

Minutes of the meeting of Silverton Parish Council
held Monday 3rd June 2024 at 7.30 p.m. in the Silverton Community Hall

Present: Cllrs Sarah Cross, Gavin Donovan, V Maylan, Olivia Kennard, Ruth Harrison, Josh Wright

Mr M Snowdon, D Wright, P Kidds and County Cllr Margaret Squires

Minute 113889 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Simon Hedges

Minute 113890 **Consider any applications to be co-opted onto Parish Council**

Minute 113891 **To note any Declarations of Interest**

(a) To declare any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature

None

(b) To declare any prejudicial interests in items on the agenda and their nature (Councillors with prejudicial interests must leave the room for the relevant items)

None

Minute 113892 **Meeting open to any questions from members of the public – 10 mins**

Mr Kidds expressed concern regarding vehicles parking opposite the bus stop outside The Meads and explained the problems this can cause especially to parishioners who are not steady on their feet. He stated he had asked Highways to make the area safer with double yellow lines or a boxed area and pointed out the problem was particularly acute on Mini-Market days.

The Chair confirmed that the parking issue had been discussed previously and it had been agreed to ask the Community Hall Committee to request users of the hall to be considerate when parking. It was agreed to ask Cllr Hedges (the Parish Council representative on the Hall Committee) if he took forward this issue to the Community Hall Committee. County Cllr Squires asked if she could have a copy of the email sent by Mr Kidds in order that she could chase for a reply. She pointed out that any request for double yellow lines must come direct from the Parish Council. It was agreed that double yellow lines/parking be an Agenda item for July.

RESOLVED that Item 12 be brought forward to this point of the meeting with the meeting open to Mr Snowdon and Mr Wright. Proposed by the Chair. A vote was taken with all Councillors present in favour.

Minute 113893 **Update re Broad Oak Working Group**

The Chair confirmed that the Working Group Report prepared by Mr Snowdon had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting and Mr Snowdon was happy to answer any questions

Councillors may have. Options were currently being assessed and Mr Wright had obtained quotations for mobile milling with storage having been found for the milled wood etc. The Chair explained that the Working Group were asking for a contribution towards the overall costs in the sum of £5,000.00 which would cover the cost of milling and any work which was required at the farm for storage. She pointed out the Parish Council were holding reserves although it was early in the year and this item had not been included in the annual budget considerations. The Chair confirmed MDDC are intending imminently to remove the Heras fencing and therefore there would be couple of weeks when the Parish Council may be required to cover the cost of the fencing. This is currently being rented by MDDC. The Parish Council Handyman has looked at the cost of purchasing second hand fencing and crowd funding is being considered by the Working Group. Selling the wood in due course should mean a profit will be forthcoming. County Cllr Squires indicated she would be willing to contribute £300.00 towards the Heras Fencing via the locality grant.

Mr Snowdon confirmed he would be creating an update to be published via social media in the near future.

The Chair expressed thanks to the Working Group and in particular Mr Snowdon and Mr Wright for the work they have carried out to date.

Minute 113894 **Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13th May 2024**

It was noted in Minute 113877 reference to the “A196” should read “A396”.

RESOLVED – subject to the above amendment the Minutes be accepted as a true record.
Proposed by the Chair. Agreed with 5 Councillors in favour and 1 abstention.

Minute 113895 **Review of Action Plan**

Item 2 - S106 funds– there is continuing dialogue with the new S106 Officer who is having to revisit previous correspondence relating to the request. The Clerk confirmed the Primary School have chosen bug hotel designs for the Parish Council to consider and these will be available shortly.

Item 3 -Park Road/Red Cross – County Councillor Squires indicated she did not have an update as yet but confirmed the Local Highways Officer has been chasing

Item 4 - Stagecoach – County Councillor Squires confirmed she did not have an update as to when subsidies are to be considered but will chase for a response.

Item 5 – on Agenda

Item 6 - Padlock on pedestrian gate to Children’s Play Area – MDDC has confirmed that neither the District Council nor its contractor padlocked this gate. The Handyman had been asked to remove the padlock but when he looked at the gate he thinks the padlock in all probability belongs to the Heras fencing providers and this should be removed when the fencing is removed.

Item 7 – goalposts – Clerk to chase MDDC.

Item 11 - Church Path light – the Chair and Clerk had carried out a site visit and feel the light belongs to the Church but are looking at making further enquiries to try and establish ownership.

Item 12 – Ellerhayes noticeboard – it was noted when the contractor checked the noticeboard prior to installation he found it would not fit the space available and the description given on the original product was incorrect. A replacement noticeboard had been received (which cost £1.00 less than the original noticeboard) and was awaiting installation.

Item 16 - Log in Newbarn Lane – the Chair and the Clerk had carried out a site inspection and found a tree which is dead propping up the log. If the dead tree falls over then the log will potentially fall down onto the cobbled path or onto Newbarn Road.

RESOLVED that a quotation be obtained from Hi-Line and Teign Trees to remove the dead tree and log. Proposed by the Chair and all agreed by a show of hands

Item 19 - Upexe Lane –the land at the junction of the A396 and Upexe Lane is owned by DCC. The local Highways Officer is making enquiries as to a possible bus shelter on this land and is awaiting a response. District Cllr Wright confirmed he had looked at quotes and will provide details in due course. He indicated the Parish Council would probably not have the necessary funds from this year’s budget. County Cllr Squires indicated she would forward details of cantilever bus shelters to Cllr Wright when she receives them.

Item 20 - Electricity to Air Ambulance Landing Site – the 3 year fixed contract had been arranged.

Item 21 - Pond Site – neither DCC nor MDDC accepts ownership of the unregistered area at the Pond Site. It was agreed the removal of the Buddleia be an Agenda item for July.

Minute 113896 **Discussion with County Councillor Margaret Squires and District Councillors Rhys Roberts and Josh Wright on any relevant issues**

County Cllr Squires indicated that Cllr Hart had stood down as Leader and would not be standing at the next election. Additional funds had been received with £10m being allocated for highway issues (potholes and drainage) and £2m for additional signage/double yellow lines

County Cllr Squires was asked to follow up repairs to Church Road. The Chair stated she had seen people inspecting the road but no work has been carried out.

It was noted there was a “Silverton” indication sign missing from the T Junction to the village on the A396 and the Clerk will forward County Cllr Squires an email reminder.

District Cllr Wright stated new committees were being set under new headings and budgets had been set. He had no new announcements at this time.

Minute 113897 **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.

Applications:

24/00796/FULL – change of use of agricultural building to Commercial, Business and Service (Use Class E) – Dunsmore, Silverton

RESOLVED the Parish Council would support the above application Proposed by Cllr Maylan and agreed by a show of hands. Cllr Wright did not vote.

(b) Approvals / Refusals by MDDC

24/00534/FULL – Approval – Variation of Conditions 2 (approved plans), 3 (Landscaping scheme), 4 (Cladding) and 6 (Exterior lighting) of planning permission 22/02275/FULL – Land at Christcross, Silverton

24/00462/LBC – Listed Building Consent for replacement of polycarbonate glazing to existing extension with velux rooflights and slating and installation of replacement windows and door to rear ground floor with double glazing – 9 Newcourt Road, Silverton

24/00428/FULL – Approval – Erection of agricultural storage building – road from Jenny's Portion to Little Pitt, Silverton

24/00797/LBC – Listed Building Consent for the change of use of agricultural building to Commercial, Business and Service (Use Class E) – Dunsmore, Silverton – Application WITHDRAWN

(c) Any other Planning matters

None

Minute 113898 **Finances**

(a) Monthly invoices

Chq 002814	Mrs S Woodland – Clerk's wages (£689.80) + expenses (Microsoft monthly invoice (£12.36) + ink (£23.98) = £726.14 less £1.00 owing re difference between original noticeboard and replacement noticeboard.
Chq 002815	Mr D Marsden – Handyman's monthly invoice - £625.00
Chq 002816	Miss O Kennard – 3 x copies of Parish Neighbourhood Plan - £22.50

RESOLVED the Clerk and Handyman's payments be agreed. Proposed by the Chair and agreed by a vote of hands.

RESOLVED the payment to Cllr Kennard be agreed. Proposed by the Chair and agreed by a show of hands. Cllr Kennard did not vote.

(b) Other financial matters

(i) Discussion re current banking facility

Information relating to products provided by various Banks had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and the Chair gave thanks to Councillor Harrison for the hard work she had put into producing this document.

After discussion it was RESOLVED to change the Parish Council Bank to the Co-Operative subject to the Clerk being given the facility to set up payments and view and print statements.

Proposed by Cllr Wright and agreed by a show of hands.

RESOLVED that should the Co-operative not be able to provide the necessary access for the Clerk then the Parish Council approach RBS. Proposed by the Chair and agreed by a show of hands.

Cllr Harrison confirmed she would make the relevant enquiries and report back.

(ii) Consider purchase of Heras fencing

It was noted that County Cllr Squires will donate, via the Locality Budget, the sum of £300 towards the purchase of Heras fencing. The Chair indicated the sum of £500 was required to cover the cost of the panels needed. RESOLVED the sum of £500.00 be earmarked for the purchase of Heras fencing. The Chair proposed and agreed by a show of hands.

RESOLVED to move Agenda items 10 + 11 to this point. Proposed by the Chair and agreed by a show of hands.

Minute 113899 **Silverton Speedwatch Group/"20 is Plenty"**

The Chair confirmed that Cllr Donovan had been having email correspondence with the Police. She reiterated that the Parish Council needed to demonstrate there is speeding in the village and therefore the Speedwatch Group needs to be re-formed in order that there is data to back up any speeding. Cllr Wright stated the whole community wanted the "20 is plenty" scheme to demonstrate to the community a 20mph limit was required in the village. The Chair pointed out the Parish Council has a resolution to re-form the Speedwatch Group and volunteers have come forward. Cllr Donovan indicated that he did not have the time or the IT skills required to set up the Speedwatch Group and it was RESOLVED the Chair will take over the role of Administrator of the Group. Proposed by the Chair and agreed by a show of hands.

County Cllr Squires indicated that if there are places in the village where speed is perceived she can arrange for a SCARF. She confirmed funding was not available for 20mph signs. It was noted that Cllr Hedges was to draft a letter to DCC and Police Commissioner for the Parish Council's approval and the Clerk will contact him to see if this is available.

Minute 113900 **Annual Review of Policies**

A copy of the Policies had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting including the draft Asset Register Policy. RESOLVED the Parish Council accepts the policies with no amendments. Proposed by the Chair and agreed by a show of hands.

Minute 113901 **Update re Broad Oak Working Group**

The Chair re-iterated that the Working Group required a float of £5,000.00 to move forward. She confirmed any wood that is sold will be used to fund community projects. She said the only way to move the wood from the site is to get a miller. Some of the other small wood which is in good order has been identified to mill as well as the larger pieces. These will get planked and seasoned. Cllr Maylan pointing out there has been some rats seen in neighbouring gardens and these may be living in the wood piles. The Chair pointed out the Tree Officer felt it would be unlikely rats would be in the wood piles.

RESOLVED a float of £5,000.00 be earmarked for the Broad Oak Working Group. Proposed by the Chair and agreed by a show of hands.

The Chair indicated that at a recent meeting the Tree Officer had confirmed that it was in order for

Parsons to cut the grass around the wood area. RESOLVED to contact the Tree Officer and ask for confirmation he agrees Parsons Landscaping can cut the grass around the wood and an adequate risk assessment has been carried out by him.

Minute 113902 **Update re Lime Tree Regeneration Programme**

No update available.

Minute 113903 **Road Warden Scheme (Cllr Cross)**

The Chair gave a brief resume of the Scheme and confirmed that 3 or 4 volunteers had come forward. RESOLVED the Parish Council approach DCC regarding being part of the Road Warden Scheme. Proposed by the Chair and agreed by a show of hands.

Minute 113904 **June Mini-Market Report**

The June Mini-Market report prepared by Cllr Hedges had been circulated and was noted.

Minute 113905 **Correspondence**

(a) To note free Community Planning Event – 12.6.2024, 7.00 pm @ Magelake Parish Pavilion, Uffculme

(b) To note East Devon Local Plan Further (Regulation 18) Consultation which is open to 5pm Thursday 27th June, 2024

(c) To note invite to archaeological dig site at Killerton

(d) To note Drop in Surgeries for Waste and Recycling Queries, 3pm and 5pm on both Wednesday 19th Jun and Wednesday 26th June 2024 at Hitchcocks Business Park, Willand

Minute 113906 **Matters brought forward by the Chairman**

Cllr Donovan confirmed he would attend the July Mini Market and it was noted volunteers were required for the remainder of the year.

Meeting closed at 9.13 p.m