



MINUTES

Committee: Parish Council
Date: Tuesday, 2 April 2024
Time: 7:00pm
Venue: Community Club

Present

Cllr Catherine Fileman-Wright (Chairman)
Cllr Mike Warner (Vice Chairman)
Cllr John Farrand-Rogers
Cllr Rob Austin
Cllr David Bridger
Cllr Gordy Keep
Cllr Jan Evans
Cllr Chris Walden
Cllr Gemma Hampton
Cllr Mike Jeffery
Cllr Richard Short

Also Present

Samantha Parkin (Clerk)
Dan Salt, Hembury Homes representative
County Councillor Jerry Brook
One member of the public (arrived at 19.05pm)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

57/2024 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Hodges.

58/2024 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS / REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

Cllr Fileman-Wright declared an interest in min no. 67/2024, 71/2024 and 75/2024 because she is a trustee of Moretonhampstead Development Trust. She requested a dispensation to speak on the items. Cllr Austin noted that all business should go through the clerk.

It was proposed by Cllr Warner, seconded by Cllr Evans, and **resolved to grant** Cllr Fileman-Wright a dispensation to speak on the above items because it is in the interests of persons living in the council's area. Cllr Fileman-Wright and Cllr Austin abstained from the vote. *Localism Act 2011 (sections 26-37 and Schedule 4)*

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

*It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Warner, and **resolved to suspend** standing orders.*

The member of the public attended to inform the council that 6 residents had raised traffic safety concerns in and around Moretonhampstead at the recent police surgery. Two offences had been reported to the Police. She asked the council to work with Devon County Council (DCC) and the Police to address residents' concerns. The Chairman thanked the member of the public and noted her

concern about traffic safety. The Chairman asked the resident to provide the council with police incident numbers and informed her about what the council is already doing.

*It was proposed by Cllr Farrand-Rogers, seconded by Cllr Jeffery, and **resolved to reinstate standing orders.***

59/2024 MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Farrand-Rogers, and **resolved to accept and sign** the minutes of the meeting held on 5th March 2024 as a correct record. *LGA 1972 Sch 12 para 41(1)*

60/2024 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.

61/2024 COUNCILLOR REPORTS

County Councillor Report

Cllr Brook informed the council that the budget went through with limited discussion in the county chamber, essentially councillors understood the tightness of money.

He had recently had a discussion with the Head of Highways regarding the road network. Her reply was very concerning to everyone, nothing will happen to roads in rural locations that have no residences, essentially, they will become for farm use only. He appreciates DCC doesn't have the money to submit to the highway, he believes it is a government issue – DCC cannot raise any more money. Cllr Evans asked Cllr Brook what DCC is doing about talking to the government. He replied that DCC is talking to Devon MPs.

Cllr Short asked Cllr Brook what the 20mph speed limit budget is for 2024/25. He didn't know exact figures but suspected it will be similar to last year's budget.

Cllr Brook and the member of the public left the meeting at 19.26pm.

62/2024 PLANNING APPLICATION 0490/23

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Jeffery, and **resolved to bring** item 18 forward.

Hembury Homes response to the council's comments on planning application 0490/23 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Short thanked Hembury Homes for providing the council with feedback before they make any submission on the application. He noted that a number of issues had been raised; Hembury Homes solution to the overlooking issue is satisfactory but their feedback doesn't address the overbearing issue. Hembury Homes comment on s106 but don't specifically say if they agree it will cover the provision of a footpath. Hembury Homes don't comment on if the affordable homes could be social rather than affordable rent.

*It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Jeffery, and **resolved to suspend standing orders.** There was one abstention.*

Mr Salt noted that the Dartmoor National Park (DNP) planning officer was keen for Hembury Homes to speak with the council to discuss the council's comments.

Mr Salt noted that the DNP Officer will review the overbearing issue once Hembury Homes has proposed a solution to the overlooking issue, but it could result in the loss of plot 24.

Mr Salt commented on the councils request for a contribution towards a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS). He is nervous about providing funding for a sign because he doesn't want to become embroiled in any disagreements.

Mr Salt noted that Hembury Homes are waiting for clarity from Teignbridge District Council (TDC) regarding the affordable housing and open spaces issues raised by the council.

Mr Salt explained that the existing hedge will be allowed to thicken.

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Jeffery, and resolved to reinstate standing orders.

The Chairman thanked Mr Salt for attending the meeting and the detailed response.

It was proposed by Cllr Short, seconded by Cllr Austin, and **resolved to accept** that Baker Estates response to the overlooking issue is an improvement. There was one abstention.

It was proposed by Cllr Short, seconded by Cllr Austin, and **resolved to note** that the submission does not consider the issue about overbearing and dominance. This will be a matter for the National Park Authority to consider in due course.

It was proposed by Cllr Short, seconded by Cllr Evans, and **resolved** that Dartmoor National Park Authority should ask Devon County Council to consider the need for traffic safety measures in the vicinity of the site. There was one abstention.

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Hampton, and **resolved to write** to Teignbridge District Council and Dartmoor National Park offering evidence in support of s106 for open spaces.

Cllr Austin had concerns about previous s106 monies not being utilised in Moretonhampstead.

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Evans, and resolved to note Hembury Homes plans to thicken the hedge.

It was proposed by Cllr Short, seconded by Cllr Evans and **resolved to note** Hembury Homes response on affordable homes and leave the matter to Dartmoor National Park. The council notes that Hembury Homes haven't commented on if they can change affordable rented to social rented.

Mr Salt left the meeting at 20.02pm.

63/2024 COUNCILLOR REPORTS

District Councillor Report

Cllr Farrand-Rogers noted the recent TDC newsletter included the final report for the Corporate Peer Challenge. He noted that the biggest issue facing the council was the lack of a harmonious working relationship between officers and members, but the relationship does seem to be improving.

He noted that the following local groups have been supported from his community support fund: Men in Sheds, Betton Exchange, Library painting project, Friendly Fridays and the Swimming Pool.

He informed the council that he had tabled a question for the next meeting about water pollution.

64/2023 MATTERS ARISING

It was noted the council's comments on the proposed Devolution Deal have been sent.

65/2024 CHAIRMANS DISCRETION

The Chairman thanked the council for attending the recent training session. She noted that the training had reminded members to drop into community events.

66/2024 OPEN SPACES REPORT

The Open Spaces monthly report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The report was noted and is attached at appendix 2 on page 38. The clerk noted that the churchyard and verges have had their first cut of the year, but she has not received a reply from the Sentry contractor to arrange a cut. She also noted that the Cross Street tree has been pruned by Cllr Hodges and a volunteer, they recommend annual light pruning. The council notes its thanks. Cllr Austin noted that Trees in Time had replaced the oak trees in the sentry, the council notes its thanks. The clerk also noted that the first lengthsman visit had been carried out today.

It was proposed by Cllr Austin, seconded by Cllr Hampton, and **resolved to delegate** to Cllr Keep arranging repairs to the Churchill bench with the farmer and reports back to the council.

67/2024 CLIMATE CHANGE & ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP

The Chairman noted April's green tip focuses on ground nesting birds.

The report on the upcoming Green Plan for Moreton workshop had been circulated with the agenda. The chairman noted the concerns about her relationship with MDT.

It was proposed by Cllr Austin, seconded by Cllr Evans, and **resolved** that if there needs to be a community event on the environment it should be organised by the council for the benefit of the community it represents. There were three abstentions.

68/2024 INTERNAL FINANCIAL REGULATOR REPORT

Cllr Bridger had checked the accounts for February.

69/2024 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The Council considered its monthly schedule of payments.

It was proposed by Cllr Farrand-Rogers, seconded by Cllr Bridger, and **resolved to approve** the schedule of payments at appendix 4 on page 38. There was one abstention. *LGA 1972 s150(5)*

70/2024 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from Teignbridge District Council, Devon County Council and Dartmoor National Park regarding the EV Charge Point in Court Street.

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Evans, and **resolved to note** the response and share it with the resident.

2. Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from Teignbridge Housing Enabling Officer sharing the results of the 2023 Rural Affordable Homes in Teignbridge survey. The correspondence was noted.

3. Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from Dartmoor National Park regarding the section 106 agreement.

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Hampton, and **resolved to forward** the correspondence to Mary Ridgeway and take up DNP on their offer of the officer coming to meet the council.

4. Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from the Chair of Moretonhampstead Development Trust informing the council how the service charges are apportioned throughout the building.

It was proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Austin, and **resolved to ask** MDT what the total area in square footage of the building is. There were seven abstentions.

5. Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from the Emergency Planning and Business Continuity Officer for Teignbridge regarding community emergency plans.

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Austin, and **resolved to share** the council's draft community emergency plan with the officer and seek a meeting. There was one abstention.

6. Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from Teignbridge District Officer informing the council of the new Off-Street Parking Places Order.

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Short and **resolved to reply** to the officer and the portfolio holder expressing deep disappointment that yet again TDC has failed to take into account the council's representation in terms of the timescales and the council considers that its recent correspondence about parking is its representation to the order.

7. Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from Wellmoor (MDT) inviting a representative from the council to attend a Wellmoor Health and Wellbeing Advisory Group meeting. Cllr Bridger volunteered to attend.

8. Correspondence was received and circulated prior to the meeting from St Andrews Church. The council wishes them success.

71/2024 FINANCE AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The draft minutes of the Finance and Policy meeting held on 19th March had been circulated prior to the meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Austin, seconded by Cllr Fileman-Wright, and resolved to pay the following grants in accordance with F&P minute 12/2024:

- Moretonhampstead Twinning Association - £200.00
- Moretonhampstead Community Swimming Pool - £400.00
- Moretonhampstead Information Centre - £300.00
- Moretonhampstead Bowling Club - £262.41

Total Awarded £1,162.41.

There were three abstentions. Cllr Short abstained because he is a volunteer in the information centre.

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Austin, and resolved to approve the **Financial Regulations**. There was one abstention.

It was proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Hampton, and resolved to approve the **Standing Orders**. There was one abstention.

It was proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Austin, and **resolved to approve** the Risk Assessment.

It was proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Austin, and **resolved to approve** the Statement of Internal Control.

72/2024 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Short, seconded by Cllr Evans and **resolved to postpone** the Annual Parish Meeting due to circumstances outside of the council's control, it will be held before the Annual meeting of the council in May.

73/2024 CHRISTMAS

The Clerk's report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Hampton, and **resolved to make** it public that the council is unable to continue managing the Christmas trees and seek a group or organisation willing to take on the responsibility and seek volunteers. If no group or organisation comes forward, inform householders that they will need to organise their own tree arrangements. There was one abstention.

74/2024 UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND

The Feasibility Study and estimated costs had been circulated prior to the meeting. The chairman noted that it provides potentially exciting vision for the community but there is a significant cost associated with it. The study has been funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Funding, but it is not clear what the potential for any future UK shared Prosperity Funding is. The Highways working group will meet and look at the next steps.

75/2024 HOSPITAL

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Jeffery, and **resolved** that that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted on sensitive information, it is advisable in the public interest, that the press and public be temporarily excluded, and they be instructed to withdraw.

The Chairman's report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Short, seconded by Cllr Evans and **resolved to recognise** the value of the building to the community for the importance of the services that are provided from the hospital building to the community, via the Health Centre and the collaboration between NHS staff and NED Care who all work together to provide much-needed local health services and the council notes the heritage value. There was one abstention.

It was proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Austin, and **resolved to delegate** to Cllr Fileman-Wright and Cllr Warner to meet with interested parties to receive information from the NHS. There was one abstention.

It was proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Walden, and **resolved to continue** with the position that the council does not wish to own any buildings. There was one abstention.

It was proposed by Cllr Fileman-Wright, seconded by Cllr Jeffery, and **resolved to come** out of part 2.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.57pm

TO DO ACTIONS

- Clerk to make payments
- Clerk to respond to correspondence in accordance with min no. 62/2024 and 70/2024
- Clerk to inform grant applicants of councils decision
- Clerk to publish Approved policies on website
- Clerk to reschedule Annual Parish Meeting
- Clerk to action min no. 73/2024

MPC Minutes 02.04.2024 Attachment no.1 – Open Spaces Report

Inspection carried out by: S Parkin

Date: April 2024

Area	Comments	Action
The Sentry	Requested grass cut.	None.
Churchyard	Requested grass cut.	None.
The Play Area	Looks good.	None.
The Henge	Timber needs replacing on seats.	Cllr Jeffery to repair – someone to fit.
The Pound	Ok	None
Cross Tree	Looks good.	None.
Geneva Island/War Memorial	Looks good.	None.
Wheelwright's wheel	Looks good.	None.
Allotment	Looks good.	None.
Seats/benches/Lamp posts	A few benches in need of painting.	Seek volunteers to rub down and repaint benches in spring/summer.
Gates and railings	Looks good.	None
Bus Shelter	Looks good.	None
Recycling bins	Looks good.	None

Cllr Keep has collected the damaged bench from Churchill reported at last month's meeting. The bench is beyond repair, the council must decide if it will be replaced.

MPC Minutes 02.04.2024 Attachment no.2 – List of payments April 2024

Finance Report

To receive the Finance Report

On 31 March, the Accounts stood at:

Lloyds Current Account	£2,923.12
Lloyds Deposit Account	£55,068.18

Standing Orders

		Date Cleared
Moretonhampstead Development Trust Office Rent	£379.48	02/04/2024
BT Telephone and Broadband	£40.14	15/03/2024
Wordpress	£100.80	11/03/2024

Direct Debit

Microsoft 365 subscription	£12.36	06/03/2024
Old Mill Payroll	£147.60	25/03/2024

Mandatory Payments

Staffing payments
(Salary, pension and quarterly HMRC) £2155.91 28/03/2024

Card Payments

Post Office £5.30 12/03/2024
Coop £4.50 13/03/2024

Refund

Pre-purchase plot – 10% £990.00 11/03/2024

Income

Interment payments £1231.00 Various
Bank Interest £66.36 11/03/2024

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 inc VAT
Bank Transfer	Community Club <i>Hire of the Hall 5/03 & 12/03</i>	EX5	LGA 1972 s111	£30.00	£30.00
Bank Transfer	S Parkin <i>Mileage to Holsworthy</i>	EX	LG (FP) Act 1963 s5	£33.30	£33.30
Bank Transfer	Jag Signs <i>10 x 20's Plenty signs</i>	EX6	Localism Act 2011 s1	£178.00	£213.60
Bank Transfer	Van Der Steen Workshops <i>Feasibility Study</i>	EX6	Localism Act 2011 s1	£3,000.00	£3,600.00
Bank Transfer	Bradfords <i>Wood to fix benches</i>	EX6	Open Spaces Act 1906 s10	£80.40	£96.48
Bank Transfer	Tomlinson Trees <i>Churchyard and verges cut</i>	EX6	Open Spaces Act 1906 s10	£912.00	£1094.40