

Minutes of Modbury Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 1st February 2022, Pavilion, QE11 Recreation Field commencing 7.00p.m.

Present Cllrs Watts (PW), (Chair), Harvey (JH), Jones (OJ), Keel (BK), Price (BP), Rosevear (GR), Turner, (AT), Walker (AW), Woodcock (JW)

2022 12 – Apologies. Apologies were received from Cllr Rob West.

2022 13 – Co-option. Due to the withdrawal of a candidate, there is no co-option required.

Devon County Councillor Cllr. Rupert Gilbert’s Report.

Cllr. Gilbert noted his advance report.

The following was stated:

(i) £38.7 million of savings need to be made in 2022-2023. To date the Highways Budget has remained unaffected, but cannot be guaranteed. Highways Officer Adam Keay would provide up-dates to the Clerk as they arose.

(ii) Farming South West produces 3.2 billion litres of milk, 1.2 billion eggs, 98 million kilos of pork, 1.4 million tons of wheat and 540,000 tons of spring barley. This is at a time when farmers are adjusting to the post Brexit market. Government Investment in farming will concentrate on land management, which should mean many more smaller farms will benefit from funding, as opposed to the larger farms and conglomerates.

Questions to Cllr. Gilbert.

Question 1: (A.T.). It would seem that there was little advance warning of the coning of Church Street, for lining of the parking bays? This caused confusion with the traders, in particular those taking deliveries, who had little time to advise suppliers.

Answer: Cllr Gilbert explained it was often difficult to give advance warning with certainty, given the number of jobs in any given day or week. However he suggested that once the clerk had Notice that it was circulated to the traders, through their leadership.

In connection with this Cllr. Gilbert confirmed that the SWW project was under very tight DCC constraints and scrutiny from DCC. Currently SWW had not come forward with an alternative solution, as requested.

Question 2: (W.E.C.). It was stated that several BT manholes in the Parish were in a poor state and remedies were urgently needed. In addition, can this be made a County wide priority?

Answer: Cllr. Gilbert reminded everyone that these, like any other issue, need to be reported on-line. It was agreed that the Clerk would provide Cllr. Gilbert with a list of the BT manholes in the Parish causing concern.

Question 3: (B.K.). Following on from the previous question, Cllr Gilbert was asked whether it would be possible to provide a breakdown of Highways spend Parish by Parish, so some sense of comparison could be made.

Answer: Cllr. Gilbert felt it is was more likely to be District by District; but he would see what was available.

Question 4: (B.T. & W.E.C.). It was stated that some of the most recent road surface repairs were already breaking up. Was it possible for DCC to make a claim against the contractor?

Answer: Cllr. Gilbert thought it unlikely, and there is a distinction between hot and cold finishes. However, he would investigate.

At this time Cllr Gilbert left to attend another Parish meeting.

South Hams District Council Cllr. Bernard Taylor’s Report.

The following was stated.

1 / The Green Waste collection may be resumed at the end of March or early in April.

2 / SHDC had provided a scheme to give those in Council rented accommodation a better chance of moving into the right to buy sector, (of the affordable sector), of up to 80% of the property value. A contribution of £3000.00 per applicant would be available to assist with deposits.

3 / SHDC was also providing removal support to applicants in the sector, who wished to down size.

4 / The Council Tax loophole, which had allowed second home owners to avoid Council Tax and yet claim Business Rate Relief, had been closed. For SHDC this could be a revenue gain of up to £200,000.00 per annum.

5 / Meeting Thursday 3rd February with participants to resolve the bins issue at the playparks.

6 / SHDC was in the top 20 nationally of authorities for its work in addressing climate Change.

7 / Barracks Wall. A meeting is being scheduled with the County contractors to resolve (i) what is going to be done? And (ii) when will it start

8 / Palm Cross. A meeting is scheduled for Thursday 10th with Bloor and their contractors to resolve the final landscaping requirements of the development

Questions to Cllr. Taylor.

Question 1: (A.T.)_Landscaping Palm Cross. Does it include the attenuation pond? What if any sources of funding are being considered?

Answer: Yes but in phase two of the landscaping and funding will be addressed in advance.

Question 2: (B.K.). In respect of question 1, It is good that the SHDC Chief Executive is involved as well as the senior Planning Officer. However, it is hoped that by this being delegated to the Enforcement Officer that the two other ranking officers lose touch with the concerns and progress of the landscaping. Can the Council have that assurance?

Answer: Yes and former MPC Councillor Colin Whybrow is also included in the progress team.

Question 3: (J.H.). Waste collections. Aside from them being restarted, will there be any compensation to residents for the loss of facility?

Answer: No.

With that Councillor Taylor returned to his seat.

Open Forum:

Question 1: (Sally Richardson) Barracks Road working Group. Has the working group been set up?

Answer (J.H.) Yes and the Head Mistress of the school is on board.

Question 2: (S.R.). How many members have been recruited?

Answer (J.H.) six to date but JH was seeking to get a balance of men and women as working members.

Question 3: (S.R.) Any chance of more councillors than one?

Answer (J.H.) Yes and several put their hands up there and then. J.H. would consider interested parties, provided he had a balanced group and everyone contributed.

Question/Point 4: Barry Keele made a plea. What matters is not to raise expectations and then fail to deliver. Can Council ensure that DCC is involved in terms of both Money and commitment?

Answer. B.T. For SHDC answered, although conceding it was in DCC's gift, that as he was participating it would be expected that DCC would be held to account.

Question/Point 5: A.T. endorsed B.K. that DCC in the guise of Highways needs to be involved and that it is made clear at the outset, what can and cannot be done. In particular not to waste effort by retracing old ground.

Question 6: Andy Walker (A.K.) asked when would the group would be briefed?

Answer. J.H. stated that this was in hand.

Question/Point 7: W.E.C. wished it to be noted the concerns over DCC Highways attitude to the pavement when Palm Cross was being brought forward. It is expected that there is no repeat of that attitude.

Question 8: S.R. Asked the location of the first meeting of the Group?

Answer: J.H Hoped it would be MARS, but it may be otherwise.

Question/Point 9: B.K. Agreed to provide a guiding ten point process, based on his previous experience and professional capacity elsewhere.

Question/Point 10: A.T. Agreed to review all email and other correspondence to date in order to assist the process.

2022 14 Declarations of Interest

- a) None declared for up-dating.
- b) None declared.

2022 15 Minutes of Meetings 4th January 2022

- a) **The minutes of the 4th January meeting were proposed to be taken as read B.P. proposed and J.W. seconded all unanimously in favour. Approved.**
- b) Appendix 2 Action Plan. This was passed over in the absence of the clerk.

2022 16 Planning

- a) Neighbouring Parish 0118/22/HHO. **B.K. proposed "No Comment". Seconded by J.H. Agreed unanimously.**

2022 17 Insurance

GR acting as Clerk established that all present had seen and reviewed the events document for the forthcoming May Fair. There was nothing contained within the planned events that had not been present previously.

However, it was agreed to lodge the event schedule with the Council's insurers.

P.W proposed the planned events be approved. Seconded by B.P. and approved unanimously.

2022 18 Finance and Human Resources

- 1) Receipts and Payments to 6th January. Appendix 1a. These were reviewed. **Proposed by A.T. Seconded by B.P. and approved unanimously.**
- 2) Financial Statement Appendix 1b. These were reviewed. **Proposed by B.P. Seconded by J.W. and approved unanimously to be adopted.**
- 3) Request for Sponsorship of the Modbury Rooster Ramble £100.00 for one rooster. Council was reminded that at a previous meeting it was agreed that the Parish would support events, always and provided it had advance notice of the cost of the project, in order to approve a contribution or sponsorship. This message was carried back to the traders including the proposer of this item. Subject to that consideration being upheld in future. **Proposed by B.P. Seconded by J.W. and approved unanimously.**
- 4) Annual Parish Social Gathering – Budget. After some discussion: **Proposed by A.T. Seconded by B.P. and carried unanimously, in principle, to underwrite the refreshments at the forthcoming event, with a detailed budget to be presented to the next Council meeting for consideration and approval.**

2022 19 Communications Report

Matters arising from the minutes of the Communications Committee meeting of 20th January, previously circulated.

- a) Confirmed, Clerks request for content from Councillors, committees and working groups for the annual report.
- b) It was agreed that all Councillors who were available on 1st March, should attend the event. Furthermore it was agreed that Councillors and others should be prepared to take up roles for the event. In addition, it was considered helpful for participating councillors and others to be on site at least 30 minutes prior to the start to assist in the setting up of the event.

Proposed J.H. Seconded by B.P that all four points be adopted, approved unanimously.

2022 20 Maintenance Committee

- a) The minutes from the committee meeting 26th January, having been previously circulated, were adopted without recourse to a vote.
 - (i) Although the full tender details are not yet ready A.W. reported that expressions of interest had been advertised with initially four responses, which had risen now to six.
 - (ii) Play park Inspections. There have been continuous minor points being raised, not just relating to MMH but also Champernowne. These are reaching the point of exhausting volunteer availability and expertise and will need the services of an experienced contractor. This was in hand.
 - (iii) Marigolds day. This in in hand.
 - (iv) Parking bollards all repaired to date. However, modifications were being sought from the manufacturer.
 - (v) Potholes. Work continues apace.
- b) Emergency Maintenance Person. This proposal to pay £18.00 per hour as and when needed was **approved unanimously, without a proposer or seconder.**
- c) DCC Grass Cutting Agreement. Renewable for 22/23 at £1142. **Proposed by B.K. Seconded by B.P. and approved unanimously. Proposed by BK Seconded BP approved unanimously that the clerk have authority to sign the contract.**
- d) Parish Seat Rota. Members were coming forward and it was considered appropriate for others to come forward too. Therefore, the process would be ongoing.
- e) Ash Tree to be felled on fullers Ope. Noted.

2022 21 MARS Committee.

It was duly noted that the Section 106 monies of £197,499.94, held by SHDC for the project at QE11 Field had been authorised for release. In addition it was duly noted that, with the passage of time the contract price had risen from £180,051.83 to £185,164.55.

2022 22 Neighbourhood Plan update.

Ann Turner presented her report and covered the following matters:

- (i) Independent Consultant Lee Bray was, in the light of the previously agreed changes, re-writing the revised submission for the Inspector.
- (ii) It had been agreed that new elements could be included, such as climate emergency features.
- (iii) The time scale for the completion of the re-writing was the second week of February.
- (iv) The re-written draft would then be reviewed by Council.
- (v) There will then be a further Public Consultation and presuming approval, the NHP will be set before the Inspector, again.

2022 23 Committee, Sub-committees and Working Groups: to receive updates (if any) from these bodies, if not reported earlier.

Electric Charging Points. B.K. asked whether SHDC in conjunction with MPC had ascertained sufficient appropriate sites. SHDC Cllr. B.T. was satisfied there would be and the process was in hand, if a little behind schedule. Currently it was thought there would be two in Poundwell car park, one at MARS, one at Palm Cross and one mobility hub, to be determined.

Queens Platinum Jubilee. B.P. confirmed the weekend was 2nd to 5th June. The following projects were in the melting pot.

- (i) Commemorative Medal to be struck for all children at Modbury School – Agreed.
- (ii) A Beacon with Fireworks at MARS – Agreed.
- (iii) A family event at the Pavilion – to be researched, but in principle agreed.
- (iv) Street Party – Long Park and elsewhere, under consideration.
- (v) It was felt that all councillors ought to be participating and assisting with direction from B.P.

2022 24 Staffing.

This matter is reported separately, as it is effectively under Part 2.

2022 25 Saturday Rota 5th February to 19th March.

This was agreed as circulated.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.55p.m.

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By Order of Council