

**Modbury Parish Council Virtual Meeting**  
**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 at 7.00 PM**  
**MINUTES**

**Present** Cllrs Watts (PW) Chair, Middleton (MM) Vice-chair, Cole (BC), Keel (BK), Keohane (PK), West (RW), Whybrow (CW), Woodcock (JW)

Also present: Cllrs Gilbert (DCC) and Taylor (SHDC)

**7 members of the public were in attendance.**

**20.68 Apologies were received from Cllrs Coates and Harvey**

**Cllr Gilbert Report (DCC)**

AUGUST REPORT (sent in advance by email)

- Edmeston road repairs are scheduled to start in November.
- Covid-19 news remains the same as in the July report
- DCC has 180,000 road drain gullies. 140,000 are cleaned each year and of those 5% need further work to clear successfully.

Cllr Gilbert received an update on incorrect positioning of the disabled parking space outside Co-op. Clerk to contact DCC Highways.

**Cllr Taylor Report (SHDC)**

No updates as there have been no meetings this month. SHDC is over budget as a result of COVID-19 situation but has money in the reserves to cover the shortfall.

**Public Forum**

- a) A member of the public made representation regarding planning application 2231/20/FUL (due for consideration at the meeting). Council were informed that the application made reference to 2 parking spaces but that the property only had pedestrian access rights over land owned by the neighbour.
- b) A member of the public expressed concern at the current SHDC parking permit consultation (due for consideration at the meeting), commenting on the huge increase in charges in one step and the potential for road parking to be further exacerbated in the town if residents ceased purchasing permits and looked for street parking.
- c) A member of the public wished to pose questions regarding the recent communication from MPC regarding the Neighbourhood Plan. It was pointed out to them that this was not an agenda item and could not be responded to at this meeting. A request could be made for it to be on the next meeting agenda and the individual could email the council. The meeting was also reminded that we are in the middle of a semi-judicial process and it is important that MPC follows the proper process – questions need to be directed to SHDC at this stage of the process.

**20.69 Declarations of pecuniary and other interests were received from RW and CW for item 20.73(a) both being recipients of reimbursements from MPC.**

**20.70 Council determined that there were no items that should be taken with the public excluded.**

**20.71 Minutes of Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> Aug 2020**

- a) **The Council considered the draft Minutes (distributed earlier). RW proposed, PW seconded and all were in favour they be approved as a true and accurate record.**
- b) **The Appendix II Action Plan had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting**
  - **Agreed that MM purchase the key safe**
  - **Cllr Taylor will chase dog waste bins and signs**

**20.72 The following planning applications were considered and recommendations made:**

- a) 2395/20/TCA T1: Spruce - Dismantle and leave stump at approx 4.5m in height to allow neighbouring oak room to grow. T2: Birch - Dismantle and leave stump at approx 4m in height - tree dead. T3: Birch - Dismantle and leave stump at approx 4m in height - tree dead Churchgate, Church Walk, Modbury. PL21 0QY  
**Support**
- b) 2231/20/FUL Proposed vertical extension to existing first floor flat, extension to manager's accommodation and reconfiguration of existing commercial unit 13 Bank House Broad Street Modbury PL21 0PU  
In the light of the comments from the member public earlier, it was agreed that MPC could not support the application if the council was not certain there was legal vehicular access to the property. It was agreed that the plans proposed intensification of use and that it was unclear from the plans if the proposed balcony would create a privacy issue for neighbours.  
**MPC to submit these comments and request site visit by SHDC.**  
**CLlr Taylor to pursue**
- c) 2610/20/TCA T1: Eucalyptus - Re-pollard to 5m from ground level to manage re- growth and reduce wind sail. 2 Scoldens Close Modbury PL21 0SN  
**Support**
- d) 1234/20/HHO Householder application for alterations and extension to provide new sun lounge with associated internal works and increasing parking to outbuilding 48 Ford House Brownston Street Modbury PL21 0RQ  
**Agreed this was a minor development - Support**
- e) **The Clerk's attendance at the DALC planning webinar regarding the white paper on 17<sup>th</sup> September was approved.**

**20.73 Finance and Human Resources**

- a) **Proposed by BC, seconded by MM and all in favour (CW and RW abstained) that the payments listed in Appendix 1 totaling £8185.02 be approved. The receipts totaling £13,516.58 were noted.**
- b) **RW proposed, BK seconded and all in favour that the Financial Regulation 4.1 be amended with an additional bullet point:**
- Where immediate payment is needed to protect council business, all expenditure may be authorised by the Parish Clerk in consultation with the relevant chair of a committee and the Chair of the Council. This decision will then be recorded for information at the next full Council meeting.

**20.74 Website and email accounts**

**MM proposed, RW seconded and all in favour that the following changes and improvements take place as a matter of urgency:**

- a) Agree to ratify the decision to back-up the website (prior to its transfer to a new system in order to install the SSL certificate) for a one-off fee of £60
- b) Agree the yearly cost of the SSL certificate - £59 (paid to Cutec)
- c) Agree the spend as per the quotation from CUTEC/henderson web design to perform the work to make MPC website compliant with the statutory accessibility guidelines taking effect from 23<sup>rd</sup> September.  
*Assisting with the accessibility statement and developing an action plan - The Initial Assessment will take 2 - 3 hours and an action plan a further hour - so a maximum of 4 hrs (£150 - £200)*
- d) Agree to the upgrade of email accounts with an increase in costs from £12 - £36 per account per year

**20.75 MM Proposed, RW seconded not to consider joining the Rural Services Network - Rural/Market Towns Grouping (details circulated previously)**

**20.76 Agreed that the Clerk would respond to the South Hams - Draft BT consultation response proposing the removal of the phone box at Poundwell indicating that MPC opposes this decision.**

**20.77 The SHDC consultation - Reviewing Parking Permits – What Do You Think was considered.**

Cllr Taylor supplied some background - aim of project is to reduce the number of permits (particularly in Salcombe and Dartmouth) and align permit prices to parking charges; there has been no increase in charge since 2017 (explains the big increase in 1 step); Modbury currently has 11 active 6 month permits and 28 active 12 month permits.

MPC considers it is not necessary for Modbury to be included with the larger towns with higher levels of tourism and that there was always space in Poundwell for visitors to park.

Agreed that potentially it could increase road parking in the town

MM proposed to push for reduced parking charges to ease road parking in the town

BK proposed we consider other ways of assisting SHDC to raise income as, in the current climate, we can't continually oppose increases – we could increase our parking fees in line with neighbouring towns for example.

BC reminded council that we need to consider the 30 parking places at Palm Cross soon to be managed by MPC to ensure the charging is in line with SHDC

**Clerk to respond**

**20.78 MPC decided that Modbury does not have a problem with the current Licensing arrangements and issues are dealt with as they arise. Therefore it was considered that no response to the SHDC consultation - Have Your Say on Licensing was necessary at the moment.**

**20.79 The update regarding the Councillor vacancy was received:**

*The vacancy was advertised as the Council had not received notification of the vote for an election. Ordinarily there would now be a bi-election. However, because of the Covid Situation, all elections have been postponed until May 2021. Therefore the Council will remain with a vacancy until May 2021.*

Council expressed disappointment at the significant cost this would incur and the delay in being able to run with a full council (particularly when there is an individual willing to take on the role)

**Clerk to discuss with SHDC any implications of moving forward with co-option.**

**20.80 To consider the purchase of a new metal storage container to be sited at the rear of the Old Fire Station store.**

Background: There has been a break-in to the current store and the current store is now full.

PW proposed if agreed it should be sited at the Playing Field and not on Bloor Land

RW queried whether it would need a planning application

**Agreed the project would be explored further for consideration at a future meeting.**

**20.81 The purchase of new road bollards in the town and bolts for the parking bollards on Palm Cross was considered. (See also 20.84 Maintenance Committee update)**

12 bollards are needed but we have 6 that can be repaired and 3 in store so only need to purchase 3 new ones. BK reminded that in AONB and with potential obstruction to Highway planning permission is possibly needed. BC commented that DCC had agreed placement outside Brook House **(Cllr Taylor to check with planning department)**

**Agreed to proceed with repair and replacement and clerk to trace suppliers of existing bollards for the purchase, at a later date, of 3 new ones.**

**20.82 Palm Cross Green update was received**

Bloor have finally agreed the October 2019 landscaping proposal for The Green. Last plans from Bloor included a second emergency exit across the Green. All parties will be present at a site meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. and need to reach a conclusion as Bloor aim to be out of Modbury soon.

MPC will propose that:

- Bloor delete the proposed emergency exit across the Green and do the lower cost work necessary for the allotment exit to comply with emergency regulations.
- As the resurrection of the footpath as part of the landscaping would require planning permission and Bloor is not likely to take this on in the time-scale, it is intended that Bloor complete the proposed landscaping and MPC revisits the footpath option at a later date. (BK thanked CW and PW for all the work they have put into this and suggested MPC submit a planning application now. He was advised that an independent safety assessment is required first and it needs DCC Highways approval and so it is too early)

- SHDC review the low quality landscaping work done on the estate

The play park is currently fenced off to allow for newly planted grass to grow and awaiting safety check

The unsightly water drainage pipes are due to be improved

#### **20.83 Memorial Hall Play Area**

a) The Memorial Hall Play Area Design Brief was considered - this has been based on feedback from the recent consultation exercise and informed by the procurement document previously produced by Livewest for Champernowne Play Field. SHDC will be asked to comment on the document.

**CW proposed, BK seconded and all in favour of going out to tender as soon as possible.**

b) **CW proposed, BK seconded that the contract for the maintenance and inspection of the area with SHDC be renewed for 1 year and review renewal or alternative provision next year when the new play park will be in situ.**

#### **20.84 Updates were received from the Maintenance Committee**

a) The foundations for the bus shelter are now in and awaiting delivery of the shelter in the next few weeks.

b) The bollards for the Palm Cross parking places were supplied with fixings for concrete. The solution is to purchase replacement bolts at a total cost of £62 plus VAT

**Proposed by BC, seconded by BK that this spend be ratified**

#### **20.85 Standing Orders were dropped at 20.58 for the P3 representative to detail the state of repair of the Millenium Meadow Lower Bridge:**

Work has been done recently to replace slats and ensure the bridge can still be used but it is now beyond further repair and needs replacing. There is a danger that further deterioration will result in the bridge being condemned and closed.

**Standing Orders resumed at 21.06**

**BT will discuss this with SHDC Locality Officer as an urgent Health and safety matter and arrange a site visit to include MPC Maintenance Committee.**

**PW thanked Council and members of the public for attending.**

**Meeting closed at 21.07**

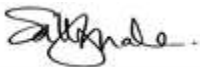
**Saturday rota before next meeting:**

**September**

**5<sup>th</sup> – CW 12<sup>th</sup> – JH 19<sup>th</sup> – BC 26<sup>th</sup> – BK**

**October**

**3<sup>rd</sup> – JW**



Sally Smale, Clerk to Modbury Parish Council

2.9.2020