

Modbury Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 6th July 2021
MINUTES

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

13 members of the public were in attendance

2021 84 Apologies: There were no apologies for absence.

2021 85 In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S1(2), the Council had determined that item 2021 97 should be taken with the public excluded

District Councillor's Report

- BT reminded Council that in addition to the sustainable communities' locality fund there is now a climate change and bio-diversity locality fund.
- BT agreed to pursue the appointment of a driver for the large road sweeper

Open Forum

Illegal parking Burn's Lane

- A resident expressed their frustration at local people and tourists blocking the road preventing access and exit for residents, potentially blocking the way for emergency vehicles and becoming rude and aggressive when approached by residents.

The CCTV camera is being erected 7th July. Clerk to forward the concerns to Devon and Cornwall Crime Commissioner.

- A resident raised the issue of the condition of the road on Sheephams Hill – **BT to liaise with Cllr Thomas re a combined effort to improve the route**
- A resident requested MPC to invite the Conservation Officer to speak at a meeting (**MPC agreed**) and updated MPC on plans to work with the current owners of the Chapel in Church Street to create a community building
- A resident queried the discussion of the Neighbourhood Plan in part 2 and was informed it was because there was commercially sensitive content involved in the discussion but that the minutes would record the outcome. Council confirmed that the proper processes will be followed and that the outcome of council consideration would dictate that process. Resident pointed out that they did not feel the conditions set by the external examiner for the recent extension period to advertise on the website had been met (despite notices on various social media channels). **The clerk has subsequently shown the announcement to have been posted on 17th June.**
- The 2 applicants for the casual vacancy on the council briefly introduced themselves.

Devon Councillor's Report

• **Some points of interest regarding Devon:**

- 1) Population 802000 excluding Plymouth and Torbay
- 2) 440 Parishes
- 3) 5x AONB's
- 4) 2xNational Parks
- 5) 4th oldest population of any County excluding Dorset, Cornwall and East Sussex.

• Some points of interest about DCC:

Gross spend =£1.5 Billion.Net Spend £578 Million. Difference being school spending coming from Government.

70% of budget gets to 3% of population being most disadvantaged and vulnerable.

£282Million spent on adult social care.

DCC still has 180 schools = 94000 children

Highways transport and waste spends £57Million a year and disposes of ¼ million tons of waste.

- GALPIN STREET Disabled parking limited to one hour incorporated into next TRO – **Clerk to check as it is considered it was part of a previous TRO**
- There will be a new work hub in Modbury – New Mills Industrial Estate <https://www.thedevonoffice.com/>
- Advised residents of Burns Lane to call the police if illegal parking is obstructing the entrance
- Confirmed he has awarded Modbury Pre-school £500
GR complimented DCC on recent work at Edmeston and Flete.
RG left at 7.45pm

2021 86 Declarations of pecuniary and other interests

TC, AW, CW and MM expressed an interest in item 2021 91 (1) – payments and receipts
GR expressed a personal interest in item 2021 90 (b)

2021 87 Alcohol Free Zones

Proposed by GR, seconded by CW that Modbury retain all the alcohol free areas as currently exist
Amendment by GR, seconded by JW that Palm Cross Green Estate and Palm Cross Park be added to the order.

2021 88 Co-option of New Councillor

Barbara Price was elected to fill the casual vacancy.

Cllr Middleton's resignation was noted and the clerk will proceed with the process to co-opt to another casual vacancy in due course.

BT left the meeting at 8.15pm

2021 89 Minutes of Meeting 1st June 2021

The Council considered the draft Minutes (distributed earlier). Proposed by MM, seconded by GR and all were in favour (Abstentions from BK, JW, TC) they be approved as a true and accurate record.

The Appendix II Action Plan had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

2021 90 The following planning applications were considered

a) 2516/21/TCA T1: Silver Birch – Fell Memorial Hall Play Area. Back Street Modbury

Proposed by BK, seconded by GR and all in favour that MPC support this application

b) 1972/21/FUL Siting of 3 glamping pods on trailers. Butland Farm. PL21 0TH

The following concerns were expressed:

Mobility of PODS leading to inadequate screening and monitoring of locations

How would waste be managed

Is there sufficient fresh-water supply

Although access is from Prigden Hill would it lead to traffic being led by SATNAV through Swanbridge Mill

Would this set a precedent for other farms to diversify – increasing pressure on an already congested infrastructure

If successful would the operation expand

It was acknowledged that it would be would potentially bring more business to the parish.

Standing Orders were dropped for the applicants to answer questions:

There would be a waste tank beneath each POD

Water would come from the spring on the farm

Each POD would have a solar panel

The wheels on the POD are to assist with moving them to enable farm maintenance and, should the venture be unsuccessful, to retain sell-on value

Visitors will receive clear directions to get to the site. Mobile phone SATNAVS do take visitors via Prigden Hill

Standing Orders were resumed

Proposed by BK, seconded by JH that MPC object to this application. 6 voted to object, 2 abstained and 3 to support.

Objection carried.

2021 93 Insurance (Proposal and comment from BHIB insurers distributed previously)

It was agreed to bring this agenda item forward and standing orders were dropped for S Wyatt to present a proposal for various town events to come under the umbrella of MPC insurance schedule.

It was agreed that this was a complicated issue and needed further consideration.

Proposed by RW, seconded by GR that the matter be considered by the Finance and HR Committee for recommendation to full council at the September meeting.

2021 91 Finance and Human Resources

- 1. Proposed by RW, seconded by PK and all in favour (TC, AW, CW and MM abstained) (that the payments as listed in Appendix 1a be approved.**
- 2. The financial statement Appendix 1b was received**
- 3. The quarterly budget monitoring statement Appendix 3 was received**

2021 92 Communications

- a) The minutes from the meeting held on 27th May 2021 were received**
- b) The recommendation from the Comms. Committee to invest in a new website (Supporting documents distributed previously) was considered and it was noted that there had been some last minute unspecific concerns expressed by a resident.**
Proposed by MM, seconded by RW and all in favour of agreeing the budget as detailed below and any issues be addressed.

Costs

The cost of developing the Website is £550 + VAT.

The annual charge for the website hosting service including the CMS licence fee and SSL certificate for secure connection will be £80 + VAT per year

The domain is registered until 9/11/21. The renewal fee for the domain will be £25 + VAT for 2 years at current rates.

2021 93 Insurance (Dealt with earlier)

2021 94 Correspondence Received:

- a) Request for Hedgehog Road Signs in Modbury – agreed there were too many different signs already in Modbury**
- b) Request to promote conservation area priorities – agreed to invite conservation officer to a future meeting**
- c) Request to consider “Men in a shed” project for Modbury – this is already being considered as part of the response to the climate emergency in Modbury**
- d) Request to consider need for a meeting place for retired women in the lower end of the town, who currently meet in the Bistro, which has to end because of its closing – not considered to be council business**
- e) Request to ask South Hams Council to offer a reduced parking fee to traders to park in the lower car park – this has been requested before and refused**
- f) To consider a community project to buy The Chapel and turn it into a Community building, a cafe, music, art, workshops, meeting place – MPC will await further information**
- g) Request to deal with the issue of illegal parking at the end of Burn’s Lane – CCTV camera being erected 7th July. Clerk to forward concerns to the Police Commissioner**
- h) Donation of £100 for the “Tommy Bench” upkeep – gratefully received**

2021 95 Memorial Hall Play Park update

Work is progressing to budget and time-scale. Opening event on Saturday 24th July

2021 96 There were no updates from other Committees, Sub-committees and Working Groups

PART 2 Taken with the public excluded due to the commercially sensitive nature of the discussion

2021 97 Neighbourhood Plan

a) Ann Turner (Chair of NPG) was introduced and thanked for attending the meeting to fully brief Council following 6 years working on the project. She delivered a brief outline of significant milestones over the years including the June 2021 extension until Sept 4th, granted by the independent examiner, to review options following the announcement by SHDC that they were withdrawing as the developer of affordable housing.

Council discussed various options.

Proposed by BK, seconded by CW and all in favour that the following motions be agreed:

1. **Due to the position taken by Historic England in relation to the development of the northern part of the site, MPC are forced to pursue an alternative option of 35 units on this site. We do not believe that this would be strategically significant. We do not know if the examiner will take a different view. (Amended at meeting on 7th Sept. from initial draft "Such a reduction would not be strategically significant.") This would be as a substitute for Penn Parks and provide a means of delivering on our priority of affordable housing for Modbury.**

2. **If such a proposal requires us to return to Regulation 15 (re-advertisement, re-consultation, and subsequent delay of the plan) then this would affect the credibility of the plan, the previous consultation, the whole process and the Parish Council. In addition, a reduced number of units on a smaller site may mean that the development becomes unviable. In such circumstances the proposal would not be pursued and an option for the development of fewer units on the site at a later date would remain.**

b) **The Consideration of the proposal to vire £500 into the NP budget line to cover costs incurred due to the delay in the process was deferred to the next meeting.**