

Minutes of the meeting of Silverton Parish Council

held Monday 6th January 2020

Present: Parish Cllrs A Melville (Chairman), F Derbyshire (Vice-Chairman), L Trebble, V Maylan, S Roach & S Steer

County Cllr M Squires & District Cllr J Wright

Minute 113129 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs D Lacey, K Faulhaber & District Cllr Deed

Minute 113130 **Meeting open to members of the public – 15 minutes**

No members of the public attended the meeting

Minute 113131 **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd December 2019**

The Chairman proposed the Minutes be accepted as a true record. Cllr Maylan seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 5 in favour and 1 abstention

Minute 113132 **Review of Action Plan**

Bus Shelter – It was noted that the tender from Mr Luxton had been accepted 2 years ago and the work had not been carried out. The Chairman proposed the Parish Council withdraws the offer from Mr Luxton and the Clerk to investigate other contractors to carry out the work. Cllr Maylan seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous.

Football Club – The Chairman + Clerk are still to meet with the Football Club

Jubilee Gardens – Awaiting confirmation from the contractor as to when works would be commenced

Parish Clock – Costings with regard to the required scaffolding were awaited and it was hoped these figures would be available for the Budget Meeting

Lime Trees – these works had now been carried out.

Banking – on-going

Disabled Access – The Clerk had approached a contractor and it was hoped a quote would be available for the Budget meeting.

Wildflower area – Cllr Steer had carried out some research and will forward his findings to Cllrs Derbyshire and Maylan.

The Chairman proposed the meeting be opened in order for District Cllr Wright to discuss this item. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous. District Cllr Wright informed the meeting he has a contact who distributes seeds should a price be required.

Parking Enforcement – The Police had confirmed no tickets had been issued in relation to parking as this was not their responsibility. The DCC Enforcement Officer had visited

the village and had found no infringements on the day of the visit. County Cllr Squires reiterated there was an area on the DCC website where enforcement of a specific area can be requested. It was agreed the Clerk would revert to the Police with a request that it monitors the corner of Silverdale where cars and vans park on the corner causing an obstruction.

Minute 113133
M Squires

Discussion with District Councillors J Wright & County Cllr

District Cllr Wright confirmed the new Mid Devon Local Plan had been discussed at the last meeting and when adopted this would hopefully help protect Silverton with regard to planning applications. The response to the consultation on the Mid Devon Local Plan is on the Agenda for the February District Council meeting.

County Cllr Squires confirmed Devon County Council were trying to be carbon neutral by 2030 and it is currently working with the universities and District Councils.

Minute 113134

Discussion with County Cllr Squires regarding state of road between Park Road and Red Cross

Cllr Steer reiterated concerns regarding the dangerous state of this section of road with the bank rapidly decaying and the ecology in the area being destroyed. Cllr Steer pointed out there are legal obligations imposed on DCC and these should have been implemented and the relevant action taken against the relevant land owners. These obligations are confirmed on its Website. Cllr Steer also highlighted the relevant parts of the Highway Act. County Cllr Squires stated there is a Scheme in place in relation to this stretch of road but she does not know when it is likely to be implemented. She queried if the problem had been reported and stressed individual parishioners must report the problem. County Cllr Squires pointed out there were many other areas in her patch with identical problems. She also stressed that Parishioners can sign up to become Road Wardens under the Devon County scheme.

County Cllr Squires stated that schemes are put forward but are considered centrally with A roads being repaired first, secondly B roads and then minor roads. The Chairman stated that it seems unlikely that the scheme will be approved in the near future. He asked County Cllr Squires to either discuss this issue with or re-visit the area with the local Officer. County Cllr Squires stated in her view if the drains were maintained this would solve many issues. Cllr Steer stated he found it difficult to understand why DCC are not insisting land owners carry out their responsibilities. County Cllr Squires stated she had a meeting tomorrow and will discuss the enforcement of land owners responsibility at that time and ask what DCC intends to do to carry out the enforcement.

The Chairman stated it was clear that the County Council had a tight target regarding potholes but the Parish Council do not have an effective way of reporting the section of road as a whole. The Chairman suggested all Councillors go on to the Highways portal and report the stretch of the road bearing in mind this was one of the only roads into the village and a main school route to Clyst Vale. He suggested a notice be put on the Silverton Community Facebook as the greater public opinion the more likely the scheme would be successful.

The Chairman proposed (i) County Councillor Squires would confirm the status of the road repair scheme (ii) the Parish Council request Cllr Squires to ask Devon County Council to enforce the legislation with land owners regarding hedges, mud on road and clearance of drains and (iii) publish on the Silverton Community Facebook page how to access DCC website and report concerns re condition of Park Road. Cllr Maylan seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous.

Minute 113135**Planning**(a) Applications**19/02103/FULL – Erection of an agricultural grain store (972 sqm) – land at NGR 294512 104512 – Middle Chitterley, Silverton – Parish: Bickleigh 02**

The Chairman proposed the Parish Council supports the application but raises concerns relating to the increase volume of large agricultural vehicles this development would cause and potential damage to the roads and hedgerows. MDDC should also be made aware that the vehicles will be using Jenny's Portion to access and egress the site which in itself causes a danger to other road users. Cllr Trebble seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 5 in favour and 1 objection (Cllr Steer)

(b) Approvals/Refusals (received from MDDC)

APPROVAL – Retention of wood chip biomass boiler, wood pellet biomass boiler and erection of fuel store and associated flues in existing farm building – Yarde Farm, Ellerhayes, Hele

(c) Any other planning matters

(i) **WITHDRAWAL** – erection of single storey extension, The Hay Barn, 4 Livinghayes, Court, Livinghayes Road, Silverton

(ii) Construction of MOT and Valeting building at Speedway Garage, Thorverton (Requested by Cllr Derbyshire)

Cllr Derbyshire queries if a Planning Officer would have inspected the site as the building being constructed seems higher than anticipated. After discussion Cllr Derbyshire proposed the Clerk be asked to contact MDDC Planning with a view to a Planning Officer inspecting the construction. Cllr Maylan seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous.

Minute 113136**Finances**

Chq No	Payee	Amount	Income	Amount
002541	Mrs S Woodland	Clerk's wages (£582.06) + expenses (£49.90)		
002542	Mr D L Marsden	Contractor's monthly invoice - £300.00		
002543	HMRC	Employer's contribution Tax and NI re Clerk - £441.32		
002544	Living Options Devon	Consultation fee re disabled access to Little Rec £48.80		
002545	N Backhouse	Christmas Tree for Little Rec - £60.00		

002546	Mrs G Barrett	Laminating pouches for Carol Sheets - £50.00		
002547	SLCC	Annual Sub - £140.00		
002548	Hi-Line	Works to trees on Bury - £180.00		
002549	Mr A Campbell	Honorarium re Parish clock winding (£200.00)		
002550	St Mary's Church	Contribution to Newsletter costs (£250.00)		
002551	D Marsden	Public Liability Premium (£228.00)		

Cllr Roach proposed the above accounts be passed for payment. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous.

It was noted that Npower had notified the Parish Council were now in credit by £107.00

(i) Update re refurbishment of Parish Clock

Already discussed

(ii) Re-enrolment and re-declaration re pension scheme for Clerk

The Chairman pointed out the Parish Council had a legal obligation every 3 years to enrol into a Pension Scheme whether or not they take up the option. The Clerk confirmed she did not wish to have a pension. The Chairman proposed the Council re-enrol as required by legislation. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous.

(iii) Update re disability access to Little Rec

Update already given.

(iv) Possibility of additional tree planting in Silverton

The Chairman indicated that there were a couple of things which the Parish Council needed to consider. Firstly in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan Objectives and secondly the release of funding for free trees by the Woodlands Trust for schools/community groups which goes live today for delivery in Nov 2020. The criteria states that any free trees received would have to be planted on land owned by the Parish Council.

After discussion a suggestion was made that trees could possibly be planted on the Pond Site. Cllr Trebble confirmed she would make enquiries on behalf of Parish Council as to potential planting sites.

Minute 113137

Mid Devon Neighbourhood Team Police Meeting – report by Cllr

Derbyshire

Cllr Derbyshire had attended the meeting on behalf of the Parish Council on the 19 December at the Town Hall, Tiverton and gave a resume of the meeting. She stated that from 61 Parishes in the District only 8 representatives had attended. Sgt Grimwood had asked that all criminal matters be reported by the Parish Council or members of the public either by using 999 in the case of emergencies or non-urgent crimes are best reported on line.

Minute 113138 **Offer by Cllr Derbyshire to attend quarterly Police Meetings on behalf of Parish Council**

The Chairman proposed that Cllr Derbyshire attend the quarterly Police meetings on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Roach seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous. If Cllr Derbyshire was not available to attend a meeting this would then be open to any other Councillor to attend.

Minute 113139 **Update re Neighbourhood Plan**

Plan gone to MDDC and awaiting response. May take a while as the Mid Devon Local Plan being considered currently. NP Committee are considering the Local Plan to see if it reflects on Neighbourhood Plan.

Minute 113140 **Review of Neighbourhood Plan Objectives**

Cllr Trebble pointed out it was now 5 years since the Parish Council had considered the Objectives and the Neighbourhood Plan Committee had asked for a review as to whether or not these were still valid and important. Copies of the Objectives had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

Leat – thanks to be given to the Contractor for the work carried out on the Leat and the Clerk to enquire how he is going to work up High St/Fore Street to clear the weeds etc.

After discussion the Chairman proposed a revised list be prepared to exclude reference to (a) publishing a Map of parish paths as this was available on the website (b) improving local postal and business services (c) published via parish website as this was already happening (d) investigate further what public open space is required and for what purposes. Cllr Trebble will provide a revised list.

Minute 113141 **Matters Brought Forward by the Chairman**

Cllr Lacey had attended the December Mini Market and manned the Parish Council table and had provided a list of the enquiries raised: (1) when would the picnic bench on the Little Rec be cemented in as the Contractor had already been paid for this work? The Clerk confirmed she had also been asked this question but had not chased the Contractor as yet as it may be that the final position of the bench may need to be reconsidered in light of the proposed disability access (2) is the Litter Pick going to be reinstated? It was noted the Parish Council had already agreed, and was Minuted, that it would not be carrying out any Litter Picks but any groups who wished to do so could borrow the Litter Pick equipment (3) the grass verge on the left in Wyndham Road was getting churned up by cars parking on it. The resident had suggested that it could be sealed that cars could then park on it and (4) a parishioner raised concerns that the planning application recently rejected at Silverdale could be resubmitted at Appeal and stressed the importance of getting the Silverton Neighbourhood Plan in place as quickly as possible. He had asked if there was anything the Parish Council could do to speed up the process? It was noted the Neighbourhood Plan had already been submitted to MDDC for any comments and possible approval.

Cllr Maylan queried who owned the old Oak tree in the Recreation field and the Clerk confirmed this was in the ownership of MDDC. Cllr Maylan queried if MDDC carried out regular safety checks of the tree.

Cllr Derbyshire stated various comments had been made on the Silverton Community Facebook regarding dog bags having been put into the litter bins in the Square. She said she appreciated this was permitted but queried when the parish would be obtaining designated recycling bins. District Cllr Wright Josh will make enquiries at MDDC

Cllr Steer suggested that the Parish Council contact the Scaffolding Contractors who were at present carrying out work at the Church for a quote for the scaffolding required to refurbish the Parish clock . The Chairman confirmed Mr Campbell had this is hand.

Cllr Steer stated that he felt the Parish Council needed to reduce the amount of paper used in printing Minutes etc and felt Councillors should either print their own or use their own laptops at meetings.

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