

Modbury Parish Council Virtual Meeting
Tuesday 6th October 2020 at 7.00 PM
MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Watts (PW), (Chair), Middleton (MM), Vice-chair, Coates (TC), Cole (BC), Harvey (JH), Keel (BK), Keohane (PK), Rosevear (GR), West (RW), Woodcock (JW)

Also present: Cllrs Gilbert (RG)(DCC) and Taylor (BT)(SHDC) and 7 members of the public

20.86 Apologies were received from Cllr Whybrow

Devon Councillor's Report (RG)

- RECYCLING RATE FOR DEVON: 12% increase across Devon with 1000 more tons of glass & 670 tons of food waste over lockdown period.
- SCHOOLS ATTENDANCE: Now 90% using 75 extra school buses
- HIGHWAYS: There are some Covid delays to road repairs. Grit bins. If needing more grit, report online via DCC website 'report a problem'
- EDMESTON A379 LIGHTS: Work to start November (correspondence following the meeting puts the new start date as January with estimated completion mid-April)
- BARRACKS ROAD: Confirmation that DCC won't be repeating SCARF investigation again until Oct '22 earliest.
- DCC BUDGET £45 million overspend so far this year with Government to make up most of this overspend. Next year is not looking good.

BC and JH raised the issue of increasing traffic using the smaller lanes - RG confirmed that if there is one objection to a stopping up of a road it cannot be done. He invited ideas from MPC for him to investigate.

RG left the meeting at 19.08.

District Councillor's Report (BT)

- Confirmed the waste management team would be attending Nov. MPC meeting to introduce the new recycling procedures
- Fed back from a meeting with Salcombe, Modbury and Kingsbridge Chamber of Commerce who are looking to engage with local businesses and have a new officer to guide businesses to sources of help
- SHDC Climate Emergency Group have ear-marked £400,000 to help parishes

Open Forum:

- 1) D Turner gave a brief summary of the initial considerations for the council if they wish to pursue the idea of electric charging points in the town: (See Correspondence)
 - Where – need land or permission to use land
 - Need grid connection
 - What sort of charging unit – passing through traffic wanting quick top-up or overnight
 - There are various streams of grant funding available with different specifications and match funding requirements.
 - Confirmed that DCC and SHDC are working on a county approach to provision but that currently Modbury is not a priority

D Turner agreed to put together a proposal for MPC to consider at a future meeting.

- 2) A member of the public presented feedback from Brownston community on the planning application 2508/20/OPA. Summarised - objection due to it being over-development, objections from DCC Highways on the grounds of insufficient highway infrastructure and objections from neighbouring parishes.
- 3) **Barracks Road.** A member of the public voiced the numerous communications received by MPC regarding the already dangerous highway situation at school pick-up times which has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 regulations.

20.87 MM declared an interest in item 20.91 (a) – being recipient of reimbursement for personal expenditure

20.88 In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S.1(2), the Council determined there were no items that should be taken with the public excluded

20.89 Minutes of Meeting 1st Sept 2020

- a) The Council considered the draft Minutes (distributed earlier). BK proposed, seconded by MM, 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 and clerk reported on activity since the previous meeting:
 - The election for the MPC vacancy will be held May 2021
 - The Millenium Bridge has been removed. BT added that SHDC are pricing the replacement and it should be replaced fairly quickly
 - SATNAV directing traffic down inappropriate lanes – local clerks will be discussing a combined effort at their next area meeting.

At 19.35 it was agreed to drop Standing Orders and move the Neighbourhood Plan agenda item forward for A Turner to deliver an update: (Minute 20.94)

- Due to a procedural error by SHDC the consultation period has been extended for a further 6 weeks to 16th Nov. Any current comments stand but there is an opportunity now to comment further or withdraw comments.
- The Independent Examiner has been appointed following declarations from all MPC Councillors that they had no conflict of interest with the individual. D. McCann has particular experience in dealing with plans that have invited mixed engagement from the community.
- Pleased to announce that the Rogers Family have offered to transfer 2 fields adjacent to the proposed development site and adjoining the Millenium Orchard – BK commented that this will be an excellent opportunity to bring together the community around community land at the heart of the town.
- A team are currently working on a visualisation of how the plot might look and this will go out to the community for comment. Possibility of using SHDC Climate Emergency Fund for development of the space.
- PW expressed his disappointment in the error made by SHDC and acknowledged that it was not just Modbury but a cluster of plans passing through the SHDC NP team during a particular window of time.

PW thanked A Turner and Standing Orders resumed at 19.43

20.90 The following planning applications were considered:

a) 2650/20/HHO. Householder application for new double garage to replace two single garages. Moorings PL21 OTB

Proposed by BK, seconded by MM and agreed by all to SUPPORT

b) 2508/20/OPA Outline application with some matters reserved for proposed development of holiday lodges, leisure facilities and associated works(resubmission of 0482/17/FUL) Moor View Touring Park, Modbury. PL21 OSG

Proposed by BK, seconded by GR and agreed by all to OBJECT

Agreement with the comments raised by the member of the public during the open forum and the original objection by MPC in 2017 - *Despite the possibility of enhanced tourist income and footfall to the community the Council OBJECTS to the application because of the over development of the site in terms of its scale, with direct reference to the Local Development Framework 2007; and, given the developments that have recently been approved (RA1 93; and the current JLP proposal for circa 40 – 80 additional homes in the community), it also finds that there are environmental risks for dealing with drainage, runoff, sewage and additional light pollution. Despite the views put forward by highways the Council considers the additional access is unnecessary, and also dangerous in its view."*

c) 2972/20/CLE Certificate of lawfulness for existing siting of residential caravan Swanbridge Mill, Modbury. PL21 OSP

Proposed by BK, seconded by TC – agreed by 8 to OBJECT (1 vote to support)

OBJECT on the basis that :—

1. There is insufficient evidence for us to support a certificate of lawfulness for continuous residential use of this sensitive site within the centre of Modbury and within the AONB.
2. If approved it will create a dangerous precedent for other similar sites in the area

BT left the meeting at 20.00

20.91 Finance and Human Resources

- a) **The payments as listed in Appendix 1 were considered. GR proposed, seconded by RW and all were in favour (bar MM abstention) that all payments detailed should be approved**

- b) **The National Salary Award and the increase in clerk's salary from £11.67 - £12.00 per hour back-dated to April for previous clerk and August for current clerk and the additional day leave was noted.**
- c) **It was agreed to renew the contract with the internal auditor at the revised cost of £350 and that the clerk would sign the agreement.**

d) **The purchase of a camera to monitor parking outside the CO-OP was considered.**

Various concerns were raised regarding the benefits of the purchase if the cameras could not be used for enforcement, (GR noted that there are cameras that can be used) and the issues around data protection and day-to-day management of the equipment. There were concerns that it was a battle that would never be won and council were reminded that the public had requested the no parking lines and we owed them our support to enforce the restrictions especially in the light of the dangerous situation created by illegal parking. There have been various discussions with the Co-op over the years but no solutions.

MM proposed, seconded by PW that MPC agree to the purchase in principal with the addition of a 6 month review of their use and that GR would take this forward – researching further camera models and management costs.

20.92 Barracks Road Speed issues:

MM summarized - In response to requests from local residents and parents of Modbury school we are re-visiting the speeding issues in Barracks Road. This has also been highlighted by responses to the Neighbourhood Plan.

Unfortunately speed checks carried out by DCC Highways do not concur with what is seen on a daily basis. We wish to consider the installation of an automatic VAR camera and the possibility of a zebra crossing where the path exits onto Barracks Road from Palm Cross estate.

It was agreed that although a long-term solution was needed something needed to be done now in conjunction with the school, as a matter of urgency, to respond to the escalating problem before there was an accident.

- **Councillors will patrol the area over the coming week to identify the hotspots and will erect signage as required**
- **TC will work with the school for children to produce artwork aimed at speeding traffic**

Standing orders were dropped at 20.45 for N Mitchell to deliver the MARS update: (Minute 20.97)

Summary of the project (Full report available on the website)

http://www.modburypc.co.uk/documents/mars-proposal-to-reconfigure-and-upgrade-outdoor-facilities/?preview_id=6346&preview_nonce=c0512f8389&preview=true

As the acquisition of a second piece of land adjacent to the QEII Recreation Ground is no longer possible, we propose to use Section-106 money earmarked specifically for projects at this location to upgrade the existing outdoor sports facilities. This will include:

- Moving the full size pitch.
- Relocating and increasing the size of the existing Multi Use Games Area (MUGA).
- Creating a second, FA recognised, seven-a-side natural grass football pitch.
- Installing primary and secondary drainage to both pitches.
- Refurbishing the cricket nets.
- Enhancing the floodlighting.

Standing orders resumed at 20.51

Agreement that it was an ambitious and attractive project demonstrating the on-going commitment of the MARS committee to continue improving the facilities. Request to incorporate further adult outdoor gym equipment in response to the consultation results for the Memorial Hall Playing Field refurbishment. BK noted that increased use would create extra footfall on the non-paved road and that the introduction of a pavement should be incorporated as the first priority.

Proposed by RW, seconded by BC and all in favour that MARS progress this project incorporating the inclusion of pavement provision and outdoor gym equipment.

20.93 Correspondence

- a) **The installation of Electric Car Charging Points in Modbury following communication from a member of the public was considered and, as per the notes in "Open Forum", it was agreed to revisit at a future meeting.**

- b) A response to the Public Consultation of the Updated Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for Devon was considered and **it was agreed that the flood management work in Modbury has been a success and that RW would place a short article in The Messenger.**
- c) The instructions detailing how to challenge SATNAV directions were considered and the clerk informed Council that this matter was being discussed at the next area meeting with a view to a joint approach.
- d) **The amendment to the link to the SHDC website on MPC complaints policy was noted**
- e) MPC representation on the Editorial Board for the Messenger was considered and **proposed by GR, seconded by PW and agreed by all apart from 1 abstention that it would not be appropriate**
- f) A response to the Modbury Cross Woodland Creation- consultation was considered and **it was agreed that MPC support this project as long as all visuals on the adjacent roads were kept clear.**

20.94 To receive Neighbourhood Plan update (Taken earlier)

20.95 Palm Cross Green Update - The clerk read the report sent earlier by Cllr Whybrow – a summary:

A site meeting took place on 4th September all outstanding issues were covered and the group walked the site to view individual situations on the ground. A number of issues are outstanding but their resolution is agreed. The primary concern is that Bloor are likely to be off site by the end of the year and much of the outstanding work is down to sub-contractors.

All the actions are too detailed to go into here, but once completed, all breaches of S106 agreements will have been remedied. Some are quite substantial. At Palm Cross Green, the Council's proposals for relandscaping of the site have been agreed by Bloor and SHDC. The desired footpath to the school will not form part of this landscaping as the issues involve other agencies and are too complex to conclude in time. However, the agreed plan has been designed in such a way that it creates much of the path and makes provision for the completion of it to be instigated by MPC at a future point.

TC requested that MPC prioritise getting planning permission for the Green footpath in order to ease the Barrack's Road traffic issues.

20.96 Memorial Hall Play Park update:

- a) The Lease for the Play Area is almost at the point when it can be agreed and will come to the Nov. or Dec MPC meeting. The draft invitation to tender (which SHDC have agreed follows proper protocol) is due to go out at the end of the week.

Standing orders were dropped at 21.38 for a member of the Memorial Hall Committee to speak regarding access via the gate into the play park:

- b) Correspondence has been sent to the neighbouring property using the gate requesting that they cease doing so and giving permission for ad-hoc access on request only.

Standing orders resumed at 21.40

20.97 MARS

To receive an update on the development of the Recreation Field (Taken earlier)

20.98 Committees and Working Groups: The following updates were received:

Palm Cross Allotments – a letter has been received regarding siting a shed. The association will deal with this

Maintenance Group

- The bus shelter has been erected and will be glazed as soon as weather and volunteer time permits.
- 6 further bollards (used to deter pavement parking and traffic mounting the pavements) have been repaired
- BC requested Clerk to purchase further tarmac
- MM thanked BC for clearing all the drains and PW thanked the flood wardens for their recent emergency assistance which prevented the flooding of the Health Centre.

Saturday Rota for the next month:

10th Oct - TC 17th Oct – GR 24th Oct – MM 31st Oct – PW 7th Nov – RW

PW thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 21.45.