

MORCHARD BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 4 December 2017

Present: Keith Davies (Chairman), Roger Field, Charlotte Squire, Les Partridge, Luke Denno, Nick Heath, Frank Yendell, Sarah Gillbard.

Records of Declarations of Interest made during the meeting are filed with these minutes.

1. **Apologies:** Erwin Moore, David Grant, Dawn Parkhouse, Margaret Squires and Judi Binks.
2. **The minutes** of the meeting of 6th November 2017 were approved and signed. Proposed N Heath, seconded L Partridge, unanimous.

3. Matters Arising:

- (a) Speed in the village. The results supplied by DCC for the period 8 – 16 November 2017 are:
Fore Street: 85th percentile* = 23.3 mph [this means that 85% of the vehicles did not exceed 23.3 mph]. The mean or arithmetic average speed = 17.2 mph.

Polson Hill: 85th percentile was 33.1** mph and the mean 26.9 mph.

Notes: * the 85th percentile is used to set standards, and to exclude the people that would not adhere to any speed limit. In Fore Street this shows that people drive more cautiously than the prevailing 30 mph limit and on Polson Hill they are driving to the limit.

** the limit for a fixed penalty in a 30 mph zone is 30 mph +10% + 2 mph = 35mph. This allows for variation in speedometers, tyre design, wear and pressures.

Once used in the SIMPLE model, this gave a result of Zero, or “Do Nothing”.

The Clerk was directed to try to acquire the raw data – sample size, times, speeds, etc. This information will be used to refine the speed questionnaire.

The Clerk will request DCC to refresh the SLOW signs and 30 roundels painted on the parish roads.

- (b) Speed at Morchard Road. A parishioner living on a 60 mph stretch of the A377 has raised a petition concerning the speed on that section of road. Part of the A377 also falls into Down St Mary parish. A joint meeting of the two parish councils plus Stephen Tucker, our Neighbourhood Highways Officer, and Road Casualty Reduction Officer (RCRO) PC Richard Juniper was proposed. The Clerk will ask Cllr Margaret Squires to organise the meeting, and attend.
- (c) A complaint was received about the level of gritting at Greenaway. The Snow Warden will contact the complainant.
- (d) Accidents and Incidents. None reported.
- (e) Public seats. A local contractor will be viewing the seats with the intention of repairing the six metal seats, which will be the basis of a TAP Fund application. It was agreed that the two seats at Sunny Lane would be re-instated at a cost of £30.

- (f) Defibrillators. Checked and correct on 30/11/2017. A training course is being planned for late January 2018.
- (g) War Memorial. Quotes are still awaited for replacing the 8 posts around the War Memorial, which are part of the War Memorial's Class 2 listing.
- (h) Amendment to standing orders. Following a fracas in a neighbouring Parish Council meeting Morchard Bishop's Standing Orders were updated to allow the Chairman to limit speeches from the floor to 3 minutes and to summarily close the meeting if it becomes unruly. Disrupting a Parish Council meeting may be a police matter.
- (i) Village Project: Play Area: A meeting is being arranged in the New Year.

4. Members of the Public: none attended.

5. Correspondence: a request for a donation from North and Mid Devon Citizens' Advice Bureau will result in a £75 donation. Proposed L Partridge, seconded C Squire.

6. Planning: Four applications for three properties were considered:

17/01766/LBC	Replacement windows	6 Wood Lane
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Supported. Proposed S Gillbard, seconded C Squire, unanimous.

17/01811/HOUSE	Two storey extension	Middle Leigh
17/01812/LBC	Replacement windows, part demo of single story lean-to and erection of two storey extension	Middle Leigh

Supported. Proposed N Heath, seconded F Yendell, unanimous.

17/01902/FULL	Erection of roof over existing silage clamp	Middlecott Farm
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Supported. Proposed S Gillbard, seconded R Field, unanimous.

No planning decisions, appeals or withdrawals were received from MDDC.

7. Finance. Seven invoices were presented for payment:

M Baker	Bus shelter November	£20.00
S Docking	3 months + car park hedges	£267.00 (inc VAT)
J Coffey	Plants	£28.02
Function 28	1 month	£24.00 (inc VAT)
L Denno	Paint for Frost phone box	£83.77
Ace Signs	Signs for car park	£159.30 (inc VAT)
Lydcott Nursery	Plants	£84.56 (inc VAT)

Payment proposed N Heath, seconded F Yendell, unanimous.

Cashflow: The cashflow in November was greatly helped by a £1139 VAT rebate from HMRC, meaning that the net outflow of cash was £481.

Precept: The precept for 2018 -19 was set at £7268, a reduction of £96 from the current year which limits the extra cost to each Band D household to 2%, reflecting the £317 reduction in central government support grant. The DALC subscription will be taken at source. Acceptance of precept proposed L Denno, seconded F Yendell, unanimous.

MBPC's budget has now increased by a total of 3.8% over the past six years.

8. General:

- The closure of the Natwest Bank in Crediton next year raises the question of how to process direct payments while retaining the security of two signatories. The Clerk will see what Natwest is offering, if anything.
- A 20s plenty sign at Bugford has disappeared.
- Flooding has been reported at Middlecott Lane junction with the Bugford road.

The next meeting of Morchard Bishop Parish Council will be at 7.30 pm on Monday 8th January 2018 in the Memorial Hall.