

**Modbury Parish Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022, Pavilion, QEII Recreation Field at 7.00 pm**  
**MINUTES**

**Present** Cllrs Watts (PW), (Chair), West (RW) Vice-Chair, Harvey (JH), Jones (OJ), Keel (BK), Nathanson (HN), Price (BP), Rosevear (GR), Smith (PS), Turner, (AT), Walker (AW),  
**Also present:** Cllrs Gilbert (RG) (DCC) and Taylor (BT) (SHDC)

3 Members of the public were in attendance

**2022 39**      **Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Woodcock who had a personal commitment.**

**2022 40**      **Co-option**

Helen Nathanson and Phil Smith introduced themselves and then left the room whilst their applications were considered by Council.

**Proposed by GR, seconded by JH and all in favour that Helen Nathanson be co-opted to Council**

**Proposed by RW, seconded by JH and all in favour that Phil Smith be co-opted to Council.**

Both signed their declaration of acceptance of office and joined the Council table.

**Devon Councillor's Report**

Following the Annual Parish Social Gathering he has granted money to Modbury History Society  
*DEVOLUTION DEAL FOR DEVON PLYMOUTH & TORBAY.*

- 1) *We are one of ten areas in England to be chosen.*
- 2) *We have been economically underperforming for years.*
- 3) *We are now negotiating a Devolution Deal that:*
  - a) *Does not require a Mayor*
  - b) *Operates with existing local govt structure.*
  - c) *Requires a combined authority*

*Functions are: Housing, Skills/employment, public transport, LEP existing functions, prosperity.*

*There is no deal until a deal is done.*

*Hoping to conclude negotiations by winter 2022 and operational by April 2023.*

*An initial template has now been submitted to government.*

***FREEPORT / FREEZONE.***

- 1) *Will bring up to £100 Million investment and up to 3500 jobs.*
- 2) *VAT privileges and business rates advantages in the freezone*
- 3) *Relations/negotiations between DCC, Plymouth & SHDC going well.*
- 4) *Submission/Business Case to Government imminent. (22nd April)*
- 5) *Involves 130 hectares of land at South Yard, Langage and Oceansgate.*
- 6) *It is important to demonstrate these are new jobs and not existing ones transferring in.*
- 7) *Funding - DCC £14.28m      SHDC £4.62m      Plymouth £10.61m*
- 8) *Plymouth will be the accountable body and SHDC will deal with the business rates*

BK urged DCC to increase efforts to learn from others showing best practice.

BK warned of dangers of existing industries and businesses moving into the FREEPORT – RG referred to the Gateway Policy and reassured Council this would be tightly controlled.

BK commented on the history of pollution in South Yard and RG reassured Council this had been taken into account

**RG left the meeting at 7.27pm**

## **District Councillor's Report**

- a) Presented samples of the sustainable and durable material that residents will be consulted on before repair of the wall.

AT questioned whether it had been taken into account that this was a listed wall? BT confirmed that considerable research had been done into repair work but costings far exceeded budgets. It is important for resident's security that the work takes place soon and this would not prevent further work being done in the future should funding become available.

- b) SHDC have contributed £10,000 to the Ukraine appeal
- c) Thatches have offered 2 chalets for Ukrainian refugees
- d) The seasonal Locality Officers will be starting work this month
- e) Plans for the Aldi development in Ivybridge are progressing – there will be a significant impact on parking available in the town during the build.
- f) BT has funding available towards Platinum Jubilee activities
- g) The Planning draft policy stipulates all future new builds to include climate emergency provision
- h) Confirmed that the water pollution issue on the Palm Cross Estate is being investigated

**Open Forum:** no residents raised any issues.

## **2022 41      Declarations of pecuniary and other interests**

JH, AW and RW declared an interest in item agenda 2022 45a – being recipients of payments

## **2022 42      Minutes of Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022**

The Council considered the draft Minutes (distributed earlier).

**Proposed by RW, seconded by BP and all were in favour they be approved as a true and accurate record.**

## **2022 43      Ukraine**

PS tabled a report (App. 9) summarising research he has done to date and proposed Council consider the following matters:

1. Should it take a leading role in coordinating support for sponsors and their guests in Modbury?
2. Should a support strategy and plan be drawn up to focus the local response to the Homes for Ukraine challenge?
3. Should contact be made with the South Hams project team to offer the Council's assistance?
4. Should contact be made with other parishes to coordinate responses and learn from others' experiences?
5. Should it take steps to further promote the Homes for Ukraine Scheme in the community?
6. Should it investigate and express an interest in making an organisational sponsorship bid in Phase 2 of the Homes for Ukraine Scheme?

Concern was expressed at the complexities involved, that MPC would be duplicating work elsewhere, that MPC needed to be clear what the role of the Council was and that Council worked within the system.

PS proposed that MPC would be filling in the gaps between work being done by tier one and two councils, co-ordinating at a local level and providing support for local sponsors and refugees which he considered would encourage greater sign-up to the housing appeal.

**Standing orders were dropped** for BT to congratulate PS on his work to date and recommend he speaks to the lead officer at SHDC.

## **Standing Orders resumed**

**It was agreed that PS would take the lead in the Council response and would continue to pull information together in preparation for future agreed activity.**

**It was agreed that an extra-ordinary meeting would be called if further action was needed prior to the May meeting.**

## 2022 44 Planning

The following applications were considered:

- a) 0116/22/FUL Mr and Mrs Hope Heatherset Field Barn Proposal – Council had been informed there was an extension to the deadline but this had been changed and so **no further consideration was given to this application.**
- b) 0515/22/TPO Mr Ranwell T1: Oak - Crown height reduction by 3-4m to reduce crown weight and reduce risk of failure 10 Kingsway  
**Support**
- c) 0629/22/TCA Mr Guest T1: Malus (Apple Tree) - Crown lateral reduction of 1.8 metres on all N/E/S/W sides and Crown height reduction by 1.8 metres Dairy House, Galpin St. PL21 0QB  
**Support**
- d) 0749/22/ARC Mr Mason Application for approval of details reserved by condition 6 of planning consent 0711/21/LBC (partial discharge) Kingsland, Brownston St. PL21 0RQ  
<http://apps.southhams.gov.uk/PlanningSearchMVC/Home/Details/220749>  
**Support**

## 2022 45 Finance and Human Resources

- a) Proposed by GR, seconded by BP and all in favour that the payments as listed in Appendix 1a be approved (JH/AW and RW abstained due to interests in some payments)
- b) The financial statement Appendix 1b was noted
- c) The national 2021-2022 annual pay rise for the clerk of 1.75% back-dated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 was noted
- d) The three quotations received for the purchase of new finance software were considered. Proposed by GR, seconded by BP and all in favour that MPC choose (App 3) Rialtus total cost £496.50 + VAT and on-going costs of £183 per annum.
- e) It was agreed that OJ would review the proposals for the purchase of a new noticeboard at the entrance to Poundwell and bring to the May meeting
- f) Proposed by GR, seconded by RW and all in favour that MPC grant £250 towards the PTA wildlife projects at the school
- g) The recommendation to replace the fence to the MHPA was considered. Proposed by GR, seconded by OJ and all in favour that this would be funded through the ring-fenced MHPA budget and the condition of the fence would be monitored and quotations for the work acquired when the replacement becomes urgent.
- h) It was noted for insurance purposes that The Rooster Ramble will be taking place from the 8th May to the 8th September 2022
- i) The recruitment of Mr Martin Wiltshire to the role of Emergency Maintenance Person was noted.

## 2022 46 Policies

Proposed by BK, seconded by AT and all in favour that the Modbury Volunteer Policy (App 2) be adopted

## 2022 47 Palm Cross Allotments

- a) The following amendments to the tenancy agreement were considered:

### 11. Water

*The Landlord undertakes to provide a mains water supply system and a stand pipe on each half of the site. The Landlord shall be responsible for all sums (including meter and standing charges) due to the appropriate water authority or company for water supplied to the site as a whole on condition that:*

11.1 *The Tenant shall pay the Landlord for water supplies to the site within 28 days of presentation of the bill.*

11.2 *The Tenant shall maintain the water supply system in a good state of repair and free from leaks.*

11.3 *The Tenant shall encourage members to minimise water usage through use of water butts and water troughs. Regular use of hosepipes by individual plot holders should not be permitted.*

**Proposed by GR, seconded by BP and all in favour that these be accepted and the clerk arrange for Nash and Co to review.**

**b) Proposed by BK, seconded by GR and all in favour that MPC takes the lead on contracting SWW to provide water to the site so that any financial liabilities between the previous account holders (Bloor Homes) and the current users can be identified.**

#### **2022 48 Neighbourhood Plan**

AT summarised the amendments to the Neighbourhood Plan. (App. 10)

Council thanked AT for the 7 year's work she has put into the process.

**Proposed by GR, seconded by BP and all in favour that the amendments be adopted and the plan be resubmitted. (PS abstained)**

#### **2022 49 Environment and Climate Emergency**

**a) AT presented information about water pollution in the Erme. Proposed by BK, seconded by RW and all in favour that work continues. HN to work with AT.**

**b) The Burgh Island Climate Emergency Conference was deferred to the next meeting.**

**c) The award of the Grass Cutting tender 2022 – 2027 (pending satisfactory annual reviews) to Arborcure was noted. The first cut will be Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April.**

**d) MODWAG's proposals (App 5) for wild-flower patches on the grass verges were considered. It was agreed that wild verges on the areas presented would be trialed for a 2<sup>nd</sup> year and reviewed again next year.**

All verges will be mowed around the perimeters to improve appearance, ensure visibility for traffic and highlight the project. Mowing would ensure a path to the flag pole and mowed area around the flag pole for ceremonial events on Palm Cross Green. Quality information signs will be erected.

It was agreed that, in the light of new signage being introduced, the "20 is plenty signs" would be removed (it was agreed they had helped to reduce speed in the area) **GR and AW to action in association with the school.**

#### **2022 50 Platinum Jubilee update**

All school pupils will receive a commemorative medal - £540

Thursday fireworks costed at £300

No quote available yet for engraving the gifted stone and it was agreed in principal to fund this and for FHR Committee to approve at the next meeting if considered a reasonable quote.

The Church Service on the Sunday will be held at MARS – people would be invited to bring their own picnic for the big lunch event following the service.

**BP appealed for more volunteers to assist with events**

**BT pledged £150**

**MPC to consider funding at the May meeting**

#### **2022 51 Four Rivers Dementia Alliance**

Clerk delivered feedback from the well-attended and informative conference and briefly updated Councillors on work to date towards making Modbury a dementia friendly parish.

**The dementia support officer for The Alliance will attend the July meeting**

**It was agreed that BP would represent MPC on the Alliance with GR**

#### **2022 52 School and Barracks Road Safety Group update:**

**Standing Orders were dropped for a group member to report.**

There are 8 people on the group from Council, the school, PTA and residents.

It is supported by BT and RG

Next meeting 21<sup>st</sup> April

A questionnaire is being prepared for parents

There have been successful conversations with local residents who may be affected by any proposals

**Standing Orders resumed.**

**2022 53** Colin Whybrow had prepared notes summarising outcomes from the high level meeting between Bloor, SHDC and MPC regarding outstanding development issues on the Palm Cross site (See App. 11 and 12)

**PW thanked CW for his continued efforts to resolve these issues.**

**2022 54 Committees, Sub-committees and Working Groups updates:**

Plans for Marigold's Day are in hand and more volunteers would be welcome on 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

**2022 55 The Saturday rota was confirmed:**

Phil Smith	9th April
Easter Weekend	16th April
Marigold's Day	23rd April
Barbara Price	30th April
May Fair	7th May
George Rosevear	14th May

**Meeting closed at 9.50 pm**