

Modbury Parish Council Virtual Meeting
Tuesday 1st December 2020 at 7.00 PM
MINUTES

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

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

5 Members of the public were in attendance

20.113 Apologies were received from Cllr Cole

20.114 It was resolved that, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S1(2), no items should be taken with the public excluded

Devon Councillor's Report (RG)

- Pleased to have contributed £1,000 from his locality fund towards the VAS camera
- Noted that in the last week there had been 32% less cars on the road than the same week last year
- Wished everyone a happy Christmas

RG left at 7.05pm

District Councillor's Report (BT)

- Unfortunately, there are further disruptions to the waste collection service due to an outbreak of COVID-19 amongst the staff. Residents are asked not to report failed collections as there would be no recollections. Hold bins for the next scheduled collection.
- The completion of the work on Barrack's Wall is being pursued– delays due to a query on ownership.
- There have been 1183 applications for the Business Grants across South Hams and West Devon and 547 have been dealt with.
- 150 applications have been received for the discretionary grant
- SHDC is appealing to government to close the loop-hole that has enabled £53m. of grant funding to go to 2nd home owners.

Presentation from Modbury Litter Pickers (Marina Aubern and Adrian Myatt)

- Currently a group of 7 volunteers who have been litter picking since March 2020
- They have acquired their own equipment and received a donation from a local business
- They now want to mount a campaign using social media and Messenger and posters in areas of particular concern (This has been agreed by DCC and SHDC)
- They are hoping to raise up to £860 and hope the council will contribute

PW Stated the full backing of MPC

BK Supports the initiative but concerned at the possible clutter of signs and creation of obstacles

TC Announced he was researching quotes for speeding signs on Barracks Road and that it would be beneficial to work together to agree positioning and possibly save money on bulk ordering.

CW directed the group to SHDC for resources

Adrian Wyatt commented that the bulk of the litter seemed to be from passing traffic

It was agreed to work together to progress the campaign

20.115 Declarations of pecuniary and other interests

GR and PW declared an interest in item 20.120(b)

20.116 Minutes of Meeting 3rd November 2020

a) The Council considered the draft Minutes (distributed earlier). GR proposed, seconded by CW, 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.

The clerk updated:

- The warning sign at Goutsford had been requested and chased
- Clerk had attended the Four Rivers Dementia Alliance meeting (later agenda item)
- Millenium Meadow bridge repair has been completed

20.117 Barracks Road Traffic Issues

MM - The scarecrow police officer is proving to be a good deterrent to speeding traffic. The VAS camera will be ordered this month

TC - The school are keen to support a competition for the pupils to design speeding signs. The aim is to purchase 15 A4 signs of 3 designs cost approx. £500. It is anticipated that funding will be secured from various sources and not solely MPC

JW – need to get the message out to parents not to park in the vicinity of the school

GR – proposed requesting funding from the Federation. MM responded that, to date, there had been no response from the Federation

BT – suggested TC apply to him for a grant demonstrating the wider community would also benefit from the initiative

20.118 The escalating problem of dog waste in the parish

JW outlined actions to date – Dog waste stations at particular problem areas. The aim was to kickstart people into more considerate behaviour but there is still a problem in the parish. Although the stations are meant for emergency use the bags disappear quickly. There has been very favorable feedback to the initiative and MPC needs to decide if it will fund the continuation of the project. Chick feeders are being considered for poo bag distribution.

JW emphasised that Modbury continues to be a dog-friendly parish.

Agreed that 2 chick feeders would be purchased to pilot their use and the project would be reviewed in a few months.

20.119 The following application was considered:

1) 3730/20/TCA

T1: Oak - Crown height reduction by 5m due to crack down main stem, lateral reduction by 3m on North side, 3m on South side and 2m on Eastside to balance tree. T2: Monterey Pine - Dismantle to leave monolith for habitat at a height of 10m from ground level. T3: Laurel - Coppice. T4: Sycamore - Fell due to rotten base. Site Address: Traine House,

Brownston Street, Modbury. PL21 ORH

It was noted that this was a big project to tidy up several trees and that the Tree Warden supported the application.

Proposed by BK, seconded by MM and all in favour of supporting the application

20.120 Finance and Human Resources

1) The minutes of the Finance and HR committee meeting on 24th November were received

a) Proposed by RW, seconded by GR and all in favour that the 2021-2022 budget recommendation be agreed

b) RW summarized the grant funding recommendations made by the committee (See Finance minutes for details) **Proposed by RW, seconded by CW and agreed by all that the recommendations be agreed.** (PW and GR abstained)

BK noted that the proposed increase in the precept is as a consideration of the long-term work of the council in a climate of reducing funds from higher tier councils.

BT noted that most parishes were looking at significant increases.

Precept to be finally agreed at the January meeting.

BT left at 8pm

2) The payments as listed in Appendix 1 were considered.

Proposed by PW, seconded by GR and all in favour that all payments detailed should be approved.

20.121 To receive the Memorial Hall Play Park update

- The tender quotes have been considered

- Virtual focus group consultation event Wed. 2nd Dec with 6 parents for feedback regarding the layout and proposed equipment

- The school is consulting with pupils

- All feedback will inform the final decision for awarding the contract

- The legal work is progressing

20.122 Proposal from the Chief Yeoman to acquire a Modbury flag

It was agreed that the flagpole provided a welcoming entry to the town and that it would be interesting to have more information about the meaning of the flags. GR noted that in the past there had been a regular Messenger article and that this would resume. The proposal for the flag would have no cost to MPC.

Proposed by GR, seconded by JW and all in favour that MPC support the initiative

RW proposed that the clerk write to the Yeoman thanking him for his work which is much appreciated

20.123 Slow Ways <https://slowways.uk/>

It was agreed that MPC would formally support this project and the clerk would put details on the website

20.124 Four Rivers Dementia Alliance meeting

The clerk gave a brief feedback from the meeting and **it was agreed that GR and PK would represent MPC on the Alliance in the future**

20.125 Private Members Bill being heard in the Commons in January to try to prevent Water Companies discharging raw sewage into our rivers.

Proposed by GR, seconded by CW and all in favour that the clerk submit MPC's support for the bill. (BK abstained due to lack of detail)

20.126 Consultation of the Interim Devon Carbon Plan

CW volunteered to take a further look at this. The clerk to put a notice on the website

20.127 Committees, Sub-committees and Working Groups:

Palm Cross

CW reported that Bloor had agreed to repair the damaged wall in Barracks Road emergency access entrance and confirmed to JW that there would be no bins on the site apart from on The Green as part of the new landscaping.

The legal paperwork for the transfer of parking spaces and The Green is due to be signed on Friday 4th and once completed Bloor will inform current users of parking spaces outside the industrial unit to clear the spaces for MPC to install the bollards and MPC will inform present users of The Green carpark that it is closing for Bloor to begin work on the new landscaping. MPC is taking requests for the hire of parking spaces on Palm Cross – charges to be finalised.

PW thanked everyone for their hard work over a particularly difficult year.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm

Next meeting: Tuesday 5th January 2021

The Parish Office will be open on the following dates over the Christmas and New Year period:

Tuesday 8 th Dec	Closed
Thursday 10 th Dec	Open 10 - 4
Saturday 12 th Dec	Councillor surgery (Cllr Keel)
Tuesday 15 th Dec	Open 10 – 4
Saturday 19 th Dec	Councillor surgery (Cllr Woodcock)
Tuesday 22 nd Dec	Closed
Saturday 26 th Dec	Closed
Tuesday 29 th Dec	Open 10 – 4
Saturday 2 nd January	Closed