors / Clerk:**

**11.1 Resignation of the Clerk.** To discuss recruitment.

**12. Next meeting:** Tuesday, 28 March 2023 on the rising of the Annual Parish Meeting in Morebath Village Hall.

*The Annual Parish Meeting is being held earlier than usual this year due to the Parish Council elections (see below) in May 2023. It is a legal requirement for an Annual Parish Meeting to be held between 1 March and 1 June each year.*

This will be the last scheduled meeting of Morebath Parish Council in its current term of office, with Parish Council elections being held on 4 May 2023 when a new Council will be elected for a further four years.

The Elections Act 2022 will introduce various changes at future elections. Not all the changes will be introduced at once.

For the May 2023 District and Parish elections, the major change will be that voter ID will be required at polling stations. The Electoral Commission start their national public awareness campaign in January 2023 and MDDC will be also start our local communications at that time.

Any voters who do not have photo ID (e.g. passport, photo driving licence and various other documents) will be able to apply for a free elector identity document either via the national digital service, by post or in person. More information will be circulated in due course.

Sue Squire (Clerk) Dated: 24 January 2023.