

Meeting of Modbury Parish Council
Tuesday 9th July 2019 at 7.00 PM
The Pavilion, Queen Elizabeth II Recreation Field
MINUTES

Apologies: Cllr Watts

Present: Cllrs Middleton (Vice chair), Taylor, Keel, West, Rosevear, Whybrow, Coates, Barnes, Woodcock, Harvey, Cole.

Open Forum:

- A **30 mph speed limit from Fancy cross** (as discussed at last month's meeting) is likely to be ignored by motorists. It is believed that it would be more effective to request a 40 mph limit, which leads to a 30mph on entering Modbury. This is common in several locations in surrounding parishes and is effective.
- **Plastic Bag free Modbury** – The 5 pence shopping bags from the Co-op contain no plastic and are made from corn starch; and are **biodegradable/home compostable** so make good food caddy liners.
- Can Modbury look in to a initiating a coalition with neighbouring parishes to see if they can impose a **“St Ives” type planning restriction/covenant** (to prevent future purchases of second homes/ensure only buyers with links to the relevant parish can buy property). The Clerk will contact her IDALC colleagues; and Mr Lee will also provide contact information for parishes he is aware of that are keen to discuss this.
- It was suggested that Modbury should have its own **Environmental Policy**. (Cllr Cole arrived). Ms Turner clarified that there is a complete section within the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) which contains provisions supporting environmental matters such as biodiversity/sustainability etc.
- Could the Council place a **Bollard outside the Wood turner's workshop** (at the bottom of the high street immediately after the bend. This will be considered at the September meeting.
- **Parking outside Anniversary house** is becoming a problem. There is enough space for four vehicles but lately, five vehicles have been parking there which has on occasions caused an obstruction to access for larger vehicles. In the past the old Highways Officer had suggested the Council might paint its own parking bay lines to denote spaces. Could the council please revisit this? This will be considered at the September meeting.

Cotlass & Prigden Planting Plan presentation was **cancelled** until further notice (due to some amendments being made).

Devon Councillor's Reports.

- Cllr Gilbert had enquired about **BT ducts/Manhole covers** (for Cllr Cole). Sadly, Highways have no authority over utilities companies whatsoever, so would be unable to force BT to do anything about them. Further, these BT ducts act as drains to surface water so the manholes provide access for cleansing/unblocking them.
- Cllr Gilbert was please that an agreement had been reached for changes to **parking enforcement road markings** at the bottom of Galpin St and at the top of Brownston Street by Silverwell.
- **Ash trees die-back** is a real problem. Cllr Gilbert will send the Clerk an email about this for circulation.
- There have been setbacks on the **works to Plymouth Road** from Fancy Cross to Edmeston. When carrying out preparatory works for the impending drainage and resurfacing works that are needed, contractors found substantial cracking and defects for which new plans are required (for a gabion wall - a civil engineering job as opposed to a highways repair). Therefore the closure of one lane will remain. The temporary traffic lights have a quick turnaround so appear not to be causing massive tailbacks so far.
- Cllr Whybrow thanked Cllr Gilbert for his support in a recent funding application (to be discussed later).
- Cllr Keel questioned whether the new works would be integrated into the highways repair, or whether it would mean two totally separate schemes of work being carried out at separate times. The finances are already in place for resurfacing so it is envisaged this should be done at the same time, although this will now be more protracted.
- Cllr Taylor felt this might be an opportunity for highways to deal with overgrowth of trees and hedges for this section of road, given that the debris from overhanging trees (being clipped by high vehicles) leads to blockage of surface water drainage system. The Clerk will email the Highways Officer requesting this.
- A resident was left stranded when she arrived at the Bus Stop by New Mills Industrial Estate at 5.15pm, and no bus arrived. She telephoned the number displayed on the bus stop but nobody answered. She eventually had to get a taxi. The resident should write a letter of complaint. The Clerk will email Stagecoach and report this incident also.
- Cllr Gilbert had been copied in to an email to the Highways Officer regarding works required to the barrier fencing at the junction of Church Lane and the A379. If this work does not fall under Highways Community Enhancement Fund then Cllr Gilbert said that he would provide funding from his Locality Fund.

District Councillor's Reports.

- In 12 months' time, waste collection for all recycling will be changing. There will no longer be plastic bags, but bins will be provided. Recyclable materials will be sorted on the kerb-side as collected. It is hoped this will help eliminate landfill. Food Waste will be turned into an energy source. Sarah Moody is the person charge of this at SHDC.
- Cllr Cole enquired about when we might be receiving a visit/presentation from FCC (the Road Sweeping Contractors) as had been promised. Cllr Cole would like them to provide Modbury with a schedule of maintenance. Cllr Taylor will bring this up at the next meeting on Friday.

Police Report: - The Clerk read the following email from Kingsbridge Police Station:

A decision was made by Senior Officers that Neighbourhood Teams will no longer provide our Parish Councils with monthly reports. Unfortunately, providing them is not sustainable with the loss of staff in the near future and other Officers taking on a

bigger work load and larger areas to Police. As a team, we are sorry about this but there are other ways that members of the public can access the information required. Below is an email written to all the Parish councils in the area. You can now research your own crime figure simply by visiting www.police.uk where you'll be able to search different parishes and find useful information.

We here at Kingsbridge Police Station would like to remind residents that there are many ways to contact their local police and would like signpost them towards our force website for more information. We have a very popular facebook page which provides useful information and advice. We've also got Ask Ned which is a FAQ hat peg for members of the public to find out useful information to a whole host of questions. And of course there's the usual non –emergency telephone 101 or 999 for emergencies.

As discussed over the phone, as we enter into the summer period, each year Devon and Cornwall police see a 10 fold increase in emergency calls for assistance. To meet this ever growing demand, the force has to develop new methods to continue providing the professional service expected of us by the general public.

Kingsbridge Police is one of the last stations to adopt this new method of policing and as a result of increasing demands, our officers will no longer be able to provide the same level of contact that they have done so for many years.

What this means for the council is that the monthly police reports will cease after this report but you will still receive an annual report at the AGM from your local beat manager. Should a matter be raised by a resident with the parish council requiring police attention then please continue to contact your local beat manager in the normal manner. But sadly we no longer have the capacity to continue providing a monthly police report to our parish councils.

On behalf of Kingsbridge Neighbourhood Team may I take this opportunity to thank you for the support and understanding you have shown regarding this matter. And I want to reassure you that kingsbridge police will continue to serve our communities with pride and professionalism.

Cllr Keel felt it was less about crime statistics and more about police presence in the community, and giving people the opportunity to see their local bobby. Maybe something could be set up where parishes could get together for a quarterly meeting with their community police. He felt it shouldn't just be pushed aside. The Clerk will reply to the email suggesting this.

19.091. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests

- Cllr Whybrow declared an interest in planning item 204 and an Appendix 1 payment for fuel for the pressure washer.
- Cllr Barnes declared an interest in the item on the Memorial Hall Play area as he is Treasurer for the Memorial Hall Committee
- Cllr Taylor declared an interest in all Planning items as he is on the Planning Committee at SHDC.
- Cllr Rosevear declared an interest as a member of MARS.

19.092. Planning - The following applications were considered:

203	1815/19/LBC	27 Church Street Modbury Parish Clerk PL21	Listed Building Consent for change of use from flat and shop to two storey dwelling (MPC Supported planning application in May)	GR/RW all in favour bar 1 abstention (BT) - SUPPORT
204	1910/19/PHH	7 Silverwell Pk Modbury PL21 0RJ	Notification for prior approval for proposed single storey rear extension, extending 4.2m beyond rear wall, maximum height of 3.8m and 2.5m height at eaves	GR/TC all in favour Bar 2 abstentions (BT and CW) - NO OBJECTION
205	1400/19/TPO	Cobblestones, Church Lane Modbury PL21 0TL	T791: Beech - Remove branch touching ash tree in adjacent church yard; T792: Beech - Crown lift over site (North) to remove secondary branches up to 4m, remove lowest western branch originating at 2.5m growing over new garage; T797: Beech - Fell; T804: Beech - Remove epicormics growth at base, remove lowest branch West originating at 9m; T811: Beech - Remove the lowest limb over the road (Tree Officer recommended Objection)	CB/BC all in favour bar 1 abstention (BT) - OBJECT Clerk to email SDCH Tree officer to ask check that there has been no unauthorised work outside of the remit of this application. (Copy in BT to SHDC email)
206	1941/19/FUL	Quarry Barn Chapel Down Brownston PL21 0SQ	Erection of concrete plinth and wooden shed for hay barn, animal shelter and tools storage.	CB/GR all in favour - NO OBJECTION with comments requesting removal of Class Q condition for permitted development in future.
207	1829/19/HHO	Swanbridge Mill, Modbury PL21 0SP	Retrospective application for construction of Roofing over mobile home.	BK/GR all in favour bar 1 abstention (BT) & 1 against (BC) - OBJECT Clerk to email Localities/Planning to enquire if they could check if there is any unauthorised use on this site as concerns have been raised that there may be a cabin or shelter in situ on part of this land.

19.093. Minutes of Meeting of 11th June 2019.

- The Council considered the minutes distributed earlier and Cllr West proposed, seconded by Cllr Whybrow, and all agreed the Minutes be approved as a true and accurate record;
- The Clerk had previously circulated the **Appendix II Action Plan**. There were no further updates, save for Cllr Middleton had contacted the family of the young resident who had suggested having a festival, but at the moment he is preoccupied with his exams so this will be shelved for the time being.

- c) The Clerk had amended the **Communications Committee Terms of Reference** (as per minutes of the Communications Meeting 5th June, which were referred to at the June meeting). Cllr Barnes proposed, seconded by Cllr Keel and all agreed this be approved. The Clerk will put amended version on the website.

19.094. Finance and Human Resources

- a) The Council considered the payments as listed in **Appendix 1**; Cllr Taylor proposed, seconded by Cllr West, and all were in favour (bar 2 abstentions from interested parties) that the payments be **approved**.
- b) **South Hams District Council** no longer accept payment of cheques so it was proposed all future Invoices be paid by **Direct Debit** (as they no longer accept cheques), Cllr West proposed, seconded by Cllr Coates, and all were in favour this be **set up immediately**.
- d) The need for signage for **Champernowne Play Area** was considered. It was suggested this should be located at the end of Long Park. Champernowne Play Park Group will pay for the two (back to back) signs, and it was proposed that the Council should pay for the pole and fittings for this. Cllr Barnes proposed, seconded by Cllr Woodcock and all were in favour this should be **approved**.
- e) **Maintenance of parish Bench Seats** – Councillors volunteered to be responsible for various benches within the parish. (schedule showing such allocation is available upon request from the Parish Clerk) A request for installation of some new seats will be considered at the September meeting. It was also requested that installation of a Bus Shelter be considered at the September meeting at the same time, and the Council was notified that the circular seat in in Ayleston Park has a missing section so needs repair/replacement.
- f) **Emergency Plan** updates will be considered at the October meeting as parties on the contact list need to sign consent forms for publication of their details to comply with GDPR.
- g) The Council received the **Minutes** of the **Finance & HR** Committee meeting 2nd July.
- h) The Council received the **Minutes** of the **Extraordinary** Meeting on 2nd July.
- i) The Council considered the proposal that **MARS** should be authorised to **settle all invoices received from Modbury Developments** that may be in excess of the usual Committee financial limits, without further recourse to the Parish Council, providing that: such invoices only relate to works undertaken in accordance with the approved scheme of works quoted/tendered for by them, as approved by the Parish Council on **23rd March (Minute 19.047)**; and, that the Clerk is provided with an electronic copy of each invoice (on receipt) & subsequent record of the date and method of payment; and such invoices/payments do not exceed the sum originally quoted. **Further approval will be required** from the Council for any payments of invoices that **exceed the quotation/tender**. Cllr West proposed, seconded by Cllr Coates, and all were in favour bar 1 abstention (Cllr Rosevear as he is on the MARS committee) that this be **approved**.

19.095. Restructuring of Existing Committees Working Group is still ongoing as advice on schemes of delegation was being sought from DALC. This will be referred to Council for approval in due course.

19.096. Parking Working Group Update - Mrs Gage sent her apologies. Cllr Cole is on the Parking Committee. A response was awaited from Mr Keay who had said he would ascertain what the SHDC official stance is on private CCTV footage, but he had not yet received an official response from the relevant authority.

19.097. Swimming Pool Update – no further update at this time but this matter is ongoing.

- 19.098.** a) Update on the **Neighbourhood Plan (NP)** – Standing Orders were dropped for Ms Turner to give an update. The Draft Plan is now nearly ready for submission in accordance with Regulation 15. The Neighbourhood Plan Group (NPG) are working with the NP advisor to finalise the plan. This has taken so long because it is important the Plan is as good as it can be before it goes before the Examiner, as no changes can be made after this.
- b) Update on the **Community Action Plan (& Modbury Loves Local Campaign (MLL))**; The MLL campaign has been unable to secure grant funding owing to the fact it was deemed to be of a commercial nature. It was hoped that the Council might be able to contribute some funding for the production and distribution of leaflets to the Town and local campsites. Cllr Keel felt this could come from reserves which were very healthy. The Clerk advised that reserves are for unforeseen/emergency expenditure, and that as this is public money, its use must be in the best interests of the community. The fact that funding had been refused on the grounds of this being of benefit to commercial retailers wasn't promising. Therefore there needs to be a direct benefit to **all** residents. Retailers need to be prepared to contribute to this themselves, as this benefits them. The Parish Council wanted to support retail in the town by holding quarterly meetings; and it would give credibility if the Council could give some financial contribution towards this. As a counter suggestion to the Clerk's advice, Cllr Rosevear felt that if the scheme was successful it would increase footfall within Modbury for all amenities with the potential for return visitors. This will be discussed further at the September meeting.
- A further meeting with Mr & Mrs Rathbone had taken place and they were looking at how "**Apple Day**" could be expanded and made into a bigger community event.
- The **Barrow Market** has now obtained gazebos so all stalls are under cover, but there is still some work to do in relation to regulation of stall holders.
- Greenspaces.** Cllr Barnes and Ms Turner had discussed the Memorial Hall Play Park. SHDC require a final decision to be made about this as soon as possible. National Planning Policy Framework guidelines say that if play provisions are withdrawn then provision must be made for the same or better. Cllr Whybrow is working with the Memorial Hall Trustees. Currently, a further expression of interest is being submitted for High Streets Heritage Action Zones Funding (see below) to reignite the **Town Square Project**. Cllr Gilbert has written giving his support to this. It is understood that the Head of Place Making at SHDC is taking this to other officers before giving us a letter of support.



- c) The Council considered the application for an "Expression of Interest" for the Historic England: **High Streets Heritage Action Zones (HSHAZ)** Grant (as referred to earlier). Cllr Whybrow proposed, seconded by Cllr Taylor and all were in favour this should be **approved**.

Cllr Keel felt it was important for recognition to be given to the amount of work Ms Turner, the rest of the NPG have done in respect of the NP; and Cllr Whybrow in respect of the HSHAZ application.

Cllr Taylor asked Ms Turner to clarify the final processes for the NP. Once the Draft plan has been finalised it will be put to SHDC who will make it public for the 6 week consultation, then it will go to the Examiner in around February March time.

19.099. a) **Palm Cross Green Development** Nothing further to update.

- b) **Pocket Park/Memorial Hall Play Area:** Bloor Homes had contacted SHDC to enquire if it wishes Bloor to proceed with the provision of the **Pocket Park** at The Green, so the Council was asked **to consider** if it **could agree a timescale** in which a decision can be reached on how the Council wishes to proceed, (taking into account the potential time delays if the Memorial Hall Trustees decided to apply for planning permission for a car park extension; and also taking into account that there is a Licence granting Bloor permission to landscape this area so it cannot be retained as a car parking area). The Memorial Hall Trustees were meeting the following evening to discuss. If they wish to apply for planning permission it could take around 3 months. **SHDC need us to** Alexis wants us to give a timescale to come up with decision. It was **generally agreed that 31st December would be set as a deadline for this decision**. This will be discussed further at the September meeting.

19.100. **Correspondence**

- a) The Council considered what action should be taken regarding the reported **Knotweed** adjacent to **footpath 2**. It was generally agreed the Council **should pass on the landowner's details to SHDC**.
- b) The Council considered whether Modbury could accommodate a "**Scope**" **charity textile recycling bank** – It was generally agreed that as there was already a Salvation Army one in situ, there was no room or need.
- c) The Council considered whether it was in order for the Allotments Association to go ahead and renew the Lease for the existing Allotments land (with an increased rent), and authorise its subsequent signature by the Clerk/Chair in due course. Cllr Whybrow proposed, seconded by Cllr Taylor and all were in favour **this was in order**.
- d) A letter had been received from a resident reporting some necessary repairs to the **bridge** at the **entrance** of the **Millennium Meadow**. Cllr Taylor advised that Dan Taylor the SHDC **Localities Officer** was coming out to assess this and carry out the necessary repairs. Clerk to respond to the resident who wrote reporting this.

19.101. The Council considered whether it should install additional **green bollards** on the corner of **Galpin Street** outside Brooke House opposite the Parish Office/Co-op. Clerk to sort quote for 4 bollards (liaise with Cllr Cole) and revisit at the September meeting

19.102. **Committees and working groups** (updates):

- **Maintenance committee** reported necessary repairs to the low post and rail barrier on A379 verge, on the corner of Church Lane. The Clerk had obtained a quote for £253 including VAT for new wood. Cllr Taylor can provide wood for this if necessary. Cllr Gilbert had also said he would support this if Highways are unable to provide funding for this. (*Post meeting note: Highways have subsequently agreed to repair this*).
- A successful application has been made to the **Co-Op Community Fund** in the name of the Modbury Town Improvement Fund (to comply with charity status,) to fund some street furniture planters in November. Applications for grants from the May Fair Committee and Tesco Bags for Life are also being made.

Part 2

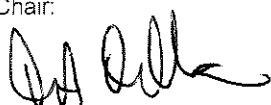
Members of the public were requested to leave the meeting.

Standing order 3d. *"Meetings shall be open to the public unless their presence is prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted."*

19.103. The Council discussed the next stage of the process needed to accelerate the **finalisation** of the **Neighbourhood Plan**. Two members of NP committee present to assist with any questions and to revisit all the reasons behind the decisions previously made in the NP; The proposed amendments had been approved by the Council at the June Meeting. However, in view of the fact that one of the suggested changes is major, and relates to the substitution of a site, it has been decided that before this is finalised, this should be put to the community for a re-consultation; and all interested parties can be consulted, as there is no ideal solution. Cllr Rosevear proposed, seconded by Cllr Keel that this should now go to a re-consultation. All were in favour bar 2 abstentions (Cllrs Cole & Taylor). An insert will be put in the Messenger and released on 25th July giving a 4 week consultation period. The Clerk will publish this on the website and noticeboard also.

Meeting closed at 2150

Signed by Chair:



Date: