

## MORCHARD BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 5 June 2017

**Present:** Keith Davies (Chairman), Roger Field, Erwin Moore, Dawn Parkhouse, David Grant, Les Partridge, Sarah Gillbard, Luke Denno, Charlotte Squire

Margaret Squires attended.

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

**1. Apologies:** Nick Heath, Frank Yendell, Judi Binks

- 2. The minutes** of the meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 were approved and signed. Proposed D Parkhouse, seconded L Denno, unanimous.  
The minutes of the AGM on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 were approved and signed. Proposed R Field, seconded E Moore, unanimous.

**2A.** Alex Munro explained to the meeting how he had improved his internet speed from under 2 mbps to 210 mbps. This had been done by establishing a 'box of tricks' and an aerial at the Memorial Hall and having an aerial in sight of the hall at home. A side-benefit of this operation will be high speed wi-fi throughout the hall. Further information will be available at [www.connectdevon.co.uk](http://www.connectdevon.co.uk) from mid-June. At this stage an estimated cost of installation and operating the system will be about £195 to install and £30 per month to run. Experiments are imminent to test relaying beyond the receiver in sight of the Memorial Hall mast.

**3. Matters Arising:**

- (a) Roads etc. The rail bridge at Bugford has been repaired and the road surfaced dressed from Spirelake Cross to Newbuildings' speed limit sign. The Clerk has attempted to have the gullies cleaned in East the Green and Fore Street, but with no success. The regime in operation is to clean 'urban gullies with sumps' at least once every three years. To the best of anyone's recollection, the gullies have not been cleaned in the past three years and Morchard Bishop's gullies are scheduled to be cleaned on Tuesday 26 December 2017 (Boxing Day). The Clerk will take the issue up with Steve Tucker and Margaret Squires.
- (b) Accidents and Incidents. A macabre incident was reported early in June. The police are involved and the Parish Council has decided not to publicise the details to avoid encouraging copyists.
- (c) TAP Fund. £630 has been received from MDDC as the TAP Fund for 2016-17. This has been forwarded to the Sports and Social Club to help towards the roof repairs.
- (d) Scramble Bikes. The problem seems to have gone away since it became a Noise Abatement problem.
- (e) Lightsource. Signed contracts have been received.
- (f) Defibrillators. Checked and OK.
- (g) Emergency Planning. A new resident in the village has offered his services which include being a radio ham and having a generator. His offer has been accepted gratefully.
- (h) Speeding. No report has been received about the SCARF assessment.
- (i) Rubbish bin re-allocation. A new bin was placed opposite Church Street Stores.

- (j) Seats at Sunny Lane. R Field and S Gillbard plan to get the seats re-instated.
- (k) Transparency Code )
- (l) Frost Phone Box ) Work in progress.
- (m) Wood Lane Drain )
- (n) Village Project – Play Area. The drainage work at the south end has been carried out and paid for by Investing in Devon. A further £632 remains to go towards play equipment.

**4. Members of the Public.** None attended.

**5. Correspondence.** A sample of a welcome pack was presented, but the feeling of the meeting was that the *Morchard Messenger* already fulfilled the same function.

**6. Planning.** A total of eight applications for seven properties were considered:

17/00679/PNCOU	Prior notification for change of use of agri building under Class Q. Consultation Comments not invited.	Rudge Rew
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No comment made.

17/00731/FULL	Change of use of agri land to domestic garden and erection of garage and store	Blendon, Rixey Lane
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Supported, proposed D Grant, seconded E Moore, unanimous

17/00759/LBC	LBC to replace 3 rotten windows	Northcott Cottage
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Supported, proposed L Denno, seconded L Partridge, unanimous.

17/00760/LBC	LBC for erection of single storey extension following demolition of boot room	Moor Farm
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Supported, proposed C Squire, seconded D Grant, unanimous.

17/00787/CAT	Remove 1 sycamore tree in Conservation Area	5 Wood Lane
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Supported with proviso that work be carried out after 1 September due to possible birds nesting, proposed L Partridge, seconded L Denno, unanimous.

17/00799/HOUSE 17/00800/LBC	Erection of new shed & gazebo, widen driveway, create parking area, re-render house	April Cottage, Fore Street
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Supported with the proviso that it did not set a precedent further down Fore Street, where the road is narrower and the access gateway more difficult, proposed R Field, seconded L Denno, unanimous.

17/00816/LBC	LBC to replace 2 existing windows and 1 door at rear and re-glaze two windows	Farthing Park
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Supported, proposed S Gillbard, seconded D Grant, unanimous.

**Planning decisions:**

17/00122/HOUSE	Installation of dormer window & internal alterations	2 Whites Cottages, Fore St	Refused
17/00408/HOUSE	Conversion of garage to accommodation and erection of detached garage	Westbrook, Polson Hill	Approved
17/00616/CAT	Notice of intention to remove 1 fir tree	2 Chapel Cottages	Approved
17/00650/NMA	Non-material Amendments to 15/01640/FULL	Bugford Water Mill	Approved
14/00952/FULL	Discharge of conditions	Workshop, Rixey Lane	Approved

**7. Finance.** A total of eight invoices were presented:

Lyn Hargood	Internal Audit	£90.00
M Sparrow	Toby Sparrow hosting <i>Morchardnet</i>	£87.11
S Dockings	6 months' grass cutting	£366.00 (inc VAT)
MB Hall	3 months' rental	£54.00
M Baker	Bus shelter – May	£20.00
R Moore	Planters	£98.97 (inc VAT)
G Rice	Drainage at Play Area (Investing in Devon grant)	£1368.00
S & S Club	Grant towards roof repairs (TAP Fund)	£632.00
Transfer	From General a/c to P3 a/c	£1000.00
Transfer	From Reserve a/c to General a/c	£630.00

[Both transfers were caused by grants being paid into the incorrect account].

Cashflow: There was a nett outflow of £143 with a further unrepresented cheque for £52.

Audit Results: Some tightening up of minute taking is required. Section 137 (discretionary grants) section needs rewriting: the Parish Council can make discretionary grants to a total of £7.57 per elector, which with 842 electors in the parish amounts to £6373, or 88% of the precept for the current year. This needs to be re-defined. It was subsequently agreed that the Pension rules do not apply as the Parish Council has no employees under 65 years of age and earning more than £10,000 per annum.

- 8. General:** the Chairman reported that Morchard Bishop has been entered in the 'Village of the Year' competition.

**The next meeting of Morchard Bishop Parish Council will be at the Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017.**