

## **Minutes of Morebath Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 26 July 2022 in Morebath Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Councillors T Conway, Mrs P Reed, K Stone  
Councillor Conway chaired the meeting in the absence of Councillor Wilson

District Councillors A Moore (until Minute No. 24.2) and R Stanley (from Minute No. 22.6)

Mrs S Squire, Parish Clerk

The meeting was advised that Mr Winston Baker, a previous Parish Councillor had passed away on 25 July 2022.

As a mark of respect, the meeting stood in silence to honour the Late Mr Baker's memory and service to the community as a Councillor.

18. **Apologies.** Councillors A Wilson, J Wescott and County Councillor R Chesterton
19. **Declarations of Interest.** None.
20. **Dispensation to Councillors** None.
21. **Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 31 May 2022.**  
**Approved and signed as a correct record.**  
**Proposed by Councillor Stone**  
**Seconded by Councillor Conway and unanimously agreed**
22. **Actions Arising / Updates:**
  - 22.1 **Picnic Bench and Seat.** This item was deferred to the September meeting due to Councillor Wood not being present.
  - 22.2 **Webpage on MDDC website.** The Clerk was pleased to report that an MDDC officer will put the necessary documents onto the webpage.
  - 22.3 **Resurfacing of the Parish Council Car Park Entrance.** Due to Councillor Wilson not being present, the up to date position could not be given.
  - 22.4 **Overgrown vegetation at The Round House, Exebridge.** A report has been received that this has been cut down and the safety aspect for motorists has improved.
  - 22.5 **Weeding / Maintenance.** Due to Councillor Wilson not being present, this item could not be discussed.
  - 22.6 **Enquiry about the defibrillator outside Morebath Village Hall.** It was noted that a reply has been sent to the parishioner who found the information helpful and reassuring.
  - 22.7 **Morebath Cricket Club.** It was noted that a reference on behalf of the Parish Council has been sent.  
The Club has advised that Devon Community Foundation - Community Grants Fund have awarded Morebath Cricket Club a grant of £905.40 towards the purchase of the Park Bench.  
Grateful thanks are expressed to the Parish Council for the support given.
23. **Open Forum:**  
District Councillor Moore spoke as a member of the public about his planning application which would be considered under Minute No. 25.1.

He gave the historic details and the reason for the application, adding there was no historic value to the property and the stone will be reused.

A letter had been received by Councillor Mrs Reed which was read to the meeting. An historian of theatre and performance with a particular interest in the promotion of amateur drama in rural England 1900-50. He hoped that people in Morebath may be able to assist with an account he has of the development of group-playmaking in Devon under the aegis of Mary Kelly (1888 – 1951) and hopes that local families or institutions might have letters, diaries, photographs etc passed on by villagers of that generation that give a picture of both the process – what it was like being in the class – and the outcome.

Various local people were suggested who may be able to help and are to be approached.

**Action:** The Clerk to put the details in the Signpost after getting permission from the author of the letter, due to GDPR rules.

## **24. Reports.**

**24.1** County Councillor R Chesterton. Not present.

**24.2** District Councillor A Moore  
MDDC are introducing a 3 weekly residual waste collection and black wheelie bins are being delivered to households with a letter to parishioners to explain the details.  
If residents do not want a wheelie bin, they can request a gull sack.  
All recycling will remain unaltered. 2 bins will be provided if a lot of rubbish is accumulated.

Finance. The latest report this financial year points to being £250,000 overspent. This does not take into account a likely pay increase of 6% - 7% for MDDC's 400 employees.

The Cullompton relief road has gone out to consultation on the Local Plan and efforts are being made to obtain levelling up funding.

## **25. Planning.**

**25.1** **The following Application was considered:**

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

**Proposed by Councillor Conway to recommend approval.**

**Seconded by Councillor Stone and unanimously agreed.**

**Action:** Clerk to submit the Council's response

**Planning Correspondence:** The following MDDC Decision Notice was noted:

**Planning Consent for Application 22/00867/HOUSE – Erection of a greenhouse – Varkhill House, 3 Whitehall Close, Morebath.**

## **26. Finance.**

**26.1** **Balances: NatWest Current Account: £26,955.97**  
**NatWest Savings Account: £6,231.29**

**Action:** The Clerk to circulate reserves as at the end of June.

Ch.No.

**26.2** **Payments to approve:**

**Proposed by Councillor Conway, seconded by Councillor Mrs Reed and unanimously agreed.**

|                                            |     |         |
|--------------------------------------------|-----|---------|
| • Mrs S Squire Salary and Expenses         | 618 | £219.53 |
| • HMRC                                     | 619 | £51.60  |
| • N Page Interim invoice for grass cutting | 620 | £400.00 |

- 26.3 NatWest Banking.** To be able to register for online banking, a current signatory has to do this.  
If is necessary to already have an account with Lloyds to register for online banking.

**Action:** Councillor Conway to follow up registering for online banking with NatWest, as he is a current signatory.

**27. Correspondence.**

- 27.1 Morebath Cricket Club.** Photographs have been supplied showing Estate fencing which has been erected.

- 27.2 HR Update.** All staff are entitled to the same amount of leave – regardless of how many weeks per year they work and it is no longer just full-time staff who are entitled to 5.6 weeks' holiday. Now, employers need to provide this for all zero-hour, variable-hour, term-time only, agency and casual workers. Continuing to do this may mean staff are being illegally underpaid.

Employers will need to give everyone 5.6 weeks' paid annual leave and calculate holiday pay by looking at average weekly earnings over the previous 52 weeks. This means reviewing current entitlement, informing the workforce and updating the Contract of Employment.

Parish Clerks are no longer self employed and are subject to PAYE.

**Action:** The Clerk to arrange for her Contract of Employment to be amended to reflect the change and include on the September Agenda for approval.

**28. Items raised by Councillors / Clerk:**

- 28.1 Councillor Stone.** Responses to emails and communications.  
He suggested that replies are sent to the Clerk as soon as possible and within a week at the latest, with Councillors copied into the reply for information, so that the Clerk is given the authority to proceed.
- 28.2 Clerk's Leave.** Saturday 6 August to Sunday 14 August 2022 inclusive and 22 August.
- 28.3 Graffiti to bus shelter and private property in the village.** Reported to the Clerk.  
Councillor Stone has removed the graffiti and repainted the bus shelter.  
Thanks were expressed to him for this work, for which there was no charge.
- 29. Next meeting:**  
Tuesday, 27 September 2022 at 7.30pm in Morebath Village Hall.  
The meeting ended at 8.19pm.

**Summary of Decisions:**

- Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 31 May 2022
- Planning
- Payments

---

Chairman

---

Date