



MINUTES

Committee: Parish Council
Date: Tuesday, 1 October 2024
Time: 19:00pm
Venue: Community Club

Present

Cllr Catherine Fileman-Wright
Cllr Mike Warner
Cllr Gemma Hampton
Cllr Vivienne Hodges
Cllr John Farrand-Rogers
Cllr David Bridger
Cllr Richard Short
Cllr Rob Austin
Cllr Chris Walden
Cllr Jan Evans
Cllr Gordy Keep

Also Present

Samantha Parkin (Clerk)
One member of the public

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

160/2024 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Jeffery.

161/2024 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS / REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

No declarations of interest or requests for dispensation were received. *Localism Act 2011 (sections 26-37 and Schedule 4)*

162/2024 MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr Farrand-Rogers, seconded by Cllr Hodges, and **resolved to accept and sign** the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 2024 as a correct record. There were three abstentions. *LGA 1972 Sch 12 para 41(1)*

163/2024 STANDING ITEM – CLIMATE AND ECOLOGY EMERGENCY:

The Council noted the Declaration to embed the climate and ecology emergency declaration across all Council services, activities, plans, and other relevant work, considering the environmental impact of decisions, ensuring a fully integrated approach to mitigating the impact of climate change.

164/2024 COUNCILLOR REPORTS

County Councillor Report

Cllr Brook had sent his apologies. The council had some queries regarding the town centre project, Devon County Council's (DCC) 20mph rolling programme and the new draft Devon and Torbay Local Transport Plan.

District Councillor Report

Councillor Farrand-Rogers reported that Teignbridge District Council (TDC) is focusing on the budget for 2025/26. He reported that there is a lack of clarity from the new Government on the financial support for local councils.

165/2024 MATTERS ARISING

It was noted the allotment's shared boundary owner had an independent tree survey conducted by the Woodland Trust, confirming the trees do not have ash dieback. The council will monitor.

It was noted the Chair has written to supportive towns and parishes within Dartmoor National Park, confirming that the next step for the 20mph speed limit is to raise the issue during the public speaking segment at the DNPA meeting on 6th December.

It was noted the council held a coffee morning on 28th September to discuss the emergency plan with the community.

It was noted the council is holding a churchyard volunteer day on Saturday, 5th October.

166/2024 CHAIRMANS DISCRETION

The Chair noted the successes over the summer and the lovely events held in Moretonhampstead; the Food Festival, Carnival, and the Twinning visit, she congratulated all involved.

167/2024 OPEN SPACES REPORT

The Open Spaces monthly report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The report was noted and is attached at appendix 1 on page 72. The clerk noted the see-saw surfacing had been replaced. The Chair noted that Cllr Keep had fixed the loose bike stand in the square and cut the bush at Geneva Island.

168/2024 CLIMATE CHANGE & ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP

The Community Environment Group meeting report had been circulated prior to the meeting, Cllr Fileman-Wright and Cllr Bridger had attended the meeting. The Chair noted that 15 Pine Martens had been released on Dartmoor.

At last month's meeting there was a question about where the Silage Wrap report had been shared, Cllr Fileman-Wright reported that it had been shared with TDC, regulators like the Environment Agency and Farming Organisations like the NFU.

169/2024 INTERNAL CONTROLS COUNCILLOR REPORT

The accounts will be checked later this month.

170/2024 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The Council considered its monthly schedule of payments.

It was proposed by Cllr Farrand-Rogers, seconded by Cllr Evans, and **resolved to approve** the schedule of payments at appendix 2 on page 72. There was one abstention. *LGA 1972 s.150(5)*

171/2024 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from successful grant applicants. The correspondence was noted.

2. Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from Teignbridge CVS acknowledging the council's nomination. The correspondence was noted.

3. Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from the Director of Estates NHS Devon replying to the council's letter. Cllr Evan's had some concerns about the wording regarding the

Health Centre. Cllr Fileman-Wright will feed this back at the next Hospital group meeting with the NHS.

4. Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from Teignbridge District Council consulting the council on its 5-year strategy. The clerk was asked to clarify the timescales for consultation.

5. Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from Moretonhampstead Development Trust (MDT) regarding the upcoming office lease renewal. It was agreed that the Chairman will seek a meeting with the Chair of MDT to clarify what the council is being asked to consider.

6. Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from Teignbridge District Council regarding its consultation on the draft statement of principles as required under the Gambling Act 2005. The correspondence was noted.

172/2024 OPEN SPACES TENDER

The two open spaces tender options had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Chair provided a summary of the two tender options and reminded the council of its responsibilities under the Biodiversity Policy.

The clerk answered the councils' questions regarding cost and clarified the churchyard areas. The Chair asked each member for their views on the two contracts.

It was proposed by Cllr Austin, seconded by Cllr Farrand-Rogers that the Churchyard except for the wildflower area, and the Sentry and verges are cut in line with the tight and tidy tender. The vote was tied, with one abstention. The Chairman used her casting vote against the proposal, resulting in the proposal being rejected. *Local Government Act 1972 schedule 12, paragraph 39(2)*

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Walden, and **resolved** that the council adopts the **balanced** management approach of the Churchyard, Sentry, verges and the Pound and Henge. There was one abstention.

It was proposed by Cllr Farrand-Rogers, seconded by Cllr Hodges, and **resolved** that the finer details of the balanced open spaces tender are looked at by the Open Spaces committee.

It was proposed by Cllr Hodges, seconded by Cllr Farrand-Rogers, and **resolved** that all the contracts should be advertised together.

173/2024 HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP UPDATE

The Highways working group update had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Chairman summarised the report and noted TDC had advised that a decision on the award of the grant should be reached by the end of the week.

It was proposed by Cllr Short, seconded by Cllr Evans and **resolved to appoint** the Highways working group and Cllr Bridger as the Grant Award Panel. There was one abstention.

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Evans, and **resolved to delegate** the decisions to award grants to the Grant Award Panel. There were two abstentions.

It was proposed by Cllr Austin, seconded by Cllr Keep and **resolved to approve** the communication plan and delegate any decisions on amendments to the communications plan to the chair, clerk and vice-chair. There was one abstention.

174/2024 CHRISTMAS WORKING GROUP UPDATE

The Christmas working group update had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted.

175/2024 2025/26 OBJECTIVES

The suggested 2025/26 Objectives had been circulated prior to the meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Short, seconded by Cllr Fileman-Wright and **resolved to add** an objective to investigate the purchase of a Vehicle Activated Sign.

176/2024 TRAINING

The clerks report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Fileman-Wright, and **resolved to approve** the clerk plus two others attending the Signing, Lighting and Guarding course.

Post meeting note: There are only two spaces available on the course.

177/2024 RURAL VILLAGE SERVICES GROUP

The clerks report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Warner, seconded by Cllr Austin, and **resolved to decline** the Rural Village Services Groups invitation to join their group.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.29pm

TO DO ACTIONS

- Clerk to make payments.
- Reply to the correspondence at min no.171/2024.
- Open Spaces committee to look at the finer details of the balanced open spaces tender.

MPC Minutes 01.10.2024 Attachment no.1 – Open Spaces report

Inspection conducted by: S Parkin

Date: September 2024

Area	Comments	Action
The Sentry	Looks good.	Seating Area – benches need repairing.
Churchyard	Churchyard Volunteer Day planned for 5th October. Tasks to include full grass cut, pick up cuttings, weeding the paths, pruning bushes and shrubs, removing saplings and overgrown vegetation.	All welcome to help!
The Play Area	Looks good. Rotating see-saw surface replacement scheduled for 26 th September.	None.
The Henge	Timber needs replacing on seats.	Cllr Jeffery to repair – someone to fit.
The Pound	Looks good.	None
Cross Tree	Looks good.	None.
Geneva Island/War Memorial	Looks good.	None.
Wheelwright's wheel	Needs weeding.	None.
Allotment	Looks good. Asbestos has been reported in an old water trough.	None.
Seats/benches/Lamp posts	Looks good.	None.
Gates and railings	Looks good.	None
Bus Shelter	Looks good.	None
Recycling bins	Looks good.	None

MPC Minutes 01.10.2024 Attachment no.2 – List of payments October 2024

Finance Report

To receive the Finance Report

On 30 September, the Accounts stood at:

Lloyds Current Account	£32,210.56
Lloyds Deposit Account	£65,445.38

Standing Orders

Moretonhampstead Development Trust Office Rent	£379.48	Date Cleared 01/09/2024
BT Telephone and Broadband	£40.91	15/09/2024

Direct Debit

Microsoft 365 subscription	£12.36	06/09/2024
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Mandatory Payments

72. Signed.....

05 November 2024

Staffing payments
(Salary, pension and quarterly HMRC) £2,111.89 30/09/2024

Card Payments

Coop (Coffee morning refreshments) £3.49 30/09/2024
Post Office (2nd class stamps) £6.80 30/09/2024

Transfers

Bus Bank Instant to Business Account £5,000 04/09/2024

Income

Interment payments £1,460.00 Various
Christmas Stall payments £40.00 Various
Bank Interest £58.96 09/09/2024
Second half Precept £27,635.00 27/09/2024

Invoices for payment – to consider and approve invoices for payment itemised on the Payment Schedule

Payment Method	Payee and reason	Budget	Power to spend	Net Payment	Payment INCL. VAT
Bank Transfer	Sam Austin <i>Lengthsman 8 days and waste</i>	EX15	Highways Act 1980 s43	£1,680.00	£1,680.00
Bank Transfer	M P Plumbing <i>Ashes interment 04/09/24 New Double grave 27/09/24</i>	EXCEM2	Local Government Act 1972 s214	£700.00	£700.00
Bank Transfer	A R Rural Services <i>Sentry cut</i>	EX6	Open Spaces Act 1906 s10	£250.00	£250.00
Bank Transfer	Moretonhampstead Swimming Pool <i>2nd round grant application</i>	EX13	Local Govt. (MP) Act 1976 s19	£182.00	£182.00
Bank Transfer	Moretonhampstead Development Trust <i>2nd round grant application</i>	EX13	LGA 1972 s144	£250.00	£250.00
Bank Transfer	Moretonhampstead Parish Hall <i>2nd round grant application</i>	EX13	Local Govt. (MP) Act 1976 s19	£400.00	£400.00
Bank Transfer	Outdoor Play Devon Ltd <i>Replace rotating seesaw grass matting</i>	EX6	Local Govt. (MP) Act 1976 s19	£2,275.00	£2,730.00