

Minutes of the meeting of Silverton Parish Council
held Monday 4th November 2024 at 7.30 p.m. in the Silverton Community Hall

Present: Cllrs Chris Eveleigh, Ruth Harrison, Vicki Maylan, Lewis Ward, Simon Hedges, Gavin Donovan and Josh Wright

The Vic-Chair (Simon Hedges) chaired the commencement of the meeting after the resignation of the Chair

Minute 113976 **To note formal resignation of Cllr and Chair Sarah Cross**

The formal resignation of Cllr Sarah Cross as from today's date had been received by the Clerk and circulated to all members.

Minute 113977 **Election of Chair**

RESOLVED that Cllr Hedges be elected Chair for the remainder of the Council's current year (May 2025). Proposed by Cllr Maylan and agreed by a show of hands

Minute 113978 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Kennard

Minute 113979 **Consider any applications to be co-opted onto Parish Council**

None received

Minute 113980 **To appoint Parish Council representative onto the Street Market Committee**

RESOLVED that the Chair be appointed the Parish Council representative on the Silverton Street Market Committee. Proposed by Cllr Maylan and agreed by a show of hands.

Minute 113981 **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 113982 **Meeting open to any questions from members of the public**

None

Minute 113983 **Minutes of the Meeting held on the 7th October 2024**

RESOLVED the draft Minutes of the meeting held on the 7th October 2024 be accepted as a true record. Proposed by the Chair. A vote was taken by a show of hands with 5 in favour and 2 abstentions

Minute 113984

Review of Action Plan

Item 1 - Banking System – NatWest Bank had now confirmed the signatories had been updated and the Clerk was now able to submit an application to Unity Trust Bank for an on - line account.

Item 2 - S106 – no update – Cllr Wright confirmed he would chase MDDC as to confirmation bug hotels could be sited on its land in the Recreation Field.

Item 3 - Park Road – Deed of Easement – County Cllr Squires confirmed she had no current update and the Clerk to send her an email as a reminder for her to chase.

Item 4 - Subsidies towards bus service– Clerk to send an email to County Cllr Squires asking when subsidies are to be considered and she will chase.

Parking problems encountered by Stagecoach – a response had previously been received from Stagecoach giving 4 pinch points. As there is no further action to be taken this item can now be removed from the Plan

Item 5 - Speedwatch Group – this item was on hold pending sufficient volunteers coming forward to be able to form the Group.

Item 6 - ROSPA – It was confirmed the ROSPA reports recently received would be an Agenda item for December. In the meantime Cllr Maylan stated a parishioner had reported that children were playing football and kicking balls against the climbing wall in the Children's Play Area. The ROSPA report does highlight damage to this item. Cllr Maylan felt a notice should be placed in the Children's Play Area clearing stating "no ball games in Children's Play Area". RESOLVED a sign to be obtained for both gates and a report be put on the Silverton Community Facebook page pointing out ball games are damaging the equipment.

Item 7 - Goalposts/K-Pring –no further action and it was agreed this Item be removed from the Plan

Item 8 - Cobbled path – volunteers were required and this item was currently on hold.

Item 9 - Old Fire Station sign – on hold awaiting a piece of Oak from the Broad Oak

Item 10 - Trees on Berry – (Maintenance) – Cllr Donovan confirmed these now look quite tidy although the weeds along the wall of the Churchyard need cutting

Item 11 - Church Light – It was noted that the Parish Council had agreed no further action would be taken regarding the light and therefore this can now be removed from the Plan.

Item 12 - Tennis hut – vandalism is no longer a problem and this item can be removed from the Plan.

Item 13 - Leat – on-going checks being made by the Contractor

With regard to a Working Group, this item can be removed from the Plan as there is currently no urgent need for one.

Item 14 – direct debit payment to Westcotts –this will be set up for the next financial year

Item 15 - Lime Tree Regeneration Programme – to be discussed further at the Budget Meeting in January 2025

Item 16 - new Bus Shelter –it was agreed to continue to monitor this item until such time as seasoned wood is available from Broad Oak Group

Item 17 - Pedestrian Signs in Upexe Road – County Cllr Squires had raised this with DCC who had responded that the road is normal for this kind of village and it is not willing to put signs up as it is against Policy. Pedestrians should be advised to wear light clothing, have a torch, reflective armbands etc. County Cllr Squires confirmed she would provide the relevant Policy information.

Signs on the pole at the junction of A396 and Upexe Road – It was explained that currently there is no signage on the this pole. Clerk to send County Cllr Squires a further email with copy photographs showing the lack of signage.

Item 18 - E-on Next – this item was on-going and a smart meter was awaited

Item 19 - Un-registered land ownership on the Pond Site – The Chair will follow this up with Sarah Cross

With regard to the disposal of the buddleia on the Pond Site it was RESOLVED that the Clerk contact our Contractor to ascertain the cost of removing the various leavings. The Clerk to have the Council's authority to agree a cost of less than £100.00. Proposed by Cllr Wright and agreed by a show of hands.

Item 20 - Evolution Skate Parks specification– Clerk to chase again

Item 21 - CLT poll – The Chair to progress this item

Item 22 - Road Warden Scheme Agreement now received and will be an Agenda Item for December

Item 23 - Emergency Plan update – Clerk and Chair to review

Item 24 – Request for Bus bay outside The Meads – no current update

Item 25 - Bug Hotels – no volunteers had come forward to make bug hotels. Cllr Eveleigh confirmed he had spoken with his contact who had making the bug hotels for zero cost.

Item 26 - Football Club additional storage unit - this was currently on hold and can be removed from the Plan

Item 27 – the grass on the Bury had been cut and this item can be removed from the Plan

Item 28 – Christmas Tree Festival – a Christmas Tree will be purchased when available

Item 29 - Bulb planting at Jubilee Garden – an email had been received from Parsons Landscaping in which it was confirmed there had been an increase in the cost of bulbs since last year of £74.34 (total 400 King Alfred Narcissus bulbs). RESOLVED this quotation be accepted. Proposed by the Chair and agreed by a show of hands.

Minute 113985

Discussion with District Cllr Rhys & Josh Wright on any relevant issues

County Cllr Squires reported that she had attended the materials lab which she found interesting. Recycled tyres are being mixed with products which is then being using in some areas instead of the normal mix to fill potholes and this is lasting longer. It does have a darker appearance but it seals and lasts longer. However this is still a temporary measure. National Adoption week – Devon would like to see a lot of children in care adopted and DCC are also looking for Forster Carers in addition to adopters. A few children’s homes are being built which have a family feel with less children being housed in each property. Devon County Council are working closely with the District Council and this is working well. It was noted some children now stay in the care system until they are 25 when they finish university.

The highways contract is coming up for renewal in 2027 and Devon County Council are looking at various options.

District Cllr Wright reported that the Cullompton Relief Road should speed up traffic around Cullompton and he could confirm Tesco have now agreed to sell their land. MDDC has reduced its temporary staffing bill by 47%. It was noted MDDC have moved to salt based swimming pools. There will be a slight increase in leisure pricing for the forthcoming year. With regard to its Housing Mould Policy, there are 3,000 Council houses and its policy has been shared with other Authorities. Nappies can be recycled to make roads and MDDC are looking into this. An extension to the Willand Recycling Site has been agreed.

Minute 113986

Planning

Applications:

None

(b) Approvals / Refusals by MDDC

OUTLINE PLANNING PERMISSION – Change of use of agricultural land to garden and erection of carport/shed – land and buildings at Little Copse, Silverton – 24/01249/FULL

APPROVAL OF MATTERS RESERVED FOLLOWING GRANT OF OUTLINE PLANNING PERMISSION – erection of 1 dwelling, including access, appearance, layout, scale and associated works following outline approval 20/01807/OUT – 24/0105/ARM

(c) Any other Planning matters

None

Minute 113987

Finances

(a) Monthly invoices

Chq 002846	Mrs S Woodland – Clerk’s wages (£689.80) + expenses (£26.60) = £716.40
Chq 002847	Mr D Marsden – Handyman’s monthly invoice - £625.00
Chq 002848	Eon Next – October invoice for Air Ambulance Landing Site electricity - £18.23
Chq 002849	D Wright Esq – Cladco invoice re stock sheets for Broad Oak storage - £240.00

RESOLVED the above accounts be accepted for payment. Proposed by the Chair and agreed by a show of hands.

(b) Other financial matters

(i) Update re internet banking facility

See Action Plan comments above

(ii) Consider repairs required to Bus Shelter in Square which is leaking

The Clerk stated it had been reported to her that water was leaking into the bus shelter and during periods of heavy rain parishioners could not sit on the seat. RESOLVED to ask R&H Roofing if they would inspect the building. Proposed by Cllr Wright and agreed by a show of hands.

Minute 113988 **To consider bespoke Parish Council email addresses for Parish Councillors**

Cllr Wright explained that if Parish Councillors were added to our current Team domain this would cost £10 per month per person which was not cost effective.

He suggested Councillors use Outlook and create their own bespoke email address for free and then provide the Clerk with new email addresses and this was agreed.

The Chair stated he would set up and trial a central email list using the existing email list.

Minute 113989 **Update re Broad Oak Working Group**

An email was read from Miles Snowdon in which he confirmed the timber was now stored at the farm and is set up on racks thanks to David Wright and Kimble West. Roofing sheets to cover the racks has now been sourced. There are some butts near the play area and the school has been asked where these should be moved to and he awaits a response.

Minute 113990 **Correspondence**

- (a) To note Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Precept Consultation
- (b) CAG Devon SkillShare24 Event for community groups – The Mint, Exeter – Saturday 9th November 2024

Minute 113991 **Matters brought forward by the Chairman**

None

Meeting closed at 9.56 p.m