

Minutes of the meeting of Silverton Parish Council

held Monday 7th October 2019

Present: Parish Cllrs A Melville, F Derbyshire, L Trebble, D Lacey, V Maylan, K Faulhaber, & S Roach

District Cllr B Deed & District Cllr J Wright

Mrs J Campbell + Mr J Wise

Minute 113090 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Steer and County Cllr Margaret Squires

Minute 113091 **Meeting open to members of the public – 15 minutes**

Mrs Campbell informed the meeting she had attended the Campaign to Protect Rural England Planning workshop for Town and Parish Councils on the 18th September along with another member of the Neighbourhood Plan. A further workshop was scheduled to take place at Hatherleigh on the 15th October 2019. She said she was keen for Councillors to attend this meeting which was to take place between 10 am -1.00 p.m at a cost of £10 per attendee. She said various figures for new builds were given for areas in Devon and it was a very informative meeting. The Chairman confirmed the details of the workshop had been circulated by the Clerk but there were no Councillors available to attend on that day

Mr Wise stated with the vast expansion of the village he felt it was necessary to make the entrances into village fit for purpose. He said he appreciated this was a County Highways issue. He felt if it was not possible to widen the roads consideration does need to be given to more passing places

Minute 113092 **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd September 2019**

The Chairman proposed the Minutes be accepted as an accurate record. Cllr Trebble seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 5 in favour and 2 abstentions.

Minute 113093 **Review of Action Plan**

Repairs to Bus Shelter – It was agreed the Clerk would write to Kevin Luxton asking if he is going to carry out this work and, if not, further tenders to be obtained.

Football Club – The Clerk to write to the new Manager requesting a response to the original letter.

MDDC Grass Cutting – An email received from the Deputy Chief Executive had been circulated to all Councillors giving confirmation of the dates of cuts in 2017 and one in March 2018. After discussion Cllr Roach proposed the Parish Council pay the outstanding amount of £ 176.34 and request email confirmation of any future cuts in order that any misunderstandings are avoided. The Clerk to make it clear to MDDC that the Parish Council still disputes that all the original cuts were actually carried out. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 6 in favour and Cllr Faulhaber abstained.

Minute 113094

Discussion with District Councillors J Wright and B Deed

Concerns were expressed regarding the safety and condition of the road between the village and Killerton. Cllr Faulhaber stated he felt the only realistic solution was for a kerb along this stretch of road as DCC are only responsible for the highway up to the tarmac edge.

It was also felt adequate drainage was required along this stretch of road and it was questioned why DCC were not taking up the issue with the landowner if it was his responsibility to maintain the area in question. It was noted that with the increase in size of the village this only exacerbates the problems which already exist along this road and it was felt “pull ins” would perhaps be better than any suggestion of widening of roads.

Cllr Maylan acknowledged the fact that 3 parishioners had recently cleared the drainage blockage themselves and thanks were expressed to them.

District Cllr Wright

Cllr Lacey raised the question of electric charging centres with Cllr Wright and said in his view the lack of charging points were putting off people purchasing electric cars. Cllr Wright confirmed MDDC is exploring the possibility of obtaining a grant in order to be able to increase the number of electric charging centres.

District Cllr Deed

District Cllr Deed informed the meeting that Climate Change was very much on MDDC's agenda. The District Council would like to see charging points on all new dwellings but this would probably be too expensive for Developers and would probably be unenforceable. It was hoped that the Government will take this issue seriously but currently the charging points cannot be made compulsory in new planning projects.

MDDC were looking at the Government's present arrangements as some people would prefer a “committee system” as opposed to the system currently in place.

MDDC had just completed 26 new Council homes and these were occupied.

The Premier Inn at Tiverton was due to open on 8th November.

An update was given on MDDC's new housing together with Exeter, Teignbridge & East Devon.

The Chairman proposed Agenda Item 12 be moved to Item 6. Cllr Trebble seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous

Minute 113095 **warding patterns**

Local Government Boundary Commission review for

District Cllr Deed informed the meeting that MDDC had been approached by the Boundary Commission with regard to a review. The Boundary Commission take the anticipated number of electors in 2025 and not anticipated population figures. To date an All Party Committee has agreed that the number of Cllrs should remain at 42 but the average number of electors per councillor will probably go up to 200-250. In practical terms the boundaries of Bradninch Ward will remain as current but Silverton may be expanded to take in North Silverton which District Cllr Deed felt would make sense. Before any amendments are made there will be a public consultation. Any alterations to the Ward boundaries will be effective from 2023 when the District Elections are next due.

District Cll Deed confirmed that the Bickleigh Parish did now have 5 new Councillors, 4 within Parish and one within 3 miles of its boundary which is himself.

Minute 113096 Planning

(a) Applications

19/01555/LBC – Listed Building Consent to reduce height of chimney on east slope of roof – 36 Fore Street, Silverton

Cllr Faulhaber proposed the Parish Council support the above application. Cllr Maylan seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous

19/01462/FULL – Retention of 1 x wood chip biomass boiler, 1 x wood pellet biomass boiler and erection of fuel store and associated flues in existing farm building – Yarde Farm, Ellerhayes

Cllr Faulhaber proposed the Parish Council support the above application. CllrLacey seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous

18/01906/FULL – Revised drawings – Land Farm, Silverton – erection of agricultural building for storage

Cllr Derbyshire informed the meeting that a representation from a neighbour was made to her at the recent Mini Market that the revised plans are the original plans

Cllr Faulhaber proposed the Parish Council do not support the application on the grounds given its response to the original application (a) the closeness of the building to the road (b) use of industrial materials which do not blend into the surroundings (c) concerns as to the visual impact of the proposed building on the surrounding landscape and the scale of the building and (d) highway concerns in relation to a further entrance being constructed onto Old Butterleigh Road and one which is very near to the entrance to Roach Lane. Cllr Roach seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous

(b) Approvals/Refusals (received from MDDC)

REFUSAL – LBC for installation of one round window in gable end elevation

APPROVAL – Erection of an extension following demolition of existing conservatory – 18 Coach Road, Silverton

CERTIFICATE OF LAWFUL USE – conversion of garage to additional ancillary accommodation and installation of rear dormer window and rooflights to front elevation – 16 Hederman Close, Silverton

GRANT OF LISTED BUILDING CONSENT – installation of 1 replacement window on rear elevation – 9 Newcourt Rd, Silverton

APPROVAL – demolition of detached garage and erection of single storey side extension and covered veranda to rear – 4 Old Butterleigh Road, Silverton

(c) Any other planning matters

(i) WITHDRAWN -19/01442/PNHH – Prior Notification for erection of an extension extending 4.00m to the rear, maximum height of 3.50m eaves height of 3.50m

– 33 Ellerhayes, Hele - noted

(ii) Parish Council attendance at District Planning Meeting when the Silverdale application is considered.

The Chairman stated that he had looked at the MDDC Agenda yesterday and there were no papers listed for the next planning meeting. District Cllr Wright had called in the application and had been chasing for updating information. On the information available it appeared that MDDC are going to approve the application as it was difficult to turn down “reasonable” applications. The date for the District Council meeting is currently being shown as 23rd October and if this is the date the Chairman asked if a Councillor would make representations on behalf of the Parish Council as he would be away and not able to attend. The Vice-Chairman is also away on that date. The Parish Council representative has a period of 3 minutes to bring forward the Parish Council’s objections to the application as previously agreed and submitted to the District Council. District Cllr Wright was also not available on that date.

The Chairman proposed a Parish Councillor attend the District Council Planning Meeting and speaks on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Maylan seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous.

District Cllr Deed also suggested parishioners attend the meeting and speak in order that the parishioners’ views are known. Each parishioner would have 3 minutes each to put across the various points but it would be sensible to get together so various points were not duplicated by each parishioner.

Minute 113097

Finances

Monthly invoices:

Chq No	Payee	Amount	Income	Amount
002524	Mrs S Woodland	Clerk’s wages (£582.26) + expenses (£)		
002525	Mr D L Marsden	£250.00 (contractor’s monthly invoice)		
002526		CANCELLED		
002527	G Hibbert	Grass Cutting (540.00)		
002528	HMRC	Clerk’s NI and PAYE (£441.32)		
002529	MDDC	Election Costs (£224.70)		
002530	PKF Littlejohn	Audit fee (£240.00)		
002531	MDDC	Outstanding grass cutting payment (£176.34)		

The Chairman proposed the above accounts be paid. Cllr Roach seconded the proposal.

Various Emails had been received relating to the Neighbourhood Plan printer which had broken. Cllr Trebble confirmed the Committee were at a point where a lot of copying needs to be done to resubmit the draft Plan. Enquiries had been made regarding repairing the current printer but the cost would be more expensive than purchasing a new one. Cllr Roach informed the meeting he had carried out some research and the printer identified by the Committee was very expensive in relation to replacement ink cartridges. He had sourced an alternative printer which does the same job for £49.99 with replacement ink cartridges circa £24.99 - £29.99. The Chairman proposed a budget of £100 be given to the Committee to purchase a new printer and ink. Cllr Roach seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous. The Clerk to liaise with the Committee.

(i) Review/Approve Financial Regulations

Cllr Roach proposed the Parish Council adopt the Financial Regulations as drafted. Cllr Maylan seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous.

(ii) To note successful Annual Audit

Noted

(iii) To consider quotations received re refurbishment of Jubilee Gardens

One tender had been received from Stuart Luxton at a cost of £3,945.00 + VAT. It was generally agreed this was too expensive and as the wood on the planters is rotting it would seem appropriate to remove these to avoid the expense of replacing.

The Chairman proposed the Clerk thank Mr Luxton for the tender and ask for a revised quote whereby the sleepers were removed rather than converting them into seating. . Cllr Faulhaber seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous.

(iv) To consider quotation for works on Lime Trees at The Bury

A tender had been received from Hi-Line in the sum of £150.00 plus VAT. Cllr Derbyshire proposed the Parish Council accept the tender. Cllr Roach seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous.

(v) Consider if Parish Council is to purchase and decorate a tree for Christmas Tree Festival

Cllr Derbyshire proposed the Parish Council do not purchase and decorate a Christmas tree. Cllr Roach seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 5 in favour 2 abstentions.

(vi) MDDC Play Area Inspection Report for August 2019

The Play Inspection Report for August was noted. The Clerk confirmed a parishioner was going to inspect the metal strut on the entrance to the gate to the Skate Park and repair. A photograph of the missing rubber cover has to be forwarded to the original suppliers in order for a replacement to be provided. It was noted the ROSPA Inspector will be visiting in October and MDDC will provide the report in due course.

District Cllr Wright confirmed he was trying to get prices in relation to Youth Worker and felt the current figure of £5k is a lot of money. He confirmed he would like to get volunteers first before arranging a meeting with Genesis

Minute 113099 **Availability of charging points for Electric Cars (Cllr D Lacey)**

Cllr Lacey stated he had not meant to imply charging points should be installed with all new dwellings but felt perhaps a charging point could be installed in the public car park. There is a Government Grant which may be available although suitable sites to put charging points need to be found which the Parish Council may need to consider. District Cllr Wright stated if any funding was available he would update the Parish Council

Minute 113100 **Update re Neighbourhood Plan**

At the Neighbourhood Plan Committee meeting on 30th September 2019 the queries on both the Draft Design Statement and the AECOM Scoping Report queries were discussed and the reports updated and amended enabling further work to be carried out for completion.

Minute 113101 **Local Government Boundary Commission review of warding patterns**

See above

Minute 113102 **Hedge Cutting in Livingshayes Road (email received from Parishioner)**

An email had been received from a Parishioner regarding the hedges at the bottom of the gardens in Livingshayes Road having been cut last year by a third party and asking if the Parish Council could encourage MDDC to take on this responsibility on a regular basis. The owners of the hedges had been informed by MDDC 3 years ago that they were responsible for these cuts. It was agreed the Parish Council would respond confirming it is its understanding the homeowners remain responsible for the cutting of the hedges even if someone has mistakenly cut them last year

Minute 113103 **Matters Brought Forward by the Chairman**

The Chairman reported he had been in touch with PCSO Roberts who was now back on duty after maternity leave. He stated there were no longer designated named Officers for Neighbourhood Beats but she is happy to be the point of contact for Silvertown.

The British Legion had requested permission during the month to tidy up the garden at the rear of the War Memorial and they will be hanging some netting off the railings with hand knitted poppies for Remembrance Day. The Chairman had given his authority.

Cllr Derbyshire reported the following items had been raised at the October Mini Market (a) condition of the road from Silvertown to Ellerhayes (b) Health & Safety for people clearing the drainage pipes on road from Park Road to Red Cross (c) a Parishioner who lives near Red Cross had stated she would like a mirror on the cross roads to assist in crossing the road. MDDC say this is a land owners' responsibility and she ask the land owner for the mirror. Cllr Derbyshire stated she had suggested she email Margaret Squires (d) a parishioner had raised speeding in village and had pointed out Bradninch has "20 is plenty" signs. The Parishioner had also requested speed bumps in the village (e) Cllr Derbyshire had been consulted regarding a Remembrance Wreath for the Parish Council – she had agreed one should be ordered and (f) a parishioner was organising a

Baby Bank which involved various items of baby equipment/clothing being collected and distributed to parents in need in Devon. A site was required to place a storage shed and a request had been made to site this on the Little Rec.

Meeting closed at 9.11 p.m.

<https://parish.middevon.gov.uk/silverton>