

## MORCHARD BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 6 February 2017

**Present:** Frank Yendell (Acting Chairman), Roger Field, Erwin Moore, Les Partridge, Charlotte Squire, Dawn Parkhouse, Luke Denno, Nick Heath.

Margaret Squires and Judi Binks attended.

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

1. **Apologies:** Keith Davies, David Grant, Sarah Gillbard.
2. **The minutes** of the meeting of 9 January 2017 were approved and signed, proposed R Field, seconded L Partridge, unanimous.
3. **Matters arising:**
  - (a) Highways. Potholes were reported at Brownstone, Redhill, London Inn Crossroads and the top of Ladies Plain. The water leak at the War Memorial has been found to contain chlorine, i.e. it contains mains water.
  - (b) Accidents and Incidents. A diesel theft and an aggressive dog have been reported to the police. The conversation turned to litter in the parish and a number of 'hot-spots', beer cans between Barton Cross and West Aish were specifically mentioned and the layby by Knighty Bridge.
  - (c) TAP Fund. The proposal to use the TAP Fund for the churchyards of the area came to nothing due to the variety of arrangements in neighbouring parishes. However it has been reported that the flat roof of the Sports and Social Club is in very poor condition. Not only is it the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sports and Social Club this year but the roof is very near the night landing site for Devon Air Ambulance. It was agreed to apply for the TAP Fund for the Sports and Social Club roof, proposed D Parkhouse, seconded L Denno, unanimous.
  - (d) Defibrillators. One sign to be erected.
  - (e) Local Plan. The only area for development in Morchard Bishop is the area west of Greenaway. Tatepath and Gurneys have been considered by MDDC and discounted but this does not preclude a private developer putting plans forward for either, or any other property. Details can be found at MDDC website: [www.middevon.gov.uk](http://www.middevon.gov.uk) / SHLAA / West area / Morchard Bishop. It was disappointing to find that the records contain no reference to the opinions of the Parish Council or individual parishioners. Apparently the Parish Council did not register various green spaces in the village as part of the representations to the Local Plan Review Proposed Submission in 2015. The way to rectify this would be to create a Neighbourhood Plan, as the next Local Plan Review is many years in the future.
  - (f) DAAT night flying. All is complete and the Official Opening took place in 26 January.
  - (g) Transparency Code )
  - (h) Frost Phone Box ) Work in progress.
  - (i) Emergency Planning )
  - (j) Drain in Wood lane )

#### Village Projects

- (k) Play Area. A grant of £1368 has been secured from 'Investing in Devon' to drain the lower end of the play area. An order has been placed.
4. **Members of the public:** Two members of the public attended and raised the issue of speeding cars in Fore Street. This subject has been discussed several times before, and everybody agrees that reduced speed through the village is a good thing but opinions differ on the extent of the problem and effective control.

Cllr Squires recommended applying for Speed Complaint Action Review Forum (SCARF) assessment, which would be timely in the light of a revised national policy from the Department of Transport later in 2017.

In the meantime the Clerk will order another three '20s Plenty' signs. Proposed F Yendell, seconded L Denno, unanimous with one abstention.

- 5. Correspondence.** A letter has been received from Historic England who are considering listing the War Memorial as a building of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. Having been responsible for the War Memorial since 1921 the Parish Council is not keen on the proposal. When the memorial was cleaned, with the support of the whole village, prices were obtained and an order placed. Once listed, any work will require Listed Building Consent, with the paperwork and costs that involves.

A letter was received from the Pension Regulator again checking whether the Parish Council had any employees who are young enough and well paid enough to apply for a pension provision.

Another letter came from MDDC informing the Parish Council that it had funds allocated for Teen Facility Provision (£1442) and New Junior Play Equipment (£2066).

- 6. Planning.** Two planning applications were considered:

|              |   |                |
|--------------|---|----------------|
| 17/00086/CAT | Remove two holly trees in Conservation Area | 10 Fore Street |
|--------------|---|----------------|

This was supported, proposed L Denno, seconded C Squire, unanimous.

|               |                          |                             |
|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 17/00099/FULL | Erection of poultry unit | Hele Barton Farm, Black Dog |
|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|

The response was a formal "No Comment", proposed E Moore, seconded N Heath, unanimous.

The following decisions have been received from MDDC:

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 16/01878/FULL | Conversion former slaughterhouse at Maybank, Morchard Road: approved. |
| 16/01798/FULL | Change of use at Cottage Gardens: approved.                           |
| 16/01175/FULL | Erection of dwelling behind Post House: conditions listed.            |
| 14/00952/FULL | Conversion of redundant garage in Rixey Lane: conditions listed.      |

- 7. Finance.** Four invoices to be paid:

|               |                                 |         |
|---------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| M Baker       | Bus shelter, January            | £20.00  |
| Memorial Hall | Five months                     | £90.00  |
| Anthony Heal  | Lights and access platform      | £248.70 |
| R Field       | Reimburse 'Defibrillator' signs | £79.50  |

Cashflow: The income over £100 was a VAT rebate of £753 and £1058 banked for the DAAT Fund from the Christmas Hamper draw. The only cheque cashed for over £100 was £1000 by the Churchyard Committee.

- 8. General.**

(a) Section 137. A local council has the basic power to spend money on purposes for the direct benefit of its area, or part of its area, or all or some of its inhabitants. In the area of discretionary spending there are two areas:

- Where MBPC applies for grants on behalf of another organisation, typically TAP Fund or similar.
- Where MBPC makes grants from its general fund.

The latter area can be divided into three areas:

- The annual grant to the Churchyard Committee. All parishioners are entitled to be buried in the parish churchyard. Typically this should not exceed 15% of the Parish precept.
- Grants to organisations that provide, or can provide support for parishioners. Typically this should not total more than 5% of the Parish Precept.
- Grants for special events, whether local or national. Typically this should not exceed 10% of the Parish Precept.

Adoption of this statement was proposed by L Denno, seconded R Field, unanimous.

- (b) An abandoned vehicle has been left in the village car park. The Clerk will notify the authorities.
- (c) The village hall sign opposite the London Inn requires re-attaching.

**The next meeting of Morchard Bishop Parish Council will be held at the Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 6 March 2017.**

