

Modbury Parish Council Virtual Meeting
Tuesday 6th April 2021 at 7.00 PM
MINUTES

Present Cllrs Watts (PW), (Chair), Middleton (MM), Vice-chair, Coates (TC), Cole (BC), Harvey (JH), Keel (BK), Keohane (PK), West (RW), Whybrow (CW), Woodcock (JW)
Also present: Cllrs Gilbert (RG) (DCC) and Taylor (BT) (SHDC)

4 Members of the public were in attendance

2021 42 Apologies were received from Cllr Rosevear

2021 43 The Council determined 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)

- TOURISM. We are more than likely to have a very busy summer season, with many of the issues experienced last year being with us again this year. DCC will do all it can to mitigate these issues whenever possible.
- MADE IN DEVON - please help to promote this.
- EDMESTON LIGHTS A379. I have ensured you have been kept up to date with night closures.
- VACCINATIONS & Covid. I have sent you weekly bulletin updates.
- HIGHWAYS.
17700tons of salt used so far this year compared to total of 9600 last year.
Traffic flows: M5, A30 and A38 reduction of 40% traffic last week as against same week last year. A 25% reduction on Devon's Highway network overall for the same week last year.
Pleased to hear the VAS project is progressing on Barracks Road
- RG gave his apologies for May meeting and left at 7.04pm

District Councillor's Reports (BT)

- SHDC are planning to use many smaller town and village car parks as seasonal motorhome parks. Modbury Lower Car Park will be used. There will be strict regulations and monitoring – own facilities, 2 nights max. stay and no return within 48 Hours. Numbers will be restricted.
- Electric car charging points will be up and running for the summer. Modbury will have 2 points initially.
- Follaton House is now operating as a vaccination centre – Buckfastleigh has closed.
- Confirmed that there would be no consultation regarding the use of the car park for Motorhomes
- Agreed that he would push for SHDC to lobby government to close loop holes in planning rules
- Confirmed that Planning Enforcement are working on Blackdown Rings
- Agreed to pursue the issues raised regarding the new recycling service; Lids being broken, time-taken to empty containers blocking roads, both lorries entering Champernowne at the same time and blocking the road, paper escape and littering as bottles are removed from the same container.
- Agreed to chase removal of tyre from lower car park

Open Forum:

A resident raised the issue of the large % increase in the precept with no information at the time in the Newsletter or on social media. RW explained that this was to build up reserves for unforeseen circumstances

and in order to be in a position to take on extra responsibilities from 1st and 2nd tier local councils. It was noted that communication needed to improve.

A resident informed Council that he would be standing as a candidate for the DCC elections on 6th May.

2021 44 Declarations of pecuniary and other interests

A declaration of interest in agenda item 2021 49 2. Was received from CW

2021 45 Minutes of Meeting 2nd March 2021

a) The Council considered the draft Minutes (distributed earlier). JH proposed, seconded by TC and all were in favour (CW abstained having been absent for the last meeting) 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 and MM gave the following updates:

CCTV camera – GR has obtained a revised slightly lower quotation and a quote of approx. £250 annual maintenance fee – this will be on the next agenda

VAS – has been delivered. It will have to be sited in a different place than planned and DCC will be having a site meeting with MM to agree.

Road sweeping – clerk to chase

2021 46 The following applications were considered:

a) 0452/21/FUL Erection of roof over existing silage store Weeke Farm, Modbury. PL21 OTT

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

b) 0453/21/FUL Erection of roof over silage store Weeke Farm, Modbury. PL21 OTT

Proposed by RW, seconded by JH and all in favour of supporting this application

c) 2508/20/OPA READVERTISEMENT (Revised plans received) Outline application with somematters reserved for proposed development of holiday lodges, leisure facilities and associated works (resubmission of 0482/17/FUL)

Moor View Touring Park Modbury. PL21 OSG

Council note that there are many objections to this application. It is also noted that many of the issues to which the Council objected to on the previous application have not been addressed.

Proposed by BK, seconded by CW and all in favour of objecting to this application

d) The correspondence (distributed previously) regarding an application for a pavement licence outside The Old Bakery was discussed.

Concern was voiced that the space was restrictive and seating might present a safety risk.

Agreed that MM would discuss the regulations with the owner and advise a robust risk assessment and that, if all criteria were met, MPC would re-assess support for the application if required to do so by SHDC.

Standing Orders were dropped for BT to remind Council the current regulations are linked to COVID regulations. Orders resumed.

2021 47 MM and JW presented a motion following requests from local dog owners for the QEII field to be open to dog walkers. See appendix 3 for the supporting papers.

It was noted that there had been numerous objections to the proposal from members of the public, that Modbury does not currently have an alternative safe accessible dog walking area, that other councils opened their recreation grounds to dog walkers and that it is a minority of irresponsible dog owners who were making this decision difficult.

MM reminded Council that dogs in public spaces are controlled by Public Space Protection Orders which are put in place by the district council and that Modbury had not commented on the consultation.

Proposed by MM, seconded by JW that for a trial period of four months, until 31st August 2021, dogs are allowed into the Queen Elizabeth II Community Sport & Recreation Ground for free exercise, except when organised sport is in play when they must be on a lead. All dog walkers must have the means to pick up after their dog. Anyone breaching the rules will be subject to a £100 fine.

8 voted against the motion.

Legal process to be checked

MM, JW and TC to investigate alternative sites with private land-owners.

2021 48 The correspondence (distributed previously) requesting traffic speed signs on Sheephams Road was considered.

BC announced he had secured sponsorship for signs at each end of the road asking drivers to ignore SATNAV and it was agreed that this would alleviate the situation and that the clerk and MM would liaise with DCC regarding the process.

2021 49 Finance and Human Resources

1. The minutes of the Finance and HR committee meeting on 23rd March were received

2. Proposed by RW, seconded by TC and all in favour (CW abstained having an interest in one of the payments) that the payments and receipts listed in Appendix 1a be agreed.

CW reminded the clerk that the Ring-fenced Champernowne fund was for major work and not general maintenance and the clerk will recode expenditure accordingly.

3. The financial statement Appendix 1b was noted

2021 50 Palm Cross Parking Update

Council considered the suggestion from a member of the public that any surplus spaces be made available for shop owners for a reduced rate. **Proposed by RW, seconded by JH and all in favour that the spaces be made available to business owners for the same fee and that the hirers could manage shared use by multiple employees.**

2021 51 Memorial Hall Play Park update

The lease has been signed off and a final due-diligence check is being made prior to signing of the contractor agreement.

Various grants have been applied for and a Just Giving page has raised £1700 to date. Local sponsors are being invited to make a contribution in return for a memorial plaque. Some elements of the design have been put on hold for provision at a later date to ensure sound management of finances.

Standing Orders were dropped for BT to offer locality grant funding – Standing Orders resumed.

MODWAG group have offered support to create a quieter sensory area that would benefit adults and children.

Proposed by TC, seconded by CW and agreed by all that the following administrative payments would be made from the Miscellaneous budget maximizing benefit to the community from the external funding.

08-Jun-20	Advert for Memorial hall play area - Messenger Invoice 1868	30
12-Jan-21	Devon Tree Services MH tree survey	540
03-Mar-21	MHPA land registry	180
April 21	Beers solicitors	648
April 21	Nash Solicitors	900
	Totals	2,298

CW reminded Council that this was renewal of an existing lease that MPC would pay regardless of whether the play area was being refurbished.

2021 52 Neighbourhood Plan Update

BK reminded Council that the Neighbourhood Plan has been delegated to a sub-committee and working group who have spent 6 years working to deliver what Modbury as a community have said they want and need. It is not just about planning but all aspects of Modbury life. Thanks to everyone who has contributed their time and special thanks to Ann Turner.

It is a complex and multi-faceted piece of work with lots of inter-related issues. Having spent so much time on it, it is vital now to be patient and ensure the plan achieves what the community has asked for. SHDC have proposed a 4 month suspension to bring all the threads together prior to the next stage – external accessor. BK will continue to report back as and when there is further news.

2021 53 Committees, Sub-committees and Working Groups updates:

Communications Committee – New Perspex for the Poundwell noticeboard is ready to be fixed and the stand will be painted. The noticeboard on the PO wall will be replaced next.

Palm Cross – There are a few jobs still to be completed and CW continues to campaign for the SUDs system not to be signed off until it is proven to be effective

MARS – Planning application has been approved and TractionSport (previously appointed) will deal with the tendering process.

Maintenance Committee – BC to investigate who is responsible for the damaged wall next to the War Memorial BC asked Councillors to consider the placement of pavement bollards outside the public toilets to prevent damage to the pavement.

It was noted that from 12th April the parish office could open to the public.

Tuesday opening hours (10am – 4pm) would resume from 13th April

Saturday morning councillor surgeries (10 -11 am) would resume from 17th April

Meeting closed at 21.18